



APR 29
2017

Ma Murray
**COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER**

Awards

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President's Message



It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2017 Ma Murray Community Newspaper Awards.

We are in a continuous evolution of technology and reader values. Our newspapers - once again - are at the edge of a cliff overlooking the landscape and navigating the new terrain. We have seen a changing vista like this before. The view is spectacular.

Locally our provincial association - your British Columbia and Yukon Community Newspapers Association board of directors and staff - have been hard at work on a new website, newspapertraining.ca. This will be an online portal committed to providing quality and accessible training with something for all newspaper staff. Watch for its launch in May.

In our news offices we have passionate journalists, compelling sales associates, imaginative designers, and dedicated carriers and circulation teams. Training is a way we will ensure life and innovation within our pages and online.

Nationally there have been significant changes in our industry this year: the amalgamation of Newspapers Canada and our Canadian Community Newspapers Association into News Media Canada. This newly formed association will continue to represent our industry alongside the daily news organizations under one board of directors. I am a current director on the board and am confident that News Media Canada will continue to work to promote and support local Canadian content and newspapers coast to coast.

We know the strength and value of community newspapers, though occasionally we doubt ourselves. Look around tonight and consider this your reminder. Remember local newspapers continue to be a community's most trusted source for local news.

We reach millions. Whether they like us, or not.

The trust the reader provides us is to be valued, protected and respected.

In return we must provide accurate, interesting, and local information that resonates and calls to action that same reader. In a world where anyone can be a citizen journalist, and fake news is a real thing, our readers expect the truth and quality that our reputation has built for hundreds of years.

It hasn't been an easy year, and it likely won't be easy ever again. We didn't choose these jobs because they were easy. We thrive on the challenge and our staff, governments, neighbours, and business partners are the better for it.

Tonight we celebrate the best work of the previous year and recognize the talent within. Congratulations to the qualifiers. The Ma Murray Awards continue to be a strong competition and an awards ceremony unlike any in the country.

We have honoured guests among us this evening. If you are able please introduce yourself to our generous sponsors, because without their support this event would not happen.

Enjoy your evening.

Sincerely,
Sarah Holmes

BCYCNA President, 2016-2017

BCLC congratulates all the winners in the Newspaper Excellence Awards Category!

When you play with BCLC, you #PlayItForward

The graphic features a stylized illustration of a town with green hills, buildings, trees, and people engaged in various activities like fishing, cycling, and walking. The BCLC logo is in the bottom right corner.

2ND

HAIDA GWAII OBSERVER

The Haida Gwaii Observer was extremely informative and engages very well with the community each week. It offers a very good reflection of its community. Beautifully presented and easy to read. A great overall package.

1ST LAKE COWICHAN GAZETTE
 The Lake Cowichan Gazette covers a wide range of issues and is well written with a captivating presentation and engaging news stories. Really celebrates its community by featuring so many people-oriented articles. An impressive and well-rounded paper with a lot of personality.

3RD

EAGLE VALLEY NEWS

An inviting front page, great masthead, strong leads, and bright inviting photography all come together to pull readers inside to a clean and organized paper. The Eagle Valley News covers its issues really well and is clearly very much part of the fabric of its community.

	Front Page /15	Community News /10	Editorial & Op-Ed /10	Local Features /5	Sports /5	Arts & Entertainment /5	Overall Design & Appearance /10	Photography /10	Production Quality /10	Advertising Content & Design /10	Classified Advertising /10	Average Overall Total /100
Lake Cowichan Gazette	11.33	8.33	8.67	4.33	4.33	4.00	7.67	7.67	8.33	7.33	7.67	79.66
Haida Gwaii Observer	10.33	8.67	8.33	4.33	3.33	3.33	8.33	7.67	8.33	5.33	8.00	75.98
Sicamous, Eagle Valley News	11.00	7.00	6.67	4.00	3.33	3.33	7.67	8.00	9.00	7.67	7.00	74.67
North Thompson Star/Journal	9.67	8.33	5.67	4.00	4.33	3.33	6.00	7.67	8.33	7.00	8.33	72.66
Rocky Mountain Goat	9.33	8.00	8.67	4.33	2.33	4.33	6.00	8.00	8.00	7.33	6.00	72.32
Kitimat, Northern Sentinel	10.00	8.33	5.67	4.00	3.67	2.67	6.67	7.00	7.67	5.67	8.00	69.35
Fort St. James Caledonia Courier	7.67	7.67	4.67	3.67	1.00	3.67	6.33	5.67	6.67	5.00	7.67	59.69

CATEGORY D

WB's ambitious plan
P.12

Backcountry huts
P.34

Fort Knox Five
P.68

FREE MEGA UPGRADE

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

state OF the ART.

23.14

April 7, 2016 | WHISTLER'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE | www.piquenewsmagazine.com

At the Galleries
A look at this month's exceptional exhibitions
Page A6

NEWS: Council mulls development cost charges /A3
ARTS: On tour with Oak Bay's ArtAlive! /A5
SPORTS: Cameron hosts Grand Slam Gourmet /A17

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OAK BAY NEWS
Printed June 15, 2016

The sweet tale of a Tea Party bride
Couple celebrates with midway rides and cotton candy

FairfieldSkinClinic
Dr. Julian A Hancock
Venus in Blue Jeans?
Let Venus freeze and your look this Summer! Cellulite reduction, here at last!
Aesthetics by Symone

2ND

OAK BAY NEWS

The Oak Bay News is a small but mighty paper with well-crafted content and an easy-to-read layout. Their local focus makes community news shine, by featuring quality local photography, solid community news and a good editorial page. This paper covers all the bases and it does it well, with heart and soul that reflects the community.

3RD

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

The only broadsheet in the category, the Alaska Highway News excels in all aspects of local news coverage. Well-designed pages with eye-catching photography and news that covers the many communities to which the paper is distributed. This paper resonates with a work ethic that is impressive through and through.

Alaska Highway News

Wildfires cool down

Canada's last megadom?

PRRD raises stink over curbside recycling bill

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1ST PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

The Pique is a standout in this category. It's refreshing to see a paper with such a pulse. As a newsmagazine with significant advertising content, the Pique does in many ways represent a magazine more than a newspaper, but there's no doubt that it does everything a community paper should do. The local coverage is truly impressive and the presentation is innovative. It's exactly what the industry needs right now. Well-designed with clean typography and page layouts, bolstered by well-written content and great photography, the Pique is a pleasure to read.

	Front Page /15	Community News /10	Editorial & Op-Ed /10	Local Features /5	Sports /5	Arts & Entertainment /5	Overall Design & Appearance /10	Photography /10	Production Quality /10	Advertising Content & Design /10	Classified Advertising /10	Average Overall Total /100
Pique News Magazine	14.00	8.33	7.83	4.67	4.67	4.67	8.67	8.17	8.33	9.00	8.17	86.51
Oak Bay News	12.00	8.50	8.00	4.33	3.50	4.00	8.00	7.67	8.00	8.33	8.00	80.33
Alaska Highway News	12.00	8.83	7.33	4.33	4.67	4.00	7.50	8.17	7.17	7.67	7.67	79.34
Sechelt/Gibsons Coast Reporter	12.33	8.33	8.33	3.67	3.33	3.67	7.67	7.67	7.83	8.33	8.00	79.16
Columbia Valley Pioneer	12.50	8.50	7.67	4.00	3.17	4.00	6.67	7.50	8.00	8.33	7.50	77.84
Dawson Creek Mirror	12.33	8.33	7.67	4.33	3.50	3.83	6.67	7.83	7.67	7.67	7.00	76.83
100 Mile House Free Press	11.17	8.00	7.00	3.67	4.33	3.33	6.83	7.33	7.33	7.67	7.33	73.99
Mission City Record	12.33	7.67	7.50	3.33	3.17	3.00	6.00	7.00	7.50	7.83	8.00	73.33
Aldergrove Star	11.33	7.83	6.17	3.50	3.67	3.17	6.50	6.83	7.33	7.33	7.00	70.66

YUKON NEWS

YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

WWW.YUKON-NEWS.COM
\$1.00 PLUS GST
ESTABLISHED 1960
Black Press
Friday, April 1, 2016

Klondike comedy

A new two-part series set in Dawson City is now showing on community television.

Page 28

Hot dogs

Carcross's Crispin Studer won the Percy DeWolfe Memorial Mall Race for the fourth year in a row.

Page 34

Caught in an avalanche

A backcountry skier describes being swept down Log Cabin Mountain in a river of snow. **PAGE 3**



Joel Krutten/Thalium News

Children enjoy the spring weather at Rotary Peace Park in Whitehorse yesterday. It was the warmest March 31 on record, with temperatures reaching a high of 17 C according to Environment Canada.

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1ST YUKON NEWS

The Yukon News stands out for two things: its depth and variety of news stories and coverage, and its impressive range of photos showing action and movement. While the front page is challenging because it features a somewhat basic design without a traditional cover story, the quality of photos and the strong headlines make up for it and draw readers in anyway. Production quality is very high, and ads feel clean and purposeful. Impressive coverage of the multicultural community, clean, easy-to-read layout, great variety of stories, and large, healthy classified section to finish it off. Well done!

2ND NEW WESTMINSTER RECORD

The Record features a clean design, strong photos, and an engaging front page. Stories are well-written with effective headlines and solid and creative leads. Good community coverage and local features, and wide-ranging entertainment coverage. Several different special sections provide unique opportunities to sell and showcase ads. A great paper!

NewWestminster
RECORD

NEWS 8 Will city MP run for leader?

A CLOSER LOOK 15 City dentist solves mysteries

SPORTS 46 Mariners on the run

LOCAL NEWS - LOCAL MATTERS 30 There's more online at NewWestRecord.ca

THURSDAY APRIL 14, 2016
LOCAL NEWS - LOCAL MATTERS
There's more online at NewWestRecord.ca

'Truly fed up'

Hundreds demand a new high school



Will Mr. Mikes be serving it up in Anvil?

3RD LANGLEY ADVANCE

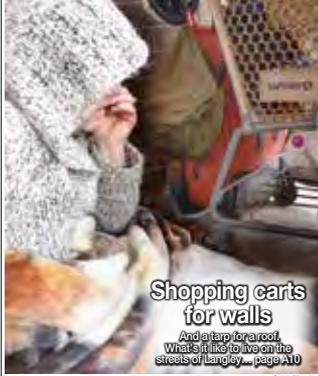
The Advance uses strong photos and headlines to build interest – really breaks away from traditional front page format. Local news stories are well-written. Photographers seem willing to try different angles and approaches to capture a scene -- a welcome skill. The Advance is an attractive newspaper with a solid, wide-ranging mix of content that would appeal to varying age groups, the community, the province, and business.

Langley
Advance

NEWS 8 2016 PICK OF THE WEEK

SPORTS 46 Mariners on the run

THURSDAY April 28, 2016
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1931



Shopping carts for walls

And a happy road. What's it like to live on the streets of Langley... page A10

	Front Page /15	Community News /10	Editorial & Op-Ed /10	Local Features /5	Sports /5	Arts & Entertainment /5	Overall Design & Appearance /10	Photography /10	Production Quality /10	Advertising Content & Design /10	Classified Advertising /10	Average Overall Total /100
Whitehorse, Yukon News	11.83	7.33	8.00	3.17	4.67	4.00	7.67	9.67	9.00	8.33	8.67	82.34
New Westminister Record	12.00	7.67	8.67	4.00	3.67	3.67	8.67	7.33	8.00	8.00	7.67	79.35
Langley Advance	10.33	7.33	7.67	4.00	3.67	3.67	7.00	7.00	7.67	8.00	7.33	73.67
Williams Lake Tribune	10.33	7.33	7.33	3.33	4.33	3.50	6.67	6.67	7.33	7.67	8.33	72.82
Peninsula News Review	11.00	7.00	8.33	2.83	3.00	3.67	7.33	7.00	7.50	7.67	7.00	72.33
Nelson Star	10.00	7.67	7.33	3.83	3.33	3.17	7.00	6.67	7.33	6.67	7.33	70.33
Alberni Valley News	9.67	7.00	5.67	3.50	3.00	3.33	7.33	7.00	7.33	7.67	7.00	68.50
Cloverdale Reporter	7.33	6.00	5.67	3.00	1.33	2.50	6.67	7.00	8.00	7.67	7.33	62.50

Williams Lake Tribune Wednesday, February 24, 2016

www.wltribune.com A17

Racism hurts.



Dirty Laundry campaign works to wash away racism

Gael Farrar
Staff Writer

Dirty Laundry. Everyone has some dirty laundry that needs washing from time to time. So after splashing around ideas in brainstorming sessions over the past few months it seemed appropriate that Dirty Laundry surfaced as the ideal title for a new anti-racism campaign that is rolling out in the lakecity this week.

The campaign is being co-ordinated by the Canadian Mental Health Association Cariboo-Chikootin Branch with the help of a \$10,000 grant from the provincial government. "We don't want this to be a shame and blame campaign," says Marilyn Livingston, CMHA multiculturalism co-ordinator. "We want to lift up the community."



Margaret Anne Enders (left), Bob Sunner, Virginia Gilbert, and Sarah Thompson helped to kick off the Dirty Laundry anti-racism campaign that begins in the lakecity this week.

The idea of the campaign is to educate and engage the community in learning about the causes of racism and what we can all do to make our community a more accepting, tolerant, caring and happy place in which to live. "We are all products of the cultures and families we grow up in," adds Margaret-Anne Enders, also a CMHA multiculturalism co-ordinator. "This is an opportunity to learn and become more aware and sensitive to other people and other cultures." She says the campaign is also an opportunity to examine how people may form opinions about other cultures based on ideas they think are facts but may not actually be facts. "We can do some myth busting without laying blame," Enders says. Starting now and running into June the Dirty Laundry campaign will include stories and information about racism in the *Tribune/Weekend Advisor*, on local television and radio stations, as well as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. There will also be posters and displays set up at various public and private buildings around the city. T-shirts (with Dirty Laundry also being made up with various words and slogans on them to highlight various aspects of racism and encourage the flow of thought and conversation about the issue. As part of the campaign the *Tribune/Weekend Advisor* will include a feature story on this page every two weeks about some aspect of racism. There will be personal accounts from people who have experienced racism as well as from people who have valuable information that others can take to heart in their own struggles to understand the issue. "I was taught at home when I was young that we are all the same; we are all human," says Virginia Gilbert, an elder with the Williams Lake Indian Band who will be telling a very interesting story about her time in residential school and going on to become a counsellor who has worked to help rebuild the lives of many First Nation adults and teens who have been impacted by racism.

hardship, celebration, love, and resilience with more than 100 traditional family recipes from around the world and here at home. "This time we want to work around celebrating diversity and helping people to understand that we are all stronger when we embrace other people's cultures and differences," Livingston says. "Racism is sometimes not intentional. People are just not aware that what they say is offensive to other people."

In their research she says they found that Australia is doing a considerable amount of work to stem racism and provides the following quote from the Australian research that sums up the damaging effects racism can have on a community and a country. "Racism can have serious consequences for the people who experience it. It can shatter their confidence and their sense of worth. It can undermine their ability to perform at work or in their studies. It can also affect their physical health and life expectancy. More broadly, racism locks people out of social and economic opportunities, entrenching disadvantage. It adds unnecessary costs to our workplaces and our economy and it works against our goal of building a fair, inclusive community. Ultimately, racism hurts us all."

1ST

WILLIAMS LAKE TRIBUNE

Gael Farrar, Angie Mindus, Kathy McLean

The Williams Lake Tribune built a community initiative along with their community partners. What makes this a winner is the writing and choices in the campaign to engage, showcase and inform. Authentic and meaningful at a time every community needs this kind of support.

Community Clean-Up picking up steam



Terry Farrell

The 2016 Comox Valley Community Clean-Up is nearly upon us, and the momentum is growing every day. The CVRD has come on board once again this year, waiving the dump fees for us.

Mike Dimery, owner of Dim's Bins, will be supplying us with a huge garbage bin, free of charge, for the second year in a row.

And Edgett Excavation will be on hand once again this year with a front-end loader to load the really heavy stuff.

What's really caught on this year is the Pick a Park concept. To date, we have 10 groups that have committed to cleaning up an area on the morning of April 23.

James Barth, founder of the Facebook group "Stop Comox Valley Illegal Dumping" has a crew to clean up the illegal dumpsites at Cook Creek Road and McNaughton Road in the Panny Bay area.

For the past year or so, Barth has been monitoring illegal dumping in the Comox Valley. "We have beauty all around us, but we have to walk through trash to get to it," he said, from a popular dumping ground on Cook Creek Road.

"That's sad. That's really sad that we have to tolerate this." Barth has stopped tolerating it. He is out on a regular basis, cleaning up anything he can.

Last week, I visited the site he has picked to clean in this year's Comox Valley Community Clean-Up.

"Some of this stuff has been here for years," Barth said as we strolled down a narrow roadway. "Comforters tossed in the bushes, tires... and the argument that it costs too much to take it to the dump, I just don't get it. Most hauls it will cost less than \$20. To do the right thing, you spend that much on a couple of cases of pop."

Barth said sometimes when he is touring the popular dumping spots, trucks will drive past him, full of garbage, looking for places to dump. There have been times where the drivers have seen him and turned around.

"I call that a small victory," said Barth. April 23 is all about the small victories, and more people and groups are joining in all the time.

Kindred Snowboards jumped on board when they saw the event posting on Facebook, saying that they would "gather a group of Mervillers



James Barth shows a freezer full of garbage that was illegally dumped along Cook Creek Road. Barth has a crew that will be cleaning up the area, as part of the Comox Valley Community Clean-Up April 23.

PHOTO BY TERRY FARRELL

to clean up the dump sites around the Toulum and on Farnham Road. It's our route to Mount Washington, and there is plenty of cleanup to be done."

The Facebook group We Are Wilderness is also committing to clean the Toulum River area.

The Comox Valley Pickleball Association adopted the Highland Park area.

The Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce will have a crew at Standard Park and the surrounding area.

Karla Yianna sent me a message saying she and her family "would like to tackle the roads heading towards the Courtenay side of Comox Lake and Bevan area," and Jim Yin sent me a message saying he will look after the area east and west of Condensy Bridge.

The CVCS (CV Land Trust) / Morrison Streamkeepers know of a particularly messy area on Lake Trail Road at Miramar Road that they said they would take care of that morning, and

they would clean up the Point Holmes Waterfront along Lano Road.

Project Watershed is the latest to join the clean-up. They will have a committee taking care of the Airway Park Lagoon.

If you are interested in getting involved, there are many ways to do so. You can call me at 778-255-0629 or send me an email at editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com, or visit the 2016 Comox Valley Community Clean-Up page on Facebook.

You can also just show up to the Courtenay and District Fish and Game Club (3780 Lake Trail Road) on the morning of April 23. The plan is to start cleaning at 8:30 and be finished by noon, so we can enjoy a celebratory lunch, out at the Fish & Game Club.

We live in a beautiful part of the world. Let's all get together and give it a good cleaning.

Terry Farrell is the editor of the Comox Valley Record.

COMOX VALLEY RECORD 2ND

Terry Farrell

Congratulations to the Comox Valley Record. Their hard work and commitment to a second year leading this clean-up initiative is wonderful community engagement

Abbotsford News Wednesday, January 27, 2016 A25

NEWSLETTER • JANUARY 2016

Great turnout at Community Awareness Event

The countdown for the Abbotsford 2016 BC Summer Games, and all the organizers for January 23 were set to get the word out in a big way.

Event president Steve Carlton said the events took over two main local locations, and also had five smaller sites set up around Abbotsford: the Abbotsford Recreation Centre and Matsqui Recreation Centre were the primary sites for the Community Awareness Event, with food refreshments and live entertainment 10:00-10:00 on the grounds from 1 to 4 p.m. at both locations. Sales and States were also offered for 12 on that afternoon.

"Instead of having a ceremony and inviting the public to hear us talk, we went out into the public and met them where they were," Carlton said. "CMHA and MHC were our primary sites and the city dropped regular price admissions to a

ABBOTSFORD 2016 BC SUMMER GAMES

JULY 21-24

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Administration: Hank Brooker
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Commodore: Jennifer Wilford
Commodore: Kevin Herman
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Friends of the Games: Janet Bantz
Medical Services: Todd Marshall
Promotions: Andrew Franklin
Promotions: Kayla Walho
Protocol: Tanya Curtis
Registration & Booth: Sylvia Peary
Security: Miles Testemale
Special Events: Tim Barrett
Sponsor: Bev Viger
Transportation: Ben Geoghegan
City of Abbotsford Liaison: Scott Hill
School District Liaison: Dale Churchill
IFV Liaison: Steve Tackwood
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175 DAYS

ABBOTSFORD UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC THE NEWS Global BC jazz coastcapital

3RD

ABBOTSFORD NEWS

Andrew Franklin, Andrew Holota, Ben Lypka & Cristine MacDonald

Hard not to applaud the Abbotsford News for their tremendous coverage and their skillful leveraging of the Summer Games in their community. Great work!

John Collison Memorial Award for Investigative Journalism

The last POST

The search for the man in the cardboard box

BY SHANNON LOUGH
PRINCE RUPERT / The Northern View

Near the end of his life, he lived in a cardboard box in the pit of an old burnt down hotel.

On rainy nights, he would cause a disturbance forcing the RCMP to deal with the unruly man who often played this game to rest his head in the warmth of a jail cell.

For those who knew him before his wife passed in 1979, they remember him differently, as an outdoorsman and a saw filer who could make the toothed tool sing.

Very few knew that this seeming dredge of society had once scribbled his name down to join the militia in Prince Rupert after Pearl Harbor was bombed.

Only one person seemed to remember that this man, who spent the last portion of his life living in a cardboard box, had sworn to defend his country.

Former RCMP officer, Wendel Ottmann, had many encounters with this homeless man who was barely surviving in that burnt-out hotel.

Ottmann later learned that this man, who caused trouble to escape the cold and rain, was in fact once a decorated soldier.

Despite only being stationed in Prince Rupert for a short time during the early '80s, the encounters stayed with Ottmann — he couldn't shake the memory of that WWII veteran in his seventies who had been living in a cardboard box.

"It had always bothered me that he was going to die and at no time was it mentioned in our records that he had a family. It bothered me that he would be buried very close to a pauper's grave and there would be almost no markings of him," Ottmann said to me over the phone.

The near 40-year-old memory stayed with him, and in January 2016, it prompted him to call the funeral home in Prince Rupert to find out if the homeless veteran he remembered had been buried.



"It bothered me that he would be buried very close to a pauper's grave and there would be almost no markings of him."

- Wendel Ottmann

But no one returned his call.

Ottmann didn't leave it there. He was still disturbed that there seemed to be no trace of this veteran. He had to know whether or not the man had received the proper honour he deserved in death, the dignity he may not have had in life.

The homeless man Ottmann was searching for was Earl Corliss.

The search begins

After no response from the funeral home, Ottmann contacted the Northern View publisher and editor Todd Hamilton about Earl Corliss, the homeless man he knew from the '80s.

"It is my sincere intent that Earl (as I knew him) receive a proper headstone if he does not already have one," Ottmann wrote in January. If he didn't, he mentioned that there is a federal government program — the Last Post Fund — that provides veterans with a military grave marker.

Hamilton, knowing my attachments to the military, as my childhood friend had served in Afghanistan multiple times, forwarded the email to me. He asked me to look into what happened to Earl, and if Corliss was indeed a veteran of World War II.

With few details to start with, I called Ferguson Funeral Home to see if they had any records of an Earl Corliss. They didn't.

After we put out an advertisement in *The Northern View* to find out if anyone in the community knew the man — we were surprised, people began to call to share their memories of him.

One of the first callers was Dorothy Bagshaw. It was Bagshaw who offered the first real breadcrumb that led me to the full story of Earl Corliss. He had a wife — Salome.

Continued on Page 13



FRONT Feature

Welcome to the house hotel

The News lifts the lid on one of Richmond's growing number of illegal hotel operations

GRAEME WOOD
Staff Reporter

I sat Wednesday afternoon, I approached the door of what from the outside, appeared to be a typical Richmond home.

I set down my suitcase and knocked. Behind me, a young couple, perhaps of Caribbean ethnicity, approached me and told me they were checking in, as well as "Oh, great Landing House, right? Where are you guys from?" I asked.

"We're from Richmond," replied the young lady, perhaps 19 years of age.

"That's all right, I thought, then being books and what not. But then I considered the myriad of reasons one checks into a hotel."

"I turned around as a man then opened the door. He showed all three of us an open room next to the foyer where he had a desk with a few binders and a wireless desktop machine on it. He told me the name was David, when I asked, and I sat down to "check in."

"Your credit card, no problem," said David, a middle-aged man.

"I thought that, too, to be odd, considering my mobile banking app had showed the charge on the prior day, when I booked Landing House on Booking.com."

I handed David my card and he proceeded to process the payment of \$45 for our stay, a \$20 deposit.

"The city does allow for boarding and lodging."

"I asked why 'City Hall' City Hall double check everything," said David.

"That's odd, to mention not true, I thought City Hall would say no such thing. Regardless, I showed them my ID and we went off to room 201."

I was amazed checked in at Landing House, a home operating — without any permits or licenses — as an illegal hotel, with a sister odd hotel in the lot to the entire word, seemed, would appear beneath the roof.



Reporter Graeme Wood checks into room 201 at Landing House, on Landing Road in the Burnfield neighbourhood, where a few dozen rooms were built in 11 months available for rent in a detached home being illegally converted as a hotel. Photo by Graeme Wood/Richmond News.

There are 17 licensed bed and breakfasts, according to the city. These operate as a commercial entity but have been regulated with licenses and permits, for health and safety purposes since 2005. Bed and breakfast operators also also live in the house and they're limited to six guests, using up to three bedrooms, all of which are registered with the city.

Landing House, as it was advertised, is just one of the many illegal commercial-scale operations in the neighbourhood.

Community activist Nancy Stachuk, about the matter and when she visited the home in May to investigate "non-compliance" of "illegals she thought her "highly" was over. But that hasn't been the case.

"It's been really hard as a resident to see all this. Today, I came around the corner and there's a car licensed in Nova Scotia, with her girls coming. How can I have a sense of safety and conformity in my neighbourhood when transient people are coming and going?" Stachuk, via telephone.

Those two girls were German tourists, Carmen and Daniela, 22, when they arrived inside Landing House, just after check-in.

When David showed the room, I heard it was clean, with towels set on the bed.

I was to have the master bedroom, with a door to the one central bathroom upstairs, with a sliding lock.

Downstairs, there were five bedrooms for rent, many of them with private bathrooms, but no sliding locks. I counted six rooms for rent, all with easily removable paper signs taped to them indicating a room number.

Washrooms and the laundry room also had paper signs taped to them indicating a room number.

The car garage was full of mattresses and people going into. The car garage was full of mattresses and

World at its doorstep

Booking.com frequently features Richmond homes for rent on a daily basis, such as Landing House, but the company says it is diligent in addressing non-compliance of municipal bylaws. Photo submitted.

Once checked in, I counted 18 other people staying in the house — people from all over the world, it seemed.

As I cooked a grilled cheese sandwich in the kitchen and spoke to the Germans about their cross-Canada travel, I met English, in Vancouver, for her month.

My friend proceeded to show me the lawsuits about the potential instability in the Middle East and how he had been Canada.

I asked for only he was doing it during those. He said he couldn't find anything more affordable.

We spoke about lockdown housing crisis.

"Rich people want to live here. So, this is good weather, good nature, multi-cultural and good security."

3RD RICHMOND NEWS

Graeme Wood

Like a scene from a sitcom, Graeme Wood takes us into a bizarre world of illegal hotels and introduces us to a few of the unwitting guests. The reporter was able to perfectly balance the serious nature of the story with humour, making the story entertaining, highly informative and hard to forget. It was great to see a bit of undercover work and it's clear the reporter loved every minute of it.

1ST THE NORTHERN VIEW

Shannon Lough

This is a terrific example of the old adage that everyone has a story to tell - even those who are stepped over and forgotten. Reporter Shannon Lough shows dogged determination in uncovering this remarkable story. Footwork, cold calls and digging through old documents revealed a man who deserved much more. That he was ultimately honoured for his service shows the power of a well-written investigative piece. A delight to read.

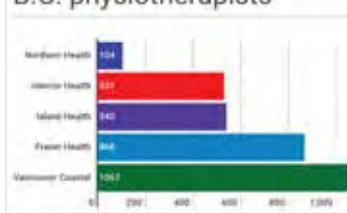


Physiotherapist Robyn Booth helps first year physio student Saja Edwards, while fellow student Ryan Patterson acts as the patient.

North facing physiotherapy shortage

Samantha Wright ALLEN
Columnist
sally@richmondnews.com

B.C. physiotherapists



This graph shows the number of registered physiotherapists in each health region, based on data from the College of Physical Therapists of B.C. from July 26.

B.C.'s north has a critical shortage of physiotherapists, says health advocates, underscoring a reality faced by many rural and remote communities in Canada.

Only 3.9 per cent of the province's physiotherapists work in the Northern Health region, despite it making up almost seven per cent of B.C.'s population.

The region, which takes up almost two-thirds of the province's land mass, has three times fewer physiotherapists for its population compared to areas in the rest of the province, according to 2014 data from the Physiotherapy Association of B.C.

"The critical shortage of physiotherapists requires a growth strategy," said the PAABC in an August 2014 report.

Three years later it was before the health ministry announced in Prince George with the same message.

Five northern towns don't have publicly-funded physiotherapy and there have no qualified positions, the commission found. Land also has five per cent of residents but none have facilities for physiotherapy, compared to 11.8 per cent in the rest of the province, said the report.

"Our concerns in rural and remote communities have particularly limited access to physiotherapy care," said Kevin Brown, the association's CEO.

"In terms of rural physio is missing and not being replaced as new graduates flock to the Lower Mainland and private practices," added Hilary Crumery, Crumery also works with PAABC and is a member of the newly formed Physiotherapists for Northern Communities with fellow physiotherapy advocate Terry Swickard and Angela Isaacs, who spoke on the same issue at the founding conference on October 14 in September 2015.

"Northern Health recognizes that physiotherapy is a challenging occupation to maintain in a rural setting."

"The health authority said it has recruited four new physiotherapists since May and that some tactics to recruit include sending

emails to staff about its employee referral program initiative, reaching out to universities and universities, posting info on its website and HealthMattersBC.

"About 30 per cent of B.C. physiotherapists are over the age of 50 and 18 per cent are over 60. In the north, those numbers are at 18 and 8.6 per cent respectively. Countries also about 30 physiotherapists retire each year in the province, but only 80 students graduate annually in B.C."

In 2014, however, B.C.'s retention rate was 90, Raderhiser said.

Lack of access and poor coordination of rehabilitation services has become a "significant problem" for remote residents across the province, notes the Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPTA) in a June letter to Premier Alexander Fraser.

"We are making a concerted effort right now to look at rural and remote areas," said Kate O'Connor, director of practice and policy at CPTA, noting three recommendations are: increase the number of physiotherapists in rural and remote areas, increase the number of physiotherapists in rural and remote areas, and increase the number of physiotherapists in rural and remote areas.

Nationally, only one per cent of physiotherapists are classified as working in rural areas, she says, noting there is no consistent definition of rural.

— see "OUR GOALS" page 4

2ND

THE PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN

Samantha Wright Allen

This series was very strong. Through meticulous research, reporter Samantha Wright Allen covers each and every aspect of this public health issue without losing sight of the personal stories of those affected. Series like this one are crucial for journalists seeking to hold government to account and ultimately improve the world around them.

1ST

ABBOTSFORD NEWS

Andrew Holota

Andrew Holota uses strong, concise writing to look deeply at issues that usually evoke immediate, visceral responses. In doing so, he shows the underlying problems and raises questions for readers and for himself.

A camp full of contradictions

Andrew Holota

On Point



This summer, a homeless "protest camp" was established on the former hospital grounds in Abbotsford.

Fraser Health, owner of the land, applied for a court injunction to compel the occupants to move off.

A judge eventually issued such an order. As of yesterday, the homeless camp remains.

That whole scenario is wrong in so many ways, starting with the establishment of the camp in the first place.

A group of people decided they would set up their tents on private property.

Land that belongs to a government agency is not "public," despite claims to the contrary by camp advisor, advocate, agitator, or whatever else you want to call Tim Felger, longtime local pot activist. He certainly has a lot of labels for anyone opposing him, including "stupid." I expect this column will land me

among those thusly dubbed.

He tried the "we have the right to stay wherever we wish" argument on B.C. Supreme Court Justice Christopher Hinkson — who didn't buy it. And by the way, that's the same judge who ruled that the homeless can overnight in most public parks if they have no other options.

In this case, Hinkson issued the injunction to decamp.

Applying cutting intellectual thrust and parry, Felger called the judge "out to lunch."

Pull up a chair, Tim.

However, as correct as the court was in its decision, the process quickly went sideways, or to be more accurate, it went nowhere at all.

The campers are still there, living in their self-made squalor.

Reasonable people might understandably wonder — why is that? — on two levels.

They're still there, Felger claims, because they have nowhere else to go. In the immediate short-term, that may indeed be true. But they've intentionally been there since

mid-July. It is a protest camp, after all. So, with the help of outreach workers and other social agencies, if they had been actively seeking shelter for the past two months, instead of sitting in a growing trash heap, do you suppose some solutions would have been offered to them? I think so. Might options be available now? I suspect so.

“The scenario is wrong in so many ways...”

Contrary to the belief of some people, there are agencies actively working to house the homeless in this city, and in many cases, are successful.

Anyway, this group of "homeless" are still there for another reason — Felger says he has told them to stay, with the exception of at least one fellow, who Felger doesn't like. Does anyone else see blatant contradictions here?

We have nowhere to go, and even if we did, we're not going until you provide somewhere to go for everyone else.

The conditions and terms by which the recipients qualify for such government support is another complex and controversial discussion, for another time.

Meanwhile, there's the second level on the

question of why they are still there.

Why haven't the police politely, patiently, respectfully and ever-so-gently moved these protesters off the property, or in the alternative, arrest them?

Because a court injunction ordering people to leave a property is not enough for police to act, if you can believe it.

Fraser Health must now go back to court and apply for an enforcement order.

More time, more money, more pointless argument that will (must) ultimately end in the protest camp being evacuated.

And then, another wrong will occur when it's set up somewhere else.

It seems, along with all of the other wrongs associated with homelessness, such as a shortage of mental health and addiction treatment services, and an inadequate supply of affordable housing, there are people out there bound and determined to keep street people on the street, to maintain the "in your face" pressure, despite efforts by many others to actually address the chronic issue.

Under the circumstances, I'm finding it difficult to keep my face from turning away.

And that's wrong, too.

2ND

VANCOUVER COURIER

Allen Garr

Allen Garr demonstrates his research and depth of knowledge to call into question local government's inaction on major issues. His writing is clear and provides information that is thoroughly explained and placed in a broader concept.

Opinion

Fentanyl is a serial killer

Allen Garr

As this year draws to a close, I'm willing to bet that 12 months ago most of us had never even heard of the synthetic opioid fentanyl.

The drug was developed in 1949 and has been often used in the form of a patch to relieve severe pain experienced by cancer patients.

But according to the executive director of the Drug Policy Coalition, Donald MacPherson, fentanyl and its use has become the latest "product of drug prohibition."

Criminals have figured it out. An amount equal to a grain of salt when mixed with cocaine or heroin can give the addict more bang for their buck and two often have deadly effects. A package the size of your fingernail here from China is worth a small fortune on the streets.

And this serial killer has been increasingly peddled to addicts throughout B.C. and across the country for four or five years now. Those courageous and committed folks who work to prevent deaths caused by drug overdose

have watched the number of fatalities climb and have pushed for more supervised injection sites like Insite.

But their efforts were thwarted by a Harper-led federal Conservative government, first in the courts and, when they failed there, with a piece of legislation, "The Respect for Communities Act."

That legislation established insurmountable barriers to harm reduction that only led to more misery and death.

There has also been a steady and building movement advocating the decriminalization of drugs particularly since the cause of "harm reduction" was taken up by former Vancouver Mayor Philip Owen 15 years ago.

Since then there have been two Vancouver-based projects dealing with heroin addicts: "Noerra" and "Salerno."

Both provided addicts with regular doses of pharmaceutical pure heroin or hydromorphone in a controlled environment described this way: "Throughout the treatment period, an interdisciplinary team of physicians, nurses, social workers and counsellors are available to help participants achieve stability in their life, seek employment and find suitable housing."

As a result, lives stabilized and criminal activity declined. But the federal government's refusal to go any further has meant that those studies have been left to gather dust while the death toll among addicts — particularly thanks to fentanyl entering the scene — has soared. In British Columbia, there were 480 overdose deaths in 2015 and 785 for the first 11 months of 2016.

In April of this year, B.C.'s Medical Health Officer declared a state of medical emergency. On Sept. 20, the day before 50th received their welfare cheque and many on the Downtown East Side fell prey to drug dealers, former park board commissioner Sami Byth and long-time drug addiction advocate Ann Livingston erected a "pop-up clinic" of sorts to help prevent overdose deaths.

It took the November fire on the deaths to actually get the provincial government and Health Minister Terry Lake to start funding and authorizing more supervised injection sites even though those sites failed to meet the criteria under the existing federal law.

And while in that vein, it took the Trudeau Liberals a year after their election to introduce B2 C-7, which will roll back Harper's Respect for Communities Act and replace it with conditions for opening up a supervised injection site more closely aligned with the Supreme Court of Canada's ruling. That act has still to be passed. And even then it will take time to have an effect.

Meanwhile, Vancouver city council at its last meeting approved a 0.5 per cent hike in next year's property tax to assist the city's first responders in meeting the growing crisis of overdose deaths in the city.

Yes, I can't help but think if fentanyl was a virus-killing drug, governments would be doing much more to mitigate its effect.

I agree with advocates who have been saying for years now that we need to change the laws around controlled drugs, stop criminalizing drug use and treat addiction as a health issue.

Portugal is often cited as a country that has followed this path. And what they have found is that drug-related deaths are down as is criminal activity and all the associated to these activities.

Failing that, the numbers of facilities is likely to grow so that serial killer continues to tick up its victims.

3RD

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

Aleisha Hendry

Aleisha Hendry looks at two distinctly different gender issues to take issue with a culture that encourages shame whether by objecting to a play or humiliating a victim of rape. She deftly presents both situations to give readers pause for thought.



ALEISHA HENDRY

No time in this world for shame

There's an old saying in the industry: You just can't please everyone.

While we're used to that one here in the newspaper, sometimes something comes up that just needs to be addressed.

A reader called so this week to let us know how embarrassed she was that we ran "smut" in the paper.

Smut? What smut?

She was referring to our photos of *The Virgin Monologues*. Oh, that "smut." Yeah, that was me. I took those photos and did up that page.

Now, I get it. Way back when, you just didn't talk about things like the private areas of the body. Or certain health issues. Or family issues. Or anything, really.

Oddly enough, that's the topic

of *One of the Monologues* in the show. Women don't discuss their "fleshy parts" and you just are like they don't exist.

I just don't agree with that. Virginia exists, and we really should acknowledge that.

Good comes flooding from them since a month for 30-odd years, it's how many of us come into the world and half the world's population has one. Nothing to be embarrassed about.

Yes, the kids that deliver AHN could see those photos if they bothered to unfold the paper before delivering it. However,

they can see graphic depictions of actual vaginas (as opposed to metaphorical ones) at any time on the Internet, so I don't really see how or why that's a big deal.

It's not the first time I've

heard such comments about *The Virgin Monologues*. I've heard it referred to as smut and trash and whatnot. Granted, most of the vulgar talk comes from people who have never actually seen the show and assume because the word "vagina" is in the title that it's basically pornography.

Do you really think they would be five pornography in the stage of the North Peace Cultural Centre? Seriously? Of course not.

For anyone not aware, *The Virgin Monologues* address issues that women face, up to and including love, sex, violence, rape, consent, sexual orientation and so on. The goal of the production is to raise funds for groups dedicated to ending violence against women. Some of it is presented

in a humorous light, while some of it is definitely not.

But honestly, it's 2016. Surely people can talk about these issues without getting squeaked out? We're all adults here, mostly.

Here's the big issue with not talking about our "down there." This mindset leads to a culture of shame — shame about our bodies, our feelings, and our thoughts.

I was told not long ago that shame prevents a person from even experiencing true joy in life. I believe this to be true. Shame doesn't encourage people to change bad habits or negative viewpoints — if anything it exacerbates the problem.

It's not an easy thing to do, letting go of a shame you've been diagnosed with your whole

life. Heck, I'm still working on it myself. A little self-improvement can go a long way to a healthier, happier life.

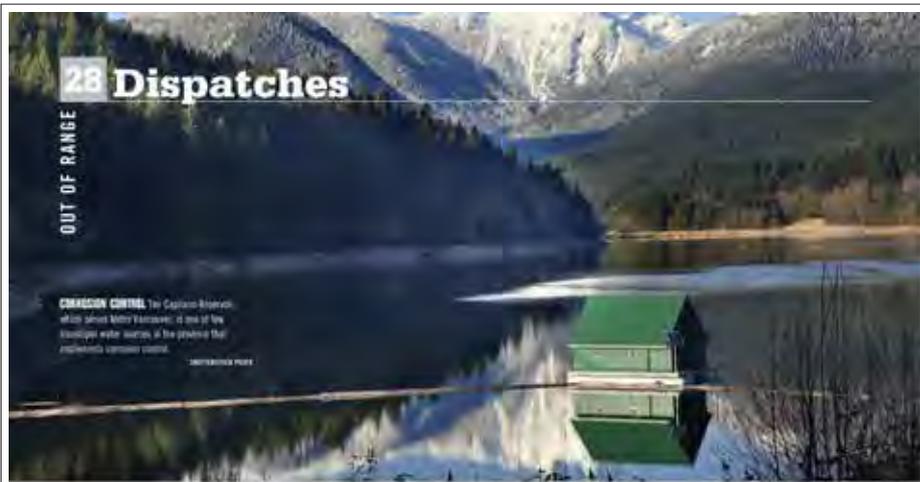
So next year, when the First Steps Women's Resource Society puts on the monologues for its 11th year, go see it. It's an important show for everyone — women and men — to see.

Who knows? You might learn something. And that's never a bad thing.

Aleisha Hendry is a proud feminist writer who loves cats, roller skates and righteous indignation. She was a finalist at the 2014 B.C. CNA Mel Murray Awards in the Columnist category and took home the title. Follow her on Twitter at @aleishahendry.

OUT OF RANGE

28 Dispatches



No plan to test at the taps of B.C. homeowners, province says

CORROSIVE WATER PERSASIVE ON WEST COAST, BUT A LACK OF COMMUNICATION ABOUT POTENTIAL EFFECTS

by Braden Dupuis
braden@pacificnewsmagazine.com

In 2012, students at a British Columbia school were attempting to hatch salmon eggs in a classroom aquarium. When the eggs didn't hatch, a teacher called the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which came to see the school's water.

The results found eight times the drinking water guidelines for copper and twenty times the level of lead.

"They went and did broader testing in their community, and went, Oh gosh, this is a widespread issue in all our schools and in the broader community," said Jennifer Rice, NDP MLA for South Coast.

"We've published a paper for the Centre for Disease Control, and said, 'This is a public health priority, we should be doing this right away, and other schools should be tested!'"

The paper — titled "Investigating increased copper and lead levels in school drinking water" — was published in 2014 and concludes that its findings suggest the need for routine monitoring of drinking water in schools.

"If you call up school districts around the province, they're going to tell you this is the first they've heard of it," Rice said.

"You're going to hear of other schools that say, 'Oh yeah, we need to do a flushing program, because we do have lead, but that didn't stop us when we had no maintenance program!'"

"How people deal with this and their level of education across the province is extremely all over the map."

In February, elevated levels of lead were found in the drinking water of four schools in Prince Rupert — where Rice lives — prompting her to introduce the "Safe Water for Schools Act."

The bill would require schools test their water regularly for lead and report the results to the public.

"I'm not obligated to provide a test result every year, you're going to actually do the work, right? Because someone will have to be able to make you accountable," Rice said.

"And that's what I'm asking for, it's just basically some accountability."

CORROSIVE WATER WIDESPREAD ON WEST COAST

On March 15, the Village of Pemberton announced it had tested 46-tap levels of lead in the drinking water of some people's homes, caused by corrosive water reacting with certain pipe fittings.

In the weeks that followed, the Village accepted to address the concerns of residents and find a long-term solution to the problem.

"Township has been taking a lot of heat over this, but I get the sense they aren't entirely sincere," said Kevin Wong, executive director of the Canadian Water Quality Association.

"One consequence that is looking at currently low pH, alkalinity and Total Dissolved Solids in their source water should be concerned. While that water would be considered to be of the highest quality in the world, it would also make it a prime candidate to have some corrosion issues."

And corrosive water systems are pervasive on the West Coast, where salinity is abundant.

Even the B.C. Irrigation (not) Institute — water tests at the 119-year-old building or early March found lead levels more than five times the provincial and federal standards.

"Corrosion control in the test instrument any responsibility could have in this case and it's not recommended, it's a waste," Wong said.

"The big issue/pollution here figured that out. Because the cost of replacing the infrastructure is astronomical and takes time to replace the critical pieces."

But corrosion control is a tough bill to push in another community like Pemberton, with treated streams and a stable tax base.

"Pemberton is a thing sort of tired and, frankly, fairly to strongly, and they're being criticized for not dealing with low pH water, but I don't know that anybody," said Leo Clarke, drinking water officer for Vancouver's Coastal Health (VCH).

"There's not many communities in B.C. that have low pH adjustment."

LACK OF COMMUNICATION OR A GAP IN REGULATIONS?

In 2009, Health Canada released a document focused on corrosion control in water systems.

"Almost immediately comes the (London and Windsor, Ont., started) coming at the tap, so whether that corrosion observations were having an effect at the end of pipe," Wong said.

"They discovered lead, there and

1ST PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Braden Dupuis & Clare Ogilvie

The sheer tenacity of this series made it the outstanding winner. The series didn't have a natural protagonist yet the stories were compelling, informative and kept up a sense of urgency and drama. High praise for this very skilled reporting team who turned politics and procedures into compelling narrative.

3RD

VANCOUVER COURIER
Christopher Cheung

Sometimes it's the connection between a reporter and their subject that makes a story sing. Christopher Cheung's story on urban farmers on Vancouver's Eastside is both elegant and masterfully written. Cheung takes readers on a journey through a series of cultural issues with a delicacy worth heaps of praise. As you are gliding along through the story you are both informed and enlightened about an aging Asian community and its sexy squash. We should look forward to more of this reporter's work.

VANCOUVER COURIER

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YUKON NEWS

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The curious case of the vanishing river

Maura Forrest
News Reporter

One of Lance Goodwin's pilots noticed something strange as he flew over the Slims River a few weeks ago. He told Goodwin about it when he landed, and the next day, they went out together to take some photos.

The Slims River, they discovered, isn't really a river anymore. It's more of a trickle.

And since Goodwin posted the photos online, the discovery has made geologists and glaciologists excited to study a phenomenon they don't get to witness all that often.

The Slims River is largely fed by meltwater from the Kaskawulsh glacier, which has flowed out into both the Slims and the Kaskawulsh rivers for the last few hundred years.

But this year, something has shifted as the glacier retreats. And now, almost all the water is flowing into the Kaskawulsh River and from there into the Alsek, leaving the Slims River valley dry and dry.

The process is called river piracy, and it wasn't a gradual change. Goodwin, who owns Icefield Discovery, a local glacier firefighting company, said the Slims was flowing well in April. But by the end of May, suddenly, everything was different.

"You can see water, but it's definitely not much for a flow out of the glacier itself," he said.

The Slims River is the major tributary of Klane Lake, and Goodwin said the change is already having a noticeable impact on the lake. The water level is low, and boat launches at Inuvik Lake, Destruction Bay and Sheep Mountain are drier than usual.

"It's hard to get access to the water right now for putting in boats," he said.

On hot days, especially, the wind kicks up dust in the river valley and blows it across the Alaskan Highway. Goodwin said it's been hot enough on a couple of days that he's closed it to traffic.

This isn't the first time Goodwin's seen something like this. He can remember one instance, 15 or 20 years ago, when most of the water from the glacier shifted over into the Kaskawulsh River. The next year, the Slims was flowing normally again.

But corrosion control is a tough bill to push in another community like Pemberton, with treated streams and a stable tax base.

"Pemberton is a thing sort of tired and, frankly, fairly to strongly, and they're being criticized for not dealing with low pH water, but I don't know that anybody," said Leo Clarke, drinking water officer for Vancouver's Coastal Health (VCH).

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One of Lance Goodwin's pilots noticed something strange as he flew over the Slims River a few weeks ago. He told Goodwin about it when he landed, and the next day, they went out together to take some photos.

The Slims River, they discovered, isn't really a river anymore. It's more of a trickle.

And since Goodwin posted the photos online, the discovery has made geologists and glaciologists excited to study a phenomenon they don't get to witness all that often.

The Slims River is largely fed by meltwater from the Kaskawulsh glacier, which has flowed out into both the Slims and the Kaskawulsh rivers for the last few hundred years.

But this year, something has shifted as the glacier retreats. And now, almost all the water is flowing into the Kaskawulsh River and from there into the Alsek, leaving the Slims River valley dry and dry.

The process is called river piracy, and it wasn't a gradual change. Goodwin, who owns Icefield Discovery, a local glacier firefighting company, said the Slims was flowing well in April. But by the end of May, suddenly, everything was different.

"You can see water, but it's definitely not much for a flow out of the glacier itself," he said.

The Slims River is the major tributary of Klane Lake, and Goodwin said the change is already having a noticeable impact on the lake. The water level is low, and boat launches at Inuvik Lake, Destruction Bay and Sheep Mountain are drier than usual.

"It's hard to get access to the water right now for putting in boats," he said.

On hot days, especially, the wind kicks up dust in the river valley and blows it across the Alaskan Highway. Goodwin said it's been hot enough on a couple of days that he's closed it to traffic.

This isn't the first time Goodwin's seen something like this. He can remember one instance, 15 or 20 years ago, when most of the water from the glacier shifted over into the Kaskawulsh River. The next year, the Slims was flowing normally again.

But corrosion control is a tough bill to push in another community like Pemberton, with treated streams and a stable tax base.

"Pemberton is a thing sort of tired and, frankly, fairly to strongly, and they're being criticized for not dealing with low pH water, but I don't know that anybody," said Leo Clarke, drinking water officer for Vancouver's Coastal Health (VCH).

"There's not many communities in B.C. that have low pH adjustment."

LACK OF COMMUNICATION OR A GAP IN REGULATIONS?

In 2009, Health Canada released a document focused on corrosion control in water systems.

"Almost immediately comes the (London and Windsor, Ont., started) coming at the tap, so whether that corrosion observations were having an effect at the end of pipe," Wong said.

"They discovered lead, there and



SENIOR ACTIVIST: Ruby Roscovich with her son Dale at their Manson Avenue family home. Ruby was instrumental in spearheading local environmentalist efforts during the late 1960s and early 1970s. JASON SCHREURS PHOTO

Environmentalist turns 100

Community celebrates recycling and anti-pollution pioneer Ruby Roscovich

JASON SCHREURS publisher@trprpeak.com

A typical week for Ruby Roscovich involved gardening, doing the recycling, cycling to and from town, making her own soap and candles and spending countless hours working with other local environmentalists on green ini-

tiatives within the community. Did we mention this was taking place in the late 1960s? Ruby, a trailblazer in early environmentalist efforts in the Powell River region, turns 100 years old on Friday, April 8. Described as a dedicated, concerned resident by her loved ones and those who have crossed her path since she moved with her family to Powell River in 1951, Ruby's centennial birthday has deep meaning to the community. The outpouring of gratitude and respect for Ruby will culminate with a celebration of friends and family the day after her birthday at Powell River Reformed Church. Ruby, who has lived with her family at her Manson Avenue home since the early 1950s, remained humble

about her impact on the community. "Oh, I'm very honoured about the things people are saying," she said. "I've only just been myself, I guess, but it's very encouraging to be supported like that." Just being herself has involved an immense amount of work in the community over the past several decades, tackling environmental issues and practices such as recycling before very few other people knew what she was talking about, even city council. "At that time council thought recycling was just a way to attract rats," laughed Ruby. "They thought if you're storing anything, you're just going to have rats, but that was the wrong picture of what we were doing. They didn't know any-

1ST

POWELL RIVER PEAK

Jason Schreurs

It's inspiring to read about Ruby Roscovich, a Powell River environmentalist whose decades of work have influenced countless people in her community. Jason Schreurs' story captures the heart of this dedicated and humble woman.



Citizen group aims to make noise for Whistler bears

CAN COS PROCEDURES BE IMPROVED?

By Braden Dupuis
dupuis@piqueneewsmagazine.com

Judging by the online reaction to the news that three Whistler bears — a 10-year-old sow and her two cubs — were killed last week as a result of human conflict, Whistlerites care deeply for the bears of the valley.

When resident Rama Dube posted their story on the incident to the Whistler Summer Facebook group, she was encouraged to see so many people sharing her concern about how the situation was handled.

"It's really nice to also see so many people voicing it," Dube said. "I'm like, 'finally — I thought I was the only frustrated person.'"

Now Dube is hoping to turn that reaction into action, through a citizen-led initiative she's calling the Whistler Wildlife Protection Group.

The group will allow residents to share ideas, concerns and solutions around protecting Whistler's wildlife, Dube said.

"Whether it's the (Resort Municipality of Whistler) needing to do more, whether it's hotels informing guests when they arrive that if they litter there are high fines, something has to be done," she said.

"The community is going to have to push and be a pain in people's backside to get it done, but I'm OK with that."

The group can be found online at www.facebook.com/groups/WhistlerWildlifeProtectionGroup. The first meeting will take place either Tuesday or Wednesday evening (Aug. 30 or 31) —

check the Facebook group for confirmation. The bear — known to local researchers as Michele — was killed after allegedly "swatting" at a bike rider near the Passiflora on the Lost Lake trail. The incident was reported by someone else who witnessed it.

"It turned out that the witness was credible and that the information was sufficient," said Simon Gravel of the Conservation Officer Service (COS), who stayed on the scene for the bear's death.

"It was not this unique event (that led to the death of the bear), but the accumulation of multiple events."

COS said it responded to 13 calls involving the bear family over the past two months — many involving aggressive behaviour like bluff charging and encounters with off-leash dogs.

"Each time we took a different approach," Gravel said, noting that COS officers provided education, put up signage in the area, patrolled on foot and monitored the situation.

The trails weren't closed because the bear was moving around and reports were scattered throughout the area, making it's hotels informing guests when they arrive that if they litter there are high fines, something has to be done," she said.

"The community is going to have to push and be a pain in people's backside to get it done, but I'm OK with that."

The group can be found online at www.facebook.com/groups/WhistlerWildlifeProtectionGroup. The first meeting will take place either Tuesday or Wednesday evening (Aug. 30 or 31) —

2ND

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Braden Dupuis & Clare Ogilvie

Living in Whistler means learning to co-exist with bears. Braden Dupuis examines how local residents are working with the Conservation Officer Service to teach people about bears and how to minimize human-bear conflicts.

12 | August 25, 2016 | www.piqueneewsmagazine.com

3RD

NORTH SHORE NEWS

Erin McPhee & Mike Wakefield

This story shows how a North Vancouver man used grief for his son to create a beautiful local garden out of an "eyesore." The formerly weed-choked space has become a neighbourhood gathering place and an inspiration to others.

1ST

SURREY NOW

Beau Simpson

A whimsically-written story about sisters who caught the attention and imagination of their entire neighbourhood. Well done!

2ND

NORTH SHORE NEWS

Andy Prest

Such a wonderful story of commitment, courage, and triumph. Great storytelling about two good-natured young men who found each other at the perfect time.

A4 | NEWS

nsnews.com north shore news SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2016

sunday focus

Nice guys sometimes finish first

Unlikely friends race together through incredible challenges

ANDY PREST
aprest@nsnews.com

Ges Bushe and his family walk through dress rehearsals for any life event that might present new and unique situations for the North Vancouver teenager.

Before last month's North Shore Sport Awards ceremony Ges—who has mobility challenges and is on the autism spectrum—practiced hearing his name called, walking up the red carpet with his good friend Luke Harris, stepping onto the stage and waiting to receive his trophy.

What the family didn't anticipate, however, was that Ges and Luke would receive the first ever standing ovation in the 17-year history of the annual awards show. That some of the best coaches, athletes, officials, and volunteers on the North Shore would be moved to tears by an 80-second introduction detailing the inconceivable challenges both athletes have faced, and the improbable friendship that has helped them fight their battles side-by-side, hand-in-hand. That the audience would sense something incredible was happening right before their eyes, and respond in kind.

The family also forgot to warn Ges about one other important detail: the handshake. Award presenter Nicole Brown, a West Vancouver school district trustee, passed the two awards to Luke who handed one over to Ges before turning back to shake Brown's hand. The trustee then extended her hand to Ges who instinctively clutched his new trophy and pulled back. Luke, laughing, figured it out right away. Ges was worried she was going to take back the award.

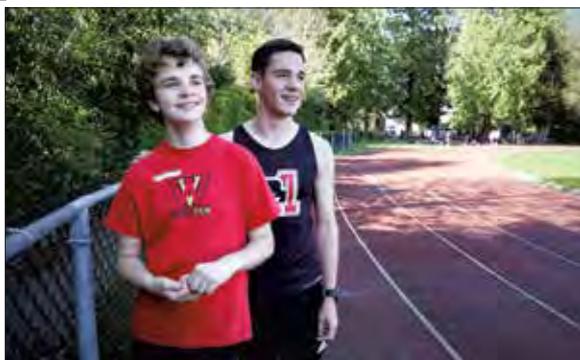
"I tried to hold onto the box so that he had a hand free," says Luke, recalling the incident. Brown never got her handshake, but the boys left with one more memory in a friendship that is less than a year old but already filled with many unforgettable moments. And Ges, of course, got to keep his trophy.

"He just wouldn't let go of it," says Luke. "I think that's OK though. He definitely worked for it."

Fast friends now, Luke and Ges likely wouldn't have been anything more than mere acquaintances not for two huge tumours that wrapped their way around Luke's leg. When the X-ray tech held up the image for Luke to see, he wasn't sure if his life was over, or just his promising running career.

Now a Grade 11 student at St. Thomas Aquinas, Luke didn't realize he had the lungs to be an elite runner until the school did mandatory fitness testing in Grade 8, an exercise that included the grueling beep test. The torturous simple test involves running back and forth across a short distance guided by auditory beeps. The beeps speed up continuously, relentlessly. Athletes speed up too, until they can run no more.

Luke did the beep test and, to his surprise, his score blew away everyone in his grade. That fall he joined the STA cross country running



Fast friends Ges Bushe and Luke Harris get set to run at a recent track meet held at Handsworth secondary. The two athletes have both faced life-altering health challenges and have come out as champions, pushing each other to greatness in an unlikely friendship. PHOTO: KEVIN HILL

team and in the spring he ran track, winning gold for his age group in the 800-metre race at the 2014 high school provincial championships. By 2014 he'd moved onto the national stage, placing fourth in his age group at the Canadian championships.

Three months later Luke and his family flew to Toronto for surgery with a specialist at The Hospital for Sick Children.

"We got to the hospital way too early," Luke remembers. That left lots of time for him to think about the surgery, the nerve, the twin tumours, and the specialist who told him if things didn't look good in there, he may have to break Luke's leg in order to complete the surgery.

Finally, the knife...

On the day Ges Bushe was born 14 years ago there was nothing that hinted at the challenges he'd face throughout his life.

"He was a healthy baby," says his mother, Carmen Farrell. After a year, however, it was obvious that his physical development wasn't typical. He was having trouble with his balance, his muscles seemed very weak and it was hard for him to support himself.

"He and I logged a lot of time in the special-ist clinics at Children's Hospital," says Farrell. "We had a big huge thick file—all kinds of tests, examinations, MRIs—and all the tests came back 'normal' and yet when you looked at this kid you just knew there was something neurological going on."

He finally started walking but by age two it was apparent it wasn't just a physical disability Ges couldn't talk, and his social interactions were atypical, reduced. By age three he was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder but it wasn't until just last year that a specialist pinpointed his physical disability as chorea athetosis, a neurological disorder characterized

by jerky involuntary movements with abnormal muscle contractions that cause involuntary writhing.

The family still wanted Ges to have a lively childhood and so he tried many sports, including soccer, swimming, skating, biking, baseball, and skiing. The activities came with varying levels of success and enjoyment, but nothing matched the joy Ges felt when he took up running.

It is an odd fit, Farrell admits, given Ges's physical disability.

"His arms almost move in counterproductive ways when he's running," she says. "(But) it's almost impossible for him to stand still. His body wants to be moving."

Last fall Ges, now in Grade 8, found kindred spirits on the cross country racing team at his school, West Vancouver secondary. He loved it right away.

"It was the right kind of community for him," says Farrell. "He felt a connection with the coaches and the kids that were there."

Ges, who communicates by typing on an iPad, says he feels excited when he runs.

"I like running because I like the track numbers and lanes," he writes. "I like looking at the trees while I am moving. The trees look like animals when I run."

There were no tryouts for the cross-country team—Ges showed up at practice, so he was on the squad. It was almost time to race.

Two weeks before Ges's first-ever cross-country race, Luke Harris sat in a hospital room staring at his right leg wrapped in bandages and gauze. His surgeon entered the room.

"Point your toe up, point your toe down,"

5

A08 Thursday, November 17, 2016

THE NOW NEWSPAPER.COM

FOCUS

A feature that delves deep into the people and issues in our community. Send your story ideas to edit@thenownewspaper.com

Cloverdale

Surrey sisters in sync for nationals

The most dedicated athletes you will find, the Sevesk twins are poised for greatness – and they've only just begun to find their stride



Beau Simpson

We didn't know who they were or where they lived in the neighbourhood, but we knew one thing – these girls could run.

For years, my neighbours and I have watched them, amazed by both their stamina and synchronization.

As we watched them run – and run, and run, and run – we talked about how these girls were going to be big one day. "We'll be watching them on TV soon," we all agreed.

I always wanted to write about these girls but never got a chance to meet them – until now.

I have good friends who live a few units down from us. Their front yard faces the baseball diamond at Hillcrest Elementary school in Cloverdale. It offers an excellent right-field view of ball games (if someone hit a home run over the right-field fence, it would bounce into their yard).

During the past several years, many summer days have been spent there sipping beer and eating snacks while watching a ball game or two.

That's how we came to know about the twins.

"The twins are out again," someone would say. "Let's see how long they run for today."

And run they would. While we lounged lazily in the sun, we watched the pair effortlessly run countless laps.

No matter how many songs blared from our stereo or how many beers were cracked or innings were watched, the twins would still be running. It seemed like they would never stop.

And the way they ran! Every movement they made was in unison, perfectly in sync with one another. Even their ponytails seemed to bounce in perfect time.

"I should write a story about those girls," I said one day, "before they become Olympic champions."

A few weeks ago, I was playing catch with my son on the diamond at Hillcrest when out of the corner of my eye, I saw the twins.

I ran over to them (not an easy task, you know) and told them who I was and that I had been wanting to write a story about them for some time now.

They looked at each other and smiled. One of the girls said, "sure."

It turns out their names are Julie and Christina Sevesk. They are 17 and attend Clayton Heights Secondary school.

Christina is the younger sister, by two minutes. She says it's no surprise I have been watching them before – they run more than one hour a day, six times a week.

They've been running since Grade 3.

"We signed up for cross country and we thought it would be interesting," Christina said. "We found out we were really good at it and we just continued on because we're still running, happy to make sacrifices for the sport they love."

"We're always training, 24/7, so we don't have many friends because we're always running," Christina says. "But running is my passion."

Julie agrees. "I love running to push myself, and training hard to reach my goals," Julie says.

In case you were wondering, Julie wears a headband while running, and it's pretty much the only way you can tell them apart.

Julie says my neighbours and I aren't the only ones who have noticed her and her sister in our neighbourhood.

"A lot of people ask us, 'How many laps are you doing' and are always wondering why we are running."

And Julie says people regularly make comments about their synchronized running style.

"They say we look like we are one person, saying we move our arms at the same time."

The Sevesk twins' passion and dedication for their sport translates into success – a lot of it.

The day before our interview,



Christina (front) and Julie Sevesk run in the field outside Cloverdale's Hillcrest Elementary school. (Photo: BEAU SIMPSON)

"They'll bleed before they let somebody beat them. Something drives them deep down inside that you can't teach."

Christina earned first place at the Fraser Valley Cross Country Championships and Julie took second.

"One sister takes gold and the other silver? How does that work?" I asked Christina, knowing firsthand how sibling rivalry works.

"Yeah, we are really competitive,"

she admits. "But that's why it's really fun to train with each other, because we push each other."

"But," I asked her, "you always get along, right?"

"Yeah," she replied, with a nervous chuckle.

More recently, both sisters earned spots on the team that will represent B.C. at the Canadian Cross Country Championships, after Christina placed second and Julie placed fourth at provincials.

How did they celebrate? "We went for a run," Julie said. Of course they did.

The Canadian Cross Country Championships are set for Nov. 25 in Kingston, Ont. If the twins run well there, they will represent Canada at the World Cross Country Championships in Uganda in March.

Christina knows what it takes to win at nationals. She earned a spot on Team Canada last

year and competed at the world cross country championships in Venezuela. She says running at worlds, against older girls, was an experience she will never forget. "Is it the highlight of your running career?" I asked. "Definitely."

Their success comes as no surprise to coach Scott Kent. "I've coached a lot of kids over the last 14 years or so," said the founder and head coach at Coastal Track Club in South Surrey.

"I've never met two more focused individuals. They are extremely dedicated and regimented. They are just so focused on wanting to do everything right to get to where they want to go."

Kent has been working with the twins since March. That's when they came to him looking to improve their stride, which they were told was too long.

"Running is not just about how hard you can train, you have to be smart about it too," he said.

"We've been very, very tough on them but their form has completely changed now. It's way more efficient and it's engaging their core. They're now using their hips," Kent said.

After months of hard work, their form is now where it needs to be. "We've been very, very tough on them but their form has completely changed now. It's way more efficient and it's engaging their core. They're now using their hips," Kent said.

"There isn't any limitations on their form now. Now their stride is giving them a chance to really compete at that level they want to compete at. They needed to make the adjustments – and they have made the adjustments," he added.

"I've very proud of them." I told Kent about how the twins and I would watch them run for hours on end, and how we would make predictions about their Olympic-gold-medal in futures.

"I wouldn't put it past them," he responded. "They'll bleed before they let somebody beat them. Something drives them deep down inside that you can't teach."

"These kids are driven. I already know they have the talent. If they can mature and keep growing like they are, there's nothing that can stop them."

beau.simpson@thenownewspaper.com

www.kamloopsthisweek.com

SPORTS

When KTW photographer Dave Eagles arrived at Club Spych Health and Fitness yesterday morning, he found owner Sarah Jordan doing her best to put on a strong face, but succumbing to emotion when longtime member Sylvia MacKenzie offered condolences. Jordan opened the gym 10 years ago and today it will close for good, unable to compete with big-business gyms that are flocking to Kamloops.

"This gym is my family"

CLUB SPYCH UNABLE TO SURVIVE CHANGING FITNESS LANDSCAPE IN KAMLOOPS

MARTY HASTINGS
mhastings@kamloopsthisweek.com

Tarah Jordan's mascara was running down her face as she slipped up four mats at Club Spych Health and Fitness. She was dismantling her baby, the Valleyview business she started 10 years ago. With every piece of equipment she dragged out to her dad's truck went a chunk of her heart.

"It is my family. This gym is my family," said Jordan, standing outside the Oxide Road building, pausing to wipe away tears and clear her throat. "I would love to have kept it for the rest of my life. My daughter could have taken it over one day. She loves the gym. Unfortunately, because of bigger businesses coming in, the Valleyview business she started 10 years ago, with every piece of equipment she dragged out to her dad's truck went a chunk of her heart."

Club Spych, named after Jordan's grandfather, Bill Spychka, opened in June 2006 and will close its doors today, no longer able to make ends meet.

"The bigger businesses are coming in and wiping out the little guys, in a way," Jordan said. "They've got a lot more money to throw around. The little businesses have to change a little more to maintain the equipment and the rest and the losses and everything that goes along with it."

The most recent additions to the Kamloops health business scene are industry giants Snap Fitness and Anytime Fitness, each having opened their doors this year. Orangeberry Fitness, which has franchises across the globe, is opening soon. All three are located on the South Shore.

They bring with them big advertising dollars, financial backing and marketing power most gyms in Kamloops don't have, but some local owners aren't sold on the new gyms in town and others are wondering if there are enough clients to go around.

At KTW's last count, and not including any operators that might have popped up after press deadline, there are more than 20 fitness establishments (not including yoga studios) in Kamloops, which has a population of 90,000.

"I just know the overhead and how expensive it is to run a gym, so it'll be interesting to see how it all pans out," said Andrew Watson, part-owner of No Limits Fitness on the North Shore.

"Personally, I don't know if it'll support that many on that side of town. When a new gym opens up, a lot of people go and try it for the first year, but we have a lot of people coming back to our gym — a lot. You have to give it that personal touch."

See OWNERS, A14

3RD

KAMLOOPS THIS WEEK

Marty Hastings

A very well-researched David vs. Goliath story depicting a community's changing landscape and the way residents are being affected.

Editorial
When hospitals interfere with rights

A local doctor has made national headlines for his stance on doctor-assisted death.

Dr. Jonathan Reggler is an outspoken advocate of the controversial issue. Reggler believes – and the Supreme Court of Canada agrees – that doctor-assisted death is a basic right for Canadians.

Thirteen months ago (Feb. 6, 2015) the Supreme Court of Canada ruled – unanimously – that the “sanctity of life” must also include the “passage into death” and effectively gave the government 12 months to put the ruling into law.

The government was given a four-month grace period, due to the election, but the heat is on now, and the interest in the impending legislation is more piqued here in the Comox Valley than in most communities, based on the fact that we have a hospital owned by the Catholic church.

Whether or not doctor-assisted death should be legal in Canada is an issue in itself, and one of which we can appreciate both sides of the debate.

And while we may sit on the fence in that regard, one thing we cannot accept is when the agenda of a religion comes ahead of the best interest of the patient in a publicly funded health care facility.

Privately funded? A different matter altogether. But when we, the taxpayers, are paying all the salaries/wages, and for all the equipment used in a hospital, we should not be told, “I’m sorry, but your legal rights contradict the policies of our owner.”

It’s not like Comox Valley residents have a choice in the matter. There’s one hospital. And while it may be “owned” by the Catholic church, it is funded by everyone; Catholics, atheists, Jews and Muslims alike.

Meanwhile, Island Health - the publicly-funded entity which oversees the health care industry on Vancouver Island – has said it supports the hospital’s stance.

We cannot share that stance.

Just as operations should never take place in confessionals, Catholicism – or any other religion, for that matter – should never overrule medical care in a publicly funded medical facility.

–Terry Farrell

1ST

COMOX VALLEY RECORD

Terry Farrell

Farrell’s editorial puts a spotlight on a national/religious issue by discussing why healthcare at a local level should trump religion.

Unintended victims

No living victims have been hurt more than Charlie and Saskia by this year’s drug-overdose epidemic in B.C.

They don’t live on the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. They live in a rural area outside Parksville known as Errington.

They aren’t part of the drug culture. They are 11 and nine years old, respectively, and both of their parents are dead.

It was August 14 when 27-year-old Brittany O’Leary and 29-year-old Danny Byron died in their Errington home after a drug overdose. Word is Charlie and Saskia discovered their bodies that morning. ‘Awful’ does not begin to describe that scenario.

No amount of government warnings and education efforts will erase that memory from these dear children, nor will it bring their parents back.

By all accounts, O’Leary and Byron were in love and were loving parents. We are told they were not everyday, hardcore users. Such is the Russian-roulette nature of even casual illicit drug use these days, when a small amount of fentanyl unknowingly ingested can kill, destroying families and leaving behind young, innocent orphans.

The B.C. Coroners’ office has not finished its investigation of this tragedy, so we don’t know officially what killed O’Leary and Byron. That hardly matters to Charlie and Saskia.

“Losing a daughter, a son, a sister, a brother or a parent is hard, but for these kids they lost both parents on the same day,” says the preamble on the gofundme page set up to help the children. The goal was to raise \$7,000 and it was at \$5,900 late last week.

Here is where we are supposed to say something good can come of this tragedy, some lessons or strategy that may help others avoid a similar fate. Can’t find those words, can’t muster any altruisms or helpful tips.

There were 622 apparent illicit drug overdose deaths from January through October in B.C., a 57 per cent increase over the same period last year. There were seven on Vancouver Island alone in the one-week period ending Thursday. Island Health issued an “urgent warning.”

Members of small volunteer fire departments in places like Errington and Dashwood are being trained in the use of the overdose-reversing drug naloxone.

This overdose epidemic is not a big-city issue. It is not about unemployed, down-and-out drug addicts who rob our stores and homes to get their next fix. This is about avoiding tragedy, putting a stop to the pain left behind.

This is about never hearing another story like the one of Charlie and Saskia.

— Editorial by John Harding

2ND

PARKVILLE/QUALICUM BEACH NEWS

John Harding

This editorial elegantly looks for solutions to a province-wide drug problem that we usually see through nameless self-harming victims who live somewhere else - by focusing on two local children.

Chainsaw massacre

I think that I shall never see a bylaw lovely as a tree.

Kudos to West Vancouver council for passing the first regulations to protect their trees in a century.

It’s unfortunate the regulations were greeted not with applause but with the buzzing saws of homeowners playing Beat the Clock with municipal law.

We are aware certain developers would prefer the free market determine how many trees are left standing. They have made their views clear both with their words and with their actions on the ground. But lack of regulation can have dire consequences for the community as a whole, particularly when large sums of money are involved.

We would argue that high housing prices in West Vancouver are not solely due to lot size.

They are also owed to that less

tangible asset, “quality of life”, and the verdant cedars and Douglas firs that arch over the community are a valued part of that.

But not everyone agrees, and there will always be those homeowners who move into a forest and are aghast to see so many trees. These are the people who will wield axes and happily play Paul Bunyan to any vegetation violating their concrete and glass esthetic.

But even now, the district’s only recourse is a \$1,000 fine that will likely be treated as a speeding ticket for residents with a net worth in the multi millions.

We call on the province to allow West Vancouver to charge fines that are hefty enough to keep trees from turning into stumps.

Please move quickly. We may not have another century to get this right.

3RD

NORTH SHORE NEWS

Jeremy Shepherd

A catchy opening and closing address a local issue in need of a provincial solution.

1ST

VANCOUVER COURIER

John Kurucz

Interesting choice of subject mainstream recreation. A well-written piece and good exposure for the activity and for the community to access opportunities.

Disc golf world championship soars into Vancouver

More than 30 competitors from four continents battle for disc domination

John Kurucz
jkurucz@vancourier.com

First things first: it's not a Frisbee, it's a disc. Secondly, participants aren't a bunch of weekend warriors content with a simple jaunt around the park while downing a couple of cold ones.

On the contrary, they practise daily, have personal trainers and play for money in tournaments across North America.

There are even organizing bodies worldwide and player rankings are maintained on the regular.

Such are the intricacies surrounding disc golf, a sport similar to traditional golf that's seemingly exploding in popularity across the world.

Organizers of this week's inaugural Team Disc Golf World Championship are hoping to capitalize on that momentum, as teams and spectators from all corners descend upon Vancouver to crown the kings and queens of all things disc.

"It's something that anybody can play and that's the coolest part about it," said Vancouver's Leanne Fulton, a member of Team Canada's eight-player contingent. "My dad can play, my niece and nephews can play, and they're all under

10 years old. It doesn't matter if you're fit, if you're super competitive. There's a place for anybody's interest or ability in the sport."

Running Aug. 18 to 21 at Queen Elizabeth Park and on Grouse Mountain, the showcase event features teams from Japan, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, the U.S. and Canada.

The tournament format will include team, individual and doubles matches and more than \$5,000 is up for grabs in prize money.

Yes, money will be awarded for essentially throwing some plastic in to a basket, but that's the norm on planet disc.

Take Fulton's latest competitive feat, for example: when reached by the Courier, she was in Emporia, Kan., playing in the 2016 Disc Golf World Championships. The town of just over 20,000 is a hotbed for disc golf, hosts multiple tournaments annually and sees a tangible boost in the local economy from the sport alone.

The games are even live streamed on YouTube in most of the town's watering holes.

"It's so fascinating — it's a little town in the middle of nowhere, but they are disc golf crazy here," Fulton said. "The whole town has gotten behind it and it's a big source



Steve Crichton (left) and Dan Laitisch are helping organize this week's inaugural Team Disc Golf World Championship at Queen Elizabeth Park and Grouse Mountain. PHOTO DAN TOULGOET

of industry for them because they hold major events every year. For a town this size, it's a really big deal."

According to tournament director Dan Laitisch, the sport first became a big deal in the mid-1970s: that's when rules were formalized and facilities began springing up across North America.

The courses are a no-brainer for municipalities, according to Laitisch, due to the low costs involved (about \$9,000) and the

spin-off benefits of offering recreational facilities on public lands.

Laitisch took up disc golf in the mid-'90s while camping in Virginia and he's now involved with the British Columbia Disc Sports Society, serving as past president. Yes, there's a provincial society devoted to disc sports. And it boasts more than 500 members.

"We have a member who dropped between 50 and 75 pounds just by playing disc golf," Laitisch said. "It

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Sports & Recreation

fewest shots possible. The discs are made from varying types of plastic to accommodate specific shots: drivers have sharper edges to cut through the wind, while putters have duller edges and tend to go straighter.

Games typically last 15 to 20 minutes on a smaller course, three hours on longer courses and a starter set of discs runs you about \$30.

Along with Laitisch and Fulton, Vancouver's Steve Crichton is helping to organize this week's tournament. A Team Canada member with 20 years of experience under his belt, Crichton says his team has an ace in the hole leading up to this week's tee off.

"We know these courses — Queen Elizabeth and Grouse are pretty much our home courses, so we'll have a distinct advantage with the familiarity with the courses that we'll be playing," said Crichton. "Most of us who are on this team from B.C. have played together, so we all work really well together. There's a continuity within the players that are on this team that will definitely benefit us."

To follow the disc drama that will play out this weekend, go online to pdga.com/teammwds.

@JohnKurucz

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Documentary celebrates Carcross's trailblazing youth

Ashley Joannou
News Reporter

For eight weeks last summer youth in Carcross — as in hand — went to work in the bush on Montana Mountain. Using only hand tools to clear trees, move rocks and fill holes they created a nearly kilometre-long swooping mountain bike trail from scratch.

Complete with 15 to 20 bermed corners and wooden features that can be rolled over or launched off, AK DNB is now probably the most well-used trail on the mountain.

But it's certainly not the first one the group has worked on. It's not even the only one they worked on that summer.

For the last 10 years youth in Carcross with the Single Track to Success program have been building and maintaining a network of trails on Montana Mountain that have been called among the best in the world.

Now they are preparing for their big screen close-up. A documentary on the group is scheduled to premiere today at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre.

Funded by the Carcross Tish Management Corporation as a way to expand tourism to the area, 45 youth have been paid over the last 10 summers to work on the trails. About 40 of them are members of the First Nation.

Jade McLeod is a soft spoken 16-year-old who can yank an ax mid stump out of the ground in 15 minutes if he's got an axe handy. "We use the axe, try to chop off the roots and then pull it out," he said.

Getting it out involves wedging the axe into the top and pulling. Really hard.

He's proud of the work they've done for other mountain bikers to enjoy.

"It's pretty cool that they enjoy it."

About 3,500 to 4,000 visitors are anticipated this summer. A 2012 rider survey found that about 60 per cent of the riders are local, 25 per cent are from B.C. and Alaska, and the remaining are from all over the world.

His crewmate Keona McLaughlin, 16, remembers working on Black Bear trail last summer. The route is considered technical in sections and the team had been clearing rocks to create a smoother, safer ride.

"They're getting world recognition in terms of the quality of the trails and what they're creating, and that's a pretty big thing for kids from Carcross to have in their back pocket."

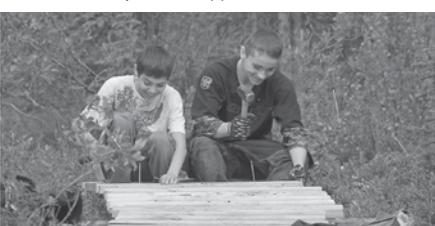
The 30-minute documentary titled *Shift*, will make its debut Wednesday at a fundraising event for Single Track to Success. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the event begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets will be sold at the door and entry is by donation. All proceeds from the event will go to the Single Track to Success program.

Some time in early 2017 the movie will air on Northwest Community Television. Between now and then the plan is to take



Jade McLeod and Shane Wally add material to a popular trail.



Mackenzie Harper-Smarth, left, and Keona McLaughlin build bridges on Montana Mountain in Carcross.

across the foot bridge to our side of the lake," she said. "They were like the seven dwarfs going off to work."

Over time she realized that those kids probably had a story worth telling.

"They're getting world recognition in terms of the quality of the trails and what they're creating, and that's a pretty big thing for kids from Carcross to have in their back pocket."

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financial backing and he wasn't messing around," she says. "He built transverse, he built wagon roads, he built all kinds of infrastructure on that mountain."

A hundred years later, those old trails and wagon roads have become ideal single-track trails and were the basis for developing the trail network.

About 25 kilometres of the 65 kilometres worth of trails on Montana Mountain are historic wagon roads from that era or mining exploration routes from between the 1950s and 1970s.

Once, early in the planning process, Koepke was looking at maps in a local coffee shop when an elder informed her that she was missing a trail.

"He grabbed a pencil and drew this huge line on the map. We'd never heard anything about this trail before, it was crazy."

The next morning Koepke spoke to a silviculture crew working in the area who claimed to know the trail. They took her to a path that ended at a beautiful water-

fall. "What she was being told didn't fit with what the elder had said in the summer to find campsites that are off-road vehicle friendly," Couler says, and when they're found, conflicts understandably arise between the different types of users of those areas.

"We really wanted a place of our own to be able to quad from, it was located beside water, they'd become 'just another rec site,'" Couler says, and would be back at square one, fighting for space with boaters, fishermen and other recreational users.

Once they had a spot the public this past Dec. 31, became the answer they'd been looking for. After that initial meeting, the National Trail Coalition (NTC) sent out notice in June of 2014 that they were making money available for people who wanted to build trail systems — including ones for off-road vehicles.

That was the bump the organization needed.

"We jumped in there and got the paperwork in and we were successful at getting that grant," Couler says. "Once we got that, Duncan (MacLavin) went to work

and got Rec Sites and Trails to match those funds," as the NTC grant was contingent on matching funds coming from somewhere, and that gave us enough money to go forward and make definite plans."

Getting a site approved was possibly the most difficult aspect of the process — at least administratively.

"We had to find a site that fit not only our own criteria but all of the stakeholder's criteria. Everyone from trappers to woodlot owners had to approve that we build the site, and that was only step one," he laughs.

Their own main criteria was that it not be located on a lake. They figured that if it was located beside water, they'd become "just another rec site," Couler says, and would be back at square one, fighting for space with boaters, fishermen and other recreational users.

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Off-roading gets less frustrating thanks to new site

Campbell River ATV Club opens new recreation area just north of Roberts Lake

MIKE DAVIES
CAMPBELL RIVER MIRROR

In November of 2013, Duncan MacLavin of Recreation Sites and Trails BC came to the Campbell River ATV club (CRATV) with a proposal.

Off-roaders needed a place to call their own, he thought, and CRATV president Mike Couler was immediately on board.

"It's always a challenge in the summer to find campsites that are off-road vehicle friendly," Couler says, and when they're found, conflicts understandably arise between the different types of users of those areas.

"We really wanted a place of our own to be able to quad from, it was located beside water, they'd become 'just another rec site,'" Couler says, and would be back at square one, fighting for space with boaters, fishermen and other recreational users.

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require having a bit more technical riding skill, and black ones are the most difficult. Another benefit to the process, aside from the obvious one of ending up with a dedicated area in which to ride and camp, is that lines of communication between riders and other forest users have been opened and improved, Couler says.

"We've developed a really good relationship with the forestry people in the area out by Stella Lake," Couler says. "We

cooperate, we get along, we interact. They let us know where there's active logging going on, now, which is great," he says, because then they can stay out of each other's hair, so to speak.

The forestry companies and government, Couler says, are also starting to realize that off-roaders are, "another set of eyes out there for them. We pop out of nowhere, so people who are up to no good are more cautious, because they know we're out there."

The property is just five kilometres off Highway 19 on Elk Bay Road — just north of Roberts Lake — and Couler couldn't be happier about how it turned out.

After all the hard work, administrative hurdles and complications, along with engineering issues to be dealt with, he's still smiling, and clearly itching to get back up to the trails.

"It was all worth it," he says, leaning back in his chair. The site is open to the public now, and

those who are into riding should watch for an official grand opening event to happen soon. The club is also hoping to soon begin planning various events such as family rides, poker rides and jambores.

Like them on Facebook — just search "Campbell River ATV Club" — or head over to cratvclub.com or cratvclub.com (their online forum) for more details and to keep up with what's happening at Eye Mountain and with the club.

Interested applicants, please contact the Senior Exchange coordinator at senior-exchange@twinningbc.ca. The deadline for applications is JANUARY 25TH, 2015. The exchange is open to all GRADE 10 AND 11 STUDENTS FROM TIMBERLINE AND CARHILL.

Please visit the Campbell River Twinning Society Facebook page for additional information on the ongoing relationship between the City of Campbell River and the City of Ishikari, Japan.

www.facebook.com/twinnbc

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FREE SOLD

CAMPBELL RIVER MIRROR Mike Davies

2ND YUKON NEWS Ashley Joannou

Well-presented theme of multi-level community recreational opportunities with multi-level impact.

3RD CAMPBELL RIVER MIRROR Mike Davies

Well-structured narrative of the process for obtaining approval and access for the community to recreational offroading.



City, NDIIT clash over hotel funds

Samantha WRIGHT ALLEN

Despite serious concerns about the Prince George hotel project, the City of Prince George and the NDIIT have clashed over funding for the Courtyard Marriott Hotel project in downtown Prince George.



Construction on the Courtyard Marriott Hotel project is seen on Dec. 6.

Staff are also concerned about the ability for the trust to recoup the funds from the hotel project should it fail financially a second time.

downing without help from the province, Salas said. "The hotel brings with it significant opportunities for other business in the area...

GREEN ECONOMY

PROVINCIAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUPPORTS BAN ON OLD-GROWTH LOGGING ON ISLAND'S COASTLAND, BUT FORESTRY CONFIRMS WAR OF JOB LOSSES

JOHN MCKINLEY

A dramatic shift may be underway in Vancouver Island thinking. Citing the impact of old-growth forest on the island's economy, the provincial chamber of commerce has urged a ban on logging of old-growth forest on the island's coastland.

Three companies submit expressions of interest to provide foot ferry service

TARA CUNNINGHAM

Three ferry operators have bid for a berth in the newly industrial waterfront. Island Ferry, Clippa Navigation and Aquatic Company have submitted expressions of interest to the City of Nanaimo and Nanaimo Port Authority to operate a passenger ferry service between downtown Nanaimo and Vancouver.

3RD NANAIMO NEWS BULLETIN

John McKinley

When the BC Chamber of Commerce agrees with environmentalists that the logging of old-growth should end, you know the political winds are shifting. In this story, McKinley takes a closer look at what is pushing Vancouver Island municipalities in the direction of preservation, but also addresses the risks in doing so since logging and forestry are bedrock elements to the Island economy.

1ST

THE PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN

Samantha Wright Allen

Reporter Samantha Wright Allen uses all the tools available to her, including an FOI request, to reveal the competing interests and potential conflicts in a controversial downtown revitalization project in Prince George. With the bunker-like foundation of an already once-failed hotel sitting unfinished in the middle of downtown, this series of stories brings transparency to what was going on behind the scenes and gives readers vital information to question the wisdom of what officials are doing.

2ND

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Brandon Barrett

An engaging feature that connects the dots between the surprisingly high number of successful pitchers to the popular show Dragon's Den who hail from Whistler and the risk-taking entrepreneurial spirit that draws people to the resort community. The writers then delve into the question of whether that risk-taking entrepreneurial spirit is something the community can capitalize on as a bigger economic generator. What would the benefits be and what are the challenges in doing so?

44 Feature

FIRESTARTERS

MEET THE WHISTLER ENTREPRENEURS WHO BRAVED THE DRAGONS' DEN AND CAME OUT ON TOP

BY BRANDON BARRETT

It should come as no surprise that Whistler is a risk-taker's paradise. And while the first danger that entrepreneurs face is the fire of their own ambition, the second is the fire of the market.



1ST

SURREY NOW

Amy Reid

The intent, gravity and community value of this polished series are apparent throughout its pages, and the writing grabs the reader and refuses to let go. The initial lead, with its race against death, is excellent, and subsequent sub-leads ("People are dropping like crazy") continue to land punches. Reporter Amy Reid wraps the series by revisiting the incident in which she witnessed the near death of one of her sources. This further drives home the insights she delivers in the series. Excellent work.

2ND

PIQUE NEWS MAGAZINE

Braden Dupuis & Clare Ogilvie

This series gets it right, establishing its intent, setting the scene up front and taking on Whistler's housing shortage precipitated by the rental market's shift to Airbnb accommodations and short-term rentals. Braden Dupuis supports his crisp narrative with good research and examines the perspectives of renters, bureaucrats, employers and developers, establishing the broader implications the emerging resident-accommodation problem has for the community.



3RD

ABBOTSFORD NEWS

Vikki Hopes & Kelvin Gawley

In this series, Vikki Hopes and Kelvin Gawley steadfastly take on the thorny topic of reintroducing freed sex-offenders into the community. With an even hand, the reporters examine the community's resistance, and take a close look at correction services' approach to reintegration. As well, they provide readers with a contrasting look at the consequences of the pinball effect of pushing offenders from one community to the next.



OVER 25,000

TD Creative

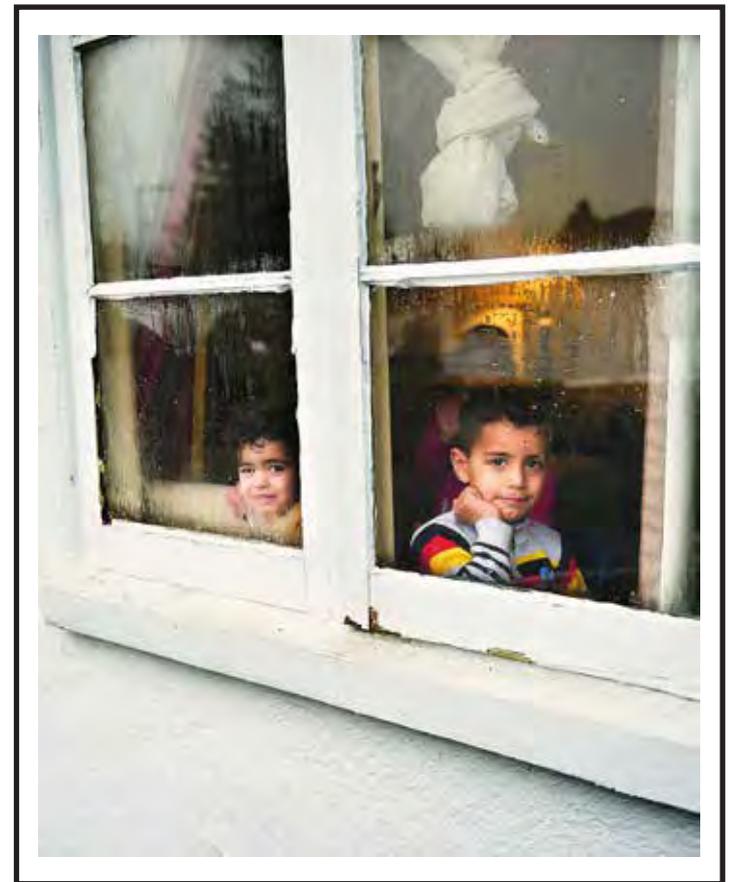


1ST

PARKSVILLE/QUALICUM BEACH NEWS

Jeff Westnedge

This was an immediately arresting image - beautifully portrayed but also simple in its composition - there was no wasted space or cluttered detail. There was just the brilliant colours, a very well-timed moment and the added subtlety of the reflection in the waters below.

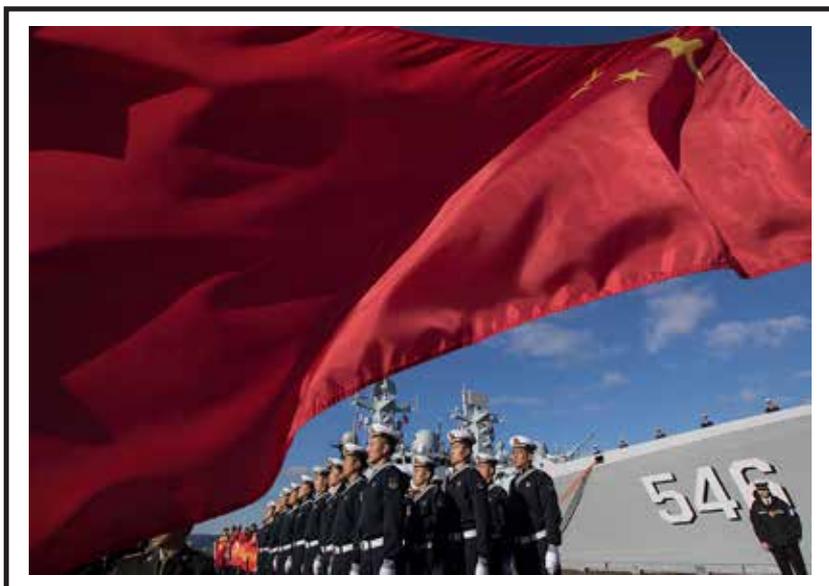


VANCOUVER COURIER

Dan Toulgoet

2ND

This was a close contender for first place. An impromptu moment showed something noteworthy on both sides of the lens -- on the subject's side, a beguiling candid feel and an unposed look, showing a subject in their environment with grace and dignity; on the photographer's side, a sensitive and empathetic eye and the skill to recognize a moment and have the quick reflexes to capture a fleeting moment before it disappeared.



3RD

VICTORIA NEWS

Arnold Lim

This picture was almost poetic in its balanced composition, perfect timing and brilliant colour. Beyond being a great feature photo, it's just a great photo, period. Kudos to the photographer for looking beyond what the crowd was focused on and seeing this beautiful scene as a result.

Arts Awards

1ST

OAK BAY NEWS
Christine van Reeuyk

Having the interaction between the two girls takes this photo above the sorts of photos that usually come from this common event. The sensitivity to human interaction made all the difference for this picture placing as high as it did; it was a unique quality that set it apart and I think that trait in a photographer is most noteworthy. If they have that ability, they can do a good job on almost anything.



2ND

SALMON ARM OBSERVER
Evan Buhler

The cutline says it well - the beauty of this moment vaulted the picture to second place. But it was the technical ability of the photographer that assured that placing - without the ability to competently record this phenomenon, this would not have won. And thankfully the editors recognized this picture's qualities and ran it front page.



3RD

SHUSWAP MARKET NEWS
Evan Buhler

A simple and graphic image that catches one's attention and holds it. Thank goodness this picture got good play and ran in colour.



TD Creative



1ST

Yukon News

Joel Krahn

Excellent use of light and dark to add depth and emotion to the image. Silhouetting the subject within the background creates an interesting insight into the subject and situation. Great image that really deserves its first place position. Well done.



2ND

NANAIMO NEWS BULLETIN

Chris Bush

Strong composition, contrast and focus work together to create an engaging image that draws the viewer in. Good exposure and use of light. Great work.



3RD

MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS NEWS

Michael Hall

A poignant portrait, excellent use of converging lines to draw the eye to the subject. The image makes the viewer want to know more about the subject, what a good portrait should do. Great shot.

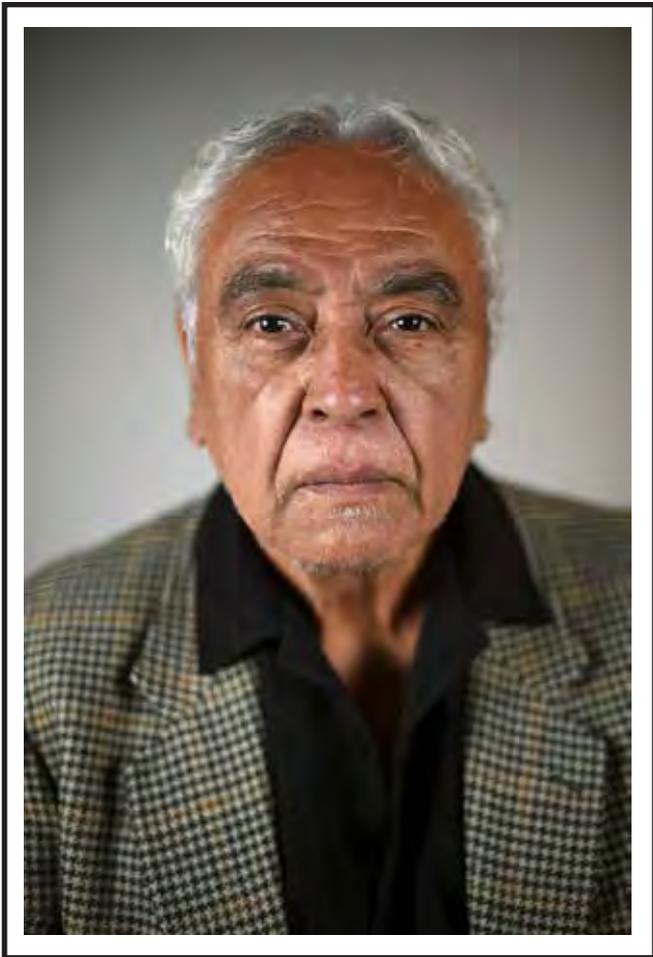
Arts Awards

1ST

YUKON NEWS

Joel Krahn

First place is a different artistic style portrait which uses composition, light and creativity to convey a strong mood. Kudos to the layout editor for the great "photo play!"



2ND

VANCOUVER COURIER

Dan Toulgoet

A powerful portrait with visual contradictions. His eyes convey his personal journey and history and an aspect of his personality. Excellent photographic technique!

3RD

MAPLE RIDGE-PITT

MEADOWS NEWS

Phil Melnychuk & Colleen Flanagan

Great impact, a powerful and compelling image which draws you in wanting to know the story. Great use of camera angle and perspective. Strong layout.



OVER 25,000



1ST

NORTH SHORE NEWS

Paul McGrath

The viewer is drawn into the intensity and focus of the moment through the image. The composition has the key elements in it with good depth of field. Great shot. It deserves the top spot in the field.

2ND

LANGLEY ADVANCE

Troy Landreville

A nice tight frame on the athlete, sharp focus and intense facial expression relay the emotion of the moment to the viewer. It is open to interpretation and draws the viewer into the story.

Solid work.

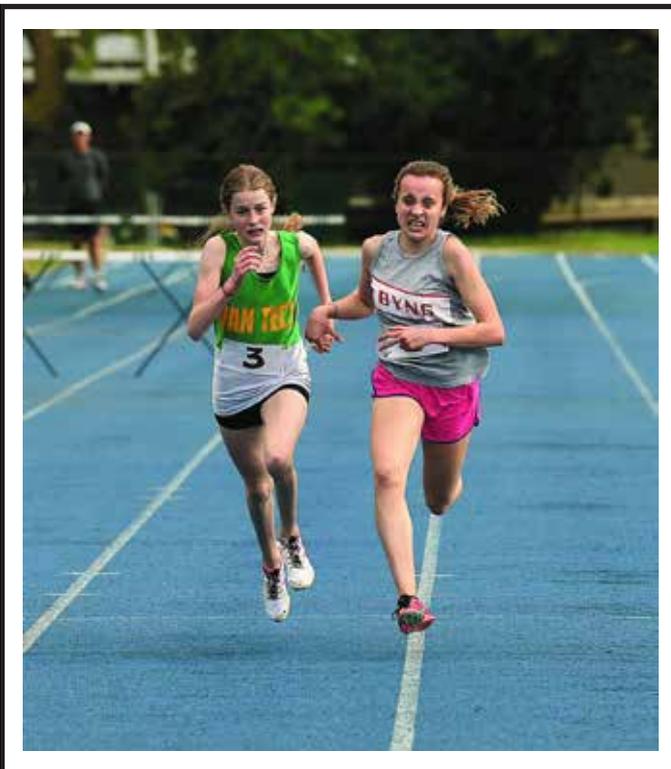


3RD

VANCOUVER COURIER

Dan Toulgoet

The grit and struggle of the athletes is conveyed perfectly through the image. There is an intensity that is captured through sharp focus and good depth of field. It makes the viewer curious to see who won. Great shot.





1ST

HOPE STANDARD

Barry Stewart

Great capture - a unique angle, great composition and added technical effort to shoot underwater helped separate this image from the field. Well done.

2ND

100 MILE HOUSE FREE PRESS

Ken Alexander

Good action, tight focus and technical aptitude worked to create a strong image. The emotion and action of the image engages the viewer. Great shot.



3RD

SALMON ARM OBSERVER

Evan Buhler

Split second timing and sharp focus captured the action and emotion of the image. The focus and intensity of the players is conveyed to the viewer. Excellent photograph.



OVER 25,000



1ST GOLDSTREAM NEWS GAZETTE

Joel Tansey

This was a dramatic key moment, created under duress or difficult circumstances. The perspective is good and the timing key to the whole story.

2ND

VERNON MORNING STAR

Lisa VanderVelde

This is another example of a photograph made under less than ideal circumstances. There's no do-over with such an event and there undoubtedly was just a split second to make only a frame or two - what sharp reflexes to catch a moment coming eye to eye with this convict.



3RD

LANGLEY TIMES

Dan Ferguson

The framing and composition here are key to this entry placing as high as it did. Uncluttered, free of distracting elements, it portrays a dramatic event simply and effectively.



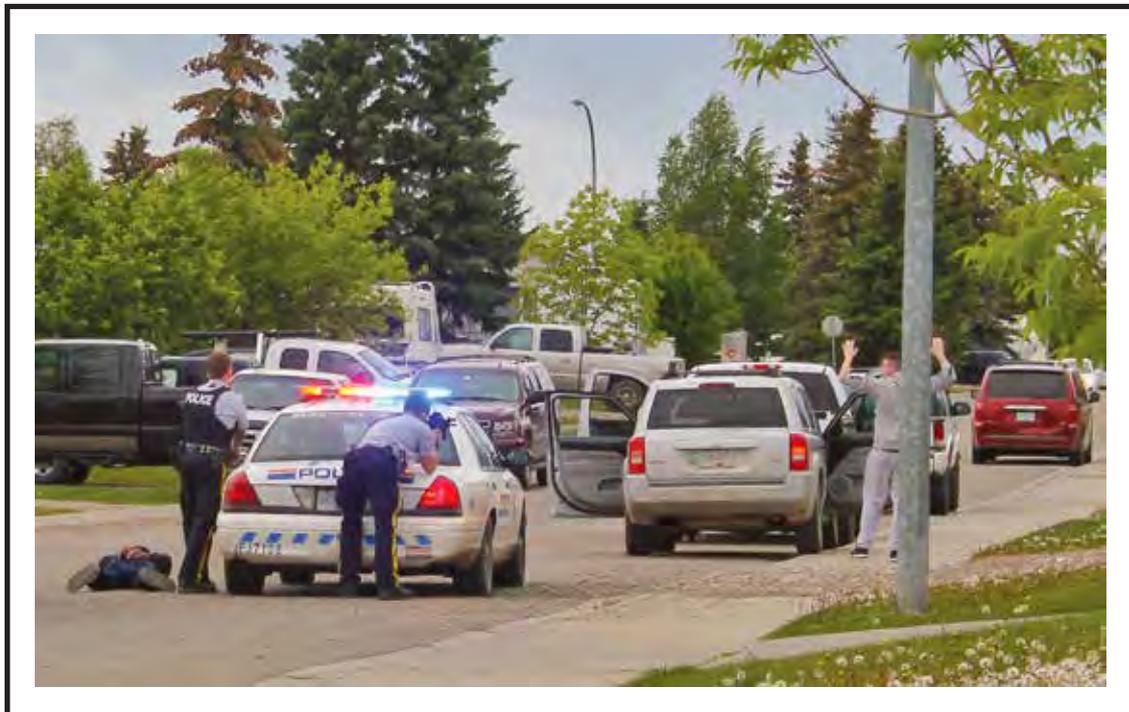


1ST

LADYSMITH-CHEMAINUS CHRONICLE

Craig Spence

This is a dramatic and unusual spot news photograph, in that it's rare to see bystanders rescue a person in distress. The photographer obviously was quick to arrive and as a result came away with a record of an unusual but compassionate moment.



2ND

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

Matt Preprost

This is a good definition of a spot news photograph, in that a person arrested at gunpoint is quite unplanned. To have one person arrested and another in the process of being arrested adds an interesting element of storytelling to the image.



3RD

SOOKE NEWS MIRROR

Octavian Lacatusu

This shot quite clearly meets the criteria of spot news but also adds a bit of humour or uniqueness to the category.

1ST

OAK BAY NEWS

Christine van Reeuyk, Arnold Lim, Don Descoteau, Carlie Connolly

A treasured community souvenir showcase that provides full event coverage, great camera angles and perspectives and captures delightful intimate moments of the special Royal visit!

A10 • www.oakbaynews.com

Royal Tour 2016

Your community newspaper team is on the ground as the Duke & Duchess of Cambridge tour Canada Sept. 24 to Oct. 1, 2016.

www.oakbaynews.com • A11

Photos by: Carlie Connolly, Don Descoteau, Arnold Lim and Christine van Reeuyk

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge arrive at 443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron adjacent to the Victoria International Airport on Sept. 24. Prince William, his wife Catherine and their children Prince George and Princess Charlotte are based at Government House while visiting Canada through Oct. 1.

The couple was welcomed to Victoria with open arms Saturday evening, with a crowd estimated at 10,000 setting up around the Inner Harbour and on the lawns of the B.C. Legislature. The royal tour will see them visit five communities in British Columbia - Victoria, Vancouver, Haida Gwaii, Bella Bella, and Kelowna as well as Whitehorse and Carcross, Yukon.

More online

Look for stories, video and photos online as your community news network follows the Royal Tour B.C. and Yukon at bclocalnews.com. Also follow on Twitter @BlackPressMedia or find your community newspaper on Twitter and Facebook.

20 | yukonnews.com

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Salmon fishing in the Tatchun

Chinook salmon fighting over a spawning bed (shown as a rock) in the shallows of Tatchun Creek.

Peter Mather
Special to Yukon News

Tatchun Creek is a nearly perfect salmon stream. The thick forested creek flows to a lake, then flows Tachun Lake into the mighty Yukon River, providing a natural spawning ground for the Chinook salmon. It is one of the most important salmon spawning creeks within the territory of the Little Salmon-Skeena First Nation. In a stretch of the five locations on the Yukon where you can see salmon migrating and spawning, there are the best spawning streams in the territory.

The creek was once an important traditional salmon fishery for the people of the Little Salmon-Carmacks First Nation and used to be a major commercial salmon fishery. In 1997, the open fishery at the confluence of the Yukon River and Tatchun Creek was almost 100 per cent harvested. Due to the collapse of the Yukon River salmon runs in the early 2000s, the open fishery has been closed and the Indigenous fishery has been greatly reduced with only those made salmon taken from the creek this year.

For further information, contact photographer Peter Mather at www.petermather.com.

Photography by Peter Mather

Heath O'Brien of the Little Salmon-Carmacks First Nation, gaffs salmon in Tatchun Creek.

21 | yukonnews.com

Backbone from the top: O'Brien gaffs for fish in the creek. The chinook fishery has declined to a small number of fish. Heath and the brother O'Brien harvested just three made salmon this year.

Heath and O'Brien O'Brien take a break from fishing. Fisheries biologist Nicolas de Graft and his son are monitoring a salmon stream system in 2016. They gathered eggs and salmon for a project with students from Northern College in Carleton Place.

Simply better with each a better one spawning for chinook salmon in Tatchun Creek.

In 2016, hundreds of salmon were spawning, which helped a better start on Tatchun Creek. Once the fish return, the salmon were able to come up to their spawning grounds.

2ND

YUKON NEWS

Peter Mather

Curious to see these images in colour. The photographer spent time and stuck with the theme to show different locations providing a great variety of storytelling images.

3RD

SALMON ARM OBSERVER

Evan Buhler

Wow: eye candy in a catchy layout! Creative camera techniques and lighting capture performers, fans and the energy of the the event. A great visual presentation.

A14 | www.salmonarmobserver.com

Wednesday, August 24, 2016 Salmon Arm Observer

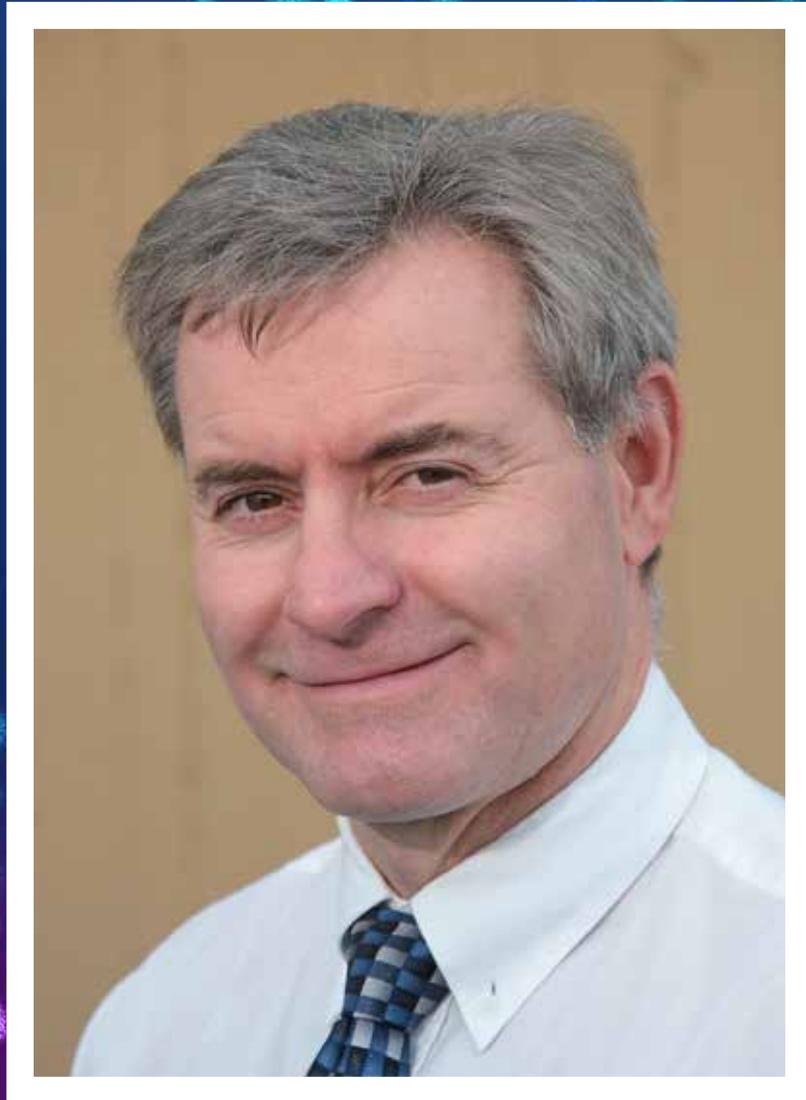
2016 Roots & Blues

www.salmonarmobserver.com • A15

Festival spectacle: Clockwise from top left: The Strife of Steel Rally ahead on the stage on the Jack Daniel's Blues Stage on the 14th annual Roots & Blues Festival on Saturday. The band and Aubrey Cook dance at the C&C Radio Blues Stage. The 2' Club performs on the Jack Daniel's Blues Stage. Bruce and the Blues perform on the Little Salmon-Carmacks Stage. The Blues perform on the TD Main Stage.

Eric Dunning Award for Dedication and Service to the Community Newspaper Industry

MAURICE DONN



Nominated by The Nanaimo News Bulletin, Maurice Donn is the paper's former publisher and had been at the News Bulletin for 10 years until his retirement in December 2016.

Under Donn's leadership, the Nanaimo-area community newspaper thrived. Revenue, market share and flyer volumes all increased, and the paper also earned recognition for its editorial content, winning the BC and Yukon Community Newspapers Association Ma Murray Award for Newspaper Excellence in 2007 and 2011, in addition to provincial and national awards for writing, photography and overall excellence.

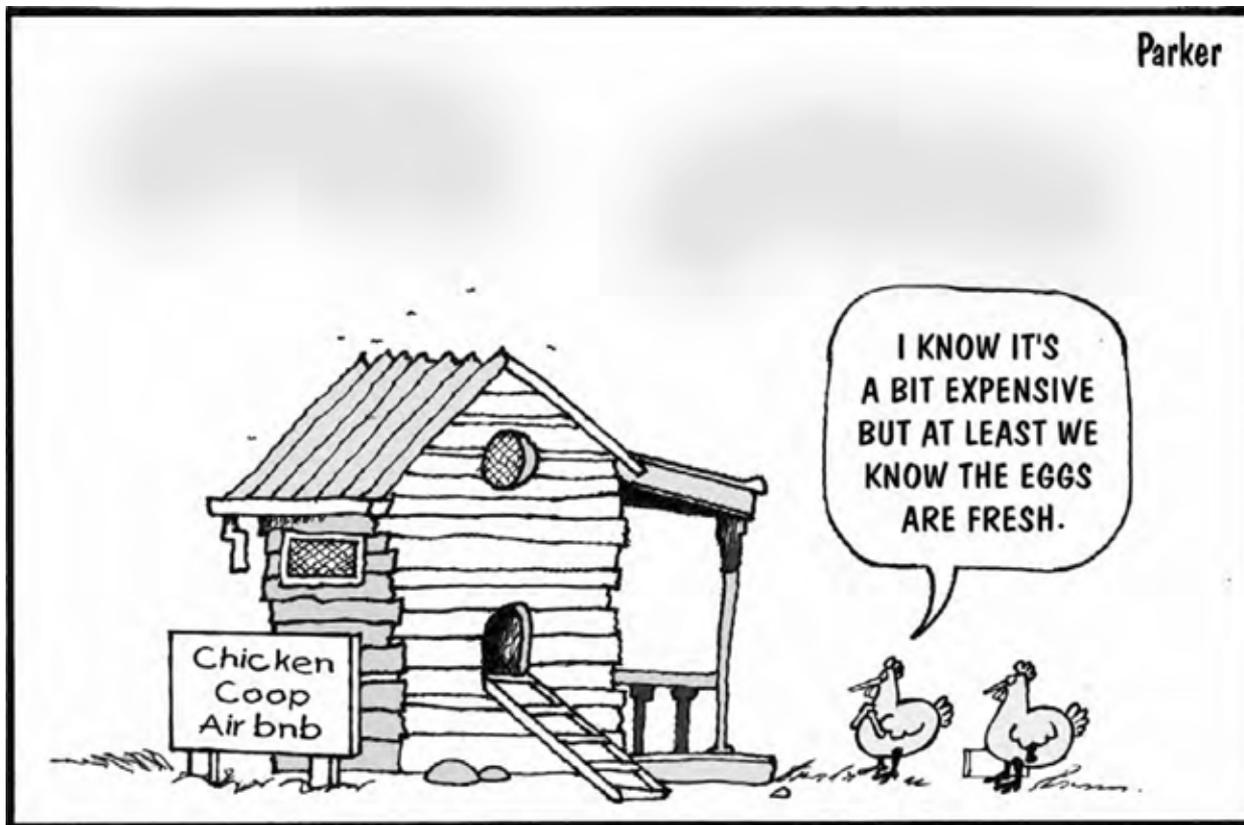
Donn began his career on the editorial side before turning his attention to sales. Prior to taking over the News Bulletin as only its second publisher in history, he was head of National Sales for Black Press, capturing clients such as Sears, Canadian Tire and Wal-Mart. Donn was also involved in creating the Flyer Distribution Standards Association, which maintains standards in distribution, terminology and usage as well as an audit process for print distribution.

He allowed his editorial department to pursue their creative freedom, often resulting in in-depth and controversial stories. He worked closely with the Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce and Nanaimo Economic Development Corporation to create specialty publications to promote business and lifestyle in Nanaimo. Sponsorship agreements also supported non-profit organizations and helped to promote giving to charitable groups through advertising and editorial support.

Donn was also a member of the board at the BC and Yukon Community Newspapers Association, serving as president in 2010-11. During that time, he was a strong advocate for community newspapers in BC and across the country.

Donn gave more than 30 years of his career to the newspaper industry, demonstrating leadership and dedication to the industry, as well as the community his newspaper served. The BCYCNA is proud to honour Maurice Donn's decades of work, with the Eric Dunning Award for Dedication and Service to the Community Newspaper Industry.

Cartoonist Award

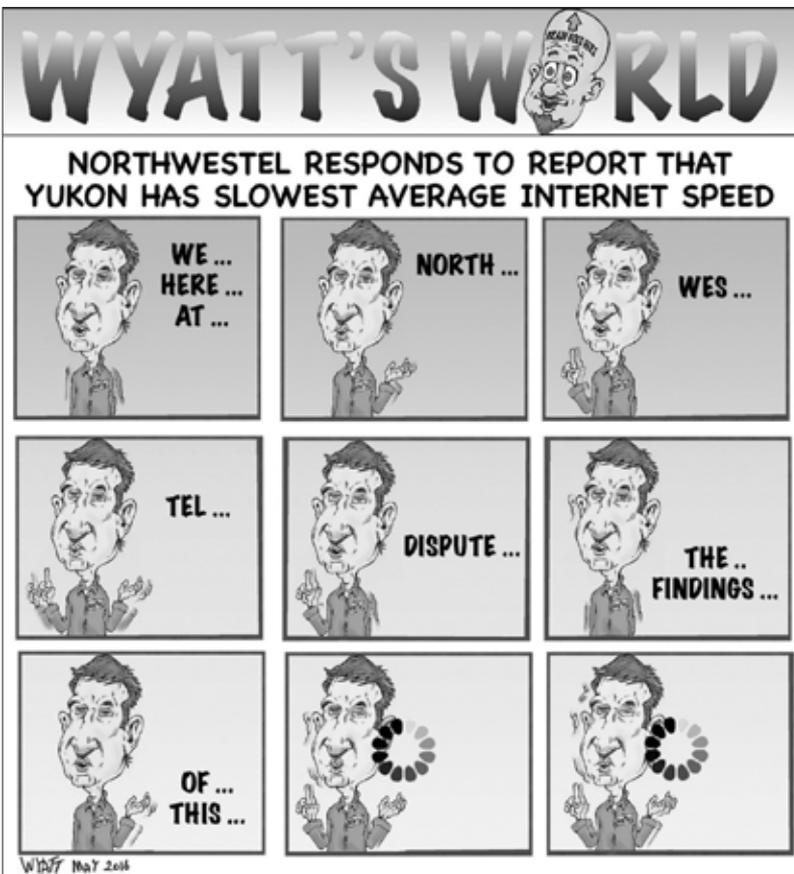


1ST

GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD

Dennis Parker

Simple lines and a nice balance between black and white. Immediate impact and funny! A great cartoon, and a well-earned first place.



2ND

YUKON NEWS

Wyatt Tremblay

Wonderful stylish cartoon. Though it has multiple panels, it is easy to read and has a strong impact - and the gag is hilarious! Very creative use of symbols to create sound! Well done.

3RD

POWELL RIVER PEAK

Wendy Brown

Beautiful penmanship with an inventive cartoon strip style. Great use of colour - very funny and true! Congratulations!



THE NEWS
SINCE 1922 SERVING ABBOTSFORD & MIRROR

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IN OUR OWN BACKYARD

HOME NEWS BUSINESS SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT EDUCATION OPINION LIFESTYLE ENVIRONMENT WORLD PRESSURE

LocalWorkBC.ca RAISE MONEY NOW!

NEWS
Watch live stream of Abbotsford International Airshow on Friday evening

The Canadian Forces Snowbirds presentation at 8 p.m. — Jason Cavell

posted Aug 22, 2015 at 2:00 PM

Abbotsford News videographer Kevin MacDonald will be live streaming from the Abbotsford International Airshow on Friday evening.

Gates for the airshow open at 3:30 p.m., and the live stream is expected to begin in time for the Canadian Forces Snowbirds presentation at 8 p.m.

A fireworks finale takes place at 9:45 p.m.

The live stream can be accessed here:

LocalWorkBC.ca
CAD Operator
Human Resources Generalist
Landscape Sales and Service
Customer Service Evaluator

THAT MEANS YOU PAY \$35,995

JOURNALISM essential to democracy.

save.ca

1ST ABBOTSFORD NEWS
Cristine MacDonald & Andrew Franklin
A fantastic online publication which highlights the Abbotsford Airshow through a variety of online platforms.

Alberni Valley NEWS

WIN A VOLCANOE VACATION IN HAWAII

SPORTS
BCHL: Bulldogs' Jamie Amos works 1000th junior hockey game

By Jason Quinn - Alberni Valley News
First published on Aug 6, 2015 at 9:30 AM

"When I scored?"

It's the moment he wants to relive in his mind, right at the moment he scored his 1000th goal in his junior hockey career. It's the moment he wants to relive in his mind, right at the moment he scored his 1000th goal in his junior hockey career.

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Landscape Sales and Service
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save.ca

3RD ALBERNI VALLEY NEWS
Susan Quinn
A fantastic demonstration of immediacy as this piece was online before the game even ended. Great community connection as well.

2ND SURREY NOW
Amy Reid & Beau Simpson
A great story paired with solid use of multimedia to provide a closer look at what life is like in the community when living with Tourette's.

SURREY NOW

NEWS
BEING BRENT: What life is like when you have Tourette's in Surrey

Surrey's Brent Hughes has had with Tourette's since he was born and living with the disorder can be frustrating and scary, but the way he handles it is surprisingly touching. — Jason Cavell

By Beau Simpson - Surrey Now
First published on May 20, 2015 at 10:00 AM

Spending an afternoon with Surrey's Brent Hughes may lead to a few uncomfortable moments but it will forever change the way you view Tourette's. Click here to read Beau Simpson's column on how Hughes became a family friend.

SURREY'S Brent Hughes grew a strong blue crew and heads his family club to the water's edge.

The young boy has made it a regular habit of helping his dad and brother with the water's edge.

"Tourette's" being right.

The 11-year-old Okanagan resident life the way you live and know it back in the west.

"Tourette's" being right.

"An adult condition," his grandfather with a 10-year-old son for a son — Brent says he is well known to friends of Brent's family home. If you've visited along with a sunny day, chances are you have seen a man with Tourette's.

"I have Tourette's," he says. "Order taking is my passion."

Being Tourette's doesn't mean Brent's family club is any different. Brent's family club is any different. Brent's family club is any different.

Will the year be different. It's his wife's idea, which Brent says he's considering it. It's just a year's time away from the restaurant where a man offered to "put him out of his misery" by buying him a beer.

Common sense says Brent's family club is any different. Brent's family club is any different.

Building Brent's family club and he says out a strong, trusting of his.

"Surrey" he says he's really in particular, "I love Tourette's."

The family club is any different.

"I love Tourette's."

Best picture he says and it's his family club with a "Tourette's" club.

BEING BRENT

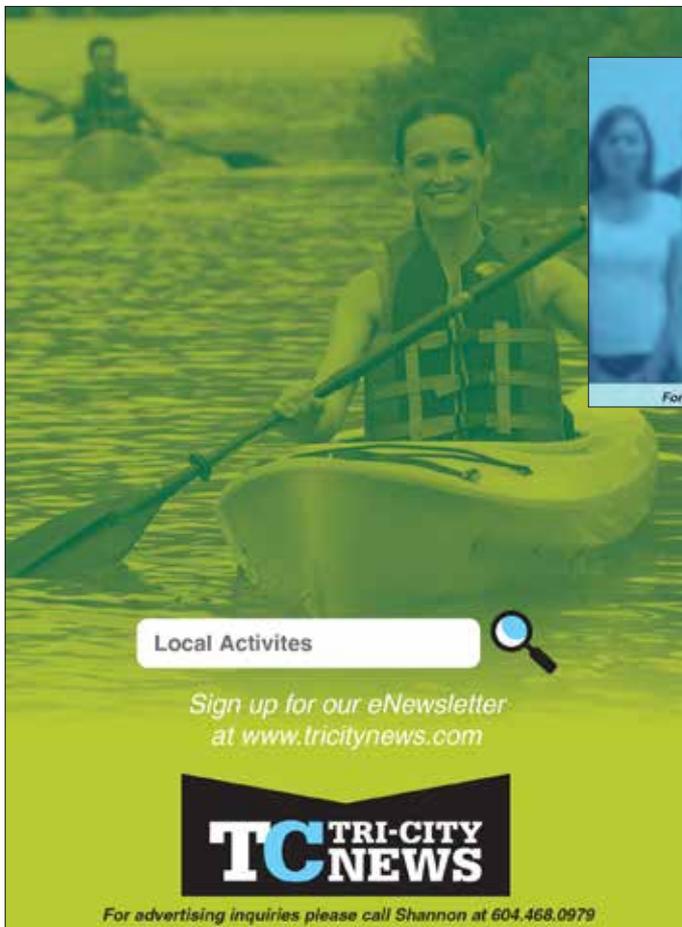
POTS-O-GOLD
Fridays, March 3 - 7
WIN YOUR SHARE OF \$80,000

LocalWorkBC.ca
Human Resources Generalist
Landscape Sales and Service
Customer Service Evaluator

THAT MEANS YOU PAY \$35,995

JOURNALISM essential to democracy.

save.ca

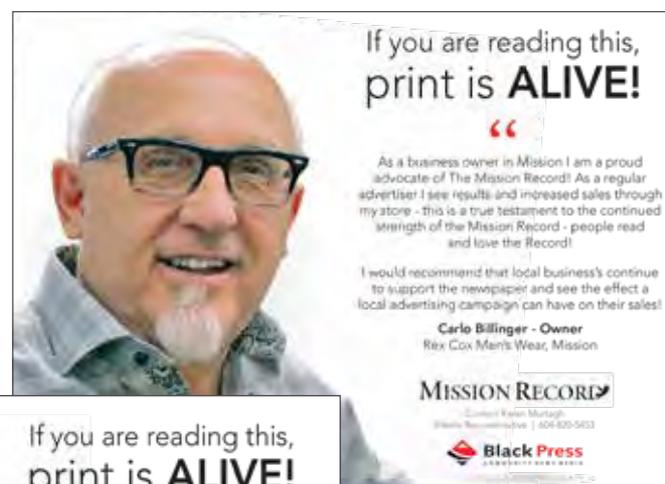


1ST

TRI-CITY NEWS

Matt Blair

Beautiful, colourful and big impact. Direct message, engaging and has a fresh and millennial feel. Well done, keeping it relevant to all the community.



2ND

MISSION RECORD

Kevin Plastow

Clean, elegant and very much community focused. Clear design and messaging.



3RD

WESTENDER

Tara Rafiq, Gail Nugent, Lucy-kate Armstrong & Westender Staff

Naturally, a great campaign. Good design and photography. Polished and well executed.



Capital News Friday, June 24, 2016 www.kelownacapnews.com 813

Browse more at: **Used.ca** LOCALS BUY & SELL HERE

To advertise in print:
Call: 1.866.865.4460 Email: bcclassifieds@blackpress.ca
Self-serve: blackpressused.ca Career ads: localworkbc.ca

A Division of **Black Press** COMMUNITY NEWS MEDIA

\$15 BUCKS Friendly Frank Says... Sell any single item for \$15.00. 3 lines - 2 times any Interior Paper. If it's time to sell, call today!

\$25 BUCKS CLEARS THE CLUTTER! 1 x 1 inch ad showcases your hidden treasures. Garage sales are the talk of town! Give your JUNK a new life.

Best \$35 BUCKS Are You The Best At What You Do? Join us in our classifieds spotlighting local businesses as a 1 x 2 inch ad for \$35/issue. 4 week minimum. Call today to reserve your spot, space is limited.

INDEX IN BRIEF: FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS, TRAVEL, EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS SERVICES, PETS & LIVESTOCK, MICROBUSES FOR SALE, REAL ESTATE, RENTALS, AUTOMOTIVE, ADVERTISING, LEGAL NOTICES, AGREEMENT.

Announcements
In Memoriam: **KARL FULOP** (March 25, 1934 - June 7, 2006). Rest in Peace dear husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. We still miss you. The Fulop Family: Joanne, Anne Marie, Susan, Christine, John & Cristiana.

Announcements
In Memoriam: **Maryella Rose Clark ~ Larsen ~ 1932 ~ 2008**. I put you on a pedestal, so high I could hardly reach, for you embodied the fruit of the spirit that God wanted us to live and teach. ~ Galatians 5:22-23. Loving you forever, your sister Debby.

Announcements
In Memoriam: **Rosalie Bohn** (In Loving Memory of Rosalie Bohn of Kelowna, British Columbia who passed away on June 20, 2016 at 86 years of age. Rosalie was born in Rhein, Saskatchewan on April 17, 1930. She was also a volunteer and member of several organizations. Rosalie is survived by her three children, Gloria, Peter and Paul as well as their spouses and families. She is predeceased by Michael Bohn. The family of Rosalie Bohn wishes to thank all the amazing people that helped in her care in these last few months. The Memorial Service will be held on June 25, 2016 at 11:00am at Roland United Church. We ask that Memorial Donations be given to Hospice House or the Cancer Society. Condolences may be sent to the family via www.firstmemorialfuneralkelowna.com. Arrangements entrusted to First Memorial Funeral Services, Kelowna, BC (250)762-2299.

Announcements
In Memoriam: **Romualdo Francesco "Frank" Incrocci** (September 17, 1930 - June 20, 2016). He is with great sadness that we must say goodbye to a father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was known as "Frank" to all who knew him and "Nonno" to his family. Frank loved Italian music, gardening, and making wine. He enjoyed traveling south for the winters, visiting friends and family in Italy. He passed away peacefully on June 20th at the age of 85. Romualdo was born on September 17, 1930 in Lammari (Lucca), Tuscany, Italy and came to Canada in pursuit of a better life. Pre-deceased by his wife of 60 years, Tina Bonfanti-Incrocci (1933-2014). He is survived by his two sons Claudio (Louise) and Mauro, four grand-children, Christina (Johnny), Lisa (Jeffrey), Nadia (John), Silvia (Robert) from Kelowna, four great-grandchildren Joshua, Zachary, Mike and Julia in Kelowna, one sister Edda in Italy, and many nieces and nephews in Italy. Special thank you to Dr. Robert Williams and his staff. After the loss of his wife Tina, Frank was residing at Cottonwoods Care Centre. Thank you to all their staff, nurses, caregivers and volunteers for your time and excellent care you gave dad. Your kindness and love you have shown my dad made the last few years of his life safe and loved. A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, July 6, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at First Memorial Funeral Services, 1211 Sutherland Ave., Kelowna, BC. Private family inurement will take place at Lakeview Memorial Gardens Cemetery where he will rest at the side of his beloved wife Tina. Memorial donations in Frank's name should be made to Cottonwoods Care Centre, 2355 Ethel Street, Kelowna, BC. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.firstmemorialfuneralkelowna.com. Arrangements in care of First Memorial Funeral Services, Kelowna, BC. 250-762-2299.

Food Bank
1265 Ellis Street, Kelowna Fax: 250-763-9116
Phone: 250-763-7161 Email: info@kcfb.ca

kelowna women's SHELTER
Box 20193, RPO Towne Centre, Kelowna, BC 778-478-7774
kelownawomensshelter.ca

KGHF FOUNDATION
2268 Pandosy Street, Kelowna, BC, V1W 1T2
250-862-4438-www.kghfoundation.com

Seniors Outreach & Resource Centre
#102-2055 Benvenuto Court, Kelowna, BC V1W 2C7
250-861-6180
www.seniorsoutreach.ca

Memorial Gifts

Remembering Our Loved Ones

1ST
CAPITAL NEWS
Michelle Trudeau
A clear, concise, well-organized classified section. Great bold headings and clean type make for an easy and enjoyable read.

think your newspaper is boring? go to **classifieds.pique.newsmagazine.com**

ADULT SERVICES
Whispering Secrets... **604-938-6456**

ADULT SERVICES
Katy's... **604-938-6456**

LONG-TERM RENTALS
THORNHILL... **604-892-5954**

LONG-TERM RENTALS
MOUNTAIN COUNTRY... **1-888-692-2424**

FOR RENT
BILLYBERRY... **604-892-5954**

WHISTLER GETS IT
WHISTLER'S AT NEW HEIGHTS... **604-892-5954**

Century 21
Keeping it real... **604-892-5954**

STAGS! STAGS! STAGS!
STAGS! STAGS! STAGS!... **604-892-5954**

Party Hostesses
Golf Caddies... **604-892-5954**

Strippers! Duos! Toy Shows!
Must be seen to be believed!... **604-892-5954**

PIQUE
ACCOMMODATION LISTINGS DEFINED... **604-892-5954**

WHISTLER SERVICES
LONG TERM RENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES... **604-892-5954**

RENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES
PROPERTY CARE SERVICES... **604-892-5954**

Capital News Friday, June 24, 2016 www.kelownacapnews.com 813

Browse more at: **Used.ca** LOCALS BUY & SELL HERE

To advertise in print:
Call: 1.866.865.4460 Email: bcclassifieds@blackpress.ca
Self-serve: blackpressused.ca Career ads: localworkbc.ca

A Division of **Black Press** COMMUNITY NEWS MEDIA

INDEX IN BRIEF: FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS, TRAVEL, EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS SERVICES, PETS & LIVESTOCK, MICROBUSES FOR SALE, REAL ESTATE, RENTALS, AUTOMOTIVE, ADVERTISING, LEGAL NOTICES, AGREEMENT.

Announcements
In Memoriam: **SCHMIDT, Ralph Victor** (May 24, 1930 - November 21, 2016).

Announcements
In Memoriam: **REISCH, Duane Joseph** (November 21, 1930 - November 21, 2016).

Announcements
In Memoriam: **CWO Walter Pinken, CBE** (1921 - 2016).

Announcements
In Memoriam: **CHRISTMAS** (November 11 - 19th - 4th).

Community Outreach Worker
The Kelowna Foundation for the Homeless is seeking a Community Outreach Worker. The successful candidate will be responsible for providing support and resources to homeless individuals and families. For more information, please contact: 250-862-4438.

Christmas
CHRISTMAS... **250-862-4438**

2ND
PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE
Karl Partington & Claire Ryan
A close second. Again, great, clear section headings with easy-to-read type. Nice to see a healthy classified section with lots of local content.

3RD
HOPE STANDARD
Janice McDonald
Nice mix of colour. Great use of white space and design of display ads. Well done!

Ad Design Award

OVER 25,000

1ST

SAANICH NEWS

Rod Fraser, Leslie Eaton, Oliver Sommer
Nice personal tie-in to the product offered! Simple layout, but it works!

CORDOVA BAY
TRU VALUE FOODS
Where Community & Quality Meet
THINK LOCAL FIRST

COME ON IN!
Meet our Meat & Deli Manager, Fraser Orr. Some of his famous Orr Family Scottish delicacies now available include: Scotch Eggs, Scotch Pies, Ayrshire Bacon, Home Made Sausage Rolls and Meat Pies.

Vancouver Island - Cordova Bay
5124 Cordova Bay Road Phone 778-433-4332
www.truvaluefoods.com

Proud of our stripes.

We're **OPEN**

DENMAN
BEER • WINE • SPIRITS

We have the West End's largest selection of ice cold beer, wine and spirits.

Your WEST END Community Liquor Store Fine Wine • Craft Beer • Specialty Spirits
1060 Denman St. (at Comox) • 604 633 1863 • denmanwineandspirits.com
[@DenmanBeerWine](#) [@DenmanBeerWineSpirits](#) [DenmanBeerWineSpirits](#) **OPEN 9AM-11PM EVERY DAY!**

2ND

WESTENDER

Tara Rafiq & Westender Staff

Nice placement of the ad - clearly LGBTQ friendly store that speaks to its market!

LOVE CRAFT BEER?
CONFUSED ABOUT WHERE TO START?

The Growler has your back (and belly)!

THE Growler
CRAFT BEER HANDBOOK

SUBSCRIBE NOW AT
THE-GROWLER.MYSHOPIFY.COM

WESTENDER

Gail Nugent, Tara Rafiq, Stephen Smysnuik
Clever writing helped this ad score well.

3RD

BASALT

WINE + SALUMERIA

IT'S BACK

3 COURSE CHEFS MENU

\$25

#13 4154 VILLAGE STROLL, WHISTLER
www.basaltwhistler.com
P: 604.962.9011

1ST

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Claire Ryan
Solid work!
Clean, strong, and attention-grabbing.

2ND

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Lindsey Ataya
Simple, yet so effective - easy-to-read price offer.

The Venue's

EASTER BRUNCH

RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

SUNDAY MARCH 27
11AM - 3PM

Featuring all your brunch favourites including eggs benny, fresh seafood, house smoked salmon, carving station and our fresh baked pastry buffet.

\$39

Kids (aged 6-12): \$23 • (under 6): Free!

EASTER EGG HUNT!

We are now also accepting reservations for:

GOOD FRIDAY'S SEAFOOD MENU

WHISTLER'S PREMIER EVENT HOUSE

604.932.2244
1200 Alta Lake Road • www.whistlervenue.com

GOLDEN CRUST
Since 1968 (Whistler) • 1971 (Squamish)

Let Golden Crust help with the baking this year.

We offer:
Sweet and Savoury Pies, Tarts, Specialty Cookies & a large selection of Take n' Bake products which include everything from Pasta, Pizza Dough, Cinnamon Buns & Appetizers

8TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY DECEMBER 10th 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Celebrating 8 Years at our Queens Way Location and 13 Years of Service in Squamish

HUGE Sampling Buffet - Door PRIZES and FREE Hot Chocolate ONE-DAY-ONLY SPECIALS on appetizers, cookies and tarts.

Check our Website for December Hours
604-892-PIES (7437) | www.goldencrust.ca | 38924 Queens Way

GOLDEN CRUST will be CLOSED for a break starting JANUARY 1st reopening late Spring

3RD

SQUAMISH CHIEF

Julie Gamache
Great photos and use of colour make this ad pop.

OVER 25,000



Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.
—Leonardo da Vinci



GOLD – Best Pizza

Via Tevere

Pizzeria Napoletana

viateverepizzeria.com



BRONZE – Best Restaurant - East Side

1ST

WESTENDER

Matty Lambert, Tara Rafiq & Westender Staff

Simple and very effective. The pizza image is tantalizing yet fits with the rustic feel. Overall composition is strong.

2ND

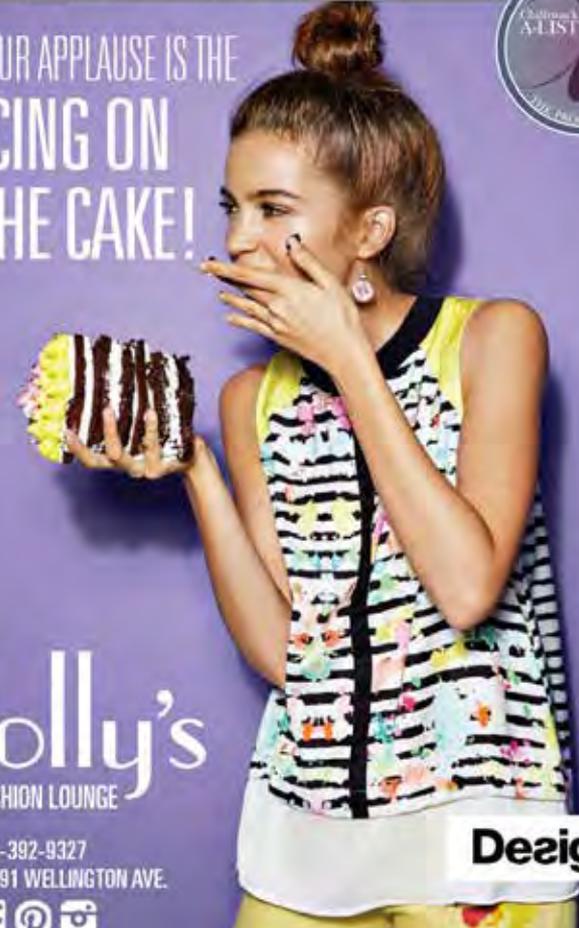
THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS

Lisa Clarke & Maureen Tempel

Excellent use of colour! The image works well (the clothes and cake match). This ad's strength is its simplicity.

FINALIST - FAVOURITE WOMEN'S CLOTHING STORE
FINALIST - FAVOURITE PLACE TO BUY A DRESS

YOUR APPLAUSE IS THE ICING ON THE CAKE!



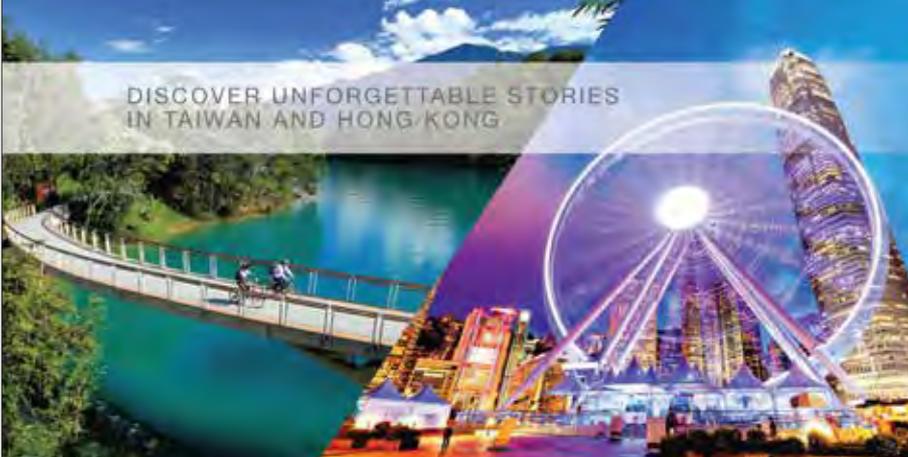
lolly's
FASHION LOUNGE

604-392-9327
45891 WELLINGTON AVE.

Dezigual

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter icons

DISCOVER UNFORGETTABLE STORIES IN TAIWAN AND HONG KONG



2 STORIES, ONE TRIP

Blend a variety of picturesque natural scenery with unique local customs and culture. With just an hour's flight between the two destinations, an amazing string of contrasting experiences awaits you in Taiwan and Hong Kong.

<p>Taipei Hong Kong Free & Easy</p> <p>1-888-888-2912 taipeihk.hongkong.com</p>	<p>Taiwan East Coast & Hong Kong</p> <p>004-985-7122 eigret.taiwanhongkong.com</p>	<p>Hong Kong & Taiwan Round Island</p> <p>1-888-922-1465 rkiway.taiwanhongkong.com</p>	<p>Amusing Taipei & Hong Kong</p> <p>004-284-0282 paotai.taiwanhongkong.com</p>
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TaiwanHongKong.com

Taiwan, HONG KONG, CHINA AIRLINES, and other partner logos.

3RD

VANCOUVER COURIER

Marina Rockey & Justin Chen

The images grab the viewer's attention. The message is clear, and the layout for all the content is successful.



1ST **PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE**
Claire Ryan

Love how the viewer is "in" the photo. Excellent colours. Skier could be either male or female which gives it a lot of appeal - it speaks to everyone.



PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE **2ND**
Jon Parris

The viewer is the skier! Strong composition. Message is clear and though it overlays much of the image, the image is very much part of the success.

3RD

MISSION RECORD

Kevin Plastow & Karen Murtagh
Jewelry done differently! The word "Stunning" matches the feel of the image. Excellent images and colour choice.



Ad Campaign Award

club fitness

it's our anniversary
come in and help us celebrate our birthday

\$0 Enrollment Feb. 10th-17th

what sets us apart from the rest?

- friendly comfortable environment
- clean well maintained facility
- 24 hour access
- beautiful ocean views
- classes
- child minding
- tanning

ask us about our weight loss challenge

club fitness
778-420-2288
www.clubfitnesscn.com
2116 Island Hwy S. Campbell River

1ST

CAMPBELL RIVER MIRROR

Tammy Robinson

The Club Fitness ads work on many levels. The clean modern design suggests that the club will be offering a clean and modern facility. The great photo of healthy looking, energetic individuals draws in the reader who also wants to achieve this look and energy. And to top it all off, the great offer of no enrolment fees will get people in the door at a time of year when it's needed (after New Year's Resolutions have died off). These ads contain all the elements for a great campaign. Well done.

West Coast GRILL

Located inside the Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge.
For reservations or inquiries please call us at (250) 847 4581

Local Fine Dining
Fresh, Contemporary Cuisine
BC Sourced Ingredients

(Ibrahim - Executive Chef)
"By braising our short ribs in red wine for 6 hours we have created a real melt in the mouth dish, full of flavour!"

"Gieger Chili Short Ribs"

Enter to win a **Dinner for Eight!** at West Coast Grill

Breakfast 8:00am - 11:30am • Dinner 5pm - 9pm
Local Wednesday Buy 1 entree and get the other 1 off
Don Cherry's Happy Hour between 2pm - 5pm • Daily Specials •

Cut this section out and drop off at West Coast Grill or Don Cherry's for your chance to win.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
E-Mail: _____

West Coast GRILL

Located inside the Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge.
For reservations or inquiries please call us at (250) 847 4581

Local Fine Dining
Fresh, Contemporary Cuisine
BC Sourced Ingredients

(Julia - Server)
"The Cedar Wrapped Salmon is served on a plate that BC has the best seafood in the world!"

"Cedar Wrapped Salmon"

Enter to win a **Dinner for Eight!** at West Coast Grill

Breakfast 8:00am - 11:30am • Dinner 5pm - 9pm
Local Wednesday Buy 1 entree and get the other 1 off
Don Cherry's Happy Hour between 2pm - 5pm • Daily Specials •

Cut this section out and drop off at West Coast Grill or Don Cherry's for your chance to win.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
E-Mail: _____

2ND

THE INTERIOR NEWS

Nick Briere

A great restaurant campaign needs to show the reader how good the food is and this is precisely what the West Coast Grill ads do. The featured dishes are perfectly plated and well photographed, and the staff quotes are a nice touch that personalize the ads. This campaign can be summed up in one word: yum!

3RD

TRI-CITY NEWS

Matt Blair

Who doesn't like a puppy? In the sea of ads selling floor coverings, the use of a puppy will get these ones noticed. The use of colours from the Nufloors colour palette ties all of the ad elements together nicely. Nice design work!

THIS WEEKEND

COME MEET MAX

MAX IS THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE NUFLOORS FAMILY!
COME MEET HIM AT NUFLOORS COQUITLAM SATURDAY, SEPT 10!

FREE HOT DOGS 11:00AM TO 2:00PM

NO GST SEPT 10 & 11

Nufloors | Coquitlam
1130 Lansdowne Drive 604.942.4109

1ST

MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS NEWS

Marlyn Goms, Lisa Prophet, Cheryl Ariken

I like how this ad is segmented and easy to understand with a FREE coupon. Good thinking!

dinakis
mediterranean grill

Experience **GREEK FOOD BOLD TASTING CUISINE** for yourself

BRING A FRIEND
Life is too short to eat anywhere else

DON'T FORGET ABOUT

FREE STARTER Or DESSERT SPECIAL
(SURPRISE OF THE DAY)
Come in for our 3 course Lunch and Dinner Special!
Get a FREE STARTER or DESSERT of the day.
Or spend \$30 and receive a free starter or free dessert. (Surprise of the day)

dinakis
mediterranean grill

www.dinakis.com • #101-2020 Oxford Con

dinakis
mediterranean grill

Experience **GREEK FOOD BOLD TASTING CUISINE** for yourself

FREE STARTER Or DESSERT SPECIAL
(SURPRISE OF THE DAY)
Spend \$30 or more and receive a free starter or free dessert. (Surprise of the day)

DON'T FORGET ABOUT
daily happy hour
Drinks from \$3.99
Appies from \$4.99
EVERYDAY 2PM - 6PM | 8:30PM - CLOSE

dinakis
mediterranean grill

HOURS:
Mon-Thurs 11am - 9:30pm
Fri & Sat 11am - 10:30pm
Sun 11am - 9:30pm

www.dinakis.com • #101-2020 Oxford Connector, Port Coquitlam • 604-472-3333

2ND

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Karl Partington

Clean and professional looking ad. Well organized.

NESTERS MARKET
Where the Local Lives!

FREE BAG, CIVILIAN WINNERS

TAYLOR LAIDLAW
GEORGE SINCLAIR
TERI KYDD

DON BUTLER
JILL JOHNSON

Easter Baskets
With Demmon Chocolate
\$25.00 EACH

ANNIE'S Homegrown Gluten-Free Treats
Choose from Organic Bunny Fruit Snacks, 1.5oz or Bunny Cookies, 1.91-2.5oz
\$4.99 EACH

HEY KIDS! DON'T FORGET TO ENTER OUR EASTER COLOURING CONTEST!

7th Annual Whistler Community Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday March 26th
9 am-12pm at Myrtle Philip Community School // For kids of all ages

Pharmacy & Wellness
PRESCRIPTIONS WHILE YOU SHOP
9am to 7pm, 7 days a week.

Vega One and Vega Sport
On Sale NOW!

LOOK IN-STORE FOR EVERYDAY VALUE CARD SAVINGS!

Nesters Market: 604.932.3545
Pharmacy: 604.905.0429
7019 Nesters Road (Just 1 km north of Whistler Village)
nestersmarket.com

NESTERS MARKET
Where the Local Lives!

TERRA Real Vegetable Chips
Assorted varieties, non-GMO, 160-170g
\$3.99 EACH

This week at Nesters
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3RD

COAST REPORTER
Eric Pinfold

This ad was interesting and caught my eye. The composition and layout is clean. Well done!

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1ST WESTENDER
Gail Nugent, Robert Mangelsdorf, Kristyn Anthony & Westender Staff

A bright, fun section. Thorough and full of useful information, it engages readers and gives pride-goers everything they need to make the most of the event, including maps, event listings, and interesting features about the people involved, along with bold, eye-catching ads that would certainly have kept advertisers happy.

LANGLEY TIMES
Langley Times Staff 2ND

This is a fresh, clean package, which is fitting considering its subject matter. Organized and unified, and full of interesting features and relevant, attractive ads. Nice graphic elements tie it all together.

You have a choice for natural gas

With Customer Choice, you can choose to purchase natural gas from FortisBC at a variable rate or an independent gas marketer at fixed rates and terms. Compare your options at fortisbc.com/yourchoice.



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HG

HOMEGROWN

Whether it's biting into a crisp apple or a juicy ripe tomato, cracking open a farm-fresh egg or savoring an organic turkey breast, the pleasure we derive from eating is universal.

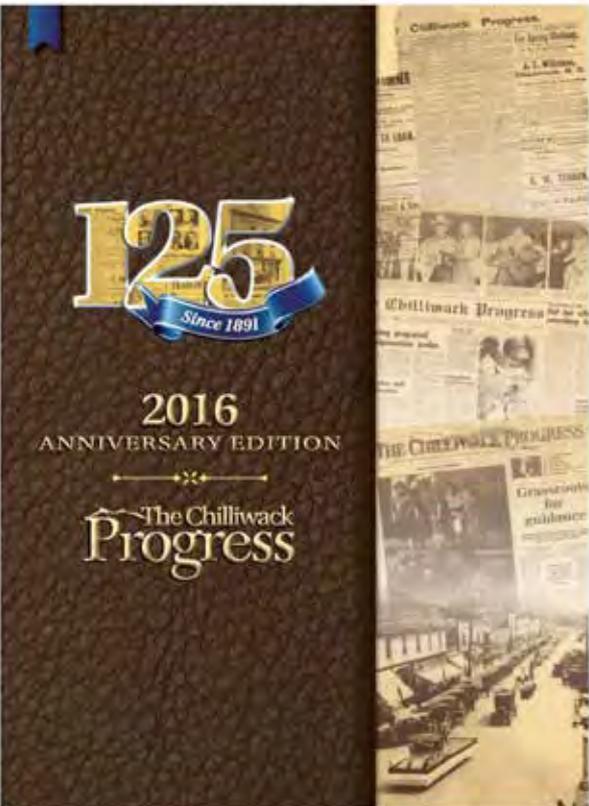
Now add to that the satisfaction of knowing the food you're enjoying was produced by your neighbors.

Whether it's served with a flourish at your favourite restaurant or painstakingly prepared in your own kitchen, eating Homegrown meats you'll find fresher fare, leave a smaller carbon footprint and support local business in the process.

From field to garden, greenhouse to farmgate, rural Langley offers a trove of agricultural treasures — many of them tucked out of sight along the network of backroads that weaves the community together.

We've unearthed a few of those gems and included them here, in Homegrown.

LANGLEY Times



125
Since 1891

2016
ANNIVERSARY EDITION

The Chilliwack
Progress

3RD THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS
Chilliwack Creative/Sales/Editorial Team

With a great mix of original 100+ year-old articles and photos, as well as plenty of current-day features, this nicely-designed section gives a wonderful sense of what Chilliwack was like a century ago. Lots of incentive and opportunity for advertisers to come on board. I bet readers loved this.

Special Section Award

UNDER 25,000

www.northislandgazette.com July 13, 2016 B1

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PORT HARDY
HERE'S TO ANOTHER 50 YEARS!

Port Hardy ca. 1905. Thomas P. Wicks walking up the wharf to the Store & Hotel.

**PORT HARDY
HERE'S TO FIFTY YEARS
AND MANY MORE**

Western Forest Products Inc.
DEFINING A HIGHER STANDARD™

WFP
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B SECTION
POWELL RIVER PEAK

TLA'AMIN-NATION
Recognizing self-governance

2ND POWELL RIVER PEAK
Jason Schreurs, Kelly Keil, Alicia Newman & Team
This solid section has a good balance of editorial and ads, and is nicely laid out with effective use of photography.

1ST NORTH ISLAND GAZETTE
Gazette Staff
This section is well presented; nice continuity with the retro type in banners, imagery, solid advertising support and interesting editorial.

42 Feature
STORY

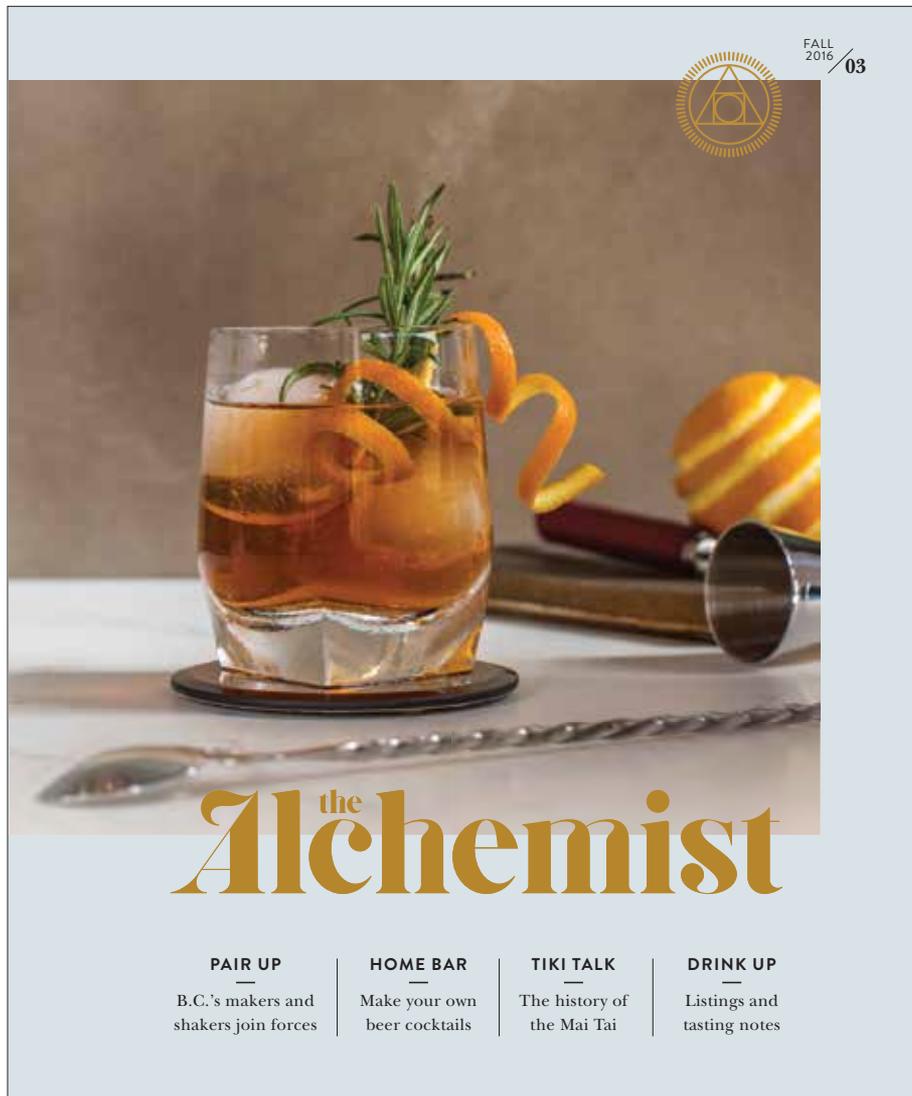
The Annual
CANADA D'EH QUIZ
by Pique Staff

42 | June 30, 2016 | www.piquenewsmagazine.com

3RD PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE
Clare Ogilvie, Claire Ryan, Lynn Mitges & Team
A compelling twist on a newspaper standard. Interesting use of photography and graphics, fun questions supported by a nice mix of ads.

Special Publications Award

OVER 25,000



1ST

WESTENDER

Gail Nugent, Tara Rafiq, Fiona Morrow

A complete winner in every way, cover to cover. Drop the mike.



2ND

NORTH SHORE NEWS

Peter Kvarnstrom, Robert Read, Vicki Magnison, Shelley Ackerman

Interesting, caressed and a great piece overall. Exceptional work.



3RD

PENINSULA NEWS REVIEW

Penny Sakamoto

Diverse with an organic feel and top-quality design and photography. Interesting and engaging with the right balance of editorial to advertising.

Special Publications Award

UNDER 25,000

1ST

SQUAMISH CHIEF

Darren Roberts & Michaela Garstin

Interesting, thoroughly engaging, well-written and beautifully presented. Attention to detail is very impressive and design, layout, balance, production quality and composition are top class. Congratulations!



2ND

WHISTLER QUESTION

Louise Stevens, Alyssa Noel, Sarah Strother & Team

Completely on point with editorial and advertising content, and visually pleasing with extraordinary photography and eye-catching design throughout.

3RD

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Alison Taylor, Claire Ryan & Team

Top-quality piece that does everything right. Great photography, editorial and advertising content.



ARTS & CULTURE WRITING

Art and the Indian Act

KELSEY KLASSEN
Westender

Ask Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun about his art, and he'll tell you about the Indian Act. Ask him again, and he'll tell you about land claims, logging moratoriums, water rights, oil spills, residential school abuses, and Canada's missing and murdered women. Ask him for his feelings on that subject, and he'll tell you about his daughters, and how he feared for their lives under Stephen Harper's rule.

In conversation and, most notably, on canvas, the acclaimed First Nations painter lays bare the challenges facing indigenous people today. Quite tellingly,

they are also similar, if not identical, to the issues his community was grappling with when he first started his career, more than 30 years ago. Meanwhile, the ideas he puts forward reflect conversations Canadians are just now starting to have, from the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission findings to the spectre of climate change, as a whole about their shared environment and history.

Recognizing his place as one of Canada's most significant contemporary artists, curators Karen Duffek, of the Museum of Anthropology, and Secwepemc artist Tania Willard, have brought together 60 of Yuxweluptun's

most confrontational and prescient works under the banner of *Unceded Territories*, a politically-charged yet playful overview of his oeuvre, running May 10-Oct. 16 at MOA.

On the cusp of this, his largest Canadian solo show in 20 years, Yuxweluptun remains as polemic as ever. Seated in his studio in a paint-spattered leather chair, as his shaggy dog, Rez, happily chews a paintbrush at his feet, Yuxweluptun launches into a list, complete with dates and names, of the most egregious colonial injustices of the past 200 years, while taking every on-the-record opportunity to tell the politicians of British Columbia to fuck off.

Behind him, the newest piece for his show sits almost finished. It isn't until the end of the wide-ranging, hour-long interview, however, that he even acknowledges it – a richly-hued, 18x11-foot rendering of a spirit dancer transforming into a wolf in a longhouse, surrounded by fire, smoke, drummers and spirit guardians. Through the doors of the wooden structure, one can just make out the rolling lines of one of Yuxweluptun's iconic landscapes in miniature, drawing his connection with nature into the sacred space.

Joining this piece in the contemporary gallery at MOA are thought-provoking works like his 1990 Daliesque ozone-crisis exposé, *Red Man Watching White Man Trying to Fix Hole in the Sky*; an excerpt from his 1997 installation, *An Indian Shooting the Indian Act*; and his recent boardroom- and back room-skewering *Super-Predator* series, as well as brand new works yet to be seen publicly.

"Sometimes I consider myself a history painter," Yuxweluptun says, of his ground-breaking subject matter. "I have to go back and record history, backtracking history, because if you only allow the colonialists to write history, what is really true?"

As he says this, and bears witness to countless examples of colonial suppression from his childhood to now, his resentment hangs as palpably in the air as it does on the gallery wall. Yuxweluptun is a master at raising eyebrows, however – this time by calmly dismissing the idea that he might, in fact, be angry.

"It's not anger. It's a natural part of an Indian being in this country," he explains, before launching into a soliloquy

on why Canada's long-standing Indian Act should be renamed the White Supremacy Act. "I accept that Canadians treated us like shit. I accept the attitude of Canadians that are racist. They had to shut down the CBC comments because of all the racism that was written there. That's basically [...] par for the course of this country.

"Harper said that native women were not on his radar, for all the missing and murdered women," he continues, as an example, "and we had to sit through that government. That's like saying, 'Let's put a target on every native woman in this country.' Because he [didn't] – and Canadians don't – give a flying fuck. They elected him," he adds, heat creeping into his voice, "and it's okay to go out and kill native women. I had to wake up to that every day, because I have six daughters, and I'm going, 'Wow, you guys are a bunch of really fucking assholes.' [...] I'm supposed to have truth and reconciliation after this?"

Yet he largely paints for a non-Aboriginal audience – using modernist art, he says, to subvert what an "Indian" is allowed to talk about.

Born in Kamloops in 1957, Yuxweluptun (a Salish name meaning "man of many masks") found his way to social activism at the side of his Coast Salish father and Okanagan mother. Both highly involved within native organizations, his father was a founder of the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs and his mother was executive director of BC's Indian Homemakers Association. Yuxweluptun remembers travelling with his father to meetings from Chilliwack to Williams Lake, listening to his elders debate issues such as land claims,

Continued on next page



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difference in our communities.



ARTS & CULTURE WRITING

Art and the Indian Act (cont.)

fishing rights, and human rights.

Having attended the Kamloops Indian Residential School before being granted the right to attend public school, Yuxweluptun also saw firsthand the devastation wrought by the residential school system, which he immortalized in his 2005 acrylic, *Portrait of a Residential School Child*.

"The difference between public school and residential

school is really clear. You know what that is?" he asks, brashly. "There's a graveyard in the playground outside. There was graveyards at the residential schools and they buried you there."

One might wonder then, why Yuxweluptun would agree to the hosting of this show at an anthropology museum – a collection house (he calls them "morgues") like many others, with its own degree of

colonial legacy. In response, Yuxweluptun, whose work has sparked conversation from the boardrooms of oil companies to the walls of the National Gallery of Canada, half-jokingly implies that MOA was the only institution that would have him.

Kidding aside, though, the museum is one of the few places where his work can sit in dialogue with belongings from the Pacific

Northwest. And the Emily Carr graduate adds that, as an aboriginal modernist, doors like this weren't always open to him when he first began.

"I didn't get an offer to an artist-run centre until after I was at the National Gallery of Canada," he states, matter-of-factly. "The art world is very much standard. It has its 72-per-cent male, white, Caucasian art, Canadiana policy, and the rest, 'We'll

give it to the minorities'.

But you've got to be good at it," he allows. "The world of art is a gladiator's arena of talent, and if you want to play in the world of art, there's no rules. There's no rules that say just because you think you're good, you're going to get there. It's not true. You have to work twice as hard and be very good at it." §

BUSINESS WRITING

City, NDIIT clash over hotel funds

SAMANTHA WRIGHT ALLEN
The Prince George Citizen

Despite serious concerns raised about financial risk, the City of Prince George piled the majority of its downtown revitalization dollars into one hotel – and petitioned for even more economic development money for the project, documents obtained by *The Citizen* show.

The material, released by Northern Development Initiative Trust after a Freedom of Information request, show the city's efforts to offer more to the Marriott Courtyard hotel than was available in a \$5 million fund the trust created to give up-front cash in the form of a repayable grant over 10 years.

After four revised funding requests, NDIIT's board unanimously declined the city's call for extra funding into the program – the Revitalization Tax Exemption Early Benefit – which currently has about \$3.4 million remaining. On Wednesday, Mayor Lyn Hall said Marriott developers have been offered \$3.2 million and the city is seeking tax exemptions on the remaining value it had hoped to offer.

That calculation won't be finalized until the project is

complete, but estimates show the value is more than \$5 million, leaving the Marriott in a \$1.8 million shortfall.

While NDIIT has no control over how the city hands out revitalization funds, that didn't stop the trust from communicating its displeasure with the deal.

"Staff is concerned with the lack of diversity among the city's proposed RTE investments as well as the magnitude of funding being invested in a hotel project that already has a track record of failure and is the subject of media attention and public scrutiny," said a February backgrounder to the NDIIT board.

The rest of the funds have been used on five local projects over the last four years, ranging from \$71,190 to Northern Linen to \$700,000 for the Royal Bank building facade renovations. The Marriott represents the bulk, taking 64 per cent of the revitalization fund.

"Staff are also concerned about the ability for the trust to recoup the funds from the hotel project should it fail financially a second time," the backgrounder said.

Until this year, the construction site was vacant

and unfinished with concrete and rebar exposed to the elements. The plan for the site shifted over the years. In 2012, developer Rod McLeod said a 150 room full-service hotel would be completed by late 2013, but by October 2013, the goal had shifted to a \$35-million four-star hotel under the Delta brand. In January 2015, Maryland-based Marriott International Inc. signed an agreement to buy the properties.

Later, PEG Development and Blue Diamond Capital, both based in Utah, were brought in as partners on the project.

McLeod and the city officially unveiled the Marriott project in July.

Hall, city manager Kathleen Soltis and city planning and development general manager Ian Wells all said the money will be repaid.

"NDIIT will be made whole," said Soltis.

"There's no concern on the city's end about that."

The hotel is a cornerstone for the downtown, Hall said, where the city has long been focused on redevelopment and revitalization. And it would not have been developed without help from the incentive program, Soltis

said.

"The hotel brings with it significant opportunities for other business in the community, another top-rated hotel in town is certainly a plus, provided us the opportunity to provide more rooms for larger conventions that were out there that perhaps in the past we couldn't because we didn't have the rooms we needed so it's just the overall development," said Hall, who also pointed to \$125 million worth of building permits issued this year – the most since 2007.

The project is expected to create 200,000 hours of construction work and employ 40 people once completed.

The documents obtained by *The Citizen* show back-and-forth negotiations as the city argued the fund should be replenished and tried to offer alternatives so it could get the additional funding. The *Citizen* made the same request to the city for documents related to Marriott negotiations. The deadline for their release is next week.

At first, the city promised it wouldn't ask for any further funds for five years, then doubled the offer to 10 years,

a time frame that covers more than two future city council mandates.

Soltis said that's business as usual for both city administration and council.

"Council is an ongoing body and council is always making promises," she said. "They commit to various capital projects and such that take place over 10 years, 15 years, 20 years. We take on 20-year debt."

"Council makes decisions day in and day out and if future councils choose to change that, then it will be that's their call," said Hall, who later stressed that would only impact city requests and not other organizations or non-profits in Prince George.

NDIIT saw the offer in a different light.

A February briefing note cautioned the 10-year promise would affect on average more than \$200,000 in annual grants requested by the city as well as other grant-writing and business facade programs.

could not apply to the trust for funding to support any of its infrastructures, buildings or economic development initiatives for a decade, impacting the ability of a future city council to access

Continued on next page

Award-Winning Writing

BUSINESS WRITING

City, NDIIT clash over hotel funds (cont.)

funds from the trust for new priorities," the document said.

Other councils have not put forward this approach, said NDIIT's new chief executive officer.

"We have never seen anything like that before in terms of that offering and certainly one of our questions around that would be ... how does that impact other potential projects that could qualify for funding either from the municipality or non-profits and First Nations communities?" asked Joel McKay, who said the fund was a "one-time, one-off program" to revitalize downtown.

When it became clear the city wouldn't get extra funds, Soltis wrote McLeod of River City Hotel Inc. and Cameron Gunter of PEG Development

to say the city would grant a 10-year tax exemption on the remaining portion.

Save for that one letter, the documents from NDIIT don't show communication between the city and the developer.

By July, when NDIIT saw the April offer, former CEO Janine North sent a sharp note to the city to stress the terms of the agreement that specifically forbid offering the two perks at once.

She also told her staff that they should not attend the July Marriott unveiling because it had yet to hear back from the city whether it had spoken to the developers and had not yet resolved "the issue."

"We remain concerned that the developer is investing in construction under a mistaken

impression that NDIIT can facilitate a Revitalization Tax Exemption early benefit, while the city provides a tax exemption over the same property," wrote North in her letter to the city.

A week later, Hall confirmed he'd spoken with the developers about the rules preventing tax exemption on top of the cash grant and Hall repeated Wednesday developers weren't investing under that mistaken impression.

But the city is still requesting a rule change. It's working on a proposal that will first go before city council and then the NDIIT board for consideration.

Wells said the developer still has the option to decline the early benefit and go

forward with a 10-year tax exemption.

The way the RTE early benefit program is set up is the money from the trust goes to the city, which passes it on to the developer.

The developer starts repaying that loan back through the city, which sends a portion of the cash to the trust from taxes collected each year, which wouldn't be collected in whole if a project had some form of a 10-year tax exemption.

"The reason why that piece in the contract is in there specifically is to help ensure the trust is paid back by the developer's taxes," explained McKay.

It's a different approach that adds value, McKay said, because the trust could offer

payment up front, whereas the tax exemption offers that break over a decade.

"The goal being that that lump sum payment then incentivizes the developer to invest in downtown versus another part of the city because they're getting those funds up front."

Despite the disagreement over disbursement, today both the city and NDIIT say they have a strong working relationship.

"NDIIT have a role to play just as we do," said Hall.

"Really at the end of the day we want them to be a partner with us, just like every other organization in the community we do business with. I think this relationship is strong and we've got a long history with NDIIT." §

COLUMNIST

On Point: A camp full of contradictions

ANDREW HOLOTA
Abbotsford News

This summer, a homeless "protest camp" was established on the former hospital grounds in Abbotsford.

Fraser Health, owner of the land, applied for a court injunction to compel the occupants to move off.

A judge eventually issued such an order.

As of yesterday, the homeless camp remained.

That whole scenario is wrong in so many ways, starting with the establishment of the camp in the first place.

A group of people decided they would set up their tents on private property.

Land that belongs to a government agency is not "public," despite claims to the contrary by camp advisor, advocate, agitator, or whatever else you want to call Tim Felger, long-time pot activist. He certainly has a lot of labels for anyone opposing him, including

"stupid." I expect this column will land me among those thusly dubbed.

He tried the 'we have the right to stay wherever we wish' argument on B.C. Supreme Court Justice Christopher Hinkson – who didn't buy it. And by the way, that's the same judge who ruled that the homeless can overnight in most public parks if they have no other options.

In this case, Hinkson issued the injunction to decamp.

Applying cutting intellectual thrust and parry, Felger called the judge "out to lunch." Pull up a chair, Tim.

However, as correct as the court was in its decision, the process quickly went sideways, or to be more accurate, it went nowhere at all.

The campers are still there, living in their self-made squalor.

Reasonable people might understandably wonder – why is that? – on two levels.

They're still there, Felger claims, because they have

nowhere else to go. In the immediate short-term, that may indeed be true. But they've intentionally been there since mid-July. It is a protest camp, after all. So with the help of outreach workers and other social agencies, if they had been actively seeking shelter for the past two months, instead of sitting in a growing trash heap, do you suppose some solutions would have been offered to them? I think so. Might options be available now? I suspect so.

Contrary to the belief of some people, there are agencies actively working to house the homeless in this city, and in many cases, are successful.

More time, more money, more pointless argument that will (must) ultimately end in the protest camp being evacuated.

And then, another wrong will occur when it's set up somewhere else.

Anyway, this group of "homeless" are still there for another reason – Felger says

he has told them to stay, with the exception of at least one fellow, who Felger doesn't like. Does anyone else see blatant contradictions here?

We have nowhere to go, and even if we did, we're not going until you provide somewhere to go for everyone else.

The conditions and terms by which the recipients qualify for such government support is another complex and controversial discussion, for another time.

Meanwhile, there's the second level on the question of why they are still there.

Why haven't the police politely, patiently, respectfully and ever-so-gently moved these protesters off the property, or in the alternative, arrest them?

Because a court injunction ordering people to leave a property is not enough for police to act, if you can believe it.

Fraser Health must now go back to court and apply for an enforcement order.

More time, more money, more pointless arguments that will (must) ultimately end in the protest camp being evacuated.

And then, another wrong will occur when it is set up somewhere else.

It seems, along with all of the other wrongs associated with homelessness, such as a shortage of mental health and addiction treatment services, and an inadequate supply of affordable housing, there are people out there bound and determined to keep street people on the street, to maintain the "in your face" pressure, despite efforts by many others to actually address the chronic issue.

Under the circumstances, I'm finding it difficult to keep my face from turning away.

And that's wrong, too. §

EDITORIAL

When hospitals interfere with rights

TERRY FARRELL
Comox Valley Record

A local doctor has made national headlines for his stance on doctor-assisted death.

Dr. Jonathan Reggler is an outspoken advocate of the controversial issue. Reggler believes – and the Supreme Court of Canada agrees – that doctor-assisted death is a basic right for Canadians.

Thirteen months ago (Feb. 6, 2015) the Supreme Court of

Canada ruled – unanimously – that the “sanctity of life” must also include the “passage into death” and effectively gave the government 12 months to put the ruling into law.

The government was given a four-month grace period, due to the election, but the heat is on now, and the interest in the impending legislation is more piqued here in the Comox Valley than in most communities, based on the fact that we have a hospital owned by the Catholic church.

Whether or not doctor-assisted death should be legal in Canada is an issue in itself, and one of which we can appreciate both sides of the debate.

And while we may sit on the fence in that regard, one thing we cannot accept is when the agenda of a religion comes ahead of the best interest of the patient in a publicly funded health care facility.

Privately funded? A different matter altogether. But when we, the taxpayers, are paying

all the salaries/wages, and for the equipment used in a hospital, we should not be told, “I’m sorry, but your legal rights contradict the policies of our owner.”

It’s not like Comox Valley residents have a choice in the matter. There’s one hospital. And while it may be “owned” by the Catholic church, it is funded by everyone; Catholics, atheists, Jews and Muslims alike.

Meanwhile, Island Health – the publicly-funded entity which oversees the health

care industry on Vancouver Island – has said it supports the hospital’s stance.

We cannot share that stance.

Just as operations should never take place in confessionals, Catholicism – or any other religion, for that matter – should never overrule medical care in a publicly funded medical facility. §

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

Environmentalist turns 100

JASON SCHREURS
Powell River Peak

A typical week for Ruby Roscovich involved gardening, doing the recycling, cycling to and from town, making her own soap and candles and spending countless hours working with other local environmentalists on green initiatives within the community.

Did we mention this was taking place in the late 1960s?

Ruby, a trailblazer in early environmentalist efforts in the Powell River region, turns 100 years old on Friday, April 8.

Described as a dedicated, concerned resident by her loved ones and those who have crossed her path since she moved with her family to Powell River in 1951, Ruby’s centennial birthday has deep meaning to the community.

The outpouring of gratitude and respect for Ruby will culminate with a celebration of friends and family the day after her birthday at Powell River Reformed Church.

Ruby, who has lived with her family at her Manson Avenue home since the early 1950s, remained humble about her impact on the community.

“Oh, I’m very honoured about the things people are saying,” she said. “I’ve only just

been myself, I guess, but it’s very encouraging to be supported like that.”

Just being herself has involved an immense amount of work in the community over the past several decades, tackling environmental issues and practices such as recycling before very few other people knew what she was talking about, even city council.

“At that time council thought recycling was just a way to attract rats,” laughed Ruby. “They thought if you’re storing anything, you’re just going to have rats, but that was the wrong picture of what we were doing. They didn’t know anything about recycling; everything was garbage back then.”

Inspired by the late Bob Hunter’s Vancouver Sun columns on pollution, Ruby took a keen interest in local environmental issues.

In 1970, Ruby became an important part of the Powell River Anti Pollution Association (PRAPA), spearheaded by long-time municipal politician and current Powell River Regional District Electoral Area C director Colin Palmer. Palmer formed the association after becoming concerned about pollution coming from the mill at that time.

Ruby worked closely

throughout the years with other local environmentalists such as Martin Rossander and Mary Olsen.

Palmer said he remembers Ruby always being “quietly effective and very, very concerned.”

When Ruby convinced her son Dale to spearhead Powell River’s first commercial recycling program in 1972, it made perfect sense to Palmer.

“It was encouraging because she lived it,” said Palmer. “It was fascinating to be around her, and not to hear her just talk about these things, but actually do them.”

Dale, a registered massage therapist who recently returned to Powell River after a 40-year absence to be closer to his mom, said Ruby was a force when he and his older brother Glen, a local satellite installer, were growing up.

“We felt her tsunami coming in the mid-’60s with her health food. The meat and potatoes routine was being disrupted with things like brown rice and health food that started to come in. She was against three guys in the house, but she wasn’t to be deterred,” he laughed. “We were a little resistant to some of her ideas at first, but that wasn’t going to stop her.”

Dale said his father Frank, who died in 1992 at the age of 85, was supportive of Ruby’s efforts. Frank accompanied Ruby on a trip to Vancouver in the early 1970s, along with the family’s recyclable materials, while they were researching recycling options for Powell River.

“She and Frank were really forerunners, along with other committed Powell River people, in anti-pollution efforts and keeping peace with the land,” said Teedie Kagume, collections manager at Powell River Historical Museum and Archives.

However, it wasn’t just her political activism and concern of the environment that made Ruby such a light in the community. She was also a generous person who quickly made many friends, which she established lifelong relationships with.

Local author and historian Barbara Lambert said it was as a result of meeting Ruby that she ended up staying in Powell River for the past 45 years. Ruby and Lambert were both teachers at the time and Ruby introduced Lambert to her future husband.

“Her friendship means a great deal to me. It’s a connection for both of us of our life here in Powell River for the past half century,” said Lambert. “Ruby is

a very caring person. She cares about her family and she will do anything she can to help people. She’s one of those people on this earth that really gives back to the community.”

Local organic poultry and produce farmer Catherine Kleinsteuber said she contacted Greenpeace Vancouver when she heard about Ruby’s upcoming 100th birthday celebration.

The environmental organization will be sending Ruby a recognition card in honour of her commitment to the environment, said Kleinsteuber.

“I always held her in awe and respect,” she said. “She reached a lot of people with messages about the environment with the way she lived her life. She lived what she believed in.”

Steadfast in her dedication to the environment all of these years, Palmer said he was always fascinated by Ruby’s devotion to the local transit system.

“Every time my wife and I saw her in town we’d ask, ‘Do you want a lift home?’ and she’d say, ‘No, I’m going on the bus,’ and she absolutely refused to get into a car,” he laughed. “It was incredible.”

Even at 100 years old, Ruby still makes her weekday treks to Town Centre Mall to visit

Continued on next page

Award-Winning Writing

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

Environmentalism turns 100 (cont.)

with friends, attends the Powell River Open Air Farmers' Market every Saturday and goes to church every Sunday. Now, she said, she will let her son give her a ride to the mall, but then she buses back.

"If she doesn't get out every day, she gets a little itchy, and the bus stop is right in front of our house," said Dale. "When

Stewart Alsgard was mayor he said she was the best bus customer in town."

Dale said he looks back at his mother's commitment to the community and understands why so many people have been positively affected by her.

"I stand in awe, like so many others do, of her accomplishments and healthy

living principles," he said. "It's very heartwarming to see the local response to such a pioneer. I'm very happy and very proud. She's a bright light, and it's nice to be so close to such a bright light."

Ruby said she is aware of a new generation of environmentalists in the Powell River area and she is pleased

that they are active.

It is everyone's duty to protect their natural surroundings, she said.

"It's the business of each and every one of us to control the environment and our footsteps on planet Earth, and that we don't ruin it," said Ruby. "We depend on it to live. It's our business to watch the imprint

that we make."

As for the milestone birthday, Ruby said she feels great, adding that breathing fresh air and eating healthy all of these years probably had something to do with it.

"Still, I can't believe it," she said. "I'm turning 100!" §

ENVIRONMENTAL WRITING

Lead-contaminated water series

BRADEN DUPUIS &
CLARE OGILVIE
Pique Newsmagazine

Concerned Pemberton residents crowded into the Village of Pemberton's regular council meeting March 15 to demand answers about lead-contaminated water; in some cases going so far as to call for resignations.

"Why was the one thing that everybody in this community needs to survive put down the ladder?" asked Garth Phare, president of the Pemberton and District Chamber of Commerce, referring to the Village's perceived failure to address water concerns that have been on the table for over a decade.

"Somebody has to be responsible, to step up and take it on the chin. I'm sorry. That's just the way it works."

The Village of Pemberton (VOP) has known of its corrosive, low-pH water for more than a decade — its own consultant in 2006, EarthTech, pointed it out in a memo dated Oct. 19 of that year.

On March 9, 2016 the VOP discovered lead in the drinking water of some peoples' homes, caused by the corrosive water reacting with certain plumbing fixtures.

Resident Cindy Filipenko is also calling for the resignations of senior staff.

"I feel the public trust has been broken," Filipenko said at the meeting.

"Can anyone at that table explain why we went through nine years of inaction that has led to thousands of dollars in plumbing repairs for the people of this community, and now a potential health issue?"

Mayor Mike Richman, first elected to council in 2011, responded by saying the VOP is also looking for some answers.

"Staff is currently going through reports and council resolutions. We're looking back into the history to understand what didn't get followed up on," Richman said.

"I know there was lots of discussion at the time that with the implementation of the new well and the chlorination process, that might take care of the problem. Should it have been followed up on? Could this have been taken care of nine years ago? Absolutely. And I agree."

But the important thing right now is ensuring people have all the information they need and fixing the root of the problem, Richman said.

"I would prefer focusing our limited resources on how to communicate, how to deal with the problem, how to get our water at a higher quality level and to supply people with the water that they deserve as fast as we can," he

said.

At the same time, the VOP's water is tested routinely at the source and the supply falls within the acceptable guidelines for drinking water, Richman noted.

It was in trying to fix the low-pH problem that the VOP discovered the lead in the first place.

To determine the best system for fixing the corrosion issue, the VOP tested the drinking water of 20 homes — 17 in the VOP and three in Pemberton North — 12 of them came back with elevated lead levels.

In some cases, lead concentrations were as high as six times the Maximum Acceptable Concentration prescribed in the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality.

Lead in drinking water can cause a number of adverse health effects, particularly for children, infants and unborn children.

Now MLA for West Vancouver-Sea to Sky, Pemberton resident Jordan Sturdy was mayor of the town when the issue first arose in 2006.

Reached by phone on March 12, he said it was the first he's ever heard of lead in the water of some homes and buildings.

"Lead had never been something, certainly in the municipal water supply, that

had ever been raised as an issue at all," Sturdy said.

He added that there was a plan to treat the low pH with soda ash, but when Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) required the VOP to add chlorine to the system, it was believed that would raise the pH.

Current councillor Jennie Helmer was also on council at that time, and at the March 15 meeting this week said she remembered it coming up, but couldn't say why the problem remained unfixed.

"A second well came on and the water got chlorinated, which is what we were advised to do, and that's what we did. I think that that wasn't good enough," Helmer said.

"And in terms of taking it on the chin... I was here. I'd be happy to take it on the chin," she added.

"I didn't live up to what I said maybe I would do, and if you choose to do that, I encourage you to. Or, just trust that we're going to work through this and make it happen."

Flush your water until cold before drinking

VCH isn't recommending people stop using the water, but rather to flush their pipes before consuming it.

Dr. Paul Martiquet, chief medical officer for VCH's rural regions, said he recommends letting the water run for two minutes.

Once the water runs cold the lead content drops to close to zero, Martiquet said.

The water should not be boiled without flushing it first, as that increases the lead content, but it is safe to shower, bathe or wash dishes, Martiquet said.



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FEATURE ARTICLE: OVER 25,000

Wedding night turns tragic; Adkin dies of OD

MARTY HASTINGS

Kamloops This Week

Paul Adkin kissed his mom and left the dance floor; his groomsman duties for the night fulfilled, nothing on his mind but having a good time.

The 27-year-old Kamloops man and a few friends left the reception and went upstairs to a room at the Kelowna hotel to do cocaine — a fatal decision that silenced Paul's contagious laugh forever; wiping his infectious smile off the face of the earth.

Toxicology reports have not been returned to the family, but all signs point toward fentanyl causing Paul's death. He was one of five who overdosed on Sept. 24 at the wedding, a joyous occasion that ended in panic, mayhem and tragedy.

Paul's father and mother, Tom and Paula, and uncle Rob sat down with KTW in a small room, fighting through anguish, tears, numbness and anger; compelled to share their story, to hammer home the dangers of so-called recreational drug use.

"If you're even considering doing any kind of drug, you better damn well make out a will," said Paula, still trapped in the anger stage of grief.

"It's insane. They just needed to have more fun than they were already having.

"He would have had the cutest babies. No wedding on a Jamaican beach. No grandchildren from Pollywogs. This happens to other people. Just the memories the bride and groom have to live with break my heart."

Tom was at times distraught during the interview, but willed himself to speak, sometimes finishing his thoughts in chilling cries, the sounds of agony spilling out of a grieving father.

"I'll miss his big hugs. He hugged everyone," Tom said. "He was everybody's best

friend.

"Paul wasn't an innocent bystander in this. It wasn't forced on him. I don't think he was coerced into doing it and I'm sure it wasn't his first time, but the message has to be stronger and the government has to start enacting laws that make it prohibitive for these dealers.

"If somebody they deal drugs to dies, it's murder. It's not just a slap on the wrist. It's murder — they know that shit is in there. They don't necessarily know it's in their batch, but they do know it's out there."

The groom, Aaron, was first to realize something wasn't right, noticing Paul had disappeared somewhere around 9:45 p.m., but figured he and the others missing had slipped away for drinks to avoid the cash bar.

He went to find them.

"I saw my best friends overdosing," said Aaron, who cancelled his honeymoon.

"People were turning blue. When I saw Paul, there was just something that made me think this was it. Unfortunately, I wasn't equipped with the knowledge of CPR that, in hindsight, I wish I had.

"Sometimes I don't feel like I'm in reality. You have a lot of time in the day to reflect. I look at the calendar every day, wishing I could go back. I have so many memories with him.

"He was a kind and gentle soul."

Tom had been sharing a room with Paul and his girlfriend at the hotel. He was going to bed, his knees sore, tuckered from a long day of celebrating.

He arrived at the door seconds after Aaron, who was with his brother and a friend. Paul looked to be in the worst shape of the four. The fifth person who overdosed was not in the room.

Tom rushed downstairs to the reception yelling for help.

Several wedding guests with CPR training raced upstairs to work on the unconscious, none of whom were able to call for help before collapsing.

"It was dramatic chaos," said the groom, who has been seeking counselling and help from victims services.

"Someone told me to go back to my wife because she was looking for me. I told her people were getting sick upstairs.

"I didn't want to panic anybody, but I looked into her eyes and I think she knew.

"Some days I still feel like it's a dream, the way everything happened and being there and finding him was just something you can't get out of your head. It's hard to talk about him in the past tense. You feel like you can just give him a call."

Paramedics arrived about 10 to 15 minutes later and administered naloxone, a medication that can be used to temporarily reverse a narcotic overdose.

Four recovered and were released from hospital, but Paul was placed on life support. Two days later, brain activity had ceased.

"He looked so peaceful, as though he was sleeping, and I was able to lie in bed with him and hold his hand," Paula said.

"I'm a faithful woman and I was praying for a miracle."

Divine intervention never came. Paul died at 2:55 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 28.

"Talk to your kids," Tom said, weeping.

"Sit down and have a real heart to heart. Say, 'I don't want to have to make a decision to pull you off life support. I don't want to go to your funeral.'"

More than 700 attended Paul's celebration of life and reception at Calvary Community Church. There was no room to move at the gathering that followed at

Fox'n Hounds Pub.

"I'll miss seeing him at Christmastime because we always have Christmas at our house," Rob said, wiping tears from underneath his glasses.

"Always the first thing he'd do is give you a big hug.

"He'd always be late. Those are just the little things. I wish I'd spent more time with him.

"There will be a lot of time to grieve and they'll [Paula and Tom] be grieving forever; but the immediacy of this message, while it's fresh, it has to come out now, so young people understand that there is no such thing as recreational drug use in this province right now.

"They've gone from dancing at a wedding to having to make a decision to pull the plug."

Paul Adkin is dead, the unfathomable reality that's still setting in for the family. Sadly, there will almost certainly be another 20-something killed by fentanyl-detected drugs in B.C. Statistics released by B.C. Coroners Service are staggering. (Click on them to enlarge).

Tom, Paula and Rob discussed making naloxone more readily available, wondered why drug suppliers continue to kill customers — how could they be so callous? — and talked about the importance of creating more stringent laws to punish dealers.

"We can sit here and say it's stupid and they shouldn't do it, but the fact is they are," Rob said.

"We have to figure out how to stop this bad shit from being out there. There was something like 20 overdoses that weekend in Kelowna.

"Whoever this person was kept on selling his or her drugs, knowing they had a potent batch."

Many of Paul's friends approached Tom and Rob at the celebration of life to

privately admit they had used cocaine, but won't anymore.

"People say it's like Russian roulette," Tom said. "It's worse than that. It's like putting a gun in your mouth with bullets in all chambers and hoping you'll get a misfire. That's basically what's going on out there. You just don't know."

Tom shared a story about the time Paul carried his friend around all night, a fellow lacrosse player who had broken a bone in his back, unable to walk and worried about missing out on fun with teammates.

Paul took care of it.

Paula reminisced about her son welcoming a recent Canadian immigrant into his circle of friends in elementary school, an early sign of the loyalty and friendliness that endeared him to so many.

Paul wasn't going to the Halloween party unless his new buddy was, too.

"That was the type of guy he was," Tom said. "It's a testament that 40 or 50 of his friends drove to Kelowna to see him on life support."

Remembering Paul, a Facebook page, has turned into a place for last words unsaid.

On YouTube, there is a slideshow entitled Paul, posted by Jordan Nicholson, and a song called A Poem for Paul, written by his friend Spencer Tomlinson, who performed it at the celebration of life.

It's all too much for Paula to process. Her son had a girlfriend. He was a young professional who worked at Investors Group Financial, with a bright career in front of him.

Now he's gone.

"I've been accused of having my head buried in the sand my whole adult life," Paula said.

"Maybe they were right. I thought he smoked a bit of pot. I would never have dreamt . . . These are five nice kids. Where did they even find cocaine?"

Edited for length

Award-Winning Writing

ENVIRONMENTAL WRITING

Lead-contaminated water series (cont.)

Asked what the message is for concerned citizens and parents in Pemberton, Martiquet said it's important to put it into perspective.

"Simply put, the exposure isn't at a high enough risk to have caused any health concerns, but it's still something we've got to pay attention to," Martiquet said.

"The concern would be chronic exposure, and we're not dealing with any incidents of chronic exposure, nor have their been physicians — and I've been at it for 25 years — that have called me concerned with any lead toxicity (or) lead poisoning."

Finding a Solution

A second round of water testing was underway as Pique went to press.

The VOP expects the results back "either late this week or early next week," said Richman.

From there, the village will move ahead with finding a long-term fix to the low-pH problem.

The village has budgeted \$25,000 this year for the engineering costs, but it's unclear what the total price tag of the project will be.

"That's something that we

put in motion in 2015, and that's how we got here in the first place," Richman said.

"And so we're carrying on full speed ahead in that, and we'll have a timeline pretty soon in terms of when we'll be able to implement the new system."

Corrosion Issues Nothing New

Mark Mendonca, president of Tourism Pemberton and owner of Grimm's Gourmet and Deli, said complaints about the water have fallen on deaf ears for years.

"I've been complaining about it for quite some time now and nobody's been listening. I've got a little commercial business and I don't know how many elbow (pipe fittings) I've changed," Mendonca said in a March 12 phone call.

From a tourism standpoint, it's too early to say if the problem will affect visitor numbers, but "I would imagine it's going to have some sort of impact on us," Mendonca said.

In an email he said from now on he would be throwing out the first thermos of coffee from his direct line installed machines.

Over at the Pemberton

Valley Lodge, owner David MacKenzie said he has spent over \$200,000 in the past 10 years due to Pemberton's aggressive water.

"It's been a nightmare," MacKenzie said on March 12.

"When I first opened the lodge in 2004, I had no idea about the aggressiveness of the water, and I learned that the hard way because two years into the operation I was replacing a hot water tank."

MacKenzie has looked at several treatment solutions for the lodge, but said he hasn't been able to nail one down yet, "because we were kind of always promised that something was happening with the village. They had acquired a new well, there was going to be some treatment going on or some way of addressing the pH levels," he said.

"I pointed it out to the health department on several occasions and they kind of assured me that well, you know, the village is working on it."

At RONA Pemberton Valley Hardware — which Phare co-owns — things like hot water tanks, plumbing supplies and drywall have

been flying off the shelves for years.

Even though Phare benefits from those sales, he wants to see the problem corrected.

"In some cases it's been life altering, because people have had to go out and re-mortgage and find ways to cover some of the expenses that weren't covered by insurance," Phare said, in a phone call following the March 15 meeting.

"And that to me, it's always been alarming. You've got to look at it in all ways, not just from the profitable end. There's a part of us that has to regard our conscience and how our community members are having to deal with this.

"And if we find out that it's not a very expensive fix, (that's) all the more salt in the wound."

Questions of Accountability Remain

In an open letter to mayor and council dated March 13, Pemberton resident and public engagement strategist Maureen Douglas equated the failure to address the corrosive nature of the water as "negligence, plain and simple."

"The situation we find ourselves in is deeply troubling," the letter reads in part. "Water is a basic human right and arguably the most important service that a local government provides its citizens. Senior members of VOP's current administration have been there for more than 10 years. They have known of this issue, heard the community's concerns and done nothing."

Douglas also takes issue with how the VOP handled communication of the difficult issue to the public.

"The accountability has been a challenge for quite some time, and this is the ultimate motherhood issue: Water," Douglas said in a March 14 phone call.

"If we can't get accountability on water then we're really screwed."

More information on Pemberton's water can be found at www.pemberton.ca/residents/health-and-environment/pemberton-water.

Questions can be directed to 604-894-6135 or admin@pemberton.ca.

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FEATURE ARTICLE: UNDER 25,000

Helping the helpers

DAN FALLOON
Pique Newsmagazine

In February 2010, all eyes were on British Columbia.

Specifically, Vancouver and Whistler.

With over \$7 billion spent to bring the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games to the West Coast, and more than \$81 million pledged to Canadian athletes to give them every possible shot at a gold-medal rush in front of the world, the two-week sporting extravaganza was set

to be the nation's moment of glory.

But instead of roaring cheers, the Games began with a pall, a moment of silence.

On the morning of Feb. 12, the day of the opening ceremonies, tragedy struck at the Whistler Sliding Centre. Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili, just 21, shot out of the track at 144 km/h and crashed into a pole.

Whistler Medic Terrance Kosikar was on-site as one of the responders aiding Kumaritashvili.

After dashing to Kumaritashvili's side, Kosikar recalled instructing someone to shut the shade at the finish gate to keep the prying public eye off of the horror.

But once Kumaritashvili's fate was clear and tributes poured in from all over the world, the public's priorities returned to the celebration itself, and Kosikar remained a part of it all. Even with a red maple leaf shaved into the back of his head and a smile on his face as viewers tuned in, Kosikar knew he wasn't all

right.

Six years to the day later, in memory of Kumaritashvili, Kosikar began flipping a 180-kilogram (400-pound) tractor tire in Function Junction to raise awareness of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in first responders. And he did it with over 23.5 kg in steel chains draped over his body.

From there, he retreated into the backcountry, flipping the tire for 36 kilometres along the Douglas Trail from Seton Portage to D'Arcy. He

finished with a flip through Whistler Village on March 19.

Dealing with Trauma

Soon after the Games, Kosikar was jobless and homeless, reminded not only of the horrific crash, but trauma he'd suppressed from his earlier years.

"After that accident, every single thing that I had endured in my life for 10, 15 years in the streets I'm living today again," he says. "I'd forgotten about it. I'd moved on. I became a first responder. I healed. I parked it somewhere.

Continued on next page

FEATURE ARTICLE: UNDER 25,000

Helping the helpers (cont.)

Then this accident triggered my entire life of trauma.

"That accident, as horrific as it was, it triggered things that were 1,000 times worse in my past that I had parked somewhere.

"I still hadn't dealt with or healed that box of injuries, but I didn't know I had those injuries to deal with."

After an extended drug binge in the fall of 2014, Kosikar says he found himself standing on the Lions Gate Bridge, preparing to jump. But he couldn't do it. After resting and making his way up to his cabin near Seton Portage, he says he felt some rejuvenation being back in nature. Still, he found himself depressed after spending the Christmas season alone.

"On New Year's, still, nobody had called for the whole holidays," he says. "I put the rifle down my throat, in my tonsils. I put my thumb on the trigger and thought 'Fuck, if this doesn't kill me, I'm going to lay here and suffer.'"

"So I put it underneath the side of my jaw behind my ear and thought 'Maybe this is the trajectory that will kill me.' I stuffed the barrel into my eye socket and thought 'Is this the way?'"

"I was afraid to kill myself."

On New Year's Day 2015, he decided to turn over a new leaf, eventually starting the Breaking the Chains B.C. campaign (www.breakingthechainsbc.com) with a tire he discovered during a trip to the dump with his uncle before Christmas.

"You're not done," Kosikar recalls telling himself. "Done is standing on the bridge."

"You just go because you don't want to go back to where you've been."

Changing

When Whistler Fire Rescue Service (WFRS) chief Geoff Playfair began his career 35 years ago the pervasive attitude was that responders

were expected to be emotionless. They understood they'd regularly witness death and horror as part of the job. That was part of the deal.

"When I started in this kind of work, back in '81, that's exactly what we said: Just suck it up. Toughen up," Playfair says. "But those attitudes have changed for all the right reasons and we're in a different place today for all the better."

But no matter how much responders are instructed to make the difficult parts of their pasts disappear, some developed Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or another form of mental illness, because of the fear of reaching out for help. Countless first responders suffer in silence. Those who reach out are sometimes met with challenges to access the help they needed.

PTSD is a problem that seems to be increasing as awareness spreads. According to the Ontario-based Tema Conter Memorial Trust — a non-profit organization seeking to raise awareness and provide support to first responders and military members suffering from operational stress and PTSD — 39 first responders and 12 military members committed suicide in 2015. Just one-third of the way through 2016, 15 first responders and five military members have committed suicide.

With those shocking numbers, politicians, fire and police chiefs and others in positions of authority are looking to find ways to face the issue.

Playfair says one simple but major shift is to approach mental-health injuries the same as physical ones. A broken leg, for example, can be a mitigating factor in some jobs, but such an employee isn't asked to try to work through the pain.

"We want to recognize that an injury is an injury, whether it's physical or mental," Playfair says. "You deal with the problem and recover, hopefully."

The Paramedic Association of Canada released results of a nationwide survey last August, along with a plea for more support for first responders. The survey broke down the results by province, and Ambulance Paramedics of B.C. president Bronwyn Barter notes the numbers for British Columbia are staggering — 97 per cent of paramedics and dispatchers polled need support for the cumulative impact of multiple traumatic calls, and 94 per cent said the same group needs more support to treat mental-health disorders such as depression and anxiety. Three in 10 said they'd contemplated suicide and two-thirds knew of a fellow paramedic who had contemplated suicide.

Since the findings were announced, Barter says there has been a much more open discussion about mental health both within and outside the profession.

"There is a stigma around PTSD and mental-health injuries and we're happy that the conversations are happening," she says. "As a paramedic, in the last 20 years, there's been a bit of a shift. When I started, there was a stigma where if you had a bad call and you told somebody about it and you were struggling with what happened on that call or with what you witnessed, you don't tell anybody. You keep it to yourself. There was the attitude out there that you never should have signed up for this job."

"People have been suppressing a lot of these things because of the stigma of weakness."

One significant issue is that physical injuries can be less

difficult to prove in order to claim workers' compensation. That broken leg, for example, will show up on an X-ray scan and the employee will just have to prove it occurred on the job. Though scientists are working diligently to find physical evidence of the PTSD — a team of researchers from Minnesota believes it found a "fingerprint" for it using brain scans in a report detailed in the *Journal of Neural Engineering* in 2010. For now, at least, proving the condition exists in addition to being work-related is the responsibility of the sufferer.

But even without a scientific breakthrough, that may be about to change.

Proposed Amendment Welcomed

On Feb. 23, B.C. NDP labour critic Shane Simpson (Vancouver-Hastings) introduced a private member's bill into the legislature that would amend the Workers Compensation Act to insert a presumptive clause for first responders. Essentially, any first responder filing a PTSD claim would no longer have to provide proof that it was work-related — that would be the assumption unless evidence to the contrary was discovered. Simpson has said the purpose of the bill is to reduce wait times, hassle and stress for those who are suffering and in need of help.

"We know today that first responders — including police officers, firefighters, paramedics, 911 dispatchers, sheriffs and corrections officers — suffer PTSD at more than double the rate of the general population," Simpson said when tabling the bill. "This serious mental health challenge first responders face is directly related to their service. We know that, every day, first responders treat those with health emergencies, ensure public

safety and protect the citizens of British Columbia. In doing that work on our behalf, they too often face extreme and traumatic situations that most of us could not comprehend."

Alberta and Manitoba have already enacted similar legislation while Ontario and New Brunswick are also considering similar action.

Simpson explains that the bill, which passed unanimously on first reading, would only be for those suffering specifically from PTSD. He hopes to expand the presumptive clause for first responders to other mental-health issues as well.

Due to the inherent natures of the afflictions, even beyond the challenges of providing physical evidence of a mental disorder, people suffering from PTSD and other similar syndromes may have difficulty making a case. Barter explains that with all the potential collateral damage a mental illness can cause, filing a claim can be overwhelming for those who are already struggling to hold their lives together.

"Right now, the onus is on the paramedic or the first responder to say, 'These are my issues' and you've got to prove it to them. You're sitting there with a case worker that says 'Nope, that doesn't sound that bad. This is what you signed up for,'" she says. "These people are, sometimes, by the time they're coming forward thinking, 'I need help,' they're at their weakest because they're lost. (They have) broken marriages, relationships have fallen through with their families and they're at their lowest low."

"They're having a tough time making a case on their own behalf or even being their own best advocate. There's not much left of them to give."

Edited for length

Narcan on Heaven's Door

AMY REID
Surrey Now

Her voice pierces the air, her face crimson like the setting sun. She summons all her energy to scream.

"NARCAN!"

Jeff's gone limp on the pavement, heroin burning through his veins.

I gasp.

My stomach does a flip as I realize I interviewed this man just 21 days before.

"NARCAN!" the woman cries again.

It's what he needs. He's overdosing. Seconds are like minutes as hands fumble to plunge the needle in.

"Come on Jeff you can do it," a second woman cries out.

"You're not ready to go. Come on Jeff, not yet."

The silence is agonizing as another reviving needle glides in.

His eyes flutter as a siren wails in the distance.

Jeff's lucky this time. He's flatlined before.

This drama played out on Whalley streets at least 10 times that day.

And it won't be the last.

"People are dropping like crazy," said a shaken Kutrina Blake.

Her voice is panicked, her breathing heavy.

Blake answered her phone moments after hitting someone with Narcan.

It's a daily occurrence at the Whalley emergency shelter she manages on 135A Street.

She had to use three hits this time.

"I'm a calm person anyway and I don't panic under stress. But my hands got all shaky," said Blake. "They go very blue and they're not breathing. I had a client helping me, she was giving him breaths because you want to keep oxygen going to their brain. Don't want them to go brain dead."

While she was scared the first time, Blake said she's "gotten used to it."

This was her seventh time. "You go into tunnel vision."

The Gateway emergency shelter and drop-in centre, operated by Lookout Emergency Aid Society, was the first non-profit organization to offer naloxone intervention in early 2014. By April 2015, 200 overdose reversals were credited to the organization.

Narcan kits contain the drug naloxone. Commonly referred to as an "overdose antidote," it blocks opiate receptors in the nervous system.

The injectable medication is easily administered with minimal training. It's believed to be safe. A healthy person given a dose of the drug won't show any negative side effects, according to Fraser Health.

Through B.C.'s Take Home Naloxone Program, 488 overdoses have been reversed since 2012.

It's saving lives, but many are still being lost.

Illicit drug overdose deaths have doubled in B.C. – and in Surrey – over the last decade.

From 2006 to 2015, the death toll in Surrey rose from 34 to 67 and from 229 to 465 provincially.

In the first two months of 2016, 16 people died in Surrey after overdosing. Across B.C.,

76 people lost their lives to drugs in January alone. That's the largest number of drug deaths in one month in the past decade.

I met Jeff three weeks to the day before his latest overdose.

He sat nervously in the back of the Whalley shelter and revealed that by then, he'd already been hit with naloxone on three separate occasions.

The first time was half an hour after being kicked out of a recovery home.

Jeff spent two court-mandated months in a local zero-tolerance recovery house after being given the choice between that or jail time, he explained.

He was kicked out for using drugs.

"I told (the manager) how many times I actually used in the house because I was proud of myself," said Jeff, pictured.

Fourteen times, he continued. "Half an hour after I came down here after I got kicked out of the recovery house I picked up some down, and I got a friend of mine to shoot it in my neck."

Then all went blank, Jeff said, and he woke up five hours later in hospital to a doctor asking if he'd shot fentanyl.

The synthetic opioid is said to be 40 to 50 times more potent than pure heroin. It's being cut into street drugs and it's killing people.

In 2015, a third of the 465 drug overdose deaths in B.C. involved fentanyl. That was up from 25 per cent in 2014, 15 per cent in 2013 and five per cent in 2012. It killed 471 people in Canada in 2015 and 132 in the first two months of 2016.

Just last week, a drug bust in Burnaby, Richmond and Surrey uncovered a large fentanyl lab believed to be "one of the largest fentanyl labs seen to date in B.C. in terms of drug production," according to Delta Police Sgt. Sarah Swallow.

But Jeff doesn't think fentanyl was the culprit in his case, though he admitted he got his heroin from a new dealer that day.

Jeff overdosed again six days later. He was saved with Narcan a second time.

Jeff shook his head when asked if almost dying scared him enough to make him think he should stop (by his count, he's overdosed at least nine times).

"No," he replied.

"I don't think about it. I can't deal with people and their negative ways about homeless people and stuff like that. I'm happier when I'm high and not dealing with reality."

Jeff said people see addicts as "the scum of the earth," adding,

"society's been brainwashed to believe we're bad people down here. Far from it."

Though Jeff doesn't want help now, shelter supervisor Blake holds out hope he'll change his mind. As a former addict, she knows miracles can happen.

Blake said she grew up doing crystal meth with her mom, who was also an addict.

By the age of 23, she'd spent a few years as a crack addict on the streets of the Downtown East Side.

Until one day, like Jeff, she was given a choice from the courts – either do nine months in jail or 18 months in a women's recovery house.

Blake chose the latter. "It saved my life."

Blake has been clean for 11 years and dedicates her life to helping others in the darkness of addiction.

Jeff's recent stint in a recovery home helped him, Blake stressed. A daily addict only using 14 times in two months is "huge progress," she remarked.

"It may not have helped in the way that society wanted it to, but before Jeff's face was sunken in, he was really haggard. You look a lot healthier now," she said.

And he's alive today because of naloxone, she said firmly.

"You build relationships with these people. You get to know people and their stories. You love them," remarked Blake.

"If they want to be clean, that's fine, but if they don't, we can love and respect them and give them everything they need to have a better quality of life."

While 67 people died in Surrey last year of illicit drug overdose, the number of those who suffered overdoses is shockingly higher.

Surrey fire service responds to 1,200 incidents of overdose per annum. This January alone, they were called to 232.

As of Feb. 3, Surrey Fire



Fighters are now equipped with Narcan. Given that they arrive first to 92 per cent of calls, Fire Chief Len Garis said the decision made sense.

Though the move wasn't taken lightly, he stressed.

All active firefighters in Surrey are now trained to administer the drug.

Garis acknowledged the numbers of overdoses are "disturbing."

Most of the firefighters welcome the move.

"They haven't had the tools and were there waiting. Now they do."

While still struggling to combat fentanyl, health officials and first responders are now bracing for a powerful painkiller W-18 to inevitably hit the streets. It is up to 100 times stronger than fentanyl and has been found in Alberta.

Though the BC Coroner's Service and Surrey RCMP say they have yet to come across it, many on the frontline think it's here.

"If it's not already here, it's going to get here," said Ron Moloughney of the Surrey Area Network of Substance Users, currently 200 members strong.

"And when it does, I'm not sure the naloxone kits are going to be enough. By the time it's in your system, it's too late. It kills you instantly." §

HISTORICAL WRITING

Positively 4th Avenue: The rise and fall of Canada's hippie mecca

GRANT LAWRENCE
Westender

"King of the Hippies" – that's what the caption read under the photo of a young David Wisdom, snapped on West 4th Avenue in the summer of 1967. It was the Summer of Love, which blossomed in Vancouver more than just about anywhere else in the world outside of San Francisco. You've likely heard about Kitsilano's hippie heyday, but let it not be understated: for a few short years, Vancouver, and most especially West 4th Avenue between Burrard and MacDonald streets, was indeed the hippie capital of Canada. The movement rocked this formally conservative logging town to its roots, and changed our city forever.

The photo of David Wisdom (who went on to a 30-year-career at CBC Radio) was part of a larger story on Vancouver's counterculture, which appeared in Japan's equivalent to Life magazine. Wisdom was in a local band called the French Hand Laundry and the writer's tour guide. The only problem was, David Wisdom never considered himself a hippie.

"I was a rocker," proclaims Wisdom, who currently resides on Salt Spring Island, itself a garden of retired original hippies. "I liked the Jefferson Airplane from San Francisco. I saw them at the Kitsilano Theatre in 1966," referring to what is often considered the city's first "rock" concert. Locally, Wisdom dug bands like the Painted Ship, the Tom Northcott Trio, and the Seeds of Time. "I lived at a pretty notorious place in Kits called 'the Peace House,' at 3148 Point Grey Road. The Grateful Dead stayed there when they came to town and would walk around the house naked. Ginger Baker, the drummer from Cream,

slept over when he was in town too. I guess the Japanese magazine thought I was a hippie because I was the guy with the fourth-longest hair in Vancouver."

The longest-hair-on-a-dude-award went to Doug Hawthorne, a West 4th legend. Now deceased, Hawthorne came up again and again in conversation about Kitsilano's hippie past.

"Doug was a thin, cool guy with a big belt buckle and hair down to his waist," remembers Wisdom. "It was Doug who was really the king of the West 4th scene." Hawthorne ran the Psychedelic Shop, Vancouver's first-ever hippie emporium, and one of several hippie-friendly joints that began to pop up on or near West 4th Avenue in the 1960s: the Village Bistro (a coffee house that doubled as a venue), the Black Swan, Rohan's Records (which eventually became a live music venue called Rohan's Rockpile), the Blind Owl, the Last Chance, Positively 4th Street, and the Naam, among others.

Longtime Vancouver journalist Lynne McNamara was freshly graduated from UBC in the mid-'60s and working as a teacher in the Fraser Valley when flower power hit full bloom on West 4th.

"I was a weekend hippie," says McNamara. "I remember beautiful, hot summers, the smell of pot in the air; lots of long hair; women swirling and twirling in long Afghan dresses, and everybody being stoned out of their minds. People were swarming here, especially from the States, and it made it all so exciting. From my experience, it was an open and accepting place for women."

Conveniently located in the centre of the scene was CFUN, Vancouver's number one radio station, right at the corner of West 4th and

Cypress. "Jolly" John Tanner landed a gig at the station in 1964 at age 21, and would literally call the play-by-play of Vancouver's love revolution.

"What was really incredible was that it happened so fast. Suddenly, by the early spring of 1967, hippies, flower power and free love was everywhere," says Tanner. "Vancouver had much more in common with the West Coast USA than with Toronto or Montreal at that time. California was a huge influence."

By 1967, Tanner was not only working on West 4th, but was becoming fully immersed in the culture. "I lived in a house with a bunch of people at Maple and 3rd. One night we smoked some herb in the bathroom and headed out to a show at the Russian Hall, probably to see the Collectors. We got in my '53 Chevy to drive to the gig – which was only a couple of blocks away – and 'A Day In The Life' by the Beatles came on. I started tripping out to it so much that I thought my car was flying through the air. I pulled over and said 'I have to walk the rest of the way.'" Tanner went on to many more radio gigs and a near-50-year career at the Vancouver Planetarium.

The Russian Hall, at 2114 West 4th (still there to this day), is cited by many as a primary reason the hippie scene revolved around Kitsilano (cheap rent, large houses, and a world-class beach also helped). It was also known as the Kitsilano Concert Theatre, the Overtime, and one of the venues of the Afterthought, an infamous psychedelic concert series by a young promoter named Jerry Kruz.

"I'm the reason the hippie scene existed on 4th Avenue," states Kruz as a matter of fact. "I did the gigs at the Russian Hall, and that's why the kids came to Kits, to see my shows. I really wanted to control 4th Avenue,

so much so that I would pay Doug Hawthorne to close up his shop and come and do the lights at the Afterthought just so the hippies couldn't hang around his place." Kruz also booked the bands at the first Be-In music festival in Stanley Park, in March of 1967. "The only local DJ who supported me was Timothy Burge, who is now Pamela Burge."

However, not all Vancouverites were feeling the love. Former Vancouver mayor Tom Campbell, now deceased, assumed office in 1967 and waged war with the peaceniks for much of his tumultuous time at City Hall.

"He made life hell for the hippies," says MacNamara. "He was as straight as the hippies were wild, and hated any guy with hair below the earlobe."

"Despite all the great things that were going on in the scene, there was a real paranoia about getting caught with pot," remembers Tanner. "Raids happened all the time."

Mayor Campbell's enforcer was a notorious narcotics officer whose name still sends a shiver down many an aging hippie's spine: Sgt. Abe Snidanko, who was later famously lampooned by Cheech and Chong. "He was ruthless," says Tanner.

"The mayor believed I was corrupting the youth of Vancouver, and so he sent Snidanko after me," states Kruz. Snidanko busted Kruz twice for pot possession. The second time, the court sentenced Kruz to eight months in prison for "a couple of baggies, nothing really, but they wanted to make an example out of me." Kruz's incarceration still infuriates him, and marked the end of the Afterthought concerts, but not the Kitsilano hippies.

Renowned broadcaster Terry David Mulligan returned to his hometown right in the middle of the Summer of Love. He accepted a DJ gig at CFUN alongside Tanner. He was immediately shunned by the

hippies.

"You have to imagine: I was barely two years out of the RCMP Academy, which I quit soon after graduation, because of my burning love for rock 'n' roll radio."

After a series of DJ gigs around the prairies, TDM arrived onto West 4th Avenue just as the Afterthought was shut down. "Everyone was convinced I was a narc. Entire rooms would clear when I would walk in. People wanted nothing to do with me!"

Like Wisdom, TDM never considered himself a hippie. "I lived right on 4th, a block away from the Russian Hall," reminisces Mulligan. "A parade of hippies went by my front door, day in, day out, and they were as stoned as I was straight. I found it very depressing. It's never a period of time I take pleasure from, simply because so many minds were lost as the decade progressed and the drugs got harder. It became some ugly shit."

Many who lived through the West 4th scene agree that harder drugs were one of the reasons the scene fell apart, but there were other factors. "We really were connected to the California scene," says Tanner. "So when things like Altamont and Charles Manson happened, it threw a pall over everything. Free love was over; the trust was gone, and the drugs really did get bad. Acid, heroin, people OD'ing all over the place, and then Jim Morrison, Jimi Hendrix, and Janis Joplin all died within a year of each other. That felt like the end."

Rent in Kits was also on the rise.

"It was very exciting for a few years, but by the early '70s it was pretty much over," says Wisdom. "The true hippies moved to the country: the Sunshine Coast, the Kootenays, or the Gulf Islands. Lots of Americans just went home." 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love,

Edited for length

Award-Winning Writing

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

The Last Post

SHANNON LOUGH
The Northern View

Near the end of his life, he lived in a cardboard box in the pit of an old burnt-down hotel.

On rainy nights, he would cause a disturbance forcing the RCMP to deal with the unruly man who often played this game to rest his head in the warmth of a jail cell.

For those who knew him before his wife passed in 1979, they remember him differently, as an outdoorsman and a saw filer who could make the toothed tool sing.

Very few knew that this seeming dredge of society had once scribbled his name down to join the militia in Prince Rupert after Pearl Harbor was bombed.

Only one person seemed

to remember that this man, who spent the last portion of his life living in a cardboard box, had sworn to defend his country. Former RCMP officer, Wendel Ottmann, had many encounters with this homeless man who was barely surviving in that burnt-out hotel.

Ottmann later learned that this man, who caused trouble to escape the cold and rain, was in fact once a decorated soldier.

Despite only being stationed in Prince Rupert for a short time during the early '80s, the encounters stayed with Ottmann — he couldn't shake the memory of that WWII veteran in his seventies who had been living in a cardboard box.

"It had always bothered me that he was going to die and at no time was it

mentioned in our records that he had a family. It bothered me that he would be buried very close to a pauper's grave and there would be almost no markings of him," Ottmann said to me over the phone.

The near 40-year-old memory stayed with him, and in January 2016, it prompted him to call the funeral home in Prince Rupert to find out if the homeless veteran he remembered had been buried.

But no one returned his call.

Ottmann didn't leave it there. He was still disturbed that there seemed to be no trace of this veteran. He had to know whether or not the man had received the proper honour he deserved in death, the dignity he may not have had in life.

The homeless man Ottmann was searching for was Earl Corliss.

The search begins

After no response from the funeral home, Ottmann contacted The Northern View publisher and editor Todd Hamilton about Earl Corliss, the homeless man he knew from the '80s.

"It is my sincere intent that Earl (as I knew him) receive a proper headstone if he does not already have one," Ottmann wrote in January. If he didn't, he mentioned that there is a federal government program — the Last Post Fund — that provides veterans with a military grave marker.

Hamilton, knowing my attachments to the military, as my childhood friend had served in Afghanistan multiple times, forwarded the email to me. He asked me to look into what happened to Earl, and if Corliss was indeed a veteran of World War II.

With few details to start with, I called Ferguson Funeral Home to see if they had any records of an Earl Corliss. They didn't.

After, we put out an advertisement in The Northern View to find out if anyone in the community knew the man — we were surprised, people began to call in to share their memories of him.

One of the first callers was Dorothy Bagshaw. It was Bagshaw who offered the first real breadcrumb that led me to the full story of Earl Corliss.

He had a wife — Salome.

The first breadcrumbs

Earl Corliss had lived on 317 9th Avenue West in a cute little house with his wife Salome, Bagshaw recalled.

"Salome could cook up a storm. She used to make shortbread, it was outstanding," she said.

Marlene Dileta, a former care aid from the hospital and Acropolis Manor, a residential care facility, called in to say she

had worked with Earl for five years.

She remembered that the harsh winter weather had got the best of him. He was found with frostbite on his toes and fingers, Dileta said, his condition was crippling and he could no longer live on the streets.

"There would have been nobody going to the funeral," Dileta said, but she recommended I call the funeral home to see if he was there. I had already tried that, and still no leads as to where he might be buried or the exact year of his death.

The next call was from someone who had been equally curious as to what happened to Earl. Diana Jackson, a member of the Prince Rupert Genealogy Club, and a former nurse, who would often see Earl at the hospital in the '80s where he would spend the night when he had nowhere else to go.

"I may have a lead," she told me. The club has photographed every gravestone, including Salome's, but they have never been able to find Earl.

She knew that he was cremated in Terrace, and that the ashes had been shipped back to Prince Rupert where they remained at the funeral home until someone claimed them. I called Ferguson's again, they didn't know who had taken the ashes.

Jackson decided to reopen her investigation on Earl and a week later I received an email from her full of breadcrumbs.

The Story of Earl Corliss

Earl Danford Corliss was born in Medina, North Dakota in 1909.

In 1920, his parents, along with eight children, immigrated to Canada and ended up at Uncha Lake, Burns Lake district. According to the Canada Voters List, Earl registered in 1949 as a carpenter living in Prince Rupert, and in 1972 he registered as a labourer in Burns Lake.

Continued on next page

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INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

The Last Post (cont.)

Earl's brother, Clarence Mitchel lived in the Burns Lake area, and his son George still lives there with his wife Rhoda — now the closest living relatives to Earl.

The genealogy club gave me a glimmer of hope — George and Rhoda's contact details.

Before I called George and Rhoda, I reached out to the Last Post Fund to find out if they would actually do something for Earl, should we ever find out where he was buried.

Yes, they could. But I had to provide his death certificate.

As Earl had passed more than 20 years ago, the bureaucratic hurdles were many but incredibly the death certificate came through the mail a week after my request.

Earl was 85 years old when he died in Prince Rupert on Feb. 5, 1995. Concrete evidence made Earl seem more real than the memories I was jotting down on a notepad.

I sent the certificate to the Last Post Fund and they opened a file on Earl. Then another piece of the puzzle fell into place, they sent his service

details — he was indeed a veteran.

From March 31, 1943 until Oct. 24, 1944 he was a private in the Canadian Army. Yet, decades later he ended up living on the streets in Prince Rupert. Many people in the community who called in remembered him as a heavy drinker. But how he fell through the cracks remains hazy.

The Last Post needed to know where Earl was buried to arrange his military grave marker.

It was time to call his closest relatives in Burns Lake.

Earl's family

Rhoda picked up the phone. Her voice lifted when I mentioned Earl's name. Connecting with his family was another minor victory. She told me about his outdoorsy nature, his complicated upbringing of looking after his siblings when he father was away for long periods, and his love for Salome.

They used to visit Earl quite a bit, and at one point the couple stayed in Burns Lake with them until Salome got homesick and wanted to go back to the coast.

Toward the end of his life, when he was alone, Rhoda said they'd go visit him and they found him living under a sidewalk.

I asked her where Earl was buried.

"We drove down together and picked up the little he had, which wasn't much," she said.

They never received any paperwork regarding his ashes, only the few belongings he had. Rhoda and George were unsure what to do with his ashes.

"We just figured we would try to get back down to Prince Rupert, because we knew Aunty was buried down there, and since that was where he was when he died and they had been together so long it just seemed like that was where he should be."

But then health problems arose in their own home and the complication of getting the right paperwork has kept Earl above ground.

These days Rhoda, 79, makes frequent trips to the University Hospital of Northern British Columbia in Prince George for her 82-year-old

husband whose health is deteriorating.

I put Rhoda in touch with the Last Post Fund, which agreed to pay for the opening and closing of the grave to place him next to Salome in Fairview Cemetery. He will also have a military grave marker, and his wife's name would be included on the stone — her own marker is worn and barely legible.

After months of searching for Earl, finding his relatives, who have agreed to bury him next to his wife, and receiving approval from the Last Post Fund to give him the military marker that Ottmann thought he deserved, there remains one last problem — he needs to be buried.

The Last Post postponed

But you can't just bury a body or ashes without the proper paperwork.

Rhoda contacted the cemetery and they said she needed a couple certificates before they could open the grave.

"I have so much going on here at home I never pursued anything further," she said. "I

had no idea where to get a certificate of cremation."

At this point, Private Earl Corliss, a World War II veteran, has still not been laid to rest.

The City of Prince Rupert is responsible for the cemetery and said it would work with the family to help them with the bureaucratic details.

Nearly a month later, Rhoda said she hadn't heard anything from the City of Prince Rupert but she appreciated all I had done to try.

Regretfully, the story of Earl Corliss seems to have no end.

The natural, seemingly logical and deserved conclusion would have been when the ashes were brought back to Prince Rupert, where Earl could be buried with his wife Salome, and a new headstone would have been erected that honoured his service in the Canadian military.

Instead, paperwork and bureaucracy have put a halt to the process and a veteran of World War II may end up just as homeless in death as he did in life. §

OUTDOOR RECREATION WRITING

Disc golf world championship soars in Vancouver

JOHN KURUCZ
Vancouver Courier

First things first: it's not a Frisbee, it's a disc.

Secondly, participants aren't a bunch of weekend warriors content with a simple jaunt around the park while downing a couple of cold ones.

On the contrary, they practise daily, have personal trainers and play for money in tournaments across North America.

There are even organizing bodies worldwide and player rankings are maintained on the regular.

Such are the intricacies surrounding disc golf, a sport similar to traditional golf

that's seemingly exploding in popularity across the world.

Organizers of this week's inaugural Team Disc Golf World Championship are hoping to capitalize on that momentum, as teams and spectators from all corners descend upon Vancouver to crown the kings and queens of all things disc.

"It's something that anybody can play and that's the coolest part about it," said Vancouver's Leanne Fulton, a member of Team Canada's eight-player contingent. "My dad can play, my niece and nephews can play, and they're all under 10 years old. It doesn't matter if you're fit, if you're super competitive. There's a place for anybody's interest or

ability in the sport."

Running Aug. 18 to 21 at Queen Elizabeth Park and on Grouse Mountain, the showcase event features teams from Japan, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, the U.S. and Canada.

The tournament format will include team, individual and doubles matches and more than \$5,000 is up for grabs in prize money.

Yes, money will be awarded for essentially throwing some plastic in to a basket, but that's the norm on planet disc.

Take Fulton's latest competitive foray, for example: when reached by the Courier, she was in Emporia, Kan. playing in the 2016 Disc Golf World

Championships. The town of just over 20,000 is a hotbed for disc golf, hosts multiple tournaments annually and sees a tangible boost in the local economy from the sport alone.

The games are even live streamed on YouTube in most of the town's watering holes.

"It's so fascinating — it's a little town in the middle of nowhere, but they are disc golf crazy here," Fulton said. "The whole town has gotten behind it and it's a big source of industry for them because they hold major events every year. For a town this size, it's a really big deal."

According to tournament director Dan Laitsch, the sport first became a big deal in the

mid-1970s: that's when rules were formalized and facilities began springing up across North America.

The courses are a no-brainer for municipalities, according to Laitsch, due to the low costs involved (about \$9,000) and the spin-off benefits of offering recreational facilities on public lands.

Laitsch took up disc golf in the mid-'90s while camping in Virginia and he's now involved with the British Columbia Disc Sports Society, serving as past president.

Yes, there's a provincial society devoted to disc sports. And it boasts more than 500 members. "We have a member who

Continued on next page

Award-Winning Writing

OUTDOOR RECREATION WRITING

Disc golf world championship soars in Vancouver (cont.)

dropped between 50 and 75 pounds just by playing disc golf," Laitsch said. "It gets you out of the house, it gets you walking around and it gets your heart rate up. Some people just want to walk through the park and throw a Frisbee around, then you have people like the competitors in our upcoming event who appreciate the perfection of a well-thrown disc

and the opportunity to test themselves against their fellow competitors."

The rules in disc golf mirror those in traditional golf: the end goal is to get the disc in to a basket in the fewest shots possible. The discs are made from varying types of plastic to accommodate specific shots: drivers have sharper edges to cut through the wind, while

putters have duller edges and tend to go straighter.

Games typically last 15 to 20 minutes on a smaller course, three hours on longer courses and a starter set of discs runs you about \$30.

Along with Laitsch and Fulton, Vancouver's Steve Crichton is helping to organize this week's tournament. A Team Canada member with 20 years

of experience under his belt, Crichton says his team has an ace in the hole leading up to this week's tee off.

"We know these courses — Queen Elizabeth and Grouse are pretty much our home courses, so we'll have a distinct advantage with the familiarity with the courses that we'll be playing," said Crichton. "Most of us who are on this team from

B.C. have played together, so we all work really well together. There's a continuity within the players that are on this team that will definitely benefit us."

To follow the disc drama that will play out this weekend, go online to pdga.com/teamworlds.

§

SPORTS WRITING

Surrey sisters in sync

BEAU SIMPSON
Surrey Now

We didn't know who they were or where they lived in the neighbourhood, but we knew one thing — these girls could run.

For years, my neighbours and I have watched them, amazed by both their stamina and synchronization.

As we watched them run — and run, and run, and run — we talked about how these girls were going to be big one day. "We'll be watching them on TV soon," we all agreed.

I always wanted to write about these girls but never got a chance to meet them — until now.

I have good friends who live a few units down from us. Their front yard faces the baseball diamond at Hillcrest Elementary school in Cloverdale. It offers an excellent right-field view of ball games (if someone hit a home run over the right-field fence, it would bounce into their yard).

During the past several years, many summer days have been spent there sipping beer and eating snacks while watching a ball game or two.

That's how we came to know about the twins.

"The twins are out again," someone would say. "Let's see how long they run for today."

And run they would. While we lounged lazily in the sun, we watched the pair effortlessly run

countless laps.

No matter how many songs blared from our stereo or how many beers were cracked or innings we watched, the twins would still be running. It seemed like they would never stop.

And the way they ran!

Every movement they made was in unison, perfectly in sync with one another. Even their ponytails seemed to bounce in perfect time.

"I should write a story about those girls," I said one day, "before they become Olympic champions."

A few weeks ago, I was playing catch with my son on the diamond at Hillcrest when out of the corner of my eye, I saw the twins.

I ran over to them (not an easy task, you know) and told them who I was and that I had been wanting to write a story about them for some time now.

They looked at each other and smiled. One of the girls said, "sure."

It turns out their names are Julie and Christina Sevsek. They are 17 and attend Clayton Heights Secondary school.

Christina is the younger sister, by two minutes. She says it's no surprise I have seen them running before — they run more than one hour a day, six times a week.

They've been running since Grade 3.

"We signed up for cross

country and we thought it would be interesting," Christina said. "We found out we were really good at it and we just continued on because we really enjoyed it."

Nine years later, the twins are still running, happy to make sacrifices for the sport they love.

"We're always training, 24/7, so we don't have many friends because we're always running," Christina says. "But running is my passion."

Julie agrees.

"I love running to push myself, and training hard to reach my goals," Julie says.

In case you were wondering, Julie wears a headband while running, and it's pretty much the only way you can tell them apart.

Julie says my neighbours and I aren't the only ones who have noticed her and her sister in our neighbourhood.

"A lot of people ask us, 'How many laps are you doing' and are always wondering why we are running."

And Julie says people regularly make comments about their synchronized running style.

"They say we look like one person, saying we move our arms at the same time."

The Sevsek twins' passion and dedication for their sport translates into success — a lot of it.

The day before our interview, Christina earned first place at the Fraser Valley Cross Country

Championships and Julie took second.

"One sister takes gold and the other silver? How does that work?" I asked Christina, knowing firsthand how sibling rivalry works.

"Yeah, we are really competitive," she admits. "But that's why it's really fun to train with each other, because we push each other."

"But," I asked her, "you always get along, right?"

"Yeah," she replied, with a nervous chuckle.

More recently, both sisters earned spots on the team that will represent B.C. at the Canadian Cross Country Championships, after Christina placed second and Julie placed fourth at provincials.

How did they celebrate?

"We went for a run," Julie said.

Of course they did.

The Canadian Cross Country Championships are set for Nov. 25 in Kingston, Ont. If the twins run well there, they will represent Canada at the World Cross Country Championships in Uganda in March.

Christina knows what it takes to win at nationals. She earned a spot on Team Canada last year and competed at the world cross country championships in Venezuela. She says running at worlds, against older girls, was an experience she will never forget.

"Is it the highlight of your running career?" I asked.

"Definitely."

Their success comes as no surprise to coach Scott Kent.

"I've coached a lot of kids over the last 14 years or so," said the founder and head coach at Coastal Track Club in South Surrey.

"I've never met two more focused individuals. They are extremely dedicated and regimented. They are just so focused on wanting to do everything right to get to where they want to go."

Kent has been working with the twins since March. That's when they came to him looking to improve their stride, which they were told was too long.

"Running is not just about how hard you can train, you have to be smart about it too," he said.

"In Julie and Christina's case, their stride was unchecked for four years. They thought if they wanted to get faster, they just had to get a longer stride."

After months of hard work, their form is now where it needs to be.

"We've been very, very tough on them but their form has completely changed now. It's way more efficient and it's engaging their core. They're now using their hips," Kent said.

"There isn't any limitations on their form now. Now their stride is giving them a chance to really compete at that level they want to compete at."

Edited for length

BCYCNA Community Journalism Scholarship Winners

Kwantlen Polytechnic University - Journalism



MELISSA POMERLEAU

Melissa is in her final year of the Bachelor of Journalism at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Her passion for multimedia journalism has enabled her to excel in her schoolwork and contribute regularly to Kwantlen's student-run newspaper The Runner. In the future she plans to use her experience with multimedia storytelling to report on events, arts, culture and local news in a community setting.

Thompson Rivers University - Journalism



WADE TOMKO

Originally from Surrey, BC, Wade enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts program at Thompson Rivers University in 2012. At TRU, he discovered that journalism is his true passion and has written for the campus newspaper for the past two years. Wade is now in his fourth year of journalism studies at TRU. He hopes that once he graduates he can pursue a career in journalism looking at issues here in BC.

Langara College - Journalism



EMELIE PEACOCK

A reporter who believes in the power of journalism to inform and hold those in power to account, Emelie Peacock is a recent graduate of the Langara journalism certificate program. Emelie enjoys multimedia storytelling, with a particular interest in video journalism. A background in international relations keeps her looking to the outside world and its connections to local issues. With a keen interest in community news and social issues facing B.C. residents, Emelie aspires to bring her newfound skills to a role in one of the many beautiful communities in the province.

Quill Recognition Awards

SILVER QUILL AWARD RECIPIENTS



RANDY BLAIR
Black Press



BRENT BRAATEN
The Prince George Citizen



DOUG FOOT
Glacier Media



PETER KVARNSTROM
Glacier Media



NELDA MCINNES
The Prince George Citizen



KEITH MCNEILL
North Thompson Times



AMBER OGILVIE
Gulf Islands Driftwood



JIM PARKER
Peninsula News Review



MARYANN RÜTER
Houston Today



PEGGY SIDBECK
Parksville/Qualicum
Beach News



COLLEEN SPARROW
The Prince George Citizen



STEVE WELDON
Parksville/Qualicum
Beach News



TOM ZYTARUK
Surrey Now

BRONZE QUILL AWARD RECIPIENTS



LAURA BLACKWELL
Lakes District News



MAVIS CANN
Revelstoke Review



ANNAMARIE DOUGLAS
Lakes District News



CAROLYN GRANT
Kimberley Bulletin



BONNY MCLARDY
Fernie Free Press



BC & YUKON COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS ASSOCIATION: 102 members as of April 29, 2017

100 Mile House Free Press	Nelson Star
Abbotsford News	New Westminster Record
Agassiz-Harrison Observer	North Island Gazette
Alaska Highway News	North Shore News
Alberni Valley News	North Thompson Star/Journal
Aldergrove Star	North Thompson Times
Ashcroft-Cache Creek Journal	Northern Connector
Boundary Creek Times	Oak Bay News
Bowen Island Undercurrent	Oliver Chronicle
Bridge River / Lillooet News	Osoyoos Times
Burnaby Now	Parksville/Qualicum Beach News
Campbell River Mirror	Peace Arch News
Castlegar News	Peachland View
Cloverdale Reporter	Peninsula News Review
Columbia Valley Pioneer	Penticton Western News
Comox Valley Echo	Pique Newsmagazine
Comox Valley Record	Powell River Peak
Cowichan Valley Citizen	Quesnel, Cariboo Observer
Cranbrook Townsman	Revelstoke Review
Creston Valley Advance	Richmond News
Dawson Creek Mirror	Rocky Mountain Goat
Delta Optimist	Rossland News
Eagle Valley News	Saanich News
Elk Valley Herald	Salmon Arm Observer
Fernie Free Press	Sechelt / Gibsons Coast Reporter
Fort Nelson News	Shuswap Market News
Fort St. James Caledonia Courier	Sooke News Mirror
Gabriola Sounder	Squamish Chief
Golden Star	Summerland Review
Goldstream News Gazette	Surrey Now-Leader
Grand Forks Gazette	Terrace Standard
Gulf Islands Driftwood	The Chilliwack Progress
Haida Gwaii Observer	The Interior News
Hope Standard	The Local Weekly
Houston Today	The Northern View
Invermere, The Valley Echo	The Prince George Citizen
Kamloops This Week	The Similkameen Spotlight
Kelowna Capital News	Tofino-Ucluelet Westerly News
Keremeos, The Review	Trail Daily Times
Kimberley Bulletin	Tri-City News
Kitimat, Northern Sentinel	Vancouver Courier
Ladysmith-Chemainus Chronicle	Vanderhoof, Omineca Express
Lake Cowichan Gazette	Vernon, Morning Star
Lakes District News	Victoria News
Lakeshore News	Westender
Langley Advance	Westside Weekly
Langley Times	Whistler Question
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows News	Williams Lake Tribune
Merritt Herald	Winfield, Lake Country Calendar
Mission Record	Yukon News
Nakusp, Arrow Lakes News	
Nanaimo News Bulletin	

CATALYSTPAPER.COM



THE WORD IS OUT.

And this time it's our turn to deliver the good news. Congratulations to all member newspapers on your achievements this year!

Catalyst
Today's Paper.

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BCYCNA

9 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1P1
tel: 604-669-9222
toll-free: 1-866-669-9222
info@bccommunitynews.com
www.bccommunitynews.com

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