

**APR 28**  
**2018**



*Ma. Murray*  
**COMMUNITY  
NEWSPAPER**

*Awards*



**coastcapital.**  
SAVINGS



**Community  
Newspapers  
Association**  
British Columbia & Yukon

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Newspaper Excellence Awards

Category A.....	3
Category B.....	4
Category C.....	5
Category D.....	6
Category E.....	7
Category F.....	8
Category G.....	9

## Ma Murray Community Service Award..... 10

## Writing Awards

Investigative Journalism.....	11
Historical Writing.....	12
Outdoor Recreation Writing.....	13
Feature Article: Over 25,000.....	14
Feature Article: Under 25,000.....	15
Environmental Writing.....	16
Environmental Initiative.....	17
Sports Writing.....	18
Editorial.....	19
Columnist.....	20
Business Writing.....	21
Feature Series.....	22
Arts & Culture Writing.....	23

## Photography Awards

Feature, Colour or B&W: Over 25,000.....	24
Feature, Colour or B&W: Under 25,000.....	25
Portrait / Personality.....	26
Photo Essay.....	27
Sports: Over 25,000.....	28
Sports: Under 25,000.....	29
Spot News: Over 25,000.....	30
Spot News: Under 25,000.....	31

## Digital Awards

Feature Video.....	32
Breaking News Video.....	33
Multimedia Feature Story.....	34
Multimedia Breaking News Story.....	35
Multimedia Series.....	36

## Advertising Awards

Newspaper Promotion.....	37
Ad Design: Over 25,000.....	38
Ad Design: Under 25,000.....	39
Ad Design, Collaborative: Over 25,000.....	40
Ad Design, Collaborative: Under 25,000.....	41
Ad Campaign.....	42
Ad Campaign, Collaborative.....	43

## Special Section Awards

Over 25,000.....	44
Under 25,000.....	45

## Special Publications Awards

Over 25,000.....	46
Under 25,000.....	47

## Eric Dunning Award for Dedication and Service to the Community Newspaper Industry..... 48

## Award-Winning Writing..... 49

## Scholarship & Quill Winners..... 64

## Thank Yous..... 66

# President's Message

## Readers demand high standards, truth and quality



It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the 2018 Ma Murray Community Newspaper Awards. For almost 100 years, the Ma Murray Awards have provided a forum for journalists, graphic designers, sales staff and management to share exemplary work published during the last year. This is not only the top priority for the BCYCNA board, but a time to recognize and acknowledge excellence across our industry.

Despite changes within our ranks and businesses, we still see optimism, passion, determination and creativity that will continue to enhance our journey for years to come.

Our world of media continues to evolve and even some of

our competing multinational conglomerates are having to review their practices in order to retain audience. Yes, I am talking about Facebook!

Our challenge continues with misperceptions about our industry. Not only do people read newspapers but they advertise in them and get great results. People are now reading content generated by you in both print and digital. Quite simply put, we have expanded our audience and that's a good thing. As an organization we have a reach in the millions.

Trusted content is what will continue to set us apart and we must realize that it is the reader that has the final say and when anyone, in any neighbourhood, can become a content provider of real or fake content, our readers always expect from us, high standards, truth and quality. Period.

We cannot afford to let our guard down. Not once.

We know the strength and value of community media. Branding our print and digital platforms as the go-to source for all community news & information has to be our first and

foremost goal. If readers can turn elsewhere for the same information, our challenges will be exponentially increased.

Tonight's event is the celebration of your amazing work and we are so pleased to see so many of you here, celebrating and sharing in each other's success.

This year's Awards Gala has 41 awards plus five new digital categories, covering all aspects of our industry including reporting, photography, advertising, community initiatives, breaking news and more.

Congratulations and good luck to all of this year's nominees and finalists. You should be very proud. The Ma Murray Awards continue to be the premium staging for news & advertising excellence and without doubt, one of the best media events in Canada.

Sincerely,

Andrew Franklin  
BCYCNA President, 2017-18

[CATALYSTPAPER.COM](http://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.

# 2<sup>ND</sup>

### HAIDA GWAII OBSERVER

Haida Gwaii constantly faces impactful issues. The Observer offers a good feel for the community and the important challenges it faces. It takes a dedicated newspaper team to do justice to these concerns, and this team handles the challenge admirably. Clean, newsy front page, strong local reporting, local editorial. Lots packed into a small package.



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT**

24-page Christmas Edition!

Mapping bike park injuries 2  
New geothermal permit 6  
Improving old age care 7  
Postal apocalypse averted 10

FM42164115  
Thursday, December 14, 2017  
Volume 8 Issue 49

**\$1.90** (incl. GST)  
(\$1.80 when paid subscription)

Mapping bike park injuries 2  
New geothermal permit 6  
Improving old age care 7  
Postal apocalypse averted 10

FM42164115  
Thursday, December 14, 2017  
Volume 8 Issue 49

**\$1.90** (incl. GST)  
(\$1.80 when paid subscription)

**Makings of a ski hill**



**Greyhound calls for rural transit fund**

BY ANDRU MCCrackEN

Three months after applying to discontinue five bus routes, including McEldrick only bus route, Greyhound Canada is proposing to address the lack of access of rural and remote communities to a "viable and sustainable bus service".

Greyhound Canada is proposing the government create a Connecting Communities Fund.

The company argues that Federal and Provincial Governments pour billions of dollars into urban public transportation systems, but rely exclusively on the private sector to fund rural intercity transportation.

Municipalities and First Nations could access the Connecting Communities Fund and then seek competitive bids from transportation providers, according to Greyhound's proposal. The idea is to better link rural areas to regional hubs like Prince George or Kelowna.

The company said the solution might not benefit Greyhound Canada at all, because every contract would be awarded based on competitive bids.

Greyhound Canada Vice President Peter Hammed said that there proposal is based on a similar funding model exists in the United States used to service tribal areas.

"It is state funded, they determine the level of assistance required and they fund that product. Greyhound is sometimes

Continued on Page 43

**\$259,000**

Blackman Road N, Tete Jaune

- Over 70 acres
- Fraser River Frontage
- Beautiful Views
- Excellent location

**\$196,000**

1092-2nd Ave McBride

- 3 bedrooms
- large double lot
- double garage
- move in ready!

**Irene Berndsen**

2014 MLS Award Winner  
serving McBride, Valemount and the Fraser Valley

www.ireneberndsen.ca  
www.royallepage.ca

**ROYAL LEPAGE** Prince George  
250-569-7397

**1<sup>ST</sup> ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT**

Love the name, love the masthead. This news team makes a connection with the reader and creates a product with plenty of character. Easy to read, with tight writing, nice layout, great local features, and strong community news. I want to read many more editions.

Cedar Cap? Page 3  
Emperor's cutbacks Page 4  
Orphan Rescue Page 7  
Shining Lights Page 8

Haida Gwaii

# OBSERVER

www.haidagwaiiobserver.com

Friday, December 1, 2017

\$3.00 (GST)

**Protest in the air over logging plans**

By Andrew Hudson

Haida and island leaders are demanding that B.C. Timber Sales quit selling two cedar-logging stands from what will likely become the Haida Gwaii Community Forest.

But stuck hard in the middle is Port Clements, where conservationists warn of imminent and devastating layoffs if other wood supply can't be found for local logging companies.

"To me, it was really clear that was the intent of all this -- to try and ship our Port Clements from supporting the CHN," said Brigal Cumming, a Port Clements councillor, adding that the Council of the Haida Nation has been trying to come up with alternatives to the disputed cutblocks near Nade Road and Lains Hill, and it's the province who isn't listening.

"The province is supposed to have our back," Cumming said. "This is not the way to do it."

For nearly a year, Haida and B.C. government representatives on the Solutions Table have disagreed over plans by BCTS to auction a series of cutblocks near Nade Road and Lains Hill.

While the springs still aren't as hot as they used to be -- they now range from

Continued on Page 43

**Study reveals the steamy side of Hot Spring**

By Andrew Hudson

Hot Springs are heating up again on Hotspring Island/Gaadii K in Gwaanaa. Before a major earthquake struck off the west coast of Haida Gwaii in October 2012, Hotspring boasted some of the steamiest springs in Canada, with temperatures reaching 77 C.

But for 10 weeks after the quake, the springs stopped. The thermal pools drained and went dry as anything can on Haida Gwaii.

By early 2013, Gwaii Haanas staff noticed some springs were beginning to flow again, and in the years since, several new ones have emerged at lower elevations, closer to the shore.

While the springs still aren't as hot as they used to be -- they now range from

Continued on Page 42

Prince Rupert's **Crest HOTEL**

Excellence in Service and Accommodation  
Call 1-800-663-8150

**LOCAL NEWS: XMAS STORY WINNERS** ▼ A13

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2017 | VOLUME 53 No. 51 | www.clearwaterimes.com | \$1.35 includes GST

**NORTH THOMPSON TIMES**

**UPSIDE DOWN:**  
Different view for snowman.  
See A11 inside.

**School board looks at moving Grade 7s to CSS**

The Board of School District 73 is considering moving Grade 7 students in Clearwater, Chase and Barriere to their respective high schools, according to Shelley Sims, the school trustee for the Clearwater-Burrier area.

"The motion was voted unanimously and it is likely that the public consultation will start in January," she reported. "I have asked for two sessions to be held in Clearwater -- one during the day and one in the evening."

Sims said that she also hopes that the board office will develop a means to receive questions from community members in advance of the consultation process.

She suggested that some questions might include: What would this look like? What happens to sports? How would the transition take place? What would this mean for staffing at both schools? Would having extra space at Barriere Elementary be beneficial? Would it be good to utilize the empty space at Clearwater Secondary School?

The North Thompson trustee noted that parents of students who attend middle schools in Kamloops speak favourably of their Grade 7 children benefiting from having math teachers who teach math and science teachers who teach science.

"Are our children ready for a different delivery system or do we have to keep them at the elementary school until grade 8?" she asked. "This is a question that will hopefully have local buy-in participation."

Sims said she understands that some families in Barriere and Chase are enthusiastic about the proposal, although she does not know if they are in the majority.

She noted that this deal, formerly the principal at CSS, had suggested the change while he was here.

Continued on Page 42

**Skate show spectacular**

Left: Axel Saltes demonstrates a powerful landing on the stage just in Barriere Skating Club's Christmas Skates on Friday evening, Dec. 15. Pictured are (l) Laura Miller, Emma Rutzler, Connor Wilkison, Ross Patison, and Adhanna Crystal Woods.

PHOTO BY ANDRU MCCrackEN

**SUBWAY** Highway 5, Clearwater, BC 250-677-6441

**Jim's FOOD MARKETS** Highway 5, Clearwater, BC 250-674-2116

Located on Highway 5

**3<sup>RD</sup> NORTH THOMPSON TIMES**

Comprehensive coverage. The diversity of the region is reflected in the pages of the Times, which really gives the reader a sense of what this community is like. Appreciated all the faces that appeared in the paper along with the topics of the day.

	Front Page /10	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 /5	Online Presence /10	Average Overall total /100	JUDGE 1 RANK	JUDGE 2 RANK	JUDGE 3 RANK	AVERAGE RANKING	FINAL RESULT
Rocky Mountain Goat	8.33	9.00	8.67	5.00	4.33	3.17	8.67	8.33	8.67	9.00	3.67	8.67	85.50	1	3	1	1.67	1
Haida Gwaii Observer	9.00	8.67	8.67	4.67	3.33	3.83	8.33	8.33	7.67	8.33	4.33	7.67	82.83	2	1	4	2.33	2
North Thompson Times	8.00	8.67	9.00	4.33	4.00	3.33	7.00	8.33	8.33	7.67	4.00	7.33	80.00	4	2	5	3.67	3
Lake Cowichan Gazette	8.33	8.50	8.00	4.00	3.17	3.17	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.33	4.33	7.83	78.67	5	6	2	4.33	4
Sicamous, Eagle Valley News	8.33	7.50	7.33	4.00	3.33	3.67	8.00	7.67	8.67	8.00	4.00	7.00	77.50	9	4	3	5.33	5
North Thompson Star/Journal	6.67	8.67	7.67	4.17	3.67	3.33	7.33	7.50	7.33	8.00	4.33	7.17	75.83	6	6	5	5.67	6
Kitimat, Northern Sentinel	8.00	7.67	8.33	3.83	3.50	2.83	6.67	7.00	7.33	7.50	4.00	7.33	74.00	8	5	7	6.67	7
The Westerly News	8.00	8.00	8.00	4.67	1.33	3.00	7.00	8.00	7.00	7.00	4.00	7.50	73.50	3	8	10	7.00	8
Bowen Island Undercurrent	7.67	7.33	7.67	3.17	2.67	2.67	7.00	8.00	8.33	8.00	2.00	7.67	72.17	7	10	8	8.33	9
Fort St. James Caledonia Courier	7.00	7.67	6.50	3.67	3.67	3.17	7.00	6.00	6.67	6.67	4.00	7.33	69.33	10	8	9	9.00	10
Vanderhoof, Omineca Express	7.33	7.33	6.67	3.33	2.33	3.17	6.67	6.33	7.00	6.67	4.00	6.67	67.50	11	11	10	10.67	11

# Newspaper Excellence Award

## CATEGORY B

**The Hope Standard** THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017  
 Office: 604.869.2421 www.hopestandard.com news@hopestandard.com Black Press

**4 BUSY TIMES FOR LOCAL SAR TEAM**  
 Hope Search and Rescue have been busy the past few weeks and were even joined by other SAR outfits in a recent rescue

**5 SD78 TRUSTEES SAY YES TO AEDS**  
 School District 78 passed a motion by trustee Tom Hendrickson to equip automatic external defibrillators in all its schools



**Sweet on Santa**  
 Atticus Enns, 3, gets a candy cane from Santa at the Hope Library. See more holiday season event photos on Page 2.

**8 MEMORIAL TREE UP AT HOPE REC CENTRE**  
 The Hope Hospice Christmas tree is up and on display, making a cheerful addition to the entrance foyer of the Hope recreation centre until Jan. 4

**INSIDE**  
 Opinion ..... 6  
 Letters ..... 7  
 Sports ..... 16  
 Classifieds ..... 18

**Find your FIT**  
 ONE Stop Employment Services  
 895 THIRD AVE HOPE, 2ND FLOOR / 604.869.2279 / info@freereinassociates.ca

**1ST HOPE STANDARD**  
 Nicely designed front page, and sections are well identified. Great Q&A style local election coverage. A variety of well-written stories, listings and photos that reflect the diversity within the community. Local news full of insight and engaging overall content.

**REVELSTOKE REVIEW** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 Vol. 120, No. 51  
 Office: 250.837.5284

**Suspect in October standoff killed himself: RCMP**  
 A Calgary man who was the focus of a five-hour standoff with police in Revelstoke took his own life, according to police. The man, 32, was shot on Oct. 17 in Revelstoke by 10 RCMP members. He was wanted in connection with the death of a woman in Calgary and was held over on Victoria Avenue around 1 p.m.



**CP Holiday train stops in Revelstoke**  
 The CP Holiday Train stopped in Revelstoke on Dec. 14, 2017. Alan Doyle and the beautiful band performed and Community Connection Food Bank received \$10K. See our page 18.

**Brings a dose of holiday spirit and funds for food bank**  
 There was no snow in Revelstoke yet and the CP Holiday Train delivered a dose of holiday spirit last Thursday afternoon. The band was already moving when it rolled into town shortly before 7 p.m. Starbuck was serving hot beverages, while the Revelstoke Fire Department was mounting the rail.

**CP Holiday train stops in Revelstoke**  
 Since 1999, the CP Holiday Train program has raised more than \$1 million for communities along CP's routes in Canada and the U.S. CP presented a \$10K cheque to the Community Connection Food Bank. Alan Doyle and The Beautiful Band performed for the crowd gathered along Victoria Road.

**RE/MAX** Real Estate  
 Right Agents for Today's Market  
 Ph: 250-837-5121  
 revelstoke-realty.com

**NORTH ISLAND GAZETTE**  
 YOUR LIFE YOUR COMMUNITY YOUR PAPER  
 May 18, 2017

**NISS' totem pole mystery**  
 It's a mystery that goes back to 1975. Who carved North Island Secondary School's totem pole? We have received several anonymous calls but we would like more information that dates back to 1975 on who carved that pole.



**New x-ray machine for Cormorant Island**  
 General Radiography says it says to produce detailed images of the inside of the body. The x-ray machine generates the x-rays which penetrate through the body to produce an image. It employs medical photography in which a transparent image of the specific body part. During the exam, the patient is positioned so that the part of the body being imaged is in contact between the receptor and the x-ray tube.

**NEW x-ray machine for Cormorant Island**  
 General Radiography says it says to produce detailed images of the inside of the body. The x-ray machine generates the x-rays which penetrate through the body to produce an image. It employs medical photography in which a transparent image of the specific body part. During the exam, the patient is positioned so that the part of the body being imaged is in contact between the receptor and the x-ray tube.

**SEE OUR FLYER IN TODAY'S PAPER**  
**ADAM'S YARD/TREE SERVICE**  
 CERTIFIED FALLER  
 FULLY INSURED / FREE ESTIMATES 250.203.5324  
 Husky\_Adam@hotmail.com

## Yale First Nation moving forward

**Chief says re-ignavation was needed and is well underway**

Yale First Nation is made up of a string of 16 distinct reserves that range from a settlement at Ruby Creek in the south to Sawmill Creek in the north. The land tracts associated with those reserves are tiny, only about 1.9 per cent of the traditional territory set out in the claim of the people who make up Yale First Nation, as opposed to the five per cent average established in other First Nations agreements. "These are actually just small fishing rock stations," said Ken Hansen, the Chief of the Yale First Nation. "You can't put a house on them and you can't expect real economic development on the land we've been allotted. These reserves never recognized our way of life and culture. "We were a fishing, hunting and gathering society and never lived on a square piece of land with a line drawn around it."

It's one of the many reasons that, in 2016, the Yale First Nation suspended their agreement with the federal government in a move that lent a major blow to the embattled treaty process with the federal and B.C. governments. In a four-page letter to the recently installed B.C. Attorney General, David Eby, and the minister of B.C. Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Scott Fraser, Hansen detailed his First Nations concerns – and they are many. But while renewed negotiations on the treaty are underway, a truly revolutionary change is happening for the Yale First Nation. "It's a re-ignavation of our people, an end to the corruption and the way things were run before."

	Front Page /10	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 /5	Online Presence /10	Average Overall Total /100	JUDGE 1 RANK	JUDGE 2 RANK	JUDGE 3 RANK	AVERAGE RANKING	FINAL RESULT
Hope Standard	7.67	7.33	6.00	4.33	4.33	2.00	7.33	6.67	7.00	7.33	3.67	5.67	69.33	4	1	1	2.00	1
Revelstoke Review	6.33	7.67	7.00	4.33	2.00	3.33	8.00	7.33	7.33	7.33	4.17	6.00	70.83	2	2	3	2.33	2
Port Hardy, North Island Gazette	7.67	7.00	6.00	3.33	4.67	2.33	7.00	6.67	6.67	7.67	4.00	5.00	68.00	2	4	2	2.67	3
Summerland Review	5.33	7.00	7.67	5.00	2.00	3.33	6.67	6.00	6.67	7.33	3.33	4.33	64.67	3	5	4	4.00	4
Princeton, The Similkameen Spotlight	7.00	7.33	7.33	3.00	1.33	1.33	6.00	6.67	7.67	5.67	3.33	5.00	61.67	5	3	6	4.67	5
Ashcroft-Cache Creek Journal	4.67	7.33	6.00	2.33	0.33	1.67	4.67	4.67	5.33	4.67	3.33	5.33	50.33	6	6	5	5.67	6

# Newspaper Excellence Award

## CATEGORY C

# 2ND

### GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD

The exceptional cover design immediately draws the reader in. Tight and tidy throughout with clean typography and strong, uncluttered layout. A wide range of well-written local content and a dedication to the local arts and entertainment scene lets the local flavour come through. Online presence is excellent and includes community engagement opportunities.

**THE SQUAMISH CHIEF**  
 A DAY AT CANINE VALLEY  
**IT'S A DOG'S LIFE: B1**  
**A7 TALKING TREES**  
**B7 SUMMER SIPPIN'**  
 A15 ROCKET RALLY RACING  
 Rocky Mt. Rally bound  
 A7 TALKING TREES  
 First Nation history  
 B7 SUMMER SIPPIN'  
 New cidery  
 YOUR TOWN, YOUR NEWS  
 SQUAMISHCHIEF.COM  
 THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2017 \$1.25 TAX INCLUDED



## KEEP GARIBALDI GREEN, SAY RESIDENTS

Neighbours oppose plan for old golf course

**JENNIFER THUNCHER**  
 jthunche@squamishchief.com

It is looking like an uphill battle for proponents trying to build an approximately 460-unit housing development on the former Garibaldi Springs golf course land.

The Polygon Homes proposal was presented and discussed in front of a packed chamber of residents mostly opposed to the project at the District committee of the whole meeting Tuesday afternoon.

The project's housing would be divided into three neighbourhoods on the 49-hectare site located next to the Executive Suites Hotel and Resort on Tantalus Road. Housing includes 334 townhouse or duplex units and 127 apartment units built as much as possible on previously disturbed areas.

The build-out of the project is anticipated to be spread over seven years, depending on the Squamish housing market, according to the proponents.

Six residents spoke against the proposal. Speaker Adam Smith represented about 30 homeowners who live near the proposed development.

He spoke passionately against the proposal, primarily on the grounds it requires an amendment of the community-created Official Community Plan.

"There's nothing about this proposal that fits the current OCP," he said.

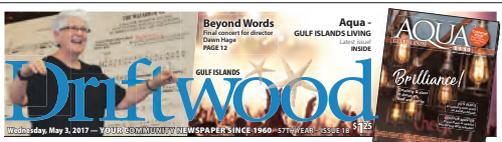
"We made trades on this land already with the previous development. We provided a revenue source in the hotel, we provided revenue source in the townhouses and we provided a long-term revenue stream in the golf course... we don't owe anyone anything on a speculation purchase."

Smith added that Polygon bought the property knowing its Official Community Plan designation. He also said about 1,000 units of housing are slated for Squamish in the next couple of years so there is not a desperate need for what Polygon is offering.

**POLYGON:** Continued on A2

PHOTO BY DAVID BUZZARD FOR THE SQUAMISH CHIEF  
**FUN IN THE SUN:** A kiteboarder takes advantage of a warm Sunday afternoon on the water near Newport Beach.

39059 Cleveland Avenue - \$165,000  
 Great opportunity to purchase the Squamish Native Art Store. With sales continuing to grow 15%-20% annually, an excellent lease with 3 years remaining, you will be able to take this business to the next level. Easy to operate with ongoing training provided by the seller. Over \$50,000 of inventory included in the purchase price. Call today for more information & to arrange a private showing.  
**Sean Brawley**  
 Personal Real Estate Corporation  
 604.849.0500  
 seanbrawley@gmail.com  
 RE/MAX Sea to Sky Real Estate 38261 Cleveland Ave., Squamish, BC



## Riding candidates square off at GISS event

**BC ELECTION**  
 Education and campaign spending key issues

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**

All-candidates debates hosted by the Gulf Springs Rotary in partnership with the Gulf Islands Secondary School Leadership group attracted a wide audience Tuesday afternoon, as members and members of the public filed the gym to hear what potential candidates had to say.

Invited to the event were the incumbent, BC Liberal MPP Stephen Roberts, the Green Alliance candidate, Michael Robinson, and an independent candidate from Liberty, an independent candidate from the BC Liberal Party, Stephen Roberts.

"This is by far the largest turnout we've had for an all-candidates meeting during this campaign and our members' have on the road for a few weeks now - about 150 of them - and it's wonderful to see them all here today," said Robinson, who drew their "stunning turnout" to the meeting.

Following their party leaders, Roberts argued for the continuation of an economy and the Liberal, while Robinson said the best chance to change the region to focus on better democratic processes, the environment and education is under the NDP.

Search North and the Island candidates, from left, Stephen Roberts, Adam Chan and Gary Holman get ready to answer the tough questions at a debate sponsored by the Gulf Springs Rotary and Gulf Islands Secondary School Tuesday.

## Steinbach and McAllister elected to NSSWD

Supply challenges laid out at AGM

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**

A packed Community Chapel Chapel Hall saw 105 people vote for the North Island Steering Committee's 2018-2020 slate of representatives at the annual general meeting on Tuesday night.

Representatives of the long-coveted project were elected from 7 to 7:42 p.m., with 95 voters and 105 votes in attendance. A large contingent of Steinbach residents helped with the count of more than 200 ballots.

Michael Steinbach, chair of the water district's board of trustees, outlined some of the water district's history of service delivery, as well as the challenges ahead.

John McAllister, who is being elected to the board, said the people currently paying taxes to the district, including 200 homes that have yet to be built, are increasing demand from people who want to build within the district but haven't been granted connections. The ongoing affordability of the system is also a top issue.

According to the annual financial statements, the district earned \$2.27 million in revenue and had expenses of \$1.94 million, achieving a surplus of \$330,000 for 2016. The accumulated surplus of \$6.17 million will be needed for an upcoming water treatment plant replacement and other infrastructure projects.

**NSSWD:** continued

**20% off** all supplies  
 INSERTS: • Home • Arts • Classifieds • Sports & Recreation • What's On  
 • News • Health • Education • Emergency Preparedness  
 www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com 250.537.9933

**Fitness Made Fun!** Indoor pool  
 IT'S A GOOD TIME TO WATER SAFE YOUR CHILDREN.  
 EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW HOW TO SWIM!



**Salmon Arm Observer**  
 Wednesday December 13, 2017  
 www.saobserver.net  
 \$1.25 GST INCL.

**Symbolic flame and flower**  
 Extra Falls passes in reflection before placing her rose on the ground in memory of the 14 women killed by the explosion in Montreal 20 years ago and for memorial and missing women across Canada, including the Shawangoshans, for more coverage of the night, turn to page A4.

## Dedicated volunteers look for clues

**Police appreciate work of searchers who provide extra eyes for investigation.**

**News Writer**  
**Sharon McEwen**

"Extra feet on the ground and extra eyes in the sky" are the words Michael describes how the searchers have been spending their time recently.

Michael and Julia Lison are two of the people committed to making sure the four missing women and one whose remains were found in the North Okanagan-Shawangoshans are not forgotten. But their good work goes beyond that - search and finders. They are literally walking the talk.

"It's been several weeks and we've been in many different areas. We need to do a little bit in each area, based on the time we might get and the amount of the money we might get," says Michael.

Michael and Julia Potts, Patricia West, Ashley Simpson and Michael Hill. The searchers of the Shawangoshans were discovered on a farm on Salmon River Road in Courtenay.

"We talk to people who live in the area and they give us permission to look on their land. We print out where we go to search together... We are not experts," the volunteers say. "We are simply photographing anything that might be evidence, mark where it was found on the map and pass it on to the police." "We don't determine whether it's anything important in the case. We don't know everything they're looking for. We just want to help."

"We talk to people who live in the area and they give us permission to look on their land. We print out where we go to search together... We are not experts," the volunteers say. "We are simply photographing anything that might be evidence, mark where it was found on the map and pass it on to the police." "We don't determine whether it's anything important in the case. We don't know everything they're looking for. We just want to help."

**McEwen:** continued on A2

**This week**  
 An excellent building features some unique characteristics. See A3 for more.

**Index**  
 News Page... 1  
 Sports... 1  
 Classifieds... 1  
 What's On... 1  
 Time Out... 1  
 Classifieds... 1  
 Tel: 754, No. 55, 36 pages

**1ST SQUAMISH CHIEF**  
 The Chief is aesthetically pleasing and fun to read, with beautiful design throughout, exceptional production quality and wonderful photography. Great community news coverage and an extensive Lifestyle section. Stories are clear and balanced, and editorial section has a good mix of editorial, letters, and cartoon as well as pulls from online. Online presence across platforms and apps is clear, well organized and up-to-date.

	Front Page /10	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 /5	Online Presence /10	Average Overall total /100	JUDGE 1 RANK	JUDGE 2 RANK	JUDGE 3 RANK	AVERAGE RANKING	FINAL RESULT
Squamish Chief	8.00	8.00	6.33	4.67	3.00	2.33	9.33	8.67	9.33	8.67	4.00	9.00	81.33	1	3	1	1.67	1
Gulf Islands Driftwood	8.67	8.33	8.33	4.00	2.67	4.67	9.00	7.33	7.00	7.67	4.00	10.00	81.67	3	1	2	2.00	2
Salmon Arm Observer	9.33	8.33	7.00	3.33	4.33	3.67	8.00	7.67	7.00	7.67	3.33	8.33	78.00	2	2	3	2.33	3
Powell River Peak	7.33	8.67	7.33	3.00	3.00	3.67	8.00	6.00	7.00	6.67	3.00	9.00	72.67	4	5	4	4.33	4
Grand Forks Gazette	6.33	6.33	6.00	2.00	3.33	1.67	6.33	6.33	6.00	6.33	3.67	8.33	62.67	5	6	8	6.33	5T
Prince Rupert, The Northern View	4.67	7.00	6.33	3.67	4.33	1.33	6.33	6.33	6.00	6.67	3.33	8.33	64.33	8	4	7	6.33	5T
Smithers, Interior News	4.67	6.67	4.67	3.00	3.00	4.00	5.67	6.00	5.67	6.67	3.33	8.33	61.67	6	9	5	6.67	7
Creston Valley Advance	5.67	7.00	5.67	2.33	1.33	1.67	5.67	6.33	5.67	6.67	3.67	8.33	60.00	7	7	10	8.00	8
Sooke News Mirror	6.67	7.00	5.67	1.33	3.00	1.33	5.33	5.67	5.33	6.33	2.67	8.33	58.67	11	8	6	8.33	9
Ladysmith-Chemainus Chronicle	6.00	6.33	5.67	1.00	1.33	1.33	5.33	6.33	5.33	6.00	3.33	8.33	56.33	9	10	8	9.00	10
Winfield, Lake Country Calendar	6.67	6.33	3.67	1.67	0.00	1.00	5.33	6.00	5.67	6.00	3.33	8.33	54.00	10	11	11	10.67	11

# Newspaper Excellence Award

## CATEGORY D

**Renaissance begins** P.12

**Chamber awards** P.34

**54-40 at GO Fest** P.74

**FREE RUSH**

# PIQUE

NEWSMAGAZINE

## PARTY TOWN, B.C.

EXPLORING THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF WHISTLER'S LET-LOOSE LIFESTYLE

24.20

May 18, 2017 | WHISTLER'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE | [www.piquenewsmagazine.com](http://www.piquenewsmagazine.com)

**LEGACY**  
Smith gift will have lasting benefits  
PAGE 27

**FAMILY & CHILD DIRECTORY**  
Don't miss this valuable resource for Coast families

**COAST REPORTER**  
VOICE OF THE SUNSHINE COAST

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017 Volume 17, Issue 49 - 64 pages [www.coastreporter.net](http://www.coastreporter.net) Newsstand price \$2.00

**2017 TRUCKS**  
\$38,895  
Great Coast  
\*While Supplies Last. See dealer for details.

**GET A FREE 49" LED 4K HDTV**  
with the purchase of a new or used vehicle from Halley GM!

**TRANSPORTATION**  
**Fixed link costs far outweigh benefits**

**SEAN ECKFORD**  
A long-awaited report on the proposed Island government toll on the Sunshine Coast and Lower Mainland's new toll road, was finally delivered in the "Mileage of Transportation" section of the December 6 issue. The report, written by Sean Eckford, a former technical advisor to the province's transportation ministry, says that the toll road is a "net loss" to the province.

**Let HALLEY Dodge pay for Christmas with cash back**

**0% UP TO 24 MONTHS**  
**NO PAY FOR 90 DAYS**  
**UP TO \$5,000 OFF**

**HALLEY**  
SALES: Mon. to Sat. 9:30 - 5:30  
SERVICE: Mon. to Sat. 9:00 - 5:00  
1633 Field Road  
604-882-9133

# Alaska Highway News

**ROUBLE A NATIONAL CHAMPION** SPORTS B1

**WILDLY A FEAST FOR THE EARS** MUSIC B5

**HOME SHARE FAMILIES IN HIGH DEMAND** COMMUNITY B9

**ELECT DAN DAVIES** Politics, News, Features, Analysis

**COOL COLOURS**

**THE RACE FOR PEACE EVERHORN**

**Dempsy looks to bridge prosperity and poverty**

**Fedderly sees future of opportunity for families, youth**

**Davies brings new perspectives to Liberal table**

**PETERS BROS. CONSTRUCTION** **PAVING** FREE ESTIMATES 250.719.0686  
Residential • Commercial • Industrial  
Roads • Driveways • Parking Lots  
**100% Canadian** COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL GRAVEL SALES AND DELIVERY  
Serving Dawson Creek, Chetwynd, Fort St. John & Surrounding Areas

## 2ND

### COAST REPORTER

A local content heavyweight that skillfully covers a widespread geographic landscape and the multitude of communities within it. Evidence abounds of the intimate relationship the paper has with the community and vice versa. Stories are well-written, informative and in-depth, and are often accompanied by well executed locally-generated photography. Solid local editorials, plenty of letters to the editor and good editorial cartoons. Strong sections are marked with a well-placed front page directory.

## 1ST

### PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

A truly unique publication. Slick, stylish, and dynamic, the Pique ticks all the boxes. Prolific, talented and at moments edgy writers clearly have a strong grasp of this community. Comprehensive local sports and arts coverage sets them apart. Design, image, production, creativity, layout is second to none. Online, having the community calendar front and centre on the homepage makes it a great resource.

## 3RD

### ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

This paper is adept at breaking down news and delivering it in a digestible manner that must ingratiate them into the community. The overall package is thorough and insightful with a commitment to craft that is appreciated. Well-organized and easy to read with clear and colourful section dividers.

	Front Page /10	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 /5	Online Presence /10	Average Overall Total /100	JUDGE 1 RANK	JUDGE 2 RANK	JUDGE 3 RANK	AVERAGE RANKING	FINAL RESULT
Pique Newsmagazine	7.67	8.67	8.33	4.67	3.67	4.33	8.67	7.00	9.33	8.67	4.33	6.67	82.00	1	1	2	1.33	1
Coast Reporter	7.00	8.33	8.00	4.33	4.33	4.67	7.33	6.67	8.00	7.33	3.67	6.33	76.00	2	2	3	2.33	2
Alaska Highway News	7.00	6.67	6.67	3.67	4.17	3.50	6.83	6.33	7.67	6.33	3.67	6.00	68.50	6	3	1	3.33	3
Oak Bay News	7.33	7.67	6.67	4.17	2.33	3.67	6.33	7.00	7.00	6.67	3.33	6.67	68.83	3	5	4	4.00	4
100 Mile House Free Press	6.33	6.67	7.33	3.33	3.33	2.67	6.50	5.33	7.00	6.00	3.33	6.00	63.83	4	6	7	5.67	5T
Dawson Creek Mirror	7.00	6.67	6.67	2.33	3.67	3.00	6.00	5.33	6.00	6.00	3.00	5.67	61.33	8	4	5	5.67	5T
Mission City Record	7.67	7.33	4.00	2.67	2.67	2.00	5.33	6.67	7.00	7.00	3.33	5.33	61.00	7	7	6	6.67	7
Aldergrove Star	6.67	6.67	5.00	3.00	3.67	2.00	6.00	5.33	6.33	6.00	2.67	5.67	59.00	5	8	8	7.00	8

# Newspaper Excellence Award

## CATEGORY E

**NewWestminster RECORD**  
 THURSDAY DECEMBER 7, 2017 LOCAL NEWS - LOCAL MATTERS

UP FRONT 3  
 Our Guide to Giving  
 COMMUNITY 13  
 Santa visits the Royal City  
 TOP 5 17  
 Top picks for weekend fun

There's more online at [NewWestRecord.ca](http://NewWestRecord.ca)

IS THERE A MOVE IN YOUR FUTURE?  
 Call for a complimentary evaluation.  
 604.761.4138

Tracey Davies  
 PINK PINK PINK

## WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!



It doesn't get much more exciting than this. In a last minute hail mary, the New Westminster Hyacks claimed the title at the B.C. Subway Bowl AAA provincial championships on Saturday. The dramatic storybook finish saw New West overcome a 14-0 deficit and score the winning points on the final play of the game, beating Terry Fox 15-14.

For the full story, see page 44.

**TROPHY TIME:**  
 The New Westminster Hyacks crowned the celebration of Saturday's AAA provincial championship win over Terry Fox.

## City sets sights on 2020 for pool construction

By Theresa McManus  
 tmcmanus@newwestrecord.ca

Construction of a new pool and community centre could begin in 2020 if all goes according to plan. On Monday, New Westminster city council received an update on the plan for the replacement of Canada Games Pool and Central Community Centre. Preliminary estimates indicate the project could cost \$100 million, but detailed design work and studies, including environmental and transportation, need to be done to provide a more accurate budget.

"Both of those buildings are starting to age and at the very least would require substantial investments just to keep them going," Mayor Jonathan Cote said about the existing facilities. "In the end, we felt it was more prudent to move ahead with the replacement of that facility. That has started us down a journey over the last two years to get us to this important point."

Council has supported in principle a 114,295-square-foot building that would include aquatic, fitness and community spaces.

*Continued on page 4*

**The Frame Shop**

- Expert Framing and Service
- Great prices
- Photo lab services - Estimates always free
- Readers Choice award "Best Frame Shop" for 14 consecutive years

121 THIRD AVENUE, NEW WESTMINSTER  
 By Appointment Call Peter or Bonnie  
 604-521-0930 info@theframeshop.ca

**10 DAYS FOR \$1000**

**DYNAMIC REALTY AND FITNESS**

COMMITTED TO FITNESS. COMMITTED TO YOU!

255-508 CANNANOVAN ST  
 NEW WESTMINSTER  
 604-521-TRIM | www.dynamicrealtynfitness.ca

**PEDICURE \$28**

ACRYLIC NEW SET \$33  
 ACRYLIC NAIL FILL \$25

**Crystal Nails**

604-521-1453 | crystalnails.ca

**1ST NEW WESTMINSTER RECORD**

Consistently strong in all areas. Great mix of hard news, community news and features. Nice front page with minimal advertising. Excellent arts and sports coverage, and a strong editorial page with both local editorial and local letters to the editor. Excellent website. Overall a great community newspaper!

## 2ND PARKSVILLE/QUALICUM BEACH NEWS

A vibrant newspaper. Overall strength is in its wide range of reporting on different issues and community events. Nice masthead and overall front page, with great layout and strong advertising that doesn't overwhelm. This paper is fun to read and a good example of great community journalism. Great up-to-date website and very current social media.

**TUESDAY MAY 23, 2017**

**THE PARKSVILLE/QUALICUM BEACH NEWS**

TRIBUTE TIME  
 Tuesday's tribute coming to Parksville May 28-29  
**A26**

OFF TO NATIONALS  
 Parkville's badminton standout looks forward to first trip to Canadian finals  
**A33**

**Parksville getting new doctors**  
 Two family physicians will ease local shortage

**Now you see it, now you don't**  
 City steps up to remove dead sea lion from Parksville beach

**PHARMASAVE**  
 PARKSVILLE  
 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - WE DELIVER  
 Locally Owned Proudly Canadian  
 251-11 GRAND HWY., PARKSVILLE • 250-951-0342

**Travel Clinic**  
 Do you know that vaccines only protect against a small number of tropical diseases?  
 Our Pharmasave has the most up-to-date training and certification to travel health. We can provide immunizations and a travel kit that doesn't have vaccines.  
 Call for your appointment 250-951-0327 today!

**25% off**  
 25% off all products  
 25% off all products  
 25% off all products

## 3RD YUKON NEWS

A pleasure to look at and to read. Striking photography and front page set this paper apart. Well-written articles with good local content and community news, excellent op-ed, cartoons, classifieds, and online presence. Impressive and inclusive sports coverage. Advertising is unobtrusive, so the artistic beauty is not spoiled. Overall production is solid and creates a strong community presence. A thing of beauty.

**YUKON NEWS**  
 YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

One last ride  
 After 40 years, Whitehorse's prominent Greyhound driver retires  
 Page 28

First we take Alaska  
 Potentiss dissiminate pattern of British gymnastics meet  
 Page 36

## Feds nix complete carbon tax exemption

Ottawa says it will study carbon pricing's impact in the North before 2018 rollout Page 3



**Ashley HOME STORE**  
 Furniture | Home Décor | Mattresses Appliances | Electronics  
 Largest selection North of 60°  
 1000+ additional items available through our in-store ordering kiosk

**WONDERFUL ROOMS!**  
 All rooms include suites with balconies  
 Guest Laundry facilities  
 Aspen Hotels 400 Main St. Whitehorse, Yukon  
 www.aspenhotels.com

	Front Page /10	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 /5	Online Presence /10	Average Overall Total /100	JUDGE 1 RANK	JUDGE 2 RANK	JUDGE 3 RANK	AVERAGE RANKING	FINAL RESULT
New Westminster Record	7.67	8.33	8.00	4.50	4.67	4.17	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	4.00	7.00	77.67	1	1	3	1.67	1
Parksville/Qualicum Beach News	7.33	6.33	9.00	3.33	4.33	4.67	7.67	7.00	7.33	7.33	3.83	6.67	74.83	2	5	2	3.00	2
Yukon News	8.33	6.00	7.67	3.50	4.83	3.17	6.33	9.00	7.00	6.33	4.67	7.00	73.83	4	8	1	4.33	3
Alberni Valley News	7.33	6.67	6.00	3.83	2.83	3.83	7.00	6.00	6.67	5.33	2.00	5.00	62.50	3	4	8	5.00	4
Cloverdale Reporter	7.00	6.33	4.33	4.33	2.83	2.67	6.67	6.33	6.33	6.67	2.83	7.00	63.33	9	2	5	5.33	5
Langley Advance	7.00	5.67	6.33	3.50	3.33	2.83	6.67	5.00	6.00	6.67	3.50	5.00	61.50	5	3	10	6.00	6
Campbell River Mirror	6.00	7.00	5.33	3.33	3.50	2.83	6.00	4.67	6.00	6.67	3.17	4.33	58.83	6	7	7	6.67	7T
Williams Lake Tribune	5.33	6.67	6.33	4.33	4.00	3.00	5.67	6.00	5.33	5.33	4.00	7.00	63.00	7	9	4	6.67	7T
Sidney, Peninsula News Review	6.00	5.33	6.33	3.00	2.67	3.00	6.00	6.33	5.67	5.67	3.17	4.00	57.17	8	6	9	7.67	9
North Delta Reporter	7.00	6.33	3.67	2.83	1.33	1.67	6.00	4.33	6.00	5.33	3.83	6.67	55.00	9	10	6	8.33	10

# Newspaper Excellence Award

## CATEGORY F



### BC Liberals take Chilliwack and Chilliwack-Kent

**Incumbents re-elected while NDP votes make provincial balance of power uncertain**

Paul Henderson  
The Progress

John Martin and Laurie Throsses have done it again.

While the provinciewide picture remains somewhat unclear and may still for weeks, Chilliwack and Chilliwack-Kent stayed in BC Liberal hands on May 9.

Early in the evening, BC Liberal Martin's re-election looked uncertain but he quickly took a lead, and with all 72 polls reporting, he took the Chilliwack electoral district with 8,641 votes or 48.8 per cent, compared to NDP candidate Tracey O'Hara's 5,673 votes or 32 per cent.

BC Green Party candidate Wayne Froese received 3,014 votes or 17 per cent, with independent Ryan McKinnon garnering 370 votes.

In Chilliwack-Kent, Laurie Throsses won in a larger margin with 53.5 per cent of the vote or 11,257 of the 21,023 ballots cast. The NDP's Patti MacMahon received 6,678 votes or 31.8 per cent with Green candidate Josie Bleuer getting 3,088 votes or 14.7 per cent.

"It's a real honour to be elected again by the people of Chilliwack-Kent," Throsses told *The Progress*. "You never know what is going to happen in an election so you never assume anything."

When asked about the dead heat the NDP and Liberals were in late



Liberal candidates Laurie Throsses (left) and John Martin congratulate each other on election night at the Best Western.

In the evening, he remained confident his party would win in the end. "I'm expecting to be part of a BC Liberal government again."

As for Martin, he thanked BC Liberal supporters in Chilliwack for working hard on the campaigns. "We never take that support for granted out here," he said.

With the broader provincial uncertainty, it was a muted celebration at the Martin and Throsses gathering at the Best Western Rainbow Country Inn. Supporters applauded the local wins, but

lamented the lack of a majority and the uncertainty ahead. As for the NDP, O'Hara and MacMahon gathered with their teams at O'Hara's campaign office at Five Corners.

Tuesday's results are similar to 2013, albeit in differently configured electoral districts. Four years ago, Martin took Chilliwack with 47.6 per cent of the vote and MacMahon was second with 31.2 per cent.

In what was the riding of Chilliwack-Hope, Throsses won his first election with 49.2 per cent of the

vote. The NDP's Gwen O'Mahony, who had beaten Throsses a year earlier in a byelection, was second with 36 per cent.

That election also included BC Conservative candidates in both ridings and a Green candidate in Chilliwack.

Chilliwack-Kent  
Josie Bleuer BC Green Party 3,088  
Patti MacMahon BC NDP 6,678  
Laurie Throsses BC Liberal Party 11,257

Chilliwack  
Wayne Froese BC Green Party 3,014  
John Martin BC Liberal Party 8,641  
Ryan McKinnon Independent 370  
Tracey O'Hara BC NDP 5,673



Hick Langley of the Courtenay Fire Department steps in as 146-pound dummy as part of the 2017 West Pacific Regional Championships. Firefighters from B.C., the Yukon, Alberta and Washington take care to keep the dummy from falling on the street as they work to get it back on its feet with a bundle of four-inch hoses weighing 24 pounds. A simulated fire city with a water pump and a victim rescue with an adult-sized dummy. More photos online at langleytimes.com.

### Horse meat off menu at Langley restaurant

Backlash has forced Fat Cow and Oyster Bar to stop offering controversial dish to customers

Langley, B.C. — A restaurant in Langley, B.C., has removed horse meat from its menu after receiving a letter from the British Columbia SPCA. The restaurant, Fat Cow and Oyster Bar, had been offering horse meat as a specialty dish. The SPCA letter stated that the use of horse meat is illegal in Canada and that the restaurant was in violation of the law. The restaurant has since removed the dish from its menu.

**PENTICTON TOYOTA**  
2014 SCION xD \$11,111  
2013 TOYOTA PRIUS HYBRID "PLUS" \$14,999

**PENTICTON WESTERN NEWS**  
EXTRAS NEEDED  
page 14  
Those who like to dance and perform on stage... music video shoot!



WARNING! — Jason H. Progress of Quebec demonstrates his fire-eating talents during a break in the fighting action at Desert Park for the Medieval Festival. More photos on Page 12 and 13.

**BETTER HEARING MONTH**  
Changing People's Lives For 77 Years  
Beltone  
TOLL FREE 1-800-793-1787

**50% OFF ALARM BATTERIES**  
LOCAL OWNER. LOCAL EMPLOYEES.  
Because when it comes to your safety... LOCAL MATTERS.  
CALL US FOR A FREE QUOTE 604.792.8055

**J. ADAM & SONS**  
Pool & Spa Centre  
8645 Young Street, Chilliwack  
604-792-5151  
www.jadamandsons.com

### 1ST THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS

The Chilliwack Progress, easily one of the oldest established community newspapers in the province, still ranks as one of the very best. Balance is its greatest strength; in every category, the Progress is strong, credible and very hard to beat. A superior sports section, well-organized classifieds, an easy-to-navigate website, and a strong social media presence, all demonstrate the paper's connection to its community and its roots. Congratulations.

### 2ND LANGLEY TIMES

The Langley Times has a solid front page and well-organized sections. A nice emphasis on local features, and lots of letters to the editor across all regions of the community. Broad sports coverage and community news, with local features that show the Times understands what its readers care about. Great production quality, with colour ads that pop off the page. Good use of video in online platforms.

### 3RD PENTICTON WESTERN NEWS

The Penticton Western News is the little paper that could. Stunning front pages invite the reader to open up and read more, while great photo essays really capture the essence of community events. Attractive classifieds section, and strong editorial that includes lots of different voices. Sports section is a highlight; the Scotties Countdown is a great example of how good editorial supports effective advertising and vice versa. Well done!

	Front Page /10	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 /5	Online Presence /10	Average Overall Total /100	JUDGE 1 RANK	JUDGE 2 RANK	JUDGE 3 RANK	AVERAGE RANKING	FINAL RESULT
Chilliwack Progress	7.17	8.17	7.83	4.00	4.50	3.67	7.67	8.17	8.00	8.33	4.00	7.83	79.33	1	5	3	3.00	1
Langley Times	8.17	7.67	8.00	4.00	4.17	3.17	8.17	7.50	8.83	8.17	3.17	7.50	78.50	4	4	2	3.33	2
Penticton Western News	8.17	8.00	7.17	4.00	4.17	3.17	8.67	8.17	8.50	7.17	3.00	7.83	78.00	7	3	1	3.67	3
Delta Optimist	7.67	8.00	8.50	3.83	3.17	3.17	8.00	7.17	7.50	8.33	3.67	7.67	76.67	2	2	9	4.33	4T
Duncan Cowichan Valley Citizen	6.83	7.83	8.17	3.67	4.50	3.50	7.33	7.67	7.17	7.17	2.83	8.50	75.17	7	1	5	4.33	4T
Courtenay / Comox Valley Record	7.17	7.17	7.33	3.83	3.17	3.33	7.33	6.67	8.00	7.17	3.33	7.83	72.33	7	6	4	5.67	6
Goldstream News Gazette	6.83	7.50	6.50	3.50	3.33	2.33	7.33	7.67	8.17	7.17	3.00	8.00	71.33	3	9	6	6.00	7
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows News	7.67	6.83	7.33	2.83	3.33	2.50	7.00	7.50	7.33	7.67	3.17	8.00	71.17	4	8	7	6.33	8
Nanaimo News Bulletin	6.67	7.00	7.00	2.83	3.33	3.67	7.33	6.83	6.83	7.33	2.83	8.50	70.17	6	7	9	7.33	9
Victoria News	6.83	6.67	6.67	3.00	2.67	2.67	6.67	7.17	6.83	6.67	2.83	7.50	66.17	10	10	7	9.00	10
Saanich News	6.33	6.67	6.50	2.67	2.50	2.67	6.67	7.00	7.00	6.67	2.83	7.67	65.15	11	11	9	10.33	11

FRIDAY MAY 26 2017

\$1.25 (SUGGESTED PRICE)

**PULSE 13**  
**Tombstone**  
Cardboard Western premieres at the Evolver Festival

**LOOK 27**  
**Annie Aculiak**  
Inuit artist sews scenes from bleak childhood

**TODAY'S DRIVE 39**  
**124 Spider**  
Flat roadster reborn as a more reliable machine



# north shore news

LOCAL NEWS - LOCAL MATTERS - SINCE 1969



**LOG ON** Staker minister Eugene Harry performs a prayer during a blessing ceremony on the hill of Cleveland Dam park Wednesday. The ceremony marked the start of a public art piece which will honour the Twin Sisters, a.k.a. The Lions, and be made out of old growth cedar logs chosen by artist Wade Baker. The art will be installed at the new North Vancouver museum in Lower Lonsdale when it opens in 2019. See more photos at [rsnews.com/photo-galleries](http://rsnews.com/photo-galleries). PHOTO LISAKING

### DISTRACTED DRIVING

## Cellphone plug-in nets ticket

JANE SEVD  
[jsevd@rsnews.com](mailto:jsevd@rsnews.com)

A North Vancouver driver who reached down to plug in his cellphone while stopped at a red light has had an appeal of his distracted driving ticket tossed by a B.C. Supreme Court justice.

Masoud Jahani appealed his \$167 traffic ticket, arguing before Justice Miriam Massonville that he shouldn't have received the ticket for using an electronic device while driving, because he wasn't actually using his cellphone at the time.

But the judge rejected that, pointing out that "use" of a cellphone includes any kind of handling of the phone. In some circumstances, even looking at a cellphone screen while driving can be considered using it, the judge noted in her written decision.

Jahani's traffic ticket came about as a result of

See 40th Page 11

## Election results final, no North Shore seats flip

BRENT RICHTER  
[brichter@rsnews.com](mailto:brichter@rsnews.com)

Absentee voters from the North Shore tended to support opposition challengers over B.C. Liberal incumbents final election results show.

Following the unofficial election results on May 9, there were still 11,564 absentee ballots cast at polling stations outside the riding or by mail yet to be counted for the North Shore's four ridings.

By the time the dust had settled in North

Absentee votes slightly favour opposition challengers, yet not enough to cause seats to flip

Vancouver-Lonsdale, NDP MLA-elect Bowtin Ma finished with 12,361 votes or 45.45 per cent overall, widening the gap slightly from election night. Outgoing Liberal Naam Yamamoto's final tally was 10,373 or 38.14 per cent. Green Party candidate Richard Warrington placed third with 4,148 votes (15.25 per cent) and

Libertarian Donald N.S. Wilson's 316 votes placed him fourth with 1.16 per cent overall.

In North Vancouver-Seymour, absentee ballots loosened Liberal incumbent Jane Thornthwaite's hold on the seat by about one per cent but were nowhere near enough to cause the seat to flip. Official results show Thornthwaite took 13,194 votes (46.35 per cent), NDP candidate Michael Charanis and Green Party candidate Joshua Johnson both saw their vote shares increase by about half a per cent each with absentee ballots, finishing

See Weaver page 7

**OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 5:00**

**3989 VIEWRIDGE PLACE**  
BAYRIDGE, WEST VANCOUVER

**ERIC LANGHJELM**  
778.688.4149

**VPG REALTY INC.**  
6000 HORNBY (at Bayview)

**\$2,998,000**

## 1ST NORTH SHORE NEWS

The North Shore News is a focused, well-laid out paper full of relevant local news. Photography and overall design are top-notch, and a strong online presence demonstrates engagement and showcases the paper's ability to adapt to changing times. An uncluttered masthead and clean, easy-to-navigate design make the paper a pleasure to read. Strong editorial and a great arts calendar. A solid, reliable community newspaper!

**VANCOUVER COURIER**

12TH & CAMBIE WHAT TO DO WITH A SMELLY SEA LION CARCASS? 1  
OPINION DOES CHRISTY CLARK DESERVE A SECOND CHANCE? 12  
LIVING MARC MARON'S EAST VAN BOOTY CALL 34  
ELECTION VOTING WHERE AND WHEN TO VOTE EARLY 16

FRIDAY May 4 2017 [vancourier.com](http://vancourier.com) There's more online at [vancourier.com](http://vancourier.com)

**Addressing the problem**

Charles Wilkinson's documentary *No Fixed Address*, which screens this week at DOXA, examines Vancouver's housing bubble, how we got here and where we're going.

**PAUL EVISTON** REALTOR

Thinking of SELLING your home? THINK OF PAUL.

604.313.0035 [www.paulviston.com](http://www.paulviston.com)

OPEN SAT/SUN 12-2 4170 PRINCE EDWARD ST. OPEN SAT/SUN 2-4 4905 CHESTER ST.

**100 YEARS!** Vernon Lawn Bowling Club celebrates centennial [A16 & 17]

**The Morning Star** WEDNESDAY May 17, 2017

**Ladies World Health and Fitness** \$5 Membership

**MAKING WAVES**

Wick Wilson (above) of Vernon City is a guide for the first time during the first ever Waterways Down Day Saturday at Wood Lake in Hope while Dawn Rogers (below) demonstrates paddle and oar technique.

## Grade 7 moves to high school

**Revised Monday:**

- One possible placement at M.V. Beattie for September.
- That the Beattie campus include some secondary students for the foreseeable future.
- That a local capital plan for an addition to Beattie be developed and approved and that the construction implementation of Beattie as a K-6 is projected to have no impact.
- That a shuttle bus from Enderby to Grandin be maintained.
- That an express bus from Ashcroft Creek to Grandin be maintained.
- That all Beattie catchment students are given a priority choice for registration at A.L.E. or Grandin Elementary.
- That additional resources are provided to Grade 6 students in Enderby to support appropriate and healthy social and emotional learning and address the needs of students with special needs.
- That resources be allocated to Beattie for closure and transition for current Grade 6 and 7 students.
- That resources be allocated to Fortinet for welcoming and transitional activities.
- That resources be allocated to Fortinet to support

**FORTE** LEASE FROM \$39 WEEKLY

**REDEFINING PERFORMANCE** Safety and Comfort center @ Vancouver

**VERNONKIA.CA**

Canada 1867-2017 150 YEARS STRONG & FREE!

**2ND VANCOUVER COURIER**

The Courier's gritty coverage of local news stories makes this a solid paper. Their op-ed shines alongside captivating images. A striking front page that tells readers right away what they'll be reading about, carried through to the inside pages with bold design that reflects the community represented. Strong local focus and among the very best arts coverage in the category. Well done!

**3RD THE MORNING STAR**

The Morning Star's local focus makes community news shine. The front page offers a good story with bold heading and well-cropped, powerful images. Layout is clean and easy to follow. Coverage of local news, sports, and arts & entertainment is very strong, with great use of cartoon and viewpoints in the editorial section. Great writing overall.

	Front Page /10	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 /5	Online Presence /10	Average Overall Total /100	JUDGE 1 RANK	JUDGE 2 RANK	JUDGE 3 RANK	AVERAGE RANKING	FINAL RESULT
North Shore News	8.67	9.00	8.67	4.33	3.67	4.67	8.33	9.00	8.33	7.67	3.50	4.33	80.17	4	1	1	2.00	1
Vancouver Courier	9.00	8.33	8.67	3.67	2.67	4.67	8.33	8.67	8.17	7.83	3.67	5.83	79.50	5	2	2	3.00	2
The Morning Star	8.33	8.33	8.67	4.67	4.50	4.50	8.00	7.67	7.33	8.00	4.33	4.33	78.67	3	5	3	3.67	3
Peace Arch News	8.50	8.33	8.83	4.17	4.33	4.33	8.33	7.83	8.17	7.67	3.83	4.33	78.67	5	3	4	4.00	4
Tri-City News	7.67	8.33	7.50	4.67	4.17	4.17	8.00	9.00	7.83	7.67	3.50	4.50	77.00	2	7	9	6.00	5
Burnaby Now	8.33	8.17	7.33	4.00	3.67	3.67	7.83	8.00	8.00	7.33	3.67	5.50	75.50	8	5	6	6.33	6T
Kamloops This Week	7.50	7.67	8.67	4.33	4.67	4.33	7.33	8.00	7.67	7.50	3.50	4.67	75.83	5	9	5	6.33	6T
Surrey Now-Leader	8.50	8.17	8.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	8.00	7.50	8.00	7.67	3.67	4.50	76.00	9	4	6	6.33	6T
Kelowna Capital News	6.67	8.00	9.00	3.50	4.33	3.33	7.17	6.83	7.83	7.33	3.67	4.33	72.00	1	10	10	7.00	9
Prince George Citizen	8.67	7.00	7.67	2.83	3.33	3.00	7.67	8.33	8.00	7.17	3.67	5.83	73.17	10	8	8	8.67	10
Abbotsford News	7.17	7.33	5.83	3.33	3.33	3.17	6.33	5.33	6.50	6.00	3.50	4.33	62.17	11	11	11	11.00	11



# John Collison Memorial Award for Investigative Journalism

28 Feature

STORY

## INVISIBLE VIOLATIONS

The challenge of preventing and responding to drink spiking in Whistler

BY BRANDON BARRETT

Amanda's\* coworker had been pestering her for weeks to go out with him. She eventually relented, but was clear from the start she had no interest in being anything other than friends.

The night started out pretty well. The conversation came easy, and he even paid for a few rounds at a village pub. Amanda was enjoying herself.

But it wasn't long before things started to turn sideways.

"He bought me a couple of drinks and I'm guessing he drugged me at that time," Amanda recalls. "I blacked out hard. I have to drink an excessive amount to black out, and it was very rare in the past, so I was really surprised."

Amanda only remembers brief flashes from the night: the cold floor of a nightclub bathroom, vomiting excessively. The kind woman who helped carry her out of the club and was reluctant to send her home alone with a guy in the state she was in.

The next morning, Amanda awoke in a big room of how she got home but entire body aching. She looked over in disbelief at the man lying in her bed.

"Oh my god, did we have sex last night?" she remembers asking him. He feigned surprise, offended that Amanda couldn't remember when the sex was "so good," and when she went into work for her next shift, there he was.

\*[Editor's Note: The subject's name has been changed to protect her privacy.]

28 | February 2, 2017 | www.kamloopsthisweek.com

Feature STORY

1ST

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Brandon Barrett & Clare Ogilvie

From the subject matter, to the reporting, writing and layout, Invisible Violations never lets the reader go. The story itself is frightening and frustrating, exposing gaps in the ability of police to not only investigate the crime of drink drugging and sexual assault, but also to simply record the number of occurrences. The survivors in this piece clearly trust the reporters, and this piece shows that commitment beautifully.



Photo by David Buzzanti/www.zedra-centra.ca

2ND

KAMLOOPS THIS WEEK

Tim Petruk & Cam Fortems

An excellent example of digging deeper into what on its surface appears to be a simple story. Masterfully structured and written, this piece has all the trappings of a classic mystery story, tempered by a sensitive and caring approach to the family involved.

### 2017 REAL ESTATE Langley Advance

#### Condos sit empty as legal troubles surround project

B.C. regulators, civil courts, and the FBI are all involved.

Matthew Claxton  
mclaxton@langleyadvance.com

The long-delayed Murrayville House condo is in foreclosure proceedings, and regulatory scrutiny, and American authorities want the company owner extradited.

On Thursday, Sept. 7 a last-minute payment averted a Township tax sale, as the site was three years in arrears on property taxes.

Condo owners have been waiting for more than 17 months past the original completion date to move into the 92-unit project, and it's unclear what the future holds.

One early investor is worried she will never see the \$50,000 she put towards the purchase of her unit.

The woman, who asked that her name not be used, put up \$50,000 as part of a joint \$100,000 investment in purchasing a unit "whole-sale" before construction started.

She received a promissory note that said she would get her money back, plus 10 per cent interest, within a year. But the buyer was under the impression she was buying a condo unit, which she intended as an investment property.



Murrayville House has been finished since August, but remains empty as legal disputes continue.

"It sounded too good to be true, and in hindsight of course, it is too good to be true," she said.

She never received any of her money back.

"I'm already concerned that my money's gone," she said.

Court records show that Newmark is facing foreclosure actions from mortgage holders.

One case is claiming more than \$19 million is owed, including interest, on a mortgage on the property.

Murrayville House was also auctioned off by the Township of Langley for being in arrears on its property tax bill.

The company was three years behind on property taxes and owed almost \$300,000, said Darlene

Foxgord, manager of revenue and taxation for the Township.

The company paid \$21,848 — just before the deadline for advertising the tax sale, Foxgord said.

That amount represents the delinquent portion of the tax bill for 2015. With only two years of taxes outstanding, the tax sale for the condo development has been cancelled.

Meanwhile, the head of Newmark, Mark Chandler, is facing extradition proceedings to the U.S.

BC Supreme Court documents show that the FBI investigated Chandler and his U.S. development company, Landcor Holdings. American law enforcement alleges that Chandler made false representations from investors to obtain their money.

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

purchase agreements."

The units were sold in two different ways.

Buyers on one end purchased their condos in the normal way, putting down a deposit, and signing an ordinary contract. They were apparently not aware of the other sales.

Another group of buyers also bought at "builders prices," putting down significantly more money — up to \$205,000, in one case. They were paying about 60 per cent of the standard purchase price.

Some of the buyers at the higher rate were told of the additional "retail" buyers.

They were told that if the "retail" buyers completed the deal, the "wholesale" buyers would get the difference between the two prices — up to \$120,000 for one transaction detailed in the order.

If the retail buyer backed out for any reason, the wholesale buyer would take possession of the unit without having to put up any more money.

Chandler did not speak to the OSRE, but his lawyers said the money received from the "wholesale" sales were loans, according to the emergency order.

The project is currently the target of several civil court actions.

Murrayville House was originally scheduled to be completed almost a year and a half ago, leaving buyers waiting.

>More: kamloopsthisweek.com, search "Newmark"

### 3RD LANGLEY ADVANCE

Matthew Claxton

At a time when the Lower Mainland Housing crisis is arguably THE story on most people's minds, the Murrayville debacle stands out for all the wrong reasons. The reporter covers the story with clarity and concision from the start and that approach helped to attract major media interest. A great example of how community papers can set the wider news agenda and shine a light on issues that have much broader implications.

**TODAY'S WEATHER**  
Sunny and hot  
High 32 Low 15 C

**HOW DID YOU DO ON OUR QUIZ?**  
The answers to our Canada 150 challenge  
**A2**

**APRON UNVEILED**  
Kamloops Airport celebrates \$3.4-million project completion  
**A15**

## KAMLOOPS THIS WEEK TUESDAY

JULY 4, 2017 | Volume 30 No. 79

EXCLUSIVE TO RTW

First in a three-part series

### WHAT HAPPENED TO WOLF?

In May of last year, Wolf Sellmer — a seemingly wealthy accountant with a medical supply business, a million-dollar home on Shuwap Road and properties in Kamloops and Vancouver — was in a jail cell at the Kamloops courthouse after failing to produce documents sought by his creditors.

Two weeks later, Sellmer was found dead by his daughter, killed by a single gunshot wound.

Through court documents, extensive interviews with the family and a review of text exchanges in the days before his death — including a threat relayed by a man once described by prosecutors as an Independent Soldiers affiliate — *Kamloops This Week* looks at the circumstances surrounding the millions in debt and the death of this beloved family man.

THE FIRST IN A THREE-PART SERIES BEGINS ON PAGE A6.

### Sun Rivers Golf Course to be sold

CAM FORTEMS  
STAFF REPORTER  
cfortems@kamloopsthisweek.com

An agreement in principle has been reached for the sale of Sun Rivers Golf Course to Big Horn Golf and Country Club L.P. led by Sun Rivers resident Bill Amy.

As reported in the June 29 edition of *Kamloops This Week* and online at kamloopsthisweek.com, the sale involves Amy securing about 600 people investing \$5,000 each for shares in the venture, with \$3 million needed to be raised.

The investment group will comprise golf members, Sun Rivers residents and local businesses through their investment in Big Horn, which will be headed by a seven-member board of directors.

"We are pleased that ownership of the golf course will remain with the local community," said Rick Simmons, CEO of Sun Rivers Limited Partnership. "The ownership group is committed to maintaining and expanding the golf course and clubhouse facilities, which will be a benefit to the Sun Rivers Community and to current and future residents at Sun Rivers."

The sale involves only the golf course and the facility housing. Money will be put in trust until a deal is executed.

"The support so far from the community and golfer members has been tremendous," Amy said.

Sun Rivers Partners indicated in 2015 it was putting the entire resort on the market. It listed the golf course

SEE COURSE, A4

A Volkswagen that fits 7.  
Introducing the 2018 Atlas.  
Drive it, you'll get it!

Volkswagen of Kamloops | Toll-Free 1.888.874.7500 • volkswagenofkamloops.com • 2483 East Trans Canada Highway

# Neville Shanks Memorial Award for Historical Writing

SPONSOR: TINHORN CREEK VINEYARDS

## The unbreakable Susie Chew

EXCLUSIVE

It began with a surprise birthday party – a 90th birthday party at the Waffle House.

It led to a conversation with an amazing woman whose stories about New Westminster in the 1940s and '50s recall a bustling little city where a young entrepreneur could really make an impression.

They also recall a nearly forgotten racist blot on that city's history.

Susan Chew opened the Waffle House in 1955. She was a single, Chinese-Canadian woman with a great waffle recipe and a can-do attitude, and her uptown cafe became 'the' place to hang out, not just for waffles, but also to find out what was happening around town.

She was a "colourful character" with a stake in the community, but one day in 1956, instead of making waffles, she felt like "crawling into a dark cellar, into a hole."

Reporter/photographer Cornelia Naylor sat down with Chew and discovered the story behind the story.

Part one of Susan Chew's story is on pages 10 and 11 in today's paper.



**REUNITED** Susan Chew, left, and Verla (Staples) Thompson catch up during a surprise 90th birthday party for Chew at the Waffle House, a restaurant she founded in 1955. In 1956, the two former roommates were at the centre of a media fire storm about racism in the Royal City. PHOTO: CORNELIA NAYLOR

1ST

NEW WESTMINSTER RECORD

Cornelia Naylor

A 90th birthday party permitted resurrection of the experience of two women more than 60 years ago with racial antagonism, and, equally important, the journalism and the condemnation their experience generated. Community-in-the-making stories, they are also testimonials to the historic experience in Canada. This piece informs the original social will to right a wrong and keeps alive the memory of public hurt and correction.

2ND

COAST REPORTER

Sean Eckford

An example of the local past lighting up the local present. The reconstruction of the faces of four anciently buried locals invites readers to behold their Salish Sea residency. They reside in a geography in which the antiquity of residency is displayed daily, and not in a museum, but in real life. Further, that antiquity as shared bond or heritage makes possible at least the contemplation of a start of the reconciliation journey.

FIRST NATIONS

## Shísháhlh ancestors come to life

Nation's heritage featured in new exhibit at Canadian Museum of History

SEAN ECKFORD  
Staff Writer

It's been nearly a decade since archaeologists working with the shísháhlh Nation came across an extraordinary discovery, now recognized as "one of the most significant chiefly burial finds in North America." Now, the story it tells will be featured in the new Canadian History Hall at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, across the river from Ottawa.

Shísháhlh Chief Warren Paull was part of a delegation that travelled to Ottawa last week for a preview of the exhibit, which opens July 1. Paull was joined by Raquel Joe of the Tems Swiya Museum, cultural coordinator Steven Feschuk, elder Jamie Dixon, and Jasmine Paul from the rights and title office.

Paull said it's impossible to overstate the emotions the group felt on first seeing the exhibit.

"Everybody got choked up when they first saw it, including myself. You come around the corner and you're looking into the faces of people... You can see portions of different [shísháhlh] family members in the facial features of every one of those renderings."

Paull said he'd hoped to have Coun. Keith Julius along as well, because Julius – who works as an archeological technician – played a key role in the original find, but he had family obligations and couldn't go.

See FORENSIC page 4



A 3D forensic facial reconstruction of a shísháhlh chief who lived nearly 4,000 years ago. He was buried with over 350,000 stone beads, which he may have worn as a cape. PHOTO BY PHILIPPE FROESCH, VISUAL FORENSIC

10 Wednesday October 4 2017 | Powell River Peak » prpeak.com

## Italian club celebrates 80 years

Organization links generations of immigrants from Italy

JASON SCHREURS  
publisher@prpeak.com

Everyone needs a community, a place to belong. For Italian immigrants who have arrived in Powell River since the turn of the century, those who came before them provided the support and camaraderie needed to feel welcome in a new town.

For the past 80 years, those of Italian descent have gathered at Powell River Italian Community Club. Since it was formed on October 24, 1937, the club has served as a base for Italians to gather and socialize. Since then, the club has expanded to include the rest of the public, Italian or not, to share in the rich history and culture of Italy.

With a few key functions per year, including the upcoming annual anniversary dinner and dance on Saturday, October 14, the club

has remained strong through the years.

Membership in what became a non-profit society in 1963 is currently estimated at 250 members and younger people have continued to join the club, some of them third-generation members.

A huge turning point for the Italian club came in 1964 when it was able to secure land from then-owner of the mill, MacMillan Bloedel, and build its own community hall.

According to current club president Ken Culos, some of his fondest memories growing up were from the hall on Lund Highway just outside of Wildwood. "As a kid, I would go to all the dances because our parents would bring us; it was mostly the Italian immigrants who ran it," says Ken. "They worked hard and they loved to party, eat, drink and dance, and play bocce."

The bocce courts, which have now grown over, used to be packed with Italians.

Ken spent his formative years enjoying the club's activities. It was not until much later that he followed in his family's footsteps



Elio Cossarin (left) and Tony Culos are two of Powell River Italian Community Club's senior members, both having served on its executive over the decades.

by taking an active role in the club. "When I retired, it made it easier for me," says Ken, "and they needed help, so I was happy to do it."

Ken's cousin Tony Culos was instrumental in establishing important changes to the society to allow women and non-Italian members, a point of pride for him and long-time member and former president Elio Cossarin.

"It was a chauvinist organization and my wife found it very irritating when she asked if she could be a member and she could not because she was both a woman and

tions of the many families who immigrated to Powell River continue to be remembered and celebrated," says member Jackie Mison, who is Cossarin's daughter and one of the main organizers of the club's upcoming anniversary dance. "Italian culture is rich in Powell River and I want to see its presence continue to be an important part of our community."

Cossarin emigrated from Italy in 1950 when he was 17. He has been one of the most prominent members of the club over the years and first became president in 1961. He said the club was an immediate haven for him and the best way to meet other Italians.

"When you come here as an immigrant, you don't have money to buy a car, so you can't get around," said Cossarin. "The club had a bus that came around the different neighbourhoods to pick up people for the activities and you would meet people there. If people were not on your shift at the mill, you never saw them except for at those functions."

Cossarin and Tony, who came to Powell River in 1966, both came from Friuli, a region in northeast-

**Crankwork**  
P.12

**Paving pains**  
P.14

**Lazy Ghost**  
P.62

# PIQUE

NEWSMAGAZINE

FREE

EXPEDITIONS

## A CENTURY

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Backcountry camping  
with UBC's iconic  
Varsity Outdoor Club

24.34

August 24, 2017 | WHISTLER'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE | [www.piquenewsmagazine.com](http://www.piquenewsmagazine.com)

**1ST**

**PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE**  
Joel Barde, Brandon Barrett & Jon Parris

A well-researched, well-crafted article that shows exceptional skill in using interviews to weave a highly readable, comprehensive profile of the VOC and its contributions to BC mountaineering. Engaging as well as authoritative, this is feature writing at its best.

# CITIZEN

Saturday, September 2, 2017 | Your community newspaper since 1916

A cloud-capped Mount Edziza provides a spectacular setting for hiking.

## Mount Edziza a worthwhile challenge

**W**ith its otherworldly landscape of volcano cones and lava flows, Mount Edziza Provincial Park is a place like no other in this province, making it an enticing destination for those of us with a passion for immersing ourselves in wild settings and exploring them one step at a time.

When it was chosen for the Caladonia Rambler's annual week-long backpacking trip, I was not going to miss out, particularly since it offered a rare opportunity to fly into the park via helicopter, cutting

Special Report

MARK NIELSEN  
[mnielsen@pgcitizen.ca](mailto:mnielsen@pgcitizen.ca)

off two days of tough, exhausting drudgery to get to where the highlights truly begin.

We took off from Tasega Lake Resort, a lodge and motel on the Stuart-Cassiar Highway about 400 kilometres north of Kitwanga and two days of comfortable driving from Prince George. Like passengers in a glass elevator we gave way to imposing buttresses of red, dusty mountainside then into what's been aptly described as "alpine tundra."

"Wow," remarked one of my colleagues over the in-flight communication system. It was all that needed to be said – even the pilot, who had not flown in the area before, was enchanted by all around him.

We landed near the southwest edge of Mount Edziza and a short distance from the Coffee and Cocoa craters, two of the 30 cones that have popped up in the 10,000

years since the park's namesake last erupted.

Once on the ground, we pitched our tents next to what seemed, at the time, to be a fairly tame stream and on a strip of vegetation soft enough to make me question the need to use a sleeping pad, although I did not take the thought any further.

Our village of brightly-coloured nylon was situated on a treeless and barren plateau.

It not only meant campfires were out of the question but so was any spot where we could string our food up and away from hungry wildlife.

Countering the concern was the belief that no bear would bother to head into the high country because there was so little there to eat.

How quickly were we proven wrong.

Just a few minutes after we set off to explore the immediate surroundings did one of our entourage say "is that a bear?"

Sure enough, in the distance we saw a grizzly with its iconic humped back saunter across a field of ash and towards us.

The bear was oblivious to our presence – we were upwind.

—see EDZIZA, page 4

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2017 northshorenews nsnews.com
| A13

Your North Shore Guide to life and style

# living

HOME & GARDEN 15 | TASTE 23 | SPORTS 29

## Cheakamus celebrates 48 years outside

**Outdoor School stirs warm memories**

**MARIA SPITALE-LEISK**  
[mspitale-leisk@nsnews.com](mailto:mspitale-leisk@nsnews.com)

It was your first sleep-away camp.

An introduction to Johnny Appleseed and Capt. the pig. There were giggles after "lights out" in the cabins. And chores, even though your parents were miles away. But they were fun tasks – feeding and caring for the farm animals, for example. Or reading weather instruments and then giving a forecast to fellow students in the dining room.

If you went to public school in North Vancouver after 1969, Outdoor School (today known as the Cheakamus Centre) was a rite of passage and the greatest week of your elementary school career. And twice in those eight elementary years you got a free ticket to Paradise... Valley, that is!

This Sunday is your chance to take a trip down memory lane at the Cheakamus Centre's 48th annual open house in Brackendale. And, if you're

(a bit faded) is still on the side of the admin building at Cheakamus Centre."

In her senior year at Handsworth Secondary, Jenkins volunteered as a counsellor at Outdoor School – in an Internet-free era when reading paperbacks by flashlight under the covers and catching fish were fulfilling forms of amusement.

Jenkins went on to become the first operations manager for North Vancouver Outdoor School and was most recently named project manager for the Cheakamus Centre campus revitalization.

It was those initial magical and adventure-filled days at Outdoor School which inspired Jenkins to champion this unbridled educational experience for youth.

"Mom always said 'you girls were never the same after Outdoor School,'" says Jenkins. "She meant that in a good way, as my sister and I both returned home after a week away brimming with new-found confidence and independence."

For the uninitiated, Outdoor School tress students from the confines of a classroom and immerses them in the natural world where they participate in

feeling nostalgic, enough, it's a chance to donate some coin to the centre's cabin enhancement campaign.

The cabins date back to the 1950s, when the site was used as a family summer camp; before the North Vancouver School District bought the land.

Considering tens of thousands of kids have descended on Cheakamus Centre since then, there's no question why the cabins are in need of a 21st century upgrade. The energy-efficient enhancements to 10 cabins are slated to include new double-pane windows and a ventilation system.

The centre has already found a special sponsor who put up some money for the cabin facility campaign. And they didn't have to look very far.

Cathy Jenkins' history in Paradise Valley starts in the early 1970s.

"My mom actually still had the postcard my sister mailed home from Outdoor School in 1971!" writes Jenkins in an email to the News. "I'm not sure for how many years the tradition of letter writing continued, but when we went in the '70s all kids wrote a card home and the red mailbox

See Camp page 28

**2ND**

**THE PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN**  
Mark Nielsen

A beautifully-written piece. The writer's sure-footed style shows excellent balance between useful information and captivating descriptions of the landscape. The narrative flows beautifully, effectively carrying readers along on a journey many will surely want to take after reading this.

**3RD**

**NORTH SHORE NEWS**  
Maria Spitale-Leisk

Fun, fresh writing takes this relatively straight-forward service article to new heights. The wonderful lead uses nostalgia to great effect to engage readers. The writer makes excellent use of her main source to drive the narrative, and blends historical research seamlessly into her storytelling.

OVER 25,000

## Nanaimo parent advocates for support

Cost to send child with special needs becoming cost-prohibitive for family

KARL YU  
NEWS BULLETIN

A Nanaimo parent hopes support for children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) will be on equal footing as support for children with autism.

Susan Handlen said her daughter, Lindsay, was born with the complex neurodevelopmental disorder and suffers from anxiety and a severe learning disability. While Lindsay is 10 years old, she reads at a Grade 1 level.

Handlen said Lindsay needs one-on-one assistance. She wasn't doing well at Uplands Elementary School where she was enrolled two years ago. She had behavioural issues, was suspended seven times and didn't want to go to school, prompting Handlen to withdraw her.

After enrolling Lindsay at Nanaimo Unique Kids Organization learning centre, where Handlen said there is a better teacher-to-student ratio, she has thrived, but the \$6,000 annual fee is prohibitive. If Lindsay had autism, she would be eligible for provincial funding, said Handlen.

Nanaimo Unique Kids Organization is in the purview of the Comox Valley school district's North Island Distance Education School.

Handlen said she and her husband receive no help and she is becoming worn out. Lindsay's designation for intensive behaviour intervention or mental illness nets \$9,500 for North Island Distance Education to pay for teaching support, through which NUKO receives a portion of that funding.

"We pay a \$6,000 par-

ent portion to NUKO to have our child there, which I get no funding for," said Handlen. "What I'm looking for is some funding to cover that, so that it doesn't come out of our pockets."

Barbara Robinson, Nanaimo Unique Kids Organization supervisor, said Lindsay has improved since enrolling in September 2015.

Lindsay had trouble focusing, said Robinson, and if she perceived things weren't going her way, she would start shouting, scratching and pulling staff and children's hair. She would throw things and harm herself, poking herself with push pins.

NUKO's approach includes time out and calming strategies and Robinson said Lindsay "got herself to a much calmer state within the first two months" of attendance. She acts out less frequently and calms quicker. She has friends and is fitting in, said Robinson.

"She's doing more school work, she's getting a lot of her school work done and working hard ... she's really working well in a group, which is something that she wasn't very successful at when she first came and now she's doing a lot of group activities, so we've seen great strides there," said Robinson.

**What is ADHD?**  
Lisa Van Bruggen, a Victoria-based clinical psychologist with Island Health, said ADHD is believed to be genetic. When diagnosing children and adolescents, Van Bruggen said she is looking for an ongoing

pattern of inattention or hyperactivity and impulsivity which is getting in the way of daily life or typical development.

"We're really looking for things that are out of the norm for that age and so often times kids with ADHD will also have difficulty with organizing, maintaining their attention, holding information in mind," Van Bruggen said.

Autism and ADHD have an "overlap" in symptoms but are different disorders. Children can have both, or one or the other, said Van Bruggen.

"ADHD really makes it hard for kids to focus, stay organized and listen to direction," Van Bruggen said. "In contrast, autism, which also is a developmental disorder, really affects the way a person communicates and interacts with others."

**Funding situation**  
In an e-mail, the Ministry of Education said decisions regarding planning and delivery of support and services for students, including those with ADHD and autism spectrum disorder, are made by school boards and administrators.

The Ministry of Health has funding available for children with autism. Those under six years of age are eligible for up to \$22,000 a year for autism intervention services and therapies. Those between six and 18 are eligible for up to \$6,000 a year for out-of-school autism intervention services and therapies, according to the health ministry.

The Ministry of Health referred inquiries to the Ministry of Children and Family Development, which said children and youth diagnosed with autism and ADHD are served through community-based child and youth mental health services.



Lindsay Handlen, left, and her mother Susan read a book. Lindsay has attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and Susan seeks equal footing in funding with children with autism.

Autism funding recognizes the research based on the effectiveness of intensive interventions for children with autism spectrum disorder is very strong, said the ministry.

Studies have demonstrated that many of the difficulties associated with autism are treatable, particularly if the child experiences early intervention services. Studies also show that funding intensive behaviour-based interventions for children with autism can result in significant and lasting reductions in symptoms for many children.

Unfortunately, the same evidence-based experiences and data are not available regarding early intervention service outcomes for children with ADHD, which is why there is no funding for that, the ministry said.

Elizabeth Martin, assessment coordinator for Vancouver Island Children's Assessment Network, an Island Health program which provides

diagnostics for conditions such as autism and fetal alcohol spectrum, said the situation can be problematic.

"When one particular type of condition is funded and other conditions, which can be equally disabling, are not, you set up a situation where people almost want the diagnosis," said Martin. "I don't think anybody wants a diagnosis, but there's a push for it, trying to find out, would this fit an autism category?"

Martin said it's a complex picture and suggests people advocate for services to be funded as needed.

"[Write] to your MLA and go to the meetings down at city council and advocating hard for those services," said Martin. "The difficulty is often [that] the people [who] are in need of it are the last people who have the time, resources and energy to go out and do that advocating."

reporter@nanaimobulletin.com

## 1ST

### NANAIMO NEWS BULLETIN

Karl Yu

An interesting piece that uses the experience of one family to highlight broader problems in the health care system, including funding and families feeling pressure to push for a diagnosis that receives more government support.

## Nanaimo-Ladysmith School District taking initial steps to reconciliation

Shift underway to bring indigenous culture and ways of knowing into school system

TAMARA CUNNINGHAM  
NEWS BULLETIN

Being Indian meant igloos, teepees and hunting buffalo to a young Lawrence Mitchell, who spent his early years in foster care and unaware he had a culture or language.

"Elementary school didn't help. Mitchell, a Snaw-Naw-As member, said there wasn't anything to teach him about culture, other than a social studies book, and school was negative and hard with racism and pressure to fit in.

"[Kids would] be saying really mean things to me, saying 'you dumb Indian, go back to where you came from, you don't belong here,' getting beat up like all the time," said Mitchell, who didn't even know what an Indian was at the time.

After getting beaten up one day, he was so tired of it, he clawed at his arms and cried to God, "why did you do this to me?"

"I was trying to scrape the Indian off," said Mitchell. "I assumed it was the colour."

He'd later go searching for information, poring over encyclopedias, social studies books, dictionaries and movies like *Dances with Wolves* and let what he learned — the igloos, teepees, hunting buffalo — define who he was for a long time. The day he tried to scrape the Indian off, he pretended didn't happen.

"I swept it under the rug in there," he said, pointing to his chest. "Like way deep inside."

It all came bubbling to the surface during the Nanaimo school district's blanket exercise last August.

There's been a shift underway at Nanaimo school district, where there's an effort to improve the educational experience and success of indigenous



Snaw-Naw-As member Lawrence Mitchell, who had a negative experience in school and wasn't aware of his culture or language, now goes into schools to teach song, dance and for kids to help them to be proud of who they are.

children and pull more indigenous culture, language and ways of knowing into schools for all students.

It's all part of decolonizing and indigenizing an education system and while some work has been happening for years, there's a new focus on reconciliation as a school board goal and a response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls to action.

Officials are working on what reconciliation will mean in the context of the education system, while also calling upon everyone in the district to self-reflect on their own beliefs and values around indigenous people and Canada's history and to take collective ownership of students' success.

The idea is to build pride among indigenous students and help them reach their po-

**We really have to understand what history has done to our people ... and find value in indigenous ways.**

Tait says what's needed for learning is a feeling of belonging, care and love in classrooms and schools.

"It sounds simple, but getting us to the place, that first level, where every aboriginal kid feels welcome and a sense of belonging, that's a big menu item," she said. "In order to do that we really have to understand what history has done to our people and to undo that and to seek and find value in indigenous ways."

Tait, of the Tsimshian First Nation, went to school in Nanaimo and doesn't remember it being overly negative but it also wasn't a good thing to be Indian; it was important she didn't identify or talk about it. Now her children go to school and she said being aboriginal is probably a "pretty cool thing."

Continued on A10

## A closer look

### Fighting the 'low-status' label

A university degree used to be a ticket to a great paying profession, now a trade can make more sense

Carol de la Frasier wanted her son to go to university.

Her master's degree in civil engineering has served her well in her career, and she thought her son would have more success in life if he had a university degree.

So when Sam came to her three years ago and told her he wanted to be a carpenter, she was worried.

When de la Frasier was Sam's age, people who chose trades programs over university were the ones "who couldn't make it."

"I have a lot of uncles who were in that trade and they always struggled; they struggled their whole lives," de la Frasier said.

#### TRADE STIGMAS

The idea that jobs like carpentry and plumbing are low status is an obstacle, career counsellors continue to face, according to New Westminster Secondary School career programs coordinator Karen Crosby.

This year, four students backed out of NWSS's apprenticeship program, and while it's not unusual for students to change their minds, it is unusual for students to admit it was because their parents didn't approve, Crosby said.

"The students did the interview, they wanted to take the program — and then the parents said no," she said.

And parents probably have more to do with students choosing university over the trades than she knows, Crosby admitted.

But if it's true, if parents are discouraging their kids from enrolling in trades programs, the province could face a shortage of skilled workers in the coming years.

By 2025, there are expected to be up to one million vacant positions in B.C. — almost half of these jobs will require technical or trades training, according to the Industry Training Authority, the provincial body that oversees apprenticeships.

In the province's construction sector alone, experts predict there will be a shortage of about 3,500 workers by 2025 as more than 40,000 skilled workers are expected to retire over the next decade, according to a report by BuildForce Canada.

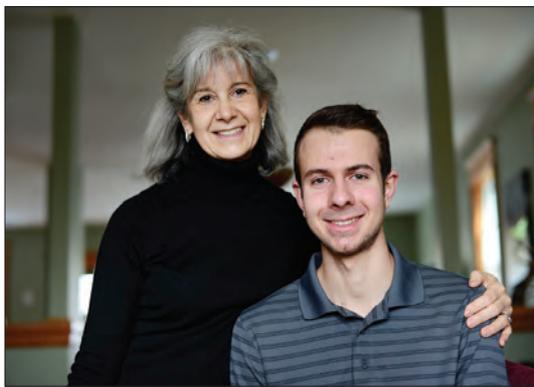
To keep up with this increased need for skilled workers, one out of every eight high school students would need to follow a career path into construction, Crosby said.

"And currently we have about one in 80 to 85 students that moves into construction; so it's a huge gap," she added.

Crosby estimates right now only about three to five per cent of NWSS students choose to train for a construction job while the majority of remaining students go to university.

"It is one of those weird things where our culture sort of hasn't caught up with the changing economy. The economy is changing a lot and people don't necessarily get it," she added.

**ON-THE-JOB TRAINING**  
This year, 55 students took part in an apprenticeship, and next year, there are already 35 students confirmed. (This is near capacity as the professional chef program



**CAREER GOALS**  
Above, Carol de la Frasier and her son Sam. When Sam told his mom he wanted to be a carpenter and enrol in New Westminster Secondary School's apprenticeship program, she was worried he was making the wrong decision. She thought he would have more success in life with a university degree. At left, students in New Westminster Secondary School's carpentry apprenticeship program work on a project at BCIT. The apprenticeship program includes practical training at BCIT plus classroom time and practical training at the high school. There is also a work experience component where students shadow a certified tradesperson in their chosen field. PHOTOS: JENNIFER GAUTHER

Continued on page 13

## 3RD

### NEW WESTMINSTER RECORD

Cayley Dobie

A unique look at parental stigma against trades as a career for their children in light of data showing these jobs will be woefully underfilled in the near future. The article also offers an interesting perspective on how schools are attempting to help shift that narrative.



1<sup>ST</sup>

**PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE**

Joel Barde, Brandon Barrett & Jon Parris

A well-written and balanced treatment of an emotionally-charged subject that is certainly of great interest and relevance to the community. Impressive reporting, with a variety of viewpoints. Reporter showed significant initiative by embarking on a hunting tagalong to live that side of the story first-hand. Nonetheless the story was not one-sided as other perspectives were given voice too.

**Wildlife traps concern dog owners**



Stuart Abels' dog was recently caught in a conibear trap approximately 300 metres from his driveway in Rose Lake. His dog was able to survive with minor injuries. SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Four dogs were caught in traps in Burns Lake this winter**

Flavio Nienow

Dog owners in the Burns Lake area are concerned about the safety of their dogs after at least four dogs have been caught in traps in the Burns Lake area over the past few months. Rose Lake resident Stuart Abels, who owns five dogs, said he had a nerve-racking experience just a few days before Christmas. Abels was walking his dogs down Rose Lake Cutoff Road, approximately 300 metres from his driveway, when he heard one of his dogs scream. His dog was caught in a conibear trap, which consists of two rectangular frames with a trigger, that when ac-

tivated, slams shut on the body. The trap was set in a field adjacent to the main road which, according to Abels, is a private land. Abels tried to rescue his dog, but since he had a broken shoulder at the time, he was unable to do so. He then called two of his neighbours to help him out. By the time the neighbours arrived, his dog was unconscious and they were able to remove the dog from the trap. The dog survived the incident with minor injuries. Although Abels said he felt "lucky" his dog didn't die, he was angry about what happened. "As soon as everything was under control, I was thinking about what happened and I got angry," he said. "If people are out there setting traps, I want to know where they are so I don't take my dogs out there." Abels is not the only local resident concerned about this issue. Another local resident said she recently rescued two dogs caught

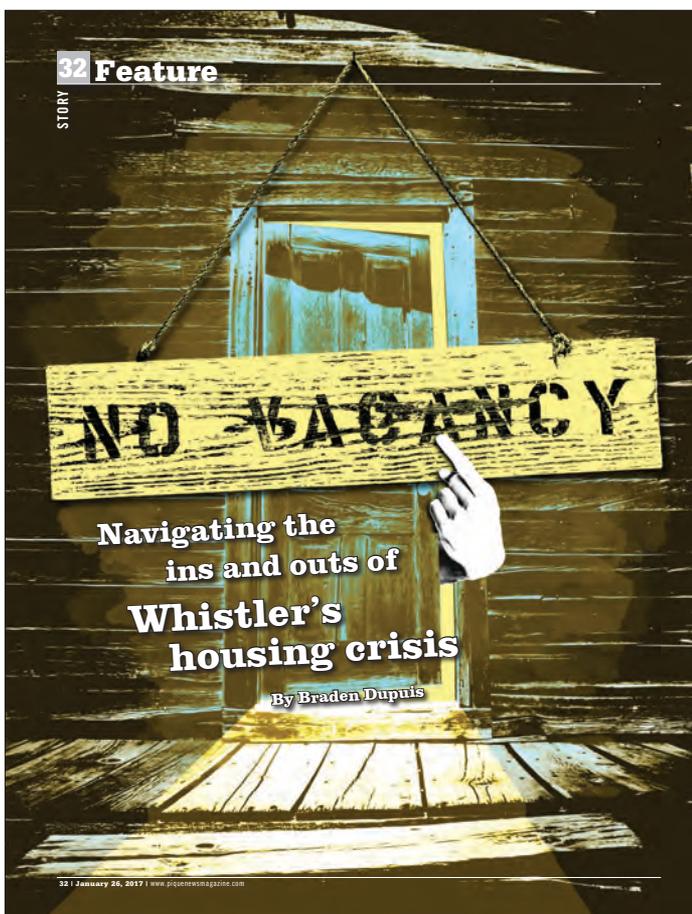
*Continued on Page 3*

**BURNS LAKE / LAKES DISTRICT NEWS**

Flavio Nienow

2<sup>ND</sup>

While it can be relatively easy to get comment from a victim, the quality of initiative and reporting was apparent by the reporter's ability to also interview the snare-setter amongst the variety of interview subjects. The writing has an engaging style, which also translates to good organization and story flow. An enjoyable and comprehensive feature article.



3<sup>RD</sup>

**PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE**

Braden Dupuis, Jon Parris & Lynn Mitges

Timely story certainly of great interest to the community (and beyond) as it relates to a basic human need, housing, in one of the province's prime tourist destinations. Well-organized, well-researched and comprehensive with a variety of viewpoints from tenants to landlords to housing non-profits and government. The writing is crisp and engaging.

**Population growth**  
P.12

**New festival coming**  
P.16

**Alysha Brilla**  
P.66

# PIQUE

NEWSMAGAZINE

## FREE ROTOR WASH

## SHARING SNOW

Disrespect & danger in the backcountry



AS Wednesday, October 25, 2017

Surrey Now-Leader

www.surreynowleader.com

## FOCUS

A feature that delves deep into the people and issues in our community. Send your story ideas to [edit@surreynowleader.com](mailto:edit@surreynowleader.com)



**FIRST IN A SERIES:** Surrey's got a big problem with illegal dumping

**M**ex City, my garbage can. Unburied littering is not unique to us all big cities where lots of people live share this pain — but jeez, Surrey's got a big problem with illegal dumping.

Ever since people have had opposable thumbs to grip things with, and started chucking stuff to the cave floor, we've been making a mess of our environs.

Though millennia have passed since the Trash Troglodytes first lit the scene, this ignoble creature is still messing up the area we know today as the City of Parks.

This series of stories looks at his anti-social behaviour and the efforts of advanced people to bring his garbage-spreading ways to a tidy end.

**Tom Zytaruk**  
Now-Leader staff

**C**andice Bommarito lives near 76th Avenue and 144A Street in East Newton. She says the garbage dumping problem in her neighbourhood is "survival."

She takes the *Now-Leader* for a tour. Now, this reporter has seen some horrendous messes in his day. Garbage of dirty needles in untidy piles beneath the Sky Train line in Whalley. Stacks of broken furniture and soiled mattresses in neighbouring lots. Burned skeletons of stolen vehicles impaled on tree stumps at the bottom of deep ravines.

Heck, even radioactive waste. That's right. Back in the 1990s, Reform MP Gurmant Grewal fought hard to get roughly 400 tonnes of low-level radioactive molten slag shipped away from here to Chalk River, Ontario, and Arlington, Washington State. Some of the smelter slag and contaminated soil had been off Anvil Way in Newton, and some in barrels rusting at CN Rail's Thornton Yard.

So there's that. Still, Bommarito's ravine tour

is deeply concerning. "I realize many parks in Surrey are dumping grounds, and that's why I'm saying something now," she says, "because I'm sick of it."

Bommarito moved from Ontario in 1998. "This was forest, this was beautiful here. I mean, it was untouched. And now to see it, the laments. I know it's important to have a population for the economy and all that, but it gets to the point where we've grown so big that we're not taking care of the community anymore. I know Surrey had a good idea to populate this area, bring people in here, grow the economy, but now we've grown so big that the city can't handle what's happening with all the garbage that's being collected in the area. All the bylaws, no bylaws are being followed anymore in this area. It seems like a dead zone."

"It's been about three years, and it's just got progressively worse," she says. Evidence of her dispossessed society abouts. Buy it, and chuck it. "I'm done with this shopping cart, I'm done with this shopping cart, I'm done with this shopping cart. There is a 'No Dumping' sign a few paces

from a trail leading into the forest. "At the entrance here there's a lot of garbage that's been there a couple of months but if you go inside," she says, "it's just incredible."

"There's about two tonnes of stuff down there. I don't know how they got it down there, they would have had to go through a wheelbarrow."

Beneath the sign, gathered like fallen leaves around the base of a tree, in this case a steel pole, are tires, bottles, knee-high boots, children's sandals, a suitcase and a handful of plastic six-pack rings.

A few steps into the forest, there are empty glass spice bottles. One for chives, another for bay leaves. "I'm not turning the others over to read them. They're dirty. We heard down a trail to a creek bed. There's a toilet, a shopping cart, a pedestal sink, diapers."

"There's all sorts of (crap)," Bommarito groans. "A lot of the stuff that's household stuff that you can tell has been pulled down there from the residents and thrown away," she says. "Value Village could make three grand off the crap that's in this forest, the prices that they charge for used stuff. All of this waste is

just getting thrown in the forest — clothing, shoes, handbags, boots. Things people could use are being thrown in as if it's such a waste."

Fed up, Bommarito posted a bunch of pictures on Facebook and tagged the City of Surrey.

"They replied to me to download this app from the iTunes store (Surrey Request App), and you go on there and make a report. So I did that, and their reply to me was an email saying I should clean it up myself."

"I've complained about it a few times and it comes down to appliances, furniture and hazardous materials. I'm not touching that, you know. What if I get hurt, and then the city is liable? Why would they put me in that position? Do they want to become sued? I don't understand. They put the resources in to build a web page to tell me to do it myself, when they could have taken those resources and used them to clean up this park."

At the side of the trail, there's a shopping cart filled with rags.

"Oh, somebody's tried to pick it up," Bommarito grins. "People are trying, right? Like that was just a mountain yesterday. It's like people don't

know what to do with their stuff and they're getting rid of it in the forest areas. Surrey does offer four free pickups a year, so people really need to take responsibility for what they're getting rid of."

Indeed, the City of Surrey offers a Large Item Pickup Program where a crew can be called, at 604-590-7289 (Option 3) to pick up four large items per residence during any calendar year.

As Rehal, manager of Surrey's bylaws department, said the city spends about \$800,000 each year in the fight against illegal dumping.

"The amount of resources, dollars spent in actually cleaning this up is very, very significant," Rehal said. "It is a priority. It's definitely an issue in Metro Vancouver. I know for a fact Langley, Delta,

The *Now-Leader* spoke with Rehal after touring the East Newton forest with Bommarito and discussed the city's response to her complaints.

"I don't know which department would have said that," Rehal said. "I would expect my officers to go out and assess the situation. It's obviously city property. One of the departments would pick it up."

"I'm willing to help out," she says. "I'm willing to bring a bag with me on a walk with my dog and pick up the cigarette packs and the high boots and the cups and whatever, anything I can touch, but when it comes down to appliances, furniture and hazardous materials, I'm not touching that, you know. What if I get hurt, and then the city is liable? Why would they put me in that position? Do they want to become sued? I don't understand. They put the resources in to build a web page to tell me to do it myself, when they could have taken those resources and used them to clean up this park."

At the side of the trail, there's a shopping cart filled with rags.

"Oh, somebody's tried to pick it up," Bommarito grins. "People are trying, right? Like that was just a mountain yesterday. It's like people don't

**Up next in Part 2:** We focus on efforts to try to keep the City of Parks clean.

## SURREY NOW-LEADER 2ND

Tom Zytaruk

The experience of this reporter makes the difference between a basic community story on trash and an excellent piece of journalism. It digs deep in all the right areas, puts the focus on people and offers solutions.

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

YUKON NEWS

yukon.news.com | 3

## Gwich'in prepare for another battle to stop drilling in caribou calving grounds

Lori Fox  
News Reporter

**I**rraine Netro's eyes filled with tears. She nodded and unfolded her hands nervously, broke them apart and nudged at the edge of her brightly-printed scarf.

"It's just very hard to find the words to talk about," she said. "I get very emotional."

"We have a spiritual connection to the caribou. The caribou sustains our way of life, they sustain our spirit and our soul."

Netro is a member of the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation and an advocate for the Porcupine caribou. What has her — and many of her people, as well as environmentalists — deeply concerned is a recently re-opened proposal by the United States government to allow seismic testing for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

The proposed exploration site — known as 1002 Area — is thought to be the largest onshore oil reserve in North America. It also includes the traditional calving grounds of the Porcupine caribou herd, a place and an animal intrinsically linked to the Gwich'in.

Alaska's Radio Kenai reported that a bill to pass a budget resolution which would allow for drilling in the 1002 Area is in the House of Representatives. Oct. 5. The move comes as part of a broader push by Republicans to roll back Obama-era environmental protections.

"Now is the time, (for) the good of the nation, (for) the good of the people, (for) the good of the world," Radio Kenai quoted Alaska congressman Don Young, as saying.

Young is a longtime proponent of drilling in the 1002 Area, who calls the place "sacred ground" and "sacred place" where life begins in their language.

"You have to think, the caribou give birth to their young will impact the Gwich'in way of life," she said. "If anything should happen to the caribou, the Gwich'in people are going to suffer. It's going to directly impact our traditional and cultural way of life, the culture for all



The Porcupine caribou herd in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

future generations within our nation."

Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation Chief Bruce Charlie said the only real options available to them are to continue to try to educate people and to ask the federal government for support.

"We need to meet with the Prime Minister as quickly as possible... We can't wait around, we need to talk to him now and ask our Indigenous representatives in Ottawa to support us."

Speaking via phone from Old Crow, Charlie was visibly upset about the threat to the calving grounds, while Netro said she said was of the utmost importance to his people.

"A way of life is going to be destroyed if you do this," he said.

Yukon Environment Minister Pauline Frost said the Yukon government "supports protecting the calving grounds" and "wants to continue to work with First Nations to protect this area."

Frost is also a member of the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation and said "it's really important" to her community to protect the caribou. For the last 40 years, the Vuntut Gwich'in and the government have worked to protect the calving ground, she said, keeping the threat of development "at bay."

"However, they are threatened with the potential for reversal."

"I don't forget where I come from," she said. "Every member of my community is very aware that we have to take drastic measures to protect the caribou herd."

Since 1987, Canada and the U.S. have had obligations with ANWR under the International Porcupine Caribou Agreement. May be it's time to bring that partnership "back to that table for further discussion," said Frost.

"Complicating the matter further is the issue of the Alaska-Yukon border and the Gwich'in in people. The Gwich'in are, on paper at least, divided between Canada and the U.S."

"We need to recognize that border," Netro said. "They see that border as a way to try to separate feeding? Often, they're not

on this in unity and we speak with one voice when it comes to protecting (ANWR), there's absolutely no question in that and we are together in unity."

"Any kind of disturbance to these sacred grounds is absolutely not acceptable," Netro said. "There just cannot be any-one in these areas."

Mike Sutor, a biologist with Environment Yukon, agrees with Netro. The Porcupine caribou calving grounds are situated along the coastal plain of Yukon and Alaska and have "very specific vegetation and qualities the caribou love," he said. Caribou are extremely sensitive to light and sound and any construction in their territory has the potential to upset their feeding, breeding and migratory habits, he said.

Sutor said caribou sometimes move into areas of lower food quality in order to escape disturbances. That can affect the survival rate of their calves.

"Sometimes, mining and drilling companies, they're caribou on their sites and they say 'see, they're still here,'" he said. "That's not what you're feeding? Often, they're not

if they don't feed during key periods they never really recover from it."

Porcupine caribou, he said, are a herd-based animal. Unlike woodland caribou, which move higher up into the mountains to "become hard to find" during calving time, herd-based caribou practice something called "synchronous calving" meaning females all have their calves at the same time. This is a survival strategy, he said, because it limits predator access.

"If you're a bear, you can only eat so many calves," he said. "The calving ground (can't) just be anywhere, he added.

"Caribou need to calve precisely where they need to calve," he said. "The caribou know where that is and there are a lot of reasons they might choose that specific place."

Netro said climate change has already brought challenges for the Porcupine caribou. In recent years they haven't followed their traditional routes which pass near Gwich'in villages, she said.

"That's left us with (an) extreme food insecurity," she said. "With the price of food (in the far North) it's a stress. It impacts every area of our lives, our way of being, our health and wellness. It leaves a void where that happens, like a void, somehow, within ourselves."

Netro said her people have managed for the last 40 years to feed off development in the calving grounds in large part due to help from grassroots anti-drilling movements in the U.S. But things seem to have shifted, she said.

"What we need from the government, on every level of government, is to acknowledge and protect our sacred places," she said. "We live in an uncertain time, we have to be mindful that in any decision we make today is going to impact and affect future generations. We need to have respect for... leaving that legacy that my grandchildren will live in."

Netro said fighting to stop oil and gas development is a good way for the federal government to show its serious about reconciliation.

"Don't pay us lip service," she said.

Contact Lori Fox at [lori.fox@yukon.news.com](mailto:lori.fox@yukon.news.com)

NEW TOP COP IN UCLUELET  
Sgt. Steve Mancini excited to explore Ucluelet.



SPCA AWARDS LOCAL RESCUE  
Jimmy Bean earns Animal Courage Award



SANDBAR PATIO  
LONG BEACH LODGE RESORT  
TOFINO'S ULTIMATE BEACHSIDE PATIO  
Opening May 19th  
Casual dining and to-go food service  
Licenced beverage service  
Live music Wednesdays from 3-6pm

Daily from 1pm to sunset  
250.725.2442  
1441 Pacific Rim Highway  
www.longbeachtofino.com

the SANDBAR BISTRO

TOFINO-UCLUELET

# Westerly News

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

WesterlyNews.ca

DEBRIS

## Massive cleanup hits Clayoquot

ANDREW BAILEY  
andrew.bailey@westerlynews.ca

A colossal cleanup of Clayoquot Sound is about to commence. An impressive roster of long-time locals, including ship captains, divers, pilots and savvy social media gurus, has come together to create Clayoquot Cleanup: Restore the Shore. The project involves a colossal two-year effort to clear marine debris from every nook and cranny on the Coast. Clayoquot Cleanup has split the Sound into five zones and each one will be tackled in a phased approach that is expected to take two years to complete. The first zone to be covered encompasses the beaches, shores and intertidal zones around Hesquiat Harbour and work will start on June 1.

See LOCALS page 5

SPORTS

## Surf champs crowned

National titles awarded at Cox Bay

NORA O'MALLEY  
nora.o'malley@westerlynews.ca

Twelve new Canadian National champions were crowned over the weekend at the 11th Annual Rip Curl Pro Tofino presented by Monster Energy. Cox Bay provided glorious sunshine and a decent swell throughout the three-day event, which welcomed over 150 surfers from Canada and various coastal scenes south of the border. Much-loved local favourite Peter Devries reclaimed his place at the top of the pro men's podium by knocking out Californian hot shots Kevin Schulz in the semis and Pat Curran in the final. The Mother's Day victory marks the seventh career Rip Curl Pro title for Devries.

See NATIONAL page 8



WOMEN'S PRO VICTORY: At 11-years-old, Tofino surfer Sanoa Olin became the youngest professional division winner in the 11-year history of the Rip Curl Pro Tofino. She was elated to get carried off the beach by her fellow competitors after Sunday's final.

NORA O'MALLEY PHOTO

## Wetland at New Brighton Park already seeing salmon fry

Jessica Kerr  
jkerr@vancourier.com

As the saying goes, build it and they will come.

After a year of construction, the Vancouver Park Board and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, along with Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations, recently celebrated the completion of a new salt marsh at New Brighton Park in East Vancouver.

And before the project was even fully completed, chum and chinook salmon fry were seen using the intertidal wetland this past spring.

The intertidal zone at the park was filled in to make industrial land in the 1960s. Project construction included the removal of some of the fill to open up the wetland's east and west outlets to Burrard Inlet, allowing schools of juvenile salmon to make use of the area as a stopover as they migrate along the shoreline on their way out to sea.

"This project brought industry together with municipal and Aboriginal leaders to act on this significant opportunity to improve coastal wetland habitat on the south shore," said Cliff Stewart, vice-president of infrastructure with the Port Authority.

"We were excited to see that, even before the project's completion, juvenile chum and chinook salmon were observed using the newly created tidal wetland as a stopover on their way through Burrard Inlet."

Salt marshes are tidal wetlands that serve as a transition between the ocean and land. They are among the world's most productive and vulnerable ecosystems. In addition to acting as a refuge for many species of marine animals, they also help prevent coastal

erosion, reduce flooding and protect water quality by filtering runoff.

The \$3.5-million project is a partnership between the park board and the port authority, in consultation with the three First Nations.

"We realize how much Vancouver residents cherish healthy ecosystems and biodiversity and the park board continues to look for more ways to enhance it," said board chair Michael Wiebe.

The creation of the salt marsh is also part of the restoration of Hastings Creek through Hastings Park.

Creating the new wetland involved planting tens of thousands of native plants including approximately 25,000 salt marsh plugs, 200 native trees and 4,000 coastal shrubs, and creating an elevated, forested area.

One of the other goals of the project was to improve access to nature for park visitors. The construction includes new picnic tables, viewing decks, gravel pathways and interpretive signs. The three First Nations contributed information on their cultural connection to Burrard Inlet.

Squamish First Nation Coun. Chris Lewis shared a bit of that connection with the crowd: "In the long ago, there [were] two herons that were fishing here and it was so beautiful that they decided to stay here so they transformed into humans and ended up staying in this place where we are right now," he said.

"So I really want to pay testament to that history that it's your history as well."

He said the project was all about collaboration. "I really want to recognize the park board and our neighbouring First Nations and our family Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh along with the

Port of Vancouver for seeing that by working together we can achieve great things, that we can start to revitalize our shorelines to ensure that these places that tell us in our history were very rich and vibrant places are returned to very rich and vibrant places."

@JessicaEKerr



Vancouver Park Board, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, along with Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations last week celebrated the completion of a new salt marsh at New Brighton Park. The orange fencing was installed to help protect the new plantings and will be removed next year.

PHOTO JESSICA KERR

## News

### 2ND

#### VANCOUVER COURIER

Jessica Kerr

Jessica Kerr's piece shows the positive result of collaboration. Three First Nations, the Vancouver Parks Board and the local Port Authority worked together to restore a salt marsh damaged by industry in East Vancouver.

### 3RD

#### HAIDA GWAI OBSERVER

Andrew Hudson

Ridding several of the islands in Gwaii Haanas of invasive deer will help restore balance on the islands and will allow one of them, Ramsay Island, to act as a "medicine chest" full of traditional Haida plants. A well-written piece.

www.haidagwaiobserver.com

Haida Gwaii Observer

Friday, September 8, 2017 A3



From left to right, Judson Brown, Jay Jones, Tauren Collinson, and James Bulbrook are Gwaii Haanas team members who received professional marksmanship training during the Restoring Balance project. (Parks Canada)

## Deer Zero

Continued from Page A1

When it was all over, 407 deer were killed on Ramsay Island alone, another 25 total on the five smaller islands that lead to it like stepping stones.

On the edge of Lyell and Moresby Islands, the team culled another 138 deer to try and stop them from swimming south again.

"The hunt may be over, but a whole new kind of shooting is now underway on Ramsay."

"The conservation gains are already happening," says Robyn Irvine, an ecologist and the project manager for Restoring Balance.

"What was amazing to see was that culturally significant plants like cubanapple — there were these beautiful old crabapple groves on Ramsay — they were suckering and putting up shoots that for the first time weren't getting eaten."

Likewise, Devil's club and huckleberries are growing freely for the first time in decades.

Big enough to have a complex watershed, as well as steep slopes and acidic cliffs, there is hope that a deer-free Ramsay will act as a "medicine chest" full of traditional Haida plants.

But more work needs to be done before the team can say with 99 per cent certainty that every last deer

is gone from Ramsay, and two of the five islands north of it. "We were only able to do a partial grid search, and grid searches usually turn up one or two very wary animals, or smaller animals that can hide," Irvine said.

On Ramsay, a full grid search means sending seven hunters with specially trained dogs to cruise the land spaced 30 to 150 metres apart. They carry GPS trackers to map exactly where they've walked, and keep searching until every gap is filled, always starting after it rains so the dogs have a clean slate of scents.

Then, after leaving the island for a while so any remaining deer drop their guard, the hunters do it all a second time, working perpendicular to the first lines.

Two surprises left the team with too little time to finish the grid-searches in their original March to July timeline.

Irvine said the main issue is that the bait-station hunting — where hunters lured deer each night to carefully selected sites baited with corn or cedar boughs — did not work as well as hoped.

So the team added a strategy that has worked well for other restoration projects in Gwaii Haanas. They hunted at night using infrared gear, spotlights, and a boat to quickly drop shooters off on shorelines wherever a deer is spotted.

The next phase — a sharpshooter firing from a flying helicopter — proved very effective, taking 130 of the 407 deer killed on Ramsay.

The other snag had nothing to do with actions on the ground. Dog teams flying in from New Zealand had to come earlier than planned because most of Canada's beekeepers get their queen bees flown in from New Zealand every spring, and for health reasons the bees can't share a plane with any other animals.

"These are the things you learn when you're shipping dogs internationally," Irvine said, laughing. The early arrival meant the dogs had to sniff their way through a higher density of deer than expected.

Even so, Irvine said the project is a success so far. The ecosystem on Ramsay is clearly humming again, and terrestrial ecologist Carita Bergman and others are refining their deer-interception strategy to keep it that way.

Other Gwaii Haanas staff, including Judson Brown, Jay Jones, Tauren Collinson, James Bulbrook, got advanced training in sharpshooting and bait-station tactics. Elin Price managed safety while fellow colleagues Nadine Wilson managed logistics for what was the largest, most complex restoration project Gwaii Haanas has run to date.

"We want to be able to have our

own teams run these types of projects into the future," Irvine said.

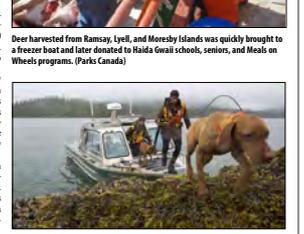
Irvine also said that what inspired the entire project in the first place was ecological work done by Jean Louis Martin and others in the 1990s. The studies not only showed that invasive deer had caused the loss of songbirds, insects, plants, and soil structure in Gwaii Haanas, but that those losses were steadily getting worse.

On Ramsay and surrounding islands at least, that loss is now turning to gain.

"That was something that we



Deer harvested from Ramsay, Lyell, and Moresby Islands was quickly brought to a freezer boat and later donated to Haida Gwaii schools, seniors, and Meals on Wheels programs. (Parks Canada)



The tracking dogs used during the project had GPS units on their collars so that hunters could keep track of them and make sure nowhere was missed during grid searches. (Parks Canada)

www.theprogress.com

Chilliwack Progress

Wednesday, September 13, 2017 Page A25

## Sports Scene

The Chilliwack Progress



Eric Welsh

604.702.5572 • eric.welsh@theprogress.com

# A soccer star's tale of two worlds

Eric J. Welsh, The Progress

If Victory Shumbusho appears to play soccer with more joy than others on the field, if he seems to have a bigger smile on his face as he darts around the pitch, it is because the Beautiful Game holds a special place in his heart.

Soccer sustained him through the darkest times of his life. It gave him happiness in a dark place where happiness was in perilously short supply, and for that he loves it.

Others on the pitch may be passionate about soccer, but their love can't match his.

How could it? His teammates and his foes could just as easily have grown up playing hockey or baseball, rugby or tennis. They could have found their passion elsewhere, but for Victory, soccer was the only choice.

Before he ever danced around the pitch for the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds, Victory flew barefoot up and down a hill in Africa.

He was nine years old when he came to Uganda. Fleeing civil strife in Congo, his family sought refugee status, settling in a small village called Bwerenga. Located about halfway between the cities of Kampala and Enteb-

be, their new home was close to Lake Victoria. Most people earned their living as fishermen but Victory's father, Janvier, did not. He was a preacher who delivered sermons on Sundays. The family's meager income came from Victory's stepmom Louise, a nurse by trade who ran a small clinic and sold medicine.

The family rented two rooms in a house. His parents slept in one room. Victory, his older brother Glory (now 22) and his younger brother Benjamin (now 15) slept in the other, but in daytime hours their room was the clinic. They were expected to wake up early to wash the floor and make sure it looked nice for visitors.

Every morning Victory and his brothers walked 90 minutes to school and journeyed back in the late afternoon. Twice a day they took jerseys and trekked 60 minutes down a hill to the lake, filled them with water and walked another hour back. They collected fire wood for the stove and washed clothes at the well, and only after all their chores were done were they free to do what they wanted.

Thankfully, the sun

went down very late. Victory ran to the field, a barren gravel pitch still burning hot from the blistering African sun. It was littered with tree stumps and tilted so that one team had to play uphill. Of the 22 players on the field only two or three wore cleats.

The entire village came together every night, sharing one ragged soccer ball.

Most villagers weren't good enough to play and had to watch from the sidelines. Though they were among the youngest, Victory and Glory were always chosen.

When they played on their own they improvised, fashioning a ball out of garbage bags and clearing away enough bushes to create a field. The trees they couldn't remove stood as silent defenders.

For however long they played, Victory was able to forget the hardships of Bwerenga. His exhaustion melted away. With the ball at his feet he darted around the trees, raised his arms in triumph and whooped with delight when he scored a goal.

The rest is fragments of memories that he'd just as soon as soon forget.

Coming to Canada though, that's something he'll always remember.

ends. Bwerenga waited for him to return and its dusty roads taunted him the next day as he walked to school.

'Where and what is Canada?' Victory wondered, tossing the idea around in his head for five long years while his family waited for their immigration request to be approved.

He pictured a country with big buildings and nice cars, with people living lives he could only dream of.

Victory couldn't wait to leave Uganda and go to this wonderful place.

The first time he left a country, it was a frightening experience. He remembers escaping east from Congo to Rwanda and walking four hours to cross from Rwanda into Uganda. He recalls Benjamin faking ill so his parents could plead for mercy at a border crossing and his father handing over all of the family's money to pay off the guards who would let them through.

The rest is fragments of memories that he'd just as soon as soon forget.

Coming to Canada though, that's something he'll always remember.



When the time came, Victory was the first one on the airplane, determined to not spend another day in Uganda.

He didn't know what his new life was going to be like, but he knew it would be better than what he was leaving behind.

On March 6, 2012 the Shumbushos landed in Vancouver and were driven to Chilliwack. They spent their first night at the home of Henny and Greg Munroe, members of the Canadian Reformed Church of Chilliwack, which sponsored the new

arrivals. Victory's family left their shoes outside and found them frozen the next morning, learning the first of many lessons. Don't leave clothing outside in the Canadian winter. **Continued page 28**

1<sup>ST</sup>

### THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS

Eric Welsh

A fantastic story about discipline, dedication, perseverance, and wonder. Reporter Eric Welsh's writing delivers on the promise of the story's headline, describing in vivid detail the two worlds involved.

**KTW** Friday **WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND** Page B2 is your guide to events in the city and region  
 MARCH 17, 2017 | Volume 30 No. 33 [kamloopsthisweek.com](http://kamloopsthisweek.com) [facebook.com/kamloopsthisweek](https://www.facebook.com/kamloopsthisweek) [twitter.com/kamthisweek](https://twitter.com/kamthisweek)



# COURAGEOUS

**There is no other word to describe Kirk Guenther's character as he took his team to the title tilt while dealing with terminal cancer YOU WON'T BELIEVE HOW IT ALL PLAYED OUT**

STORY, A17

KAMLOOPS THIS WEEK

Marty Hastings

3<sup>RD</sup>

From the first sentence, the reader's adrenaline is pumping. The best writers lead readers to absorb their words and visualize the story in their minds. Hastings has done just that with this tale of self-sacrifice, tremendous effort, and triumph.

www.saanichnews.com

Saanich News

Friday, December 1, 2017 A9

## Football player finds fresh start with Spectrum

Sahjun Sehmi helps Thunder to first Subway Bowl appearance

Travis Paterson News Staff

It's been a long year for Spectrum Thunder football player Sahjun Sehmi.

The Grade 12 student showed up to Spectrum Community School a week into school on a transfer from Mount Douglas secondary, where he was the target of a football team hazing incident.

In search of a fresh start, he left Mount Doug, where he'd played football since Grade 9, and found a home at Spectrum. His only regret, coming so close to finishing his high school football career with a provincial championship.

Sehmi blamed himself for a couple of key defensive miscues that were part of the Thunder's 28-21 loss in the Subway Bowl Tier 2 championship on Saturday.

"It's funny, I had an interception, I caught a pass for a 40-yard gain, and I recovered the onside kick, but I also didn't play well either. I got burned a couple times," Sehmi said.

The Tier 2 Subway Bowl was Sehmi's third time playing at BC Place, all of them losses. With Mount Doug, Sehmi played in the Subway Bowl junior final but lost to New Westminster Hyacks. In Grade 11 he was with the AAA Rams when they lost in the quarterfinals to Terry Fox. "BC Place and I don't get along too well," Sehmi said. At six feet, 165 pounds, Sehmi uses speed and agility



Spectrum Thunder receiver Sahjun Sehmi jukes as he advances against the Eric Hamber Griffins in the Tier 2 Subway Bowl provincial championship at BC Place on Nov. 25.

PHOTO BY CHRIS WILSON

to make plays as a defensive back, which is his stronger area. Offensively he lined up at wide receiver this year.

Coming from Mount Doug, where things went sour in the spring, there were no guarantees he could transfer and play this season. In seeking a fresh start, Sehmi considered community football until he was permitted to play for Spectrum.

But it almost didn't happen.

Through an appeal involving extenuating circumstances, Sehmi was able to earn the blessing of B.C. School Sports and his former team, Mount Douglas, to play for Spectrum this season. Without the approval of the appeal board, Sehmi would have had to wait a year to play, effectively ending his high school football career.

"I love Spectrum, it's been great here," Sehmi said. "Of course I had apprehensions at first. It was like, 'OK, I'm new here, I'm trying to get my footing,' and I mostly came for football but I did actually know a few people."

He found the football players were welcoming and accepting, happy to have him join the team in its fifth season. Based on his big-program experience, and the Thunder's inexperience, Sehmi was named as one of the captains.

Academically, Sehmi is on track to graduate with a goal of studying at university. He doesn't have anything lined up athletically at university but will give it another go at the Dec. 9 Alberta vs. B.C. Border Bowl match in Chilliwack. There are two ABC matches a year and the games feature a number of Canadian university scouts looking to fill those final spots. Twenty-three players from the 2016 and 2015 B.C. rosters are now playing U Sports football.

Sehmi was named the most outstanding defensive player at the ABC Border Bowl in May, held in Lethbridge, Alta. He's joined by Spectrum's star receiver and defensive back Riley Wilson.

"I just played really well that game, made big plays, and after scouts talked to me and the team invited me back," Sehmi said.

Football isn't the end of athletic season for Sehmi, who will lace up the high-tops for the coming high school basketball season.

2<sup>ND</sup> SAANICH NEWS  
Travis Paterson

An incredibly high-impact, thorough, and well-researched series of stories covering an issue that is far more common than so many choose to believe.

|ST

WESTENDER  
Kelsey Klassen

A well-written, engaging piece on an issue of central importance to the West End. The almost “call and response” of reasons NOT to write the editorial, nicely balanced with THE reasons why.

## Pride and a newspaper's place

Oof. An editor's letter on Pride from a straight, cis-gender, white millennial. I must be mad.

I won't claim here to know the complete history of how and why Pride came about. Not because I don't attempt to learn, but, more specifically, because I wasn't there.

I wasn't there in 1972, when the gay community claimed a stretch of summer as Gay Pride Week.

I wasn't there in 1980, when Vancouver's Pride celebrations coalesced into a festival based out of the West End Community Centre. Or, in 1983, when black arm bands appeared in the parade as a symbolic protest of the BC Human Rights Act, which left gays and lesbians vulnerable to discrimination based on sexual orientation.

I wasn't there in 1993, when Vancouver's gay and lesbian food bank faced closure due, in large part, to overwhelming demand from “straights,” and volunteers walked the parade with petitions to try to keep the facility open for all. I wasn't there, that same year, when the growing Gay Pride Parade announced plans for a “new route” down Denman to Beach Avenue, and held

fundraisers in the West End to offset the mounting costs.

I wasn't there the first year that the *Westender* staff signed up to walk in the parade – making it one of, if not the first newspaper in the city to do so. Nor was I there the first time the *Westender* partnered with the Vancouver Pride Society to print and distribute the festival guide.

I wasn't there; but, as shown by my trip through our archives this week, the *Westender* was.

While I cannot place myself at the front lines of the fight for LGBTQ+ rights, Vancouverites fighting for equality have long found a front line here, in these pages. And, in this office, the LGBTQ+ community can find a listening ear and an honest pen, a forum for change, when needed, and a place to celebrate, when achieved.

As I sit here writing this, the myriad reasons why we have Pride march through my head. Feel free to tell me why you take part as we're walking side by side on Aug. 6.

I walk because there's so much more we can do, and so many more stories to tell.

—Kelsey Klassen, Editor

2ND

ALASKA  
HIGHWAY NEWS

Matt Preprost

A personal health story grabs attention for an exploration of how small communities manage to gain up-to-date technology and the importance of the work of volunteers to ensure that equipment.

## Editorially Speaking

It's a rather unnerving experience, rousing to find yourself on your back on the office floor one afternoon and staring at the ceiling, not knowing how you got there or when, exactly, remembering only the dizziness and the faintness that had come before, the tunnel vision, the crystal white light, the cold touch of the glass door you pressed your head against to try to chill the symptoms away.

Did you lay down? Did you fall down? Surely, you must have laid down yourself, knowing the rush of it all begged it of you—screamed it at you—but maybe the blackness beat you to it first. Waking with the vertigo gone, a brief relief replaced with a tinny warble in your ears, clenching and unclenching your fists, testing for tingling; muttering out your name, the time, the date, the alphabet, your co-worker's name. *Am I slurring my speech? Does my face look swollen to you? Should I go to the hospital? Can I have some water, please?*

So it was Sunday, an abrupt interruption to an otherwise fine day despite all the snow and an incredible finish to the 105th Grey Cup. I have leaned on our hospital for support before, and, for the most part, it's been a quick in-and-out with a prescription in hand. But never in my five winters here had I found myself as an inpatient, after what began as a slightly embarrassing diagnosis (Google 'vasovagal syncope and bowel movement' if you really want to know) turn into a more unsettling, and dangerously serious one. *We're keeping you for observation and further*

testing, the doctor stressed—this, after blood test results returned concerns that a patient and well-managed two-year battle chipping away at a clot in my lower leg had suddenly gone awry and possibly up into my lungs. *Better safe here than at home*, they said, even if it all kind of felt like I was being held against my will.

Nearly twenty-four hours to the minute after that fall, I was stretching my arms over my head, feeling a flush of saline and dye rush through my body, a robotic voice telling me to breathe in and hold as a computed tomography (CT) scanner hovered and spun above my chest.

The patient side of the hospital is an interesting place to wander, with many interesting signs—a PPE room for ebola only, for example, or the double doors declaring NUCLEAR MEDICINE, DO NOT ENTER, begging a curious mind such as mine to peak through the cracks.

But, it's also filled with critical life-saving machines like the CT scanner that, surprisingly, is only available to doctors and patients today because it was bought and paid for, by and large, by the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation and the people who donate to it.

The \$1.75-million CT scanner, for example, was only bought after a \$1.3-million hospital foundation campaign in 2008, monies raised in half the time the foundation had planned to fundraise. The rest of it was paid for by Northern Health and the province—but, again, the expense by and large fell to the community.

The scanner has been used more than 25,000 times since its first scan in 2009, and the foundation recently shelled out \$200,000 for software upgrades that has reduced how much radiation patients receive during a scan while producing higher quality images. If you're reading this, there's a good chance you've needed it.

Jennifer Moore, the hospital foundation's executive director, recalls a story from earlier this summer when a middle-aged man found himself at the hospital with chest pain. The scanner found he had a leaking aneurysm. Sixty per cent of those patients don't survive the trip to the hospital—and, of the 40 per cent who do make it, only 10 per cent live to tell the tale at all, Moore says.

The man was medevaced to Kamloops and wheeled straight into the operating room. Hospital staff in Fort St. John were able to send the man's CT scans to Kamloops ahead of his arrival, giving the surgeon there ample time to develop an appropriate plan and greatly shortening the man's treatment time. His is a story Moore often shares with others during the course of her work.

"I still get goosebumps telling that story," she says. "That's a life-saving thing."

The man's CT scan showed something seriously deadly and he's alive today because of it. My scan came back negative, and I was relieved because of it, and discharged after a second night of observation. Better safe than sorry, they all said—and I have Drs. Esterhuizen, Saukila, and Olajide, along with nurses Sheena, Sukhpreet, Kim,

Debbie, and Neil to thank for that.

The foundation is currently winding down its 21st annual Be An Angel campaign, and spirits are high. New donor relations director Andy Ackerman was found in the hospital cafe Monday smiling ear-to-ear, pleased with how the foundation was moving toward its \$250,000 goal. The money raised will continue to be used to buy more equipment and accessories to improve patient care and comfort at the hospital and Peace Villa care home.

One donor recently walked into the foundation's office and handed over enough money to buy seven new electric dialysis chairs for patients undergoing lengthy treatment sessions.

"It was really important to this donor," Moore says. "It's not changing their treatment, but it's changing their comfort level while they're here."

There's much to be said about the funding quagmire that makes it necessary for the hospital foundation to exist in the first place—and have a community supplement its healthcare needs on top of government spending. Another topic for another time, I suppose, but the foundation's importance can't be understated or underestimated.

Be An Angel formally wraps up at the end of November, but donations are always welcomed. Those wanting to know more can call 250-261-7563. I'll be making a donation this holiday season. Will you?

Matt Preprost is managing editor of the *Alaska Highway News*. Email him at editor@ahnfj.ca

3RD

GULF ISLANDS  
DRIFTWOOD

Gail Sjuberg

Salt Spring faced a major decision on its future and the Driftwood stepped up with a pertinent summary of the issues, while coming down on one side with germane arguments.

EDITORIAL

## Time for change

Articulate and passionate arguments have been aired in the lead-up to Saturday's incorporation vote.

We clearly understand the positions presented by both sides. But as an organization that has observed Salt Spring governance up close since the mid-1960s, we believe incorporation is the better choice.

Yes, the island can celebrate many achievements, most of them possible under any form of governance. But the status quo has failed to deliver two critical things. They are vital infrastructure for a community of 10,500 residents and coordinated decision-making that reflects a truly grown-on-Salt-Spring vision of our community.

The long-overdue fire hall, the \$28 million in North Salt Spring Waterworks District upgrades, cycling infrastructure and the Burgoyne Bay septage facility top that list. Having a newly paved road between Ganges and Fulford, complete with a 1.2-metre cycling/pedestrian shoulder, plus notorious trouble spots fixed and maintenance taken care of for five years is not bribery from the province. It's a decent start to managing our road infrastructure.

THE ISSUE: Incorporation  
WE SAY: Yes

The time for change has come. With coordination, stakeholders will sit down in one room and talk about what's important for the community as a whole. Tools will be assessed, projects prioritized and the resources needed to complete them nailed down.

Regarding the environment, some people erroneously believe incorporation means Salt Spring would lose effective Islands Trust protection. This is simply not true. If Section 38.4 of the Islands Trust Act, which allows the province to intervene in a Trust/municipality dispute, remains a prime concern, we could lobby for its removal. The rest of the story is in the Islands Trust Impact Analysis. Please read that report before declaring incorporation to be the ruination of the Trust or of Salt Spring.

Could we end up with an inept municipal council? Of course. Just as we could elect inept trustees, CRD directors and improvement district trustees now. Will a municipality be awash in surplus dollars and able to do everything at once? Unlikely. Will all of the complex problems we face today evaporate if we become a municipality? Of course not.

But adding the powers of coordination and being “masters in our own house” will give us what we need to build a cohesive community: One that is still unique, still creative and passionate, still Salt Spring Island—but even better.

1ST

# CN Seawalk squabble goes to PR Hall of Shame

**NORTH SHORE NEWS**  
Paul Sullivan

Paul Sullivan offers fresh perspectives on local issues in these well-thought-out columns. He interjects a light touch of humour that doesn't overwhelm but accentuates how decisions made by both corporations and the provincial government negatively affect people.

What is it with railways? Is there something about running an iron road that requires an iron head?

Admittedly, the sample is relatively small here in Canada – we have two big national railways, CP and CN, but they both have a tendency to exhibit the sensibilities of an oncoming train.

CP, for example, tried to bully the City of Vancouver into paying through the nose for the rights to the Arbutus Corridor, a track it had pretty much abandoned for decades, by bulldozing children's gardens on the six o'clock news.

It was eventually settled equitably, as we all knew it would be, but not before CP was inducted in the Tony Hayward PR Hall of Shame,



The North Side  
Paul Sullivan

named in honour of the BP CEO who responded to the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster, the worst man-made disaster in history, by telling the world he'd rather get back to his sailboat.

You can't buy that kind of universal condemnation.

The PR Hall of Shame doesn't exist, except in my head. But it should. There never seems to be a shortage

of wilful, truculent, tone deaf corporate boneheads prepared to look common sense in the eye and abandon it altogether.

The latest candidate for the hall? CN Rail. When everybody else saw the Arbutus Corridor as an unmitigated PR disaster, CN apparently studied it carefully and adopted it as a communications strategy.

As reported in the North Shore News, Feb. 17, CN filed a lawsuit in BC Supreme Court designed to stop everyone from trespassing ... on the Seawalk.

Yes, that Seawalk, the one that runs along the ocean between 19th and 24th in West Van, the one that attracts thousands on any given sunny Sunday.

I'm struck by the similarities between this one and the Arbutus Corridor:

A profound ignorance of the concept of "public licence": With no attempt to make its case in the court of public opinion, CN goes to court to get an injunction to prevent the public from trespassing on the Seawalk. Presumably a large wall topped with barbed wire barring access is about to follow.

Lack of self-awareness: Don't these guys (and you can bet they are guys) have any idea how people already see their noisy, dangerous, air-polluting long lines of railcars full of God knows what? And they want to make it worse?

And why do I feel it's even worse – more than a mere iron-clad lack of perspective? There's a suspicion that these guys actually like playing hardball. The City of Vancouver, after all, did

eventually cough up \$55 million for the Arbutus Corridor (admittedly, a bargain for all that west side real estate), which just encourages these guys to roll out the heavy artillery. No pink shirts on this crowd.

Breathtaking greed: both CP and CN tried to hold up Vancouver and West Van for multimillion-dollar payments, presumably to address all those years when these deadbeat municipalities got to use their rights-of-way for free.

Shocking lack of empathy: Haven't these guys (who else can they be?) ever gone for a stroll on the Arbutus Corridor or the spectacular Seawalk, where maybe you can't see all the way to Alaska, but it sure feels like it? Felt the sun in their faces? Held hands with their sweethearts?

OK, what was I thinking? Oddly enough, CN isn't the only West Van candidate for the Tony Hayward PR Hall of Shame. Park Royal just about earned a lifetime membership about a year ago when it tried to evict the folks who had been peacefully playing chess in the mall for 50 years, ordering them to stop taking up valuable food court space or they will have to "reach out to the West Vancouver Police Department."

Mall brass eventually came to its senses, but not before Park Royal was almost subject to a Holy War when West Van Presbyterian Church announced it was planning a sit-in at the mall in solidarity with the chess players.

And now CN stands at the

See Blunder page 9

# Bullying leaves deep scars behind



JOHN WHITE  
Castlegar News Editor

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research released a report this week highlighting the fact that the rate of discrimination and bullying experienced by students who identify as LGBTQ is three times higher than for heterosexual youth.

Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc is a CIHR-funded researcher and spoke to me about her extensive research on bullying and the LGBTQ community. The key finding noted above did not surprise me. What did shock me was what she termed a "surprise find," which was that more inclusive and respectful climates at schools — including Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) or other socially active groups — actually reduced suicides and suicide attempts by 50 per cent for straight males.

This info slapped me from my morning newspaper-building routine. It immediately took me back to Grade 9, when I was an undersized, under-achieving victim of two bullies. GSAs were not a thing when I was in junior high so there was no atmosphere of acceptance. My size disadvantage set the stage for this mistreatment way back in Grade 1. I demonstrated a quickness

for learning and overall aptitude for the curriculum early on, and the teachers recommended that I be moved up to Grade 2 to challenge and accelerate my schooling.

I was too young to understand the ramifications, and my parents thought it was a brilliant opportunity to have my instruction match my energy and hunger for learning while gaining a year of my life. And why would they think otherwise, as it appeared to be a win-win?

What no one thought about at the time was the impact of dropping an already small-for-his-age student into a higher grade bracket. I quickly realized that most of the kids in my homeroom class resented my presence, and they assumed I was arrogant. I was too terrified of the bigger kids to think I was superior.

This imbalance finally took root in Grade 9, when the older kids hit puberty and were lucky enough to have growth spurts. One boy, in particular — John M. — was merciless in his torment of the smaller boys in our grade. He would regularly take the rubber insert from the handles of his Adidas bag and whip the smaller boys with it. It left welts on our arms and back for days. I was afraid to show my arms or back to my family and worked to hide the bruises.

He would also slap or punch us in the hallways with no provocation. He would do it hard enough to inflict pain, but not so hard that it would do lasting damage. He wanted us to know he COULD knock us out if he chose. Fear was his currency. He was also verbally abusive, using vul-

gar put-downs as knives — the bigger the audience, the better for him.

This abuse irreparably damaged my self-esteem. I spiralled into complete apathy in a month. Some days I couldn't be bothered to wash my greasy hair. As you'd imagine, this was like painting a target on my back for my bully.



More inclusive and respectful climates at schools — including Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) or other socially active groups — reduced suicides and suicide attempts by 50 per cent for straight males, a study has discovered. (Black Press file)

I developed intense anxiety, especially when having to walk the gauntlet of the main hallway, knowing I was likely to be hit or ridiculed. After walking through the front door of the school, my palms would start to sweat, my breathing would get shallow and my stomach would tie up. Finally, during one particularly humiliating game of "why are you punching yourself?" in front of the entire class and before the

teacher arrived, I stood up. John M. was stunned.

"Oh, so you're standing up now?"

"My dad said I should stand up to bullying."

I was so naive that I thought my dad meant to literally stand up. Somehow it worked. I blocked his punches and he got bored and went to another

teacher arrived, I stood up. John M. was stunned. "Oh, so you're standing up now?" "My dad said I should stand up to bullying."

I was so naive that I thought my dad meant to literally stand up. Somehow it worked. I blocked his punches and he got bored and went to another

to slash or cross-check me in practice and use homophobic slurs to turn the screws. Yes, he was my teammate.

The most common put-down in minor hockey in the late '70s was to call someone a "fag." It was so common that it lost its sting over time. Well, at least for those of us who were not

of my legs, as usual, for no reason. I snapped and went at him with a series of cross-checks. Over and over I cross-checked him in the chest. The coaches finally split us apart yet I was still furious and calling him out.

I was straight and was scarred for life by this homophobic harassment. Imagine having to endure this kind of taunting, this verbal and physical abuse, as an LGBTQ person. Oh, and I didn't have social media and cyber-bullying to deal with in the late '70s, either.

Luckily, I had parents who were always there to support me, and a close group of friends who accepted me and stood up for me when things got nasty.

Dr. Saewyc outlined two primary ways to combat bullying. Establish peer groups like GSAs in schools and empower adults to clearly outline and demonstrate inclusive behaviour and call out bullying when they see or hear it happening.

The target is to create an atmosphere where bullying is not the norm and students feel comfortable being themselves regardless of which self that happens to be. It's one of the leading paths of speculation for that statistic quoted earlier showing a 50 per cent reduction in suicide attempts by straight males.

So it's not just about standing up for yourself, it's standing up for everyone around you.

gay or queer. Yes, I also used the slur during games. The anxiety and pain from his constant cheapshots — verbal and literal — boiled over during one intense scrimmage when he slashed me on the back

less-resistant victim. Before that pivotal moment in the abuse cycle, my only escape from the torment — playing hockey — was also overtaken by another bully. The boys my own age — a year behind me in school — resented the fact that I'd skipped a grade. Ironic. The post-puberty Mike H. was huge for his age and the best player on our team. Unfortunately, he also knew it and for some reason liked

See LGBTQ health disparity study leads to surprise finding on Page 7

2ND

**CASTLEGAR NEWS**

John White

John White demonstrates his strong writing ability in tackling two vastly different issues, taking on one with humour and the other with compelling seriousness. In the serious piece, his personal remembrance is melded with research, which takes the column beyond simply navel gazing.

I demonstrated a quickness

# Familiar name among the numbers

The numbers are out and, once again, they're not good. In B.C., 116 people died from a drug overdose in the first month of 2017.

That's an average of seven deaths every two days. Soon, we'll hear February's stats and it's a safe bet that they won't be much better.

Last year, more than 900 people died in B.C. after ingesting illicit drugs. Of those deaths, 21 happened in Langley. It's not a huge number by comparison to some communities, but it's one that has risen fairly consistently over the past 10 years.

With the introduction of fentanyl and, increasingly (the far deadlier) carfentanyl, into pretty much every street drug you can name, it's unlikely we'll ever see those numbers fall in any meaningful way.

The statistics are overwhelming. So it's no wonder many of us have grown numb, considering the hundreds of nameless, faceless victims who've succumbed to overdose in the past 12



FROM THE editor  
Brenda Anderson

months alone. For me, at least, that's been true. Until now.

In December, for the first time, one of the victims turned out to be someone I had known personally.

We weren't friends, but Arlene Fowler and I did have a couple of memorable conversations.

The first took place in the beauty aisle of a local grocery store a few years ago. I walked around the corner and saw her standing halfway up the aisle. She was holding a small box of hair colour in each hand and wearing a confused look.

I probably would have kept on walking if she hadn't addressed me.

She held out one of the boxes of brown colour, telling me she'd decided to lose the bottle blond and return to her natural shade. The only problem was, she couldn't remember what that was, exactly.

So she bent her chin to her chest as I held up one box top after another, looking for the best match to her roots.

Throughout the process, Arlene giggled like a teenager.

Eventually, we found a good fit and she went on her way.

I reminded her of the encounter as she sat in my office in July 2015. She laughed and told me she remembered. The change hadn't taken root, I noted, as she was still a blonde.

This time, the help she was looking for was somewhat more serious.

She'd been homeless, on and off, after the sudden death of one of her daughters led her into a downward spiral of alcohol and drug abuse.

She had turned to prostitution as a way to feed her habit.

By this point, she had become afraid for her safety and wanted off the street, but she wasn't able to find anyplace she could afford.

Would I help her?

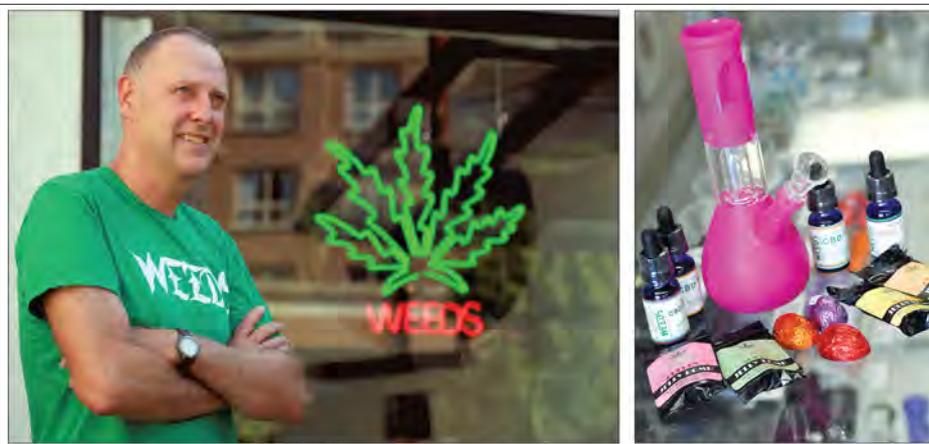
We talked for a while as Arlene shed a few tears; she left; I wrote about her plight. I didn't hear from her after that, so I had no idea whether she'd managed to find a landlord who was willing to take a chance on her.

Continued Page 9

3RD

**LANGLEY TIMES**  
Brenda Anderson

Brenda Anderson presents a moving account of an addict's battle to survive with a call to action that differs from most. She also demonstrates her ability to use humour when she relates how Canadians' inferiority complex to Americans has altered since Trump's election.



Michael Wuest stands outside his Weeds store on Marine Drive - the first marijuana storefront to open on the North Shore. Right: Marijuana tinctures, jellies, and chocolates, along with a pipe are among the products for sale at Ray Nikell's Weeds store on East First Street. PHOTOS LISA KING-PAUL MCGRATH

## The greening of a grey economy Cannabusiness

JANE SEYD  
seyd@vancourier.com

**Down in North Vancouver's Lower Lonsdale, just a couple of blocks from the neighbourhood's bustling main drag, the Lotusland Cannabis Club's storefront proudly displays its green logo in a stripe across the front windows. The words "British Columbia's finest," almost look official.**

Inside, through a set of double doors that help keep the smell of marijuana out of the street, there's a chalkboard with daily specials behind a large gleaming display counter. The light and airy atmosphere feels a bit like a high-end coffee or chocolate shop. Except it's not. On top of a low table in a seating area, there's a tray with Zigzag rolling papers.

"Indica, sativa or hybrid?" one of the staff asks a man who's walked in off the street. For a mid-week afternoon, there's a steady stream of customers.

Some are buying regular bud, others choosing from

an array of "edibles" including brownies, granola and Nuanano bars.

"If you can eat it, they're going to put marijuana in it," said Steve Morrow, the manager of the store on shift this afternoon.

Cookies behind the counter sell for \$11.

"We only recommend you take tiny bites of that," said Morrow. "We recommend you only take an eighth of a piece."

Strains of marijuana behind the counter are colour coded to indicate a sativa or indica - or a hybrid - strain.

Moby Dick is a popular sativa. "It's supremely energetic. Very clear-headed. It's good for getting stuff done," said Morrow.

So is the Purple Space Cookies indica hybrid. "The vast majority of people who shop here consider it one of the best strains," he said.

"When we get that one in, people go crazy."

Lotusland is one of two storefront marijuana shops on this street alone and one of five currently operating in the City of North Vancouver.

Must have opened in the

past year and a half, buoyed by the federal government's promise of legalized marijuana.

Selling marijuana from any retail storefront - for either medicinal or recreational purposes - is still illegal in Canada, and decisions about how it will eventually be distributed haven't been made yet. But with legalization on the horizon and a reluctance to crack down aggressively on pot shops, a number of retail owners have been prepared to take a risk in order to get a toehold on the North Shore.

Wuest said the idea behind Weeds is to get marijuana out into the open, along with making a profit. "We want people to come in and talk with us and see what we have to offer," he said. "We don't hide anything. We don't black out our windows."

In Wuest's store, there is steady foot traffic checking out the tincture-infused drinks in the cooler, the colour-coded plastic totes of Pink Kush and Rock Star. Behind the counter, an employee is diligently making "pre-rolls" or joints, that sell for about \$6 each, with the aid of a hand roller.

Wuest describes the current state of marijuana laws as "a grey area."

Getting in on the ground floor of regulation is part of what the current storefronts are about, he acknowledges. "Why wouldn't we?" he said. "We wanted to be ahead of the curve."

"They want to be there first and gain the recognition in the market," said Werner Antweiler, a UBC professor in the Sauder School of Business, who has studied the marijuana industry. "I understand the business logic."

There is also a risk. "They're not playing by the rules here," said Antweiler. "They're kind of hoping the police and municipalities aren't enforcing it."

For most storefronts, the gamble has paid off so far. Although the North Vancouver RCMP detachment is aware of the pot shops, officers have taken a hands-off approach.

"There is no cookie cutter approach which would apply to marijuana dispensaries," said Cpl. Janelle Sholheit, spokeswoman for the Lower Mainland's RCMP E Division

headquarters, in an emailed statement. "Each one has to be looked at and a risk assessment conducted, to determine what action would be appropriate and when."

"They're in charge of enforcing federal law," said North Vancouver City Councillor Rod Clark. "The fact they're not jumping up and down and having officers at the door of these establishments means somewhere in their system common wisdom has taken hold."

Officially speaking, that view isn't shared by the City of North Vancouver. "There's this period of time when (marijuana storefront owners) feel they're operating in a grey zone," said Gary Penway, director of community development for the city. "There's nothing really grey about it. It's not permitted."

When the two Weeds stores opened, they were licensed to sell glass and gifts, not marijuana," said Penway. "They had a condition on their business licenses specifically written in to them not to sell marijuana. ... Then

at MacKenzie Heights were zoned in before planners decided it was inappropriate to have them near homes.

And yet today, the new businesses that have taken over grandfathered commercial space in residential neighborhoods are gaining popularity. They bring convenience, but also community.

In early March, the mayor gave a speech about bringing "gentle density" to single-family home neighborhoods. But when that happens, what about the amenities?

A glimpse of a vibrant future for Vancouver's neighborhoods can be seen in residential communities like MacKenzie Heights, thanks to the mom-and-pop shops that are making a comeback.

**Zoned out**  
The 1950s, '60s and '70s were the age of the automobile, and that was reflected in North American cities. Planners encouraged the separation of residential, industrial and commercial land.

"Pristine low-density neighborhoods and a drive to a shopping centre - that was the paradigm," said Gil Kelley, Vancouver's chief planner.

As for convenience stores, groceries and neighbourhood pubs inside residential neighborhoods, a lot of them were zoned out because they were considered a "non-conforming use" for their area, said Kelley.

In Vancouver, that happened to neighbourhood

groceries left vacant for too long. However, some remained, and attracted new business owners. These locations were walkable, had nostalgic charm and were often on visible corner lots. Why not resurrect them into gathering places for the neighbourhood?

One pioneer was Le Marche St. George, nestled between Main and Fraser and all the Vancouver Specials by East 28th. Once owned by a Japanese family that ran a classic corner store (they say you could buy single cigarettes out of a back door), Le Marche brought the laidback allure of a European cafe to the neighbourhood.

But the new bustle in the area drew a complaint, and insisted a floor-off that the media framed into a David and Goliath battle. The corner store vs. city hall? The stakes? Whether neighbourhood groceries were allowed to prepare food.

Petition signatures and letters poured in to support Le Marche. After all, asked residents, aren't spots like this what creates vibrant communities in the city?

City council unanimously voted to allow the stores to serve prepared food and have a maximum of 16 seats, as long as the stores' primary use was "selling groceries and convenience goods."

In a thank you note to supporters, Le Marche wrote, "This is huge for us and all other little-shop-like ones. It gives these kinds of stores a fair chance at succeeding and

contributing to their communities creatively without being burdened by outdated ideas."

There are a number of treasures like Le Marche tied to and tucked into their neighbourhoods. Classics like Benny's in Strathcona and Arbutus Coffee in Kitsilano. Now among their ranks are the Wilder Snail and Finch's, also in Strathcona, and the Mighty Oak in Riley Park-Little Mountain.

One of the latest in the Federal Store in Mount Pleasant, opened by Chris Allen and Colette Griffiths last November. They live nearby and wanted to bring new life to the corner after the convenience store of the same name closed.

"We took inspiration from the sign," said Allen. It still hangs on the corner, bright red with Federal Store in white letters and an elegant, curved stripe.

Think Coca-Cola.

Unlike the other grocery cafes in lower density residential neighborhoods, there are more apartments near the Federal Store. The only other like it is Greenhorn among the West End's towers and walkups, which shares the block with a dry cleaners. With density, you need amenities, something that the City of Toronto recently introduced to live up to its out-of-the-way concrete tower neighbourhoods.

"Many residents don't really see their neighbours

everyday if they live in an apartment or townhouse," said Allen. He estimates that 80 per cent of the Federal Store's customers live within a two-block radius.

Chief planner Kelley thinks there's something to be learned from their popularity. "This shows you that the market - meaning both the consumers and the use - is somehow way ahead of where zoning policy needs to be," he said.

"No small independent business can afford it," said Morris. "Starbucks is not interested in it because there's not enough traffic. It will destroy the community."

Life here is about making and meeting friends, whether they're your neighbours, or the man baking your bread.

"We have customers that meet other customers and go. 'Don't you live near me?' And they sit down and start talking and become friends. That's community."

A few blocks down, it's something Chris Kasakamandis the barber knows. He can show you community on his wall, time-worn photos of children getting their first haircuts from his 19 years in the neighbourhood. He watched them grow up. If you lived nearby, you'd recognize them too.

"Good people," he said with a smile. @byrichcheng

## 1ST NORTH SHORE NEWS Jane Seyd

A look at how players in the still-illegal dispensary business are moving to claim market share on the North Shore ahead of legalization. A well-reported and engaging feature that illustrates how dispensaries move in under the cover of business licenses that don't mention their true intent to sell cannabis, seeking to gain legitimacy before legalization.

## 2ND VANCOUVER COURIER Christopher Cheung

Most of us remember neighbourhood corner stores from our childhood. With "Corner restored," Cheung delivers a highly-entertaining story about how these disappearing neighbourhood amenities are being brought back to life by a new breed of entrepreneurs who see them as hubs to help build communities.

**DAVINCCI JEWELLERS**  
WATCH AND JEWELLERY REPAIR CENTRE  
SPECIALIZING IN CUSTOM ORDERS

**7** Early morning shooting victim was known to police, but didn't have gangland ties

**RICHMOND NEWS**

RICHMOND-NEWS.COM FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2017

**RICHMOND MARITIME FESTIVAL**  
AUG 12-13 SATURDAY 10 AM - 2 PM SUNDAY 10 AM - 5 PM



**3RD RICHMOND NEWS**  
Daisy Xiong

**Trunk Trade**  
The News goes undercover to discover the wealth of Chinese delicacies being sold locally underground 10

Bold undercover reporting exposes an element of the underground economy that people might have heard rumours about but had no idea how it worked or how extensive it was. This is an important discussion about the consequences of such trade in maintaining food safety and in unreported income that results in lost taxes.

A14 THE VANCOUVER COURIER THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

**Feature**

Simon Woodcock and his son, Luka, enjoy a cookie and coffee at the recently opened Federal Store in Mount Pleasant. Neighbourhood "mom-and-pop shops" are making a comeback, although in MacKenzie Heights, where barber Christos Kasakamandis works, they've never gone away. See photo gallery at vancouvercourier.com. PHOTOS DAN TULLOGET

**TALK OF THE BLOCK**  
**New breed of corner stores brings convenience and community**

**Christopher Cheung**  
byrichcheng@gmail.com

When Karen Hamill's daughter learned to walk, the mom-and-pop shops of MacKenzie and West 33rd were her first destination.

"You come here to meet people," said Hamill, who lives 15 minutes away.

"[Eventually], everyone knows your name. They speak with my children, they ask for life updates. You don't get that from chain stores."

There's Christos Kasakamandis, the 70-year-old neighbourhood barber who gives haircuts and plays the accordion.

There's Earl Morris, the neighbourhood baker, who set up here with his sister after they ran Kerrisdale's beloved Red Onion restaurant for 26 years.

There's Jessica Clark, the neighbourhood florist, who always knows what you'd like. Maybe it helps that her middle name is Blossom.

And there's Indra Doyles, 23, the newest on the block, who runs a beauty store on the corner. She's very excited to be here.

There's something unusual about this hub. There aren't many places like it in Vancouver for one reason: in every direction are houses, houses, houses.

It's hard to find commercial spaces in residential neighbourhoods because city planners for decades have tried to keep them out. The dozen businesses here

at MacKenzie Heights were zoned in before planners decided it was inappropriate to have them near homes.

And yet today, the new businesses that have taken over grandfathered commercial space in residential neighborhoods are gaining popularity. They bring convenience, but also community.

In early March, the mayor gave a speech about bringing "gentle density" to single-family home neighborhoods. But when that happens, what about the amenities?

A glimpse of a vibrant future for Vancouver's neighborhoods can be seen in residential communities like MacKenzie Heights, thanks to the mom-and-pop shops that are making a comeback.

**Zoned out**  
The 1950s, '60s and '70s were the age of the automobile, and that was reflected in North American cities. Planners encouraged the separation of residential, industrial and commercial land.

"Pristine low-density neighborhoods and a drive to a shopping centre - that was the paradigm," said Gil Kelley, Vancouver's chief planner.

As for convenience stores, groceries and neighbourhood pubs inside residential neighborhoods, a lot of them were zoned out because they were considered a "non-conforming use" for their area, said Kelley.

In Vancouver, that happened to neighbourhood groceries left vacant for too long. However, some remained, and attracted new business owners. These locations were walkable, had nostalgic charm and were often on visible corner lots. Why not resurrect them into gathering places for the neighbourhood?

One pioneer was Le Marche St. George, nestled between Main and Fraser and all the Vancouver Specials by East 28th. Once owned by a Japanese family that ran a classic corner store (they say you could buy single cigarettes out of a back door), Le Marche brought the laidback allure of a European cafe to the neighbourhood.

But the new bustle in the area drew a complaint, and insisted a floor-off that the media framed into a David and Goliath battle. The corner store vs. city hall? The stakes? Whether neighbourhood groceries were allowed to prepare food.

Petition signatures and letters poured in to support Le Marche. After all, asked residents, aren't spots like this what creates vibrant communities in the city?

City council unanimously voted to allow the stores to serve prepared food and have a maximum of 16 seats, as long as the stores' primary use was "selling groceries and convenience goods."

In a thank you note to supporters, Le Marche wrote, "This is huge for us and all other little-shop-like ones. It gives these kinds of stores a fair chance at succeeding and contributing to their communities creatively without being burdened by outdated ideas."

There are a number of treasures like Le Marche tied to and tucked into their neighbourhoods. Classics like Benny's in Strathcona and Arbutus Coffee in Kitsilano. Now among their ranks are the Wilder Snail and Finch's, also in Strathcona, and the Mighty Oak in Riley Park-Little Mountain.

One of the latest in the Federal Store in Mount Pleasant, opened by Chris Allen and Colette Griffiths last November. They live nearby and wanted to bring new life to the corner after the convenience store of the same name closed.

"We took inspiration from the sign," said Allen. It still hangs on the corner, bright red with Federal Store in white letters and an elegant, curved stripe.

Think Coca-Cola.

Unlike the other grocery cafes in lower density residential neighborhoods, there are more apartments near the Federal Store. The only other like it is Greenhorn among the West End's towers and walkups, which shares the block with a dry cleaners. With density, you need amenities, something that the City of Toronto recently introduced to live up to its out-of-the-way concrete tower neighbourhoods.

"Many residents don't really see their neighbours everyday if they live in an apartment or townhouse," said Allen. He estimates that 80 per cent of the Federal Store's customers live within a two-block radius.

Chief planner Kelley thinks there's something to be learned from their popularity. "This shows you that the market - meaning both the consumers and the use - is somehow way ahead of where zoning policy needs to be," he said.

"No small independent business can afford it," said Morris. "Starbucks is not interested in it because there's not enough traffic. It will destroy the community."

Life here is about making and meeting friends, whether they're your neighbours, or the man baking your bread.

"We have customers that meet other customers and go. 'Don't you live near me?' And they sit down and start talking and become friends. That's community."

A few blocks down, it's something Chris Kasakamandis the barber knows. He can show you community on his wall, time-worn photos of children getting their first haircuts from his 19 years in the neighbourhood. He watched them grow up. If you lived nearby, you'd recognize them too.

"Good people," he said with a smile. @byrichcheng

4 | WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2017

FEATURE

www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD

## DYING with DIGNITY | PART THREE IN A THREE-PART SERIES

# Islanders choosing assisted death despite barriers to access

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Canadian legislation outlining the parameters for medical assistance in dying put strict limitations on who is eligible for the service. Having a terminal condition, intolerable suffering and a short-timeline for one's end are required — but no guarantee that medical help will be available even if all of the above is in place.

Since the passing of Bill C-14 in June 2016, no person living on Salt Spring has received medical assistance in dying (MAID) from a locally based family doctor.

"As far as I know, the local doctors are all supportive but there's no one willing to take on the procedure. And that's too bad, because it could be done in the home," said Brian Finmore, a member of Dying with Dignity's Salt Spring chapter. "I think from a patient's point of view, dying in one's own home would be the best option. That way one can create the environment and prepare spiritually and emotionally."

"It would be a good death," agreed Melinda Okulitch, a fellow Dying With Dignity member who is a lay chaplain with the Salt Spring Unitarian Fellowship. "I think those are few and far between — but we would all wish for that. I think a good death is when you've prepared yourself, prepared your family, you've done what you need to."

### MEETING THE NEED

There are currently 150 doctors and nurse practitioners trained as MAID assessors and 17 medical professionals who actively provide MAID in the Vancouver Island region, compared to just seven in all of Nova Scotia. The region's take-up in service also compares on the high side, estimated at five times that of the rest of Canada. But the number of people who can handle and administer MAID drugs for Island Health may be unevenly distributed toward urban areas, with little incentive to move beyond home base.

Some Salt Spring residents have died at home with help from physicians who came over from Vancouver Island, and Dying with Dignity members say others have themselves done the travelling for a quiet end at Saanich Peninsula Hospital. Unfortunately, the requirement for a patient to be in intolerable pain to be eligible makes movement near impossible for many. It also takes away some of the agency and dignity that the Supreme Court's 2015 Carter decision intended to restore.

"The principle challenge has been access to physicians who are willing to prescribe, in all locations. Salt Spring is one of those. That has been the principle issue and it's not unique to the island," said Dr. David Robertson, MAID coordinator for Island Health.

"This is an access problem for parts of Vancouver Island, and parts of the province and parts of Canada. We think it might be dif-

ficult on Salt Spring, but it's nothing only on Northern Health."

Robertson's role is to coordinate implementation of the MAID program in the facilities run by Island Health. Because most doctors in B.C. are independent contractors, though, he said there is no way to implement a regional policy that ensures equitable access between rural and larger communities.

"Our policy is to ensure and support assisted dying in all our facilities within Island Health. We also support the rights of individuals to withdraw or not take part. But we have tried to ensure there are people who will prescribe the medication in every part of the island — and so far we've been successful," Robertson said.

"The whole philosophy behind this and also behind the Supreme Court's original judgement back in 2015 is to place the authority in the hands of the person who's dying. We're trying to do that as much as possible."

### BARRIERS TO ACCESS

Dr. Jonathan Reggler is a family physician from Courtenay who chairs Dying with Dignity Canada's Physicians Advisory Council. He says one of the problems with finding MAID providers in small communities is the privacy issue. When he decided to take the training, for example, he was worried about how his family-practice patients and his nursing colleagues at the Roman Catholic St. Joseph's Hospital might respond.

"I thought there was actually a very real risk that my patients would be upset with me and would want to be looked after by another physician," Reggler said, although in fact the opposite situation occurred and both groups voiced overwhelming support.

Reggler has been a public advocate for access to compassionate death beginning with the early days of the legislative process. He went to the media to denounce the St. Joseph Hospital board decision to block access to MAID in their facility and has been a strong voice for patient rights ever since.

"My reason is because when I develop a grievous and irremediable condition that causes me intolerable suffering, I would like to have a medically assisted death, or at least have it available to me. So it's appropriate for me to offer it to others now," Reggler said.

To get started, Reggler and his colleague Dr. Tanja Daws set out to educate themselves on how to start up a practice, using research from the Netherlands and a Dying with Dignity webinar among their materials. They ended up writing a handbook that's being used in many communities across Canada.

As they've found, it's not as easy as just agreeing to be a provider. Aside from the training for the act itself there is companion paperwork to get through — a recent report from the BC Coroners Service found 40 per cent of MAID case files from 2016 were missing forms.

Equitable remuneration for time served has yet to be worked out properly. Providers get a flat fee for administering the death, with a cap on their time that does not allow for the many tasks involved before and afterwards.

"Doctors are not likely to take a very large reduction on income for what is very intensive work," Reggler said. "There are still no billing codes to allow doctors to bill appropriately for MAID services. Because of the way doctors are able to bill, they are better off staying at their home offices."

### CRISIS OF CONSCIENCE

Reggler now routinely asks all his patients age 75 and older whether they would like him to include a conversation about MAID if they receive a terminal diagnosis. Between 90 and 95 per cent have said they would.

"In a way, that shouldn't be surprising, because 96 per cent of people in B.C. support MAID, and 80 per cent of Catholics do — despite the position of the church against it," he said.

The percentage of Canadian doctors that support MAID has been significantly lower than the rest of the population, however. A report by the Canadian Medical Association published in 2015 found its members were evenly divided on the issue of legalizing assisted dying, and the number of respondents who said they would offer the service were a "significant minority."

In addition to the fact that providing MAID was a criminal act until just last year, this reluctance has a lot to do with doctors' training about the purpose of medicine, which is based on the concept of "primum non nocere." Segen's Medical Dictionary interprets the Latin "first, do no harm" term as "a guiding principle for physicians that, whatever the intervention or procedure, the patient's well-being is the primary consideration."

Doctors may struggle to accept the idea that a patient's well-being is best served by ceasing to live, while supporters of medically assisted death take a more liberal view.

"It shouldn't amount to a denial



Jonathan Reggler

of service," said Joan Farlinger, a co-founder of Dying with Dignity Salt Spring. "The Supreme Court issued its ruling, and it was a good ruling."

"I always think of it as 'Do no harm.' And you're doing harm by forcing people to suffer," Okulitch added.

If professionals trained in the health sciences have their doubts about assisted death, the religious community is often opposed, taking a life for any reason is forbidden in many faiths. That becomes a problem when patients are admitted to residential facilities, which are sometimes the only type available.

A 1995 agreement between Island Health and facilities run by religious organizations allows those bodies not to provide services they don't agree with. The agreement was drafted to cover abortion, but Reggler said it is now being stretched to include MAID as well.

"It's a big problem — 20 per cent of residential care beds on Vancouver Island are in control of religious entities," Reggler said. "I think the idea of a facility being able to claim it's a conscientious objector is wrong. Bricks and mortar can't have a conscience."

The Ontario College of Physi-

cians and Surgeons is so far the only Canadian jurisdiction that requires doctors to provide an "effective referral" for patients who are seeking an assisted death if they themselves object to providing one, but that policy has been challenged in court by the Christian Medical and Dental Society.

Self-referral is available in jurisdictions like Island Health. That is insufficient according to Dying with Dignity Canada.

"We don't think it's fair that someone who has a terminal cancer diagnosis be given a website or phone number to do their own research. We believe medical practitioners should have the right not to provide, but that must be balanced with the patient's right to care," said DWDC spokesperson Cory Ruf, adding the case could pose a troubling precedent if CMDS wins.

He said Dying with Dignity executive director Shanaaz Gokool has made a point of collecting the stories of people denied access and is taking them as the organization's "north star" for future action.

"Something Shanaaz always says is in human rights, your work is never done. You still have to be vigilant to ensure that right is protected," Ruf said.

## 1ST GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD

Elizabeth Nolan

Taking a local approach to a national story, Elizabeth Nolan launches this series with two local residents whose obituaries referenced Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) legislation shortly after its implementation. The story hinges on the support Gulf Islands residents have shown for medically assisted death. An informative, well-paced and well-researched examination of MAID.

## 2ND

NORTH DELTA REPORTER  
Grace Kennedy

A particularly well-informed story about the struggles and reshaping of the Delta minor league team sport scene, which has undergone numerous association mergers carried out to enhance competitiveness. Skillfully researched and written, the story is colourful and engaging, incorporating action from recent games. Grace Kennedy's passion for the subject matter is obvious and infectious.

North Delta Reporter Thursday, March 30, 2017

**sports DR**

## SERIES: Making the merge

In a municipality divided against itself, many Delta sports teams are struggling to remain competitive against their more populous neighbours. This month, we're looking at how associations are keeping teams going — and why many are deciding to join forces.

**Grace Kennedy**  
North Delta Reporter



The diamond smelled of dirt beneath the July sun. Sara Groenewegen's fingers closed around the softball, the last of so many she had pitched that day. Kennedy Bailey, but in hand and Delta jersey on, was ready.

It was the final game of the 2017 South Ball B.C. Provincial Championships: Delta Heat '96 versus the White Rock Renegades '95.

Earlier in the tournament, the Renegades had nixed the Heat in a game that ended early at 8-0, and many expected this game to go the same way. But the Renegades were getting nervous.

They had gotten a run early on, but the score stagnated until the bottom of the seventh inning. Bob Houtman was standing at the first base line, coaching the Delta Heat as they ran to base. He heard the whispers from the other team.

They were saying, "I don't like the way this game's going, it's too close. I don't like the way this game's going," he said.

In the final inning, Delta Heat had one runner on base. Then there was an out. Another out. If one more player was tagged out, the game would be over.

Then, someone else got on base. The two players each moved up a base. Bailey was now up to bat.

The ball flew off the tips of Groenewegen's fingers. Bailey hit it up the middle of the field — it skipped off the top of the short stop's glove and went over to the right.

One runner scored, the game was tied 1-1. Then, the second runner made it home.

Houtman didn't see the winning run. He was too busy shouting at Bailey to move faster. If the Renegades had gotten her out, the runs wouldn't have counted.

She made it. The game ended 2-1 for Delta, and Houtman said "it was pandemonium." The Delta girls were screaming and hugging. Houtman was jumping up and down on the first base line.

"Everybody I talked to said that was one of the greatest games they'd ever seen," he said.

From the field of victory, Houtman scraped a small amount of dirt into a plastic vial. It now sits in a shelf in his self-described "man cave" along with a ball from the game and vials of dirt from other great moments in his coaching career.

According to Houtman, no one expected them to win. So how does an underdog team win provincials at the highest level of competition in minor softball?

He would probably say it was partly the players (10 out of the 12 girls on the team received softball scholarships), partly the coaching. And partly, it was because of Delta Heat, an association that merged North Delta and South Delta's Rep A teams in 1993.

Without that merged association, he said, "we would have probably struggled along as a North Delta team." They wouldn't have had the success they did if they hadn't been able to play together.

Delta Heat was the response to a growing pressure in Delta to stem the flow of players moving out of the individual Delta associations and towards "elite-level" groups like the White Rock Renegades.

Now, Heat teams are powerhouse in Canada and abroad. The 1996 and 1997 teams were back to back national champions, and many Delta Heat teams have made their mark in American tournaments.

Since 2011, at least six different associations have merged in Delta, primarily in team sports.

In 2011, the Taswanston and Ladner softball associations merged. In 2013, the North Delta and South Delta lacrosse associations joined to become the Delta Lacrosse Association. In 2016, Delta Heat and the North and South Delta softball associations became Delta Fastpitch.

Most recently, the North Delta and South Delta minor hockey associations looked at creating a united program for their top-level players, although this decision was later postponed for at least a year.

The proposal is somewhat different than mergers done by other associations; it would have expanded the boundaries of both rep teams rather than create a separate organization. Although the method is different, the impetus is the same: how can Delta stay competitive in team sports?

For Ken Priestley, a coach with the South Delta Minor Hockey Association, merging is the best way to make this happen.

"You would have stronger teams, at least numbers wise," if associations merged, he said. "Whenever you get a bigger number to choose from, the depth of your team ... improves. It just does."

"But because we're separate all the time, it's a challenging time to get competitive teams always together."

Chris Roper, the president of Delta Fastpitch, and Darcy Phillips, president of the Delta Lacrosse Association, agree. They both said that merging was the only option for their associations.

But mergers aren't always easy, and next week we'll look at the struggles associations face when the merge, as well as the reasons that make it worthwhile.

—With files from Tom Zilliox



RCMP member Alice Fox describes her tattoos outside her Cloverdale home.

## RCMP member Alice Fox on her struggle with PTSD

# 'We don't feel no more'

Grace Kennedy  
Cloverdale Reporter

Alice Fox stood in front of her Cloverdale apartment building, the plaid sleeve on her left arm rolled up to the shoulder.

"This one is, 'Our lives begin to change the day we're silent about things that matter,'" she said, looking down at the curvilinear words tattooed along her arm. "Right. That hit me so hard."

"And this one's God's work in my life," she added. It's hard to tell whether she's referencing the shackled hands clasped in prayer, the church steeple rising behind rays of light or the dove rising in flight along her inner bicep. She points to more and more. The words "PTSD Warrior" spilling down past her elbow. The image of St. Michael, archangel and patron saint of police officers, looking down to her wrist and fingers.

"And then angel wings back here," she said, turning her head to catch a glimpse of her back. "But that's going to be 'Gatherers of my fallen friends ... That's my tribute.'"

As an RCMP member, Fox has seen her friends fall under the strain of post-traumatic stress disorder. She attended the funeral of one friend on her birthday, after that RCMP member committed suicide.

She's responded to late night phone calls from countless others.

As a member suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder herself, she said "the miracle is the fact that I'm still here."

PTSD isn't uncommon in the RCMP and the Canadian Armed Forces, where Fox worked before she became a Mountie. According to a 2013 Canadian Forces Mental Health Survey, 11 per cent of people in the regular forces met the criteria for PTSD at some point in their life. Clinical psychologist Greg Passey said RCMP rates of PTSD are actually higher than the Canadian military.

According to Passey, 46 per cent of people with PTSD will think about suicide, and up to 19 per cent will attempt it. Individuals with PTSD have an 80 per cent higher risk of other mental health problems such as depression, anxiety and alcohol abuse, and their reports of physical ailments skyrocket. Dysfunctional relationships are also more common with PTSD. The divorce rate doubles, and 15 per cent of relationships for people with PTSD are in trouble.

Fox experienced that firsthand.

"I lost everything," she said. "I lost someone I was with for a very long time, because they couldn't handle my PTSD, my symptoms."

"I couldn't handle — like, you know they're lying about you," she added, referencing management members in the RCMP. "What do you do?"

"You go crazy."

For four and a half years, Fox has been on stress leave from the RCMP, which she said was related to conflict between herself and her supervisor, Staff Sgt. Marc Alexander.

Fox alleged her supervisor Alexander harassed her based on her disabilities during their time at the Greater Vancouver Integrated Road Safety Unit (IRSU). Fox has dyslexia, dysgraphia and visual perception disorder, under her previous supervisor Insp. Manjinder Kaila, she received additional support in dealing with files related to her above-average number of impaired driving cases.

According to Fox's notice of civil claim

against Alexander, she was "often openly chastised for (her) paper work, file management, hand writing and exhibit handling."

Alexander could not be reached for comment, but his response to Fox's civil claim stated he met with her "approximately twice per month" because she made mistakes in her exhibits.

Neither claim has been proven in court. In January, 2013, Fox took a leave of absence from the RCMP. In February, she filed a formal harassment complaint against Alexander.

At that time, Fox had been dealing with nearly a decade of low-level PTSD. It started small back in 2004, she said, when she worked in general duty at the Ridge Meadows detachment.

On her first night shift, she confronted a man with a sword-off shotgun. On another shift, her partner was dragged across an intersection by a car. She could hear the screaming over the radio.

Later, Fox was called out to a domestic dispute and found herself surrounded by six Rotweillers, two of which she said were involved in the attack, on three-year-old Cody Fontaine in December 2004.

"I could feel the shift," she said. "A little more nervous."

In hindsight, that would be probably when the PTSD was starting.

It wasn't impairing back then, she said. It was the series of bureaucratic and legal struggles that happened after she filed the harassment complaint which Fox said left her with PTSD symptoms that were "through the roof."

"How do you deal with this?" she asked. One answer: "Medication. It changes you forever," she said. Another: running. Hanging above her computer are overlapping medals from marathons across North America. At one point she said she ran a marathon a week. "Lost a couple toenails," she said. "That was a crazy year."

Her third coping mechanism? Tattoos.

"I never had a tattoo before that and I can't stop," she said.

"We need to. We just got to bleed out our pain, we don't feel no more."

These have helped her avoid becoming a suicide statistic — they haven't dealt with all the symptoms of PTSD.

"I couldn't settle," she said. "Dude, I wasn't sleeping. For days on end."

"And my nightmares, when I did get sleep, was me fighting the RCMP in court, saying, 'Why did you do this?'"

For four and a half years, fighting Alexander and the RCMP in court for damages, that's what she's been trying to figure out.

This is the first in a series of articles on Alice Fox's journey through the RCMP and her struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder. Next week we'll be looking at her experiences as an RCMP member, and why she feels the RCMP has let her down.

## 3RD

CLOVERDALE REPORTER  
Grace Kennedy

The issue of high PTSD rates in first responders is examined in this four-part profile of Alice Fox, a Mountie whose case is cited in auditor-general Sheila Fraser's 2017 report citing bullying and harassment problems within the force, and the need for effective change. The writing level is high, with careful attention paid to detail.

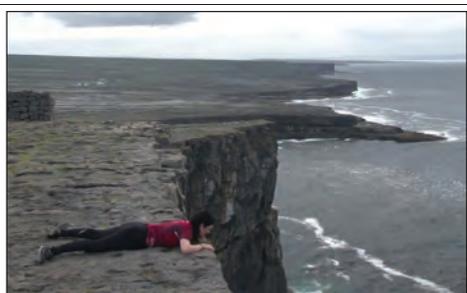
# TD Creative Arts Awards

1ST

WESTENDER

Sabrina Furminger

This is such an important story in the wake of the #metoo movement. I applaud Attiya Khan for her bravery and for the compassion she shows towards her abuser. The potential this article has to inspire others to try and understand the abusers makes it a standout.



Megan Murphy describes the moment of being on the same cliff her father did and seeing the world as he did when he was a young man many years before. Submitted photo

## Daughter retraces father's solo cycle around Ireland in documentary

By Steve Hubrecht  
steve@columbiavallepioneer.com

Like her dad, Megan Murphy rode fast and hard down to the tip of the Dingle Peninsula, the narrow single lane road winding atop steep coastal cliffs dropping away to the rugged open Atlantic below.

Megan was chasing the sun, which was steadily getting set to fall into the ocean, just as her dad had, more than 40 years before, and like him, she was exhausted from a long day, indeed many long days, on a bicycle — the exact same bicycle — climbing southern Ireland's never ending hills, pushing through its temperamental rain and gales.

Like her dad, Megan carried far more baggage with her than the saddle bags hanging from the frame of the sturdy red 10-speed 1973 Peugeot road cycle suggested. Although Megan pedalling on her own, the presence of loved ones far away was as heavy and real as if they were right there in the saddle too, just as they had been for her dad. Megan rolled down to the craggy, windswept westernmost point of Europe knowing, just like her dad did, that when she got there, her life would change.

"It's the edge of the world. It's a place to get lost — and found," Megan told *The Pioneer*. "When I got there (to the end of the Dingle), I bawled."

It was a spot Megan, a Peterborough, Ontario actress, filmmaker and radio show host, knew well. After all, Marty Murphy, had taken her, her two sisters and her mom there on a trip when the girls were teenagers. He'd wanted to show them the place where he'd stood as a young man at a confusing crossroads of life, a junction of uncertainty, and seen a way forward.

The first time Marty had been there, in 1973, he was 26 years old, recently re-

jected from law school. He had broken up with the love of his life, Mary Anne, who he had dated for six years, then rekindled the relationship just before packing his bags and flying from Canada to Ireland, to wheel his way solo around the southern half of his ancestral homeland, on the then brand-new red Peugeot, hoping to make some sense of his life. He did, and more, deciding on the Aran Islands to spend the rest of his life with Mary Anne. It was the Dingle, however, that affected him most, where as Megan said, "he talked about feeling the wind in his hair and the pull of possibility beneath his feet," and where he felt Mary Anne with him, certain she could feel the same sea breeze in her face that he was.

When Marty went through chemotherapy, and doctors told him to imagine a happy place, he chose the tip of the Dingle. In the end Mary passed away from cancer in 2004. The girls and Mary Anne went back to the Dingle, and dedicated a bench there in his honour. Then Mary Anne passed away from cancer too, eight years later. Megan's parents had an undeniable presence, Marty the charismatic *shanachie* (traditional Gaelic storyteller) with wry wit and a dark, Irish sense of humour, and Mary Anne, in Megan's words, a "fierce woman." Their absence set Megan adrift, and life seemed to unravel in slow motion. On the outside, everything was bustle and success, but on the inside something was drastically askew.

She broke off her engagement to her fiancé, ending a six-year relationship, and the normally talkative, outgoing woman began spending increasingly amounts of time simply lying in bed, sinking deeper into gloom.

"I was so depressed and so low," said Megan.

In fall 2013 she moved back into her

Continued on page 16...

2ND

COLUMBIA VALLEY PIONEER

Steve Hubrecht

This is a beautifully-written story - one that made me cry and think about my own relationship with my dad. A tale well told about father-daughter relationships and how they impact us for the rest of our lives.

3RD

CAMPBELL RIVER MIRROR

Mike Davies

What I loved about this article were the words quoted straight from the heart of Robert Joseph - the inspiring Indigenous leader who shows compassion and understanding towards everyone - including his colonial oppressors. This important article draws our attention to the terrible wrongs that were done to First Nations people and that continue in the present day. This is a powerful call to action for reconciliation.

ARTS // CULTURE

## A Better Man screens dialogue between abused and abuser

Attiya Khan seeks to prevent domestic violence with intimate documentary

Sabrina Furminger  
Reel People  
@Sabrinarmf



When Attiya Khan was in her teens, she lived with her boyfriend, Steve, for two years. And for the entirety of those two years, Steve assaulted Khan, relentlessly and viciously, until the day she escaped with her life.

For many domestic abuse survivors, this is where direct contact with their abuser ends. But more than two decades after Khan fled that violent relationship, she had questions for Steve — and he agreed to answer them, on camera.

Those conversations, and Khan's journey to hear Steve and be heard by him, form *A Better Man*, her feature-length documentary debut that screens in Vancouver this week as part of Reel Causes.

In *A Better Man*, abuse survivor Attiya Khan engages in a series of heart to hearts with her former boyfriend, Steve. The doc was executive produced by Sarah Polley. Contributed photo

More than 23 years have passed since Khan began her life anew, and for the bulk of those years, Khan had little contact with Steve, save for chance meetings on the streets of downtown Toronto.

"When I saw him that first time [after their relationship] I almost fainted and I was terrified, and then, a few years later, I saw him again," says Khan in a recent phone interview.

Those encounters always brought forth a storm of emotions in Khan: "I'd end up having more nightmares than usual, and all of the trauma that I had associated with it would heighten."

But a paradigm shift occurred when Khan (who had since built a career as a professional advocate for women who experience domestic violence) ran into Steve, and "for first time I looked at him not as the person who had hurt me, and I think that happened because he didn't look well, and he looked unhappy, and I thought, 'I don't wish that on anyone, even the person that hurt me.'"

"That's when I became curious about him and thought, 'I wonder if the abuse that he inflicted on me has affected his life?'"

Gender-based violence is one of the most pervasive

human rights violations in the world: the United Nations reports that roughly 70 per cent of women have been subject to a form of physical or sexual abuse from an intimate partner or loved one.

In Canada, the rate of violent crime against young women aged 15 to 24 (the group that Khan fell into at the time of the assaults) is 42 per cent higher than the rate for women aged 25 to 34, and nearly double the rate for women aged 35 to 44.

Also in Canada: Approximately every six days, a woman is killed at the hands of her intimate partner.

Khan had long been dedicated to ending gender-based violence through her work when the idea for *A Better Man* began to take shape. When she asked Steve to participate in the film, she didn't expect him to say yes.

"I said, 'I have this idea: I think it's incredible that you and I can stand here and have a conversation, and I've been thinking that I'd like to make a documentary about preventing domestic violence, and I thought that it would be really helpful to show you and I having a conversation together,'" recalls Khan. "And he was just looking at me in disbelief. I let him sit with that, and he said, 'You know, my gut is

telling me that this is the right thing to do, and to be honest, if I could help one young man change his path and not use violence, then I think it would be worth it.'"

Their initial conversation took place in a Toronto café. Khan's friend operated the camera while Khan questioned Steve about the violence he'd inflicted on her, and what he remembered about specific assaults.

Khan had originally intended to edit that first conversation into a short film, but how she felt after that initial interview (as well as the response she received when she told people about it) compelled her forward into feature-length documentary territory.

Steve consented to participate in what ended up being a four-year journey.

*A Better Man* was produced by the National Film Board of Canada and co-directed by Lawrence Jackman. It began its festival tour earlier this year at Hot Docs. **W**

*A Better Man* screens Nov. 23 at SFU Woodward's Djavad Mowafaghian Theatre. The screening will support We Can BC and Battered Women's Support Services. reelcauses.org

## 'Hope is such a precious commodity'

MIKE DAVIES  
Campbell River Mirror

The opening paragraph of the introduction to the 2015 report from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (PDF) is hard to read.

"For over a century," reads the report, "the central goals of Canada's Aboriginal policy were to eliminate Aboriginal rights, terminate the Treaties, and, through a process of assimilation, cause Aboriginal peoples to cease to exist as distinct legal, social, cultural, religious, and racial entities in Canada. The establishment and operation of residential schools were a central element of this policy, which can be best described as 'cultural genocide.'"

When that paragraph was read out in front of the over 7,000 people in attendance upon the report's release, Chief Dr. Robert Joseph says, "I've been looking for some kind of indication all my life that I wasn't bad," he says. "That I didn't deserve to be treated the way I'd been treated. When I heard those words, I was euphoric. I jumped to my feet along with all 7,000 people who were in that room. Finally,



Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, Ambassador for Reconciliation Canada and member of the National Assembly of First Nations Elders Council, shares his view on what reconciliation means and how we can make it happen at last week's John Howard Society of North Island Annual General Meeting at the Maritime Heritage Centre.

residential schools still resonate through our communities and through our families." Joseph himself was broken for a long time.

"I went to one of those schools for 11 years," Joseph says. "I was a little boy when I got there. I remember my mother holding my hand all the way to that school — it wasn't that great a distance, but by God did it feel like forever. And we entered the main building and there was a strange man there. I'd never seen a non-Aboriginal man before and I didn't understand what he was saying. My mother handed me to him. I looked at her and I wanted her to say

"son, I love you and I'll come visit you all the time. Sometimes I'll bring you home." But she just turned and walked away.

"For years that haunted me," he continues. "I understand now that there were consequences for not putting your kids in the schools, but it was so demeaning. We were herded into showers, 30 of us at a time and poked and prodded us in humiliating and embarrassing ways. They pointed us with white solutions and doused our hair. The food was bad. But most of all, what I missed was someone articulating my value. I missed knowing that some-

Continued on B16

OVER 25,000

TD Creative



1<sup>ST</sup>

**NORTH SHORE NEWS**

**Cindy Goodman**

Charming and simple. Having an uncluttered composition and framing makes the shot entirely about the array of faces and expressions.



2<sup>ND</sup>

**THE PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN**

**Brent Braaten**

A minimalist photograph, reduced to light and lines. Eye-catching!



3<sup>RD</sup>

**DELTA OPTIMIST**

**Gord Goble**

A bold and eye-catching moment. The timing required to catch the eagle in this position was also a big part of why the photo works as well as it does.

# Arts Awards

**1<sup>ST</sup>**

**YUKON NEWS**  
Joel Krahn

A stunning image. Superior use of focal length, perspective, exposure and timing.  
A phenomenally creative image that is irresistible to readers.



**2<sup>ND</sup>**

**YUKON NEWS**  
Crystal Schick

Simplicity and vision combine with excellent technical ability to produce a visual poem.  
Very expertly seen!



**3<sup>RD</sup>**

**YUKON NEWS**  
Mike Thomas

A humorous slice of daily life. A very observant photographer portrayed this moment simply and effectively.



# TD Creative



## 1<sup>ST</sup>

### VANCOUVER COURIER

Dan Toulgoet

A great personality portrait of an educator who contributed a career and raised funds for the arts. Excellent photographic skill set, subject rapport and visual creativity.



## 3<sup>RD</sup>

### YUKON NEWS

Crystal Schick

A creative portrait enhanced by the black & white format.



## 2<sup>ND</sup>

### TRI-CITY NEWS

Mario Bartel

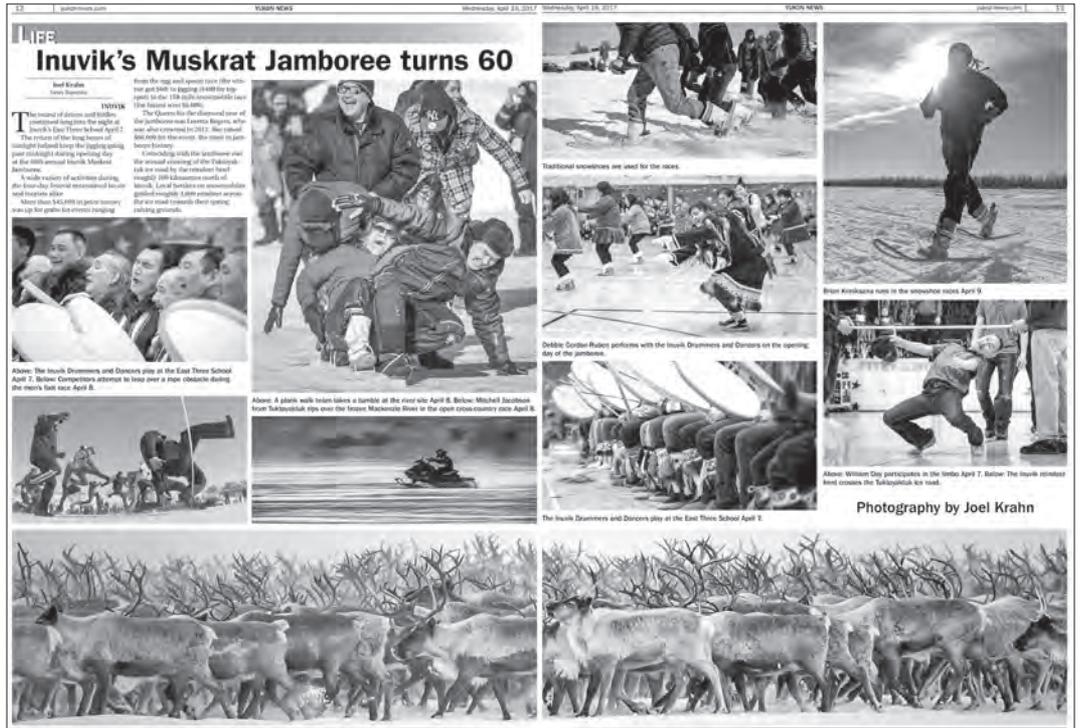
An eye-catching image! Great use of lighting, composition, camera angle and perspective.

# Arts Awards

1<sup>ST</sup>

**YUKON NEWS**  
Joel Krahn

Excellent visual storytelling. Each image contributes to the sum of the whole. Great photographic skill using creativity, timing and composition. The black & white format and layout enhance the design.



**PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE**  
tobias c. van Veen, Jon Parris &  
Clare Ogilvie

2<sup>ND</sup>

Strong human interest and impact. Great cover image. The layout draws the reader inside to shed light on an important local social issue.



3<sup>RD</sup>

**PARKSVILLE/QUALICUM BEACH NEWS**  
Peter McCully & Team

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.



# Sports Photo Award

SPONSOR: HUB INTERNATIONAL

OVER 25,000



## 1<sup>ST</sup>

### KAMLOOPS THIS WEEK

Allen Douglas

Great composition and freeze of the action. The focus is sharp on the subject with good depth and the ball in foreground. An excellent shot. Great work.

## 2<sup>ND</sup>

### NORTH SHORE NEWS

Cindy Goodman

The intensity of the image comes through as you read the faces of the athletes. A good, sharp frame with strong depth. Excellent work.

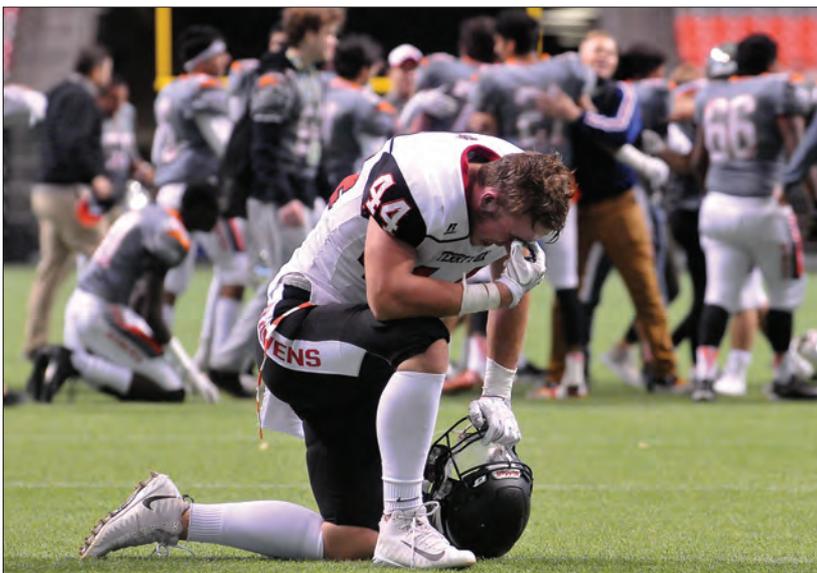


## 3<sup>RD</sup>

### TRI-CITY NEWS

Mario Bartel

The image does a great job of conveying the emotion of the moment. Good depth of field and background help draw the viewer into the moment. A great shot!





## 1ST

**YUKON NEWS**

Crystal Schick

Great capture of emotion and intensity. The frame is tight on the subject and after checking the original file, the focus is sharp with good depth of field. Technically and emotionally an excellent shot.

## 2ND

**SALMON ARM OBSERVER**

Lachlan Labere

Strong image that conveys the intensity of the subjects and the moment. Good exposure and focus add to the depth of the image. Great job.



## 3RD

**OAK BAY NEWS**

Keri Coles

The image seems to reflect a pivotal point in the game and draws the viewer in to read more. Great capture.



# Spot News Photo Award

SPONSOR: FUJIFILM

OVER 25,000

## 1ST

### ABBOTSFORD NEWS

Vikki Hopes

Everything comes together in this photo: the patience of the photographer to wait for this specific moment gives us an array of gestures and expressions to show the emotion of the event. The cropping and lens choice let us see the context of the neighbourhood without diluting the central elements of the picture, and the composition leads our eye from the central moment at right through the various places, effortlessly.



## 2ND

### THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS

Paul Henderson

The photographer places us right in the middle of an emergency in a picture that very ably demonstrates the real core of an epidemic social issue.



## 3RD

### NORTH SHORE NEWS

Mike Wakefield

I love how the photographer - I have to think it was deliberate - waited for the boy to make a gesture that explains what happened in this scene. You can almost hear him make a swooshing sound in explaining a plane crash, at the scene.





## 1<sup>ST</sup>

**TERRACE STANDARD**

Quinn Bender

This is a compelling image, caught at the peak moment. It's got it all within its frame: the participants in the foreground, the scene in the background for context. Even the man's foot splashing in the puddle adds an immediacy and action to the picture - a small detail that adds so much.

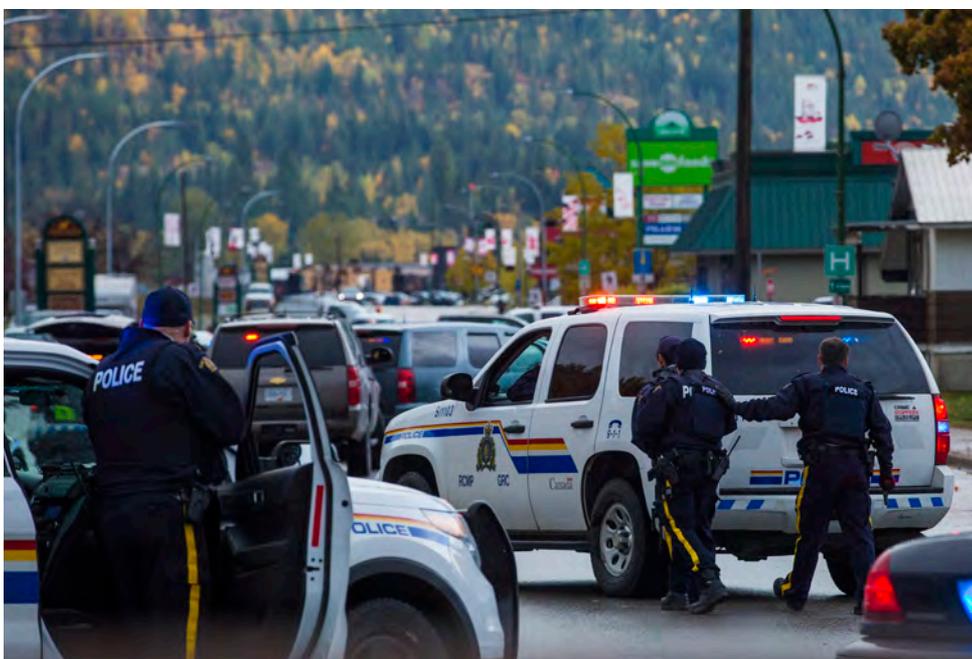


## 2<sup>ND</sup>

**NORTH ISLAND GAZETTE**

Tyson Whitney

The timing, composition and lens choice (wide angle) puts the viewer right there with these firefighters in the scene. It's a picture that grabs the reader's attention and holds it.



## 3<sup>RD</sup>

**REVELSTOKE REVIEW**

Marissa Tiel

This was an unusual moment in an inherently unusual type of incident. The picture captures that well, making it easy for the reader to understand what is going on.

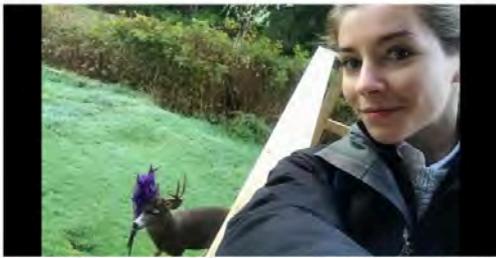
# KPU Dig

NEWS VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES E-EDITIONS JOBS CONTACT MARKETPLACE CONTESTS

## THE NORTHERN VIEW



**VIDEO: Hammock deer has celebrity status**  
After getting tangled in a backyard hammock "Hammy" the deer has T-shirts and a Facebook following  
SHANNON LOUGH / Nov. 3, 2017 5:30 a.m. / COMMUNITY / TRENDING NOW / VIDEO



Possibly one of the most famous icons in Prince Rupert right now is a deer.

Local Jobs. Local Employers. LocalWorkBC.ca YOUR BEST SOURCE FOR LOCAL JOBS

Black Press

Journalism with

## 1ST

### PRINCE RUPERT, THE NORTHERN VIEW

Quinn Bender, Keili Bartlett, Shannon Lough & Todd Hamilton

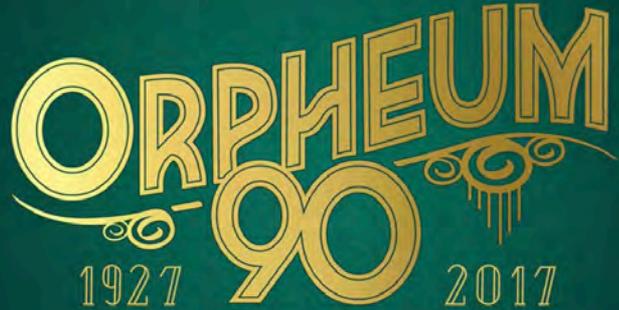
It's hard not to fall in love with this iconic deer. Thorough storytelling with international appeal. Solid audio and visual quality. Hammy the Deer contains all the qualities of a good news story and connects with viewers on a human level.

## 2ND

### VANCOUVER COURIER

Dan Toulgoet, Michael Kissinger & John Kurucz

Entertaining, informative and focused, this video captures the essence of the Orpheum Theatre through stunning visuals and delivers a strong and captivating narrative.



Orpheum Theatre Celebrates 90th Birthday

260 views

Vancouver Courier  
Published on Nov 22, 2017

On Nov. 24, 2017, the Orpheum Theatre parties like it's 1927 to celebrate its 90th birthday. Rob Haynes, the chair of the Vancouver Civic Theatres board, took the Courier for a tour and trip down memory lane.

SHOW MORE

The Nutcracker



Share this

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Pinterest
- Email
- 27
- Like Share

Published on December 11, 2017, 1:07 pm  
Published by Yukon News  
Behind the scenes of Northern Lights School of Dance's annual The Nutcracker performance in Whitehorse.

## 3RD

### YUKON NEWS

Crystal Schick

A cinematic behind-the-scenes look at Northern Lights School of Dance's annual Nutcracker performance. A stunning video through and through. Near flawless video and audio editing. Intimate, alluring and creative.

# ital Awards

1<sup>ST</sup>

**PRINCE RUPERT, THE NORTHERN VIEW**

Shannon Lough

A visually stunning and powerful story. Well-executed digital video letting the subject speak over wonderful pictures.

NEWS VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES E-EDITIONS JOBS CONTACT MARKETPLACE CONTESTS

**THE NORTHERN VIEW**

VIDEO and story: Totem pole raised on Lelu after LNG project falls

More than 100 people came to the pole raising on Lelu Island after the end of Pacific NorthWest LNG

SHANNON LOUGH / Oct. 21, 2017 9:00 p.m. / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS / VIDEO

Black Press  
TARGETING YOUR MESSAGE TO LOCAL CONSUMERS.  
Let us show you how!

Journalism with integrity.  
The most comprehensive local news in the province.

Search

**The Vancouver Courier Newspaper**  
November 9, 2017 ·

Marpole residents gathered at city hall Thursday to protest a modular housing development in their neighbourhood for homeless people.

3.8K Views

Like Comment Share

2<sup>ND</sup> **VANCOUVER COURIER**

Mike Howell & Michael Kissinger

Well-crafted digital video which gives viewers an almost unfiltered first-hand view of the protest.

3<sup>RD</sup>

**LAKE COUNTRY CALENDAR**

Barry Gerding & Jen Zielinski

Well done "TV news" style digital video package complete with voiceover.

NEWS VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES E-EDITIONS JOBS CONTACT MARKETPLACE

**Lake Country couple devastated by fire**

Okanagan Centre wildfire leaves behind path of destruction

Barry Gerding / Jul. 19, 2017 4:30 p.m. / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS

For Blair and Joanne Croom, returning home to their house on Nighthawk Road in Lake Country today was a mixed blessing.

They knew their home was still standing but learned first-hand the degree of damage the fire caused, while seeing neighbours along their street having lost everything.

"Your emotions are raw, You're not sure what to say to others who lost their homes. It's hard to look at the damage left behind, it's so devastating," said Joanne.

The Lake Country couple spoke with the media outside their home Wednesday afternoon, recounting how their lives were turned upside down quickly as the Okanagan Centre wildfire took off up the steep hill from the roadside on Okanagan Centre Road West headed straight for their street.

"It was incredible how fast the fire raced up that hill," said Blair.

He was working in his woodshop on Saturday around 4:30 p.m. when he began to smell what seemed like grass burning.

NEWS VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES E-EDITIONS JOBS CONTACT

**OAK BAY NEWS**



Lt. Roy Pattinson, in Oak Bay on leave in 1943. This was the last time he was ever at home. Pictured with his beloved dog Mac. (Oak Bay Archives)

## VIDEO: 92-year-old WWII veteran united with family of fallen soldier after decades-long search

Oak Bay High students unknowingly enable connection after leaving cards on a grave in France

KERI COLES / Nov. 10, 2017 1:30 a.m. / COMMUNITY / VIDEO

Multiple serendipitous twists led a 92-year-old Second World War veteran in Ottawa to find someone he was seeking for decades, thanks to Oak Bay High School students and some cards that they left on a grave. While it was something as simple as a card that was ultimately responsible for the union, it took a fortunate series of actions for this connection to finally occur.

A couple of years ago, two events key to this story took place. The Victoria School District archivist, Judy Stevenson, put together a catalogue of all the students in Victoria that had served and died in the First and Second world wars. Meanwhile, a woman by the name of Louise Barber dropped off some family albums and artifacts at the Oak Bay Archives. Barber thought the collection would be of more value to the community in the archives than in

**1ST**

**OAK BAY NEWS**  
Keri Coles

Fantastic reporting and overall storytelling by the team at Oak Bay News to tell the story of Roy Pattinson and how a series of events and a group of high school students were able to unite the family of the fallen soldier with a WWII veteran he had befriended in combat. A heartfelt story that moves, unites and inspires. Effective and powerful incorporation of multimedia.

**VANCOUVER COURIER** MENU



Without any advertising or online presence, Fritz Irrgang's Western Watch & Clock Repairs keeps up with the times. Photo Dan Toulgoet

He even sets aside one day a week for house calls.

"When a customer comes in and brings me something that they've had in the family for a long time and it has quit working, it gives me great satisfaction to restore it to its former glory and make sure that clock or watch is working again," Irrgang said.

Irrgang's rationale for no advertising or website is as practical as he is personable.

Timepiece repair happens on an as-needed basis that can span anywhere from 10 to 50 years. His work does all the advertising for him.

"If the customer leaves here happy and is satisfied, he will refer to me his friends and business associates and I'm getting a new client out of that. So if I do a good job, I get a new customer," Irrgang said.



Watchmaker keeps on ticking  
Posted by The Vancouver Courier News  
5,787 Views

**2ND**

**VANCOUVER COURIER**

John Kurucz, Dan Toulgoet & Michael Kissinger

Friedrich Irrgang, like his business, has withstood the test of time. Detailed and intricate, much like Irrgang's work, the reporters tell the story of the timekeeper through writing that is idiomatic and literary, and stunning visuals that bring the story to life, right before our eyes.

**3RD**

**GOLDSTREAM NEWS GAZETTE**

Kendra Wong

Reporter Kendra Wong gives us a fun, first-hand look at what it's like to be in the the Canadian Armed Forces! Great use of multimedia formats including photography and video - Wong brings the audience along for the ride!

NEWS VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES E-EDITIONS JOBS CONTACT MARKETPLACE CONTESTS

**GOLDSTREAM NEWS GAZETTE**

SCHOOL INFORMATION SESSION Tuesday, March 13 • 6:30pm



### What is it like to be part of the Canadian Armed Forces?

Try military rations, combat gear and simulated shooting range on Saturday

KENDRA WONG / Nov. 16, 2017 4:36pm / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS / VIDEO

Standing at a military checkpoint along a dirt road armed with a C7A2 assault rifle, all seems calm.

A man stands in the nearby bushes casually bumping his first in the air as another couple and a white vehicle drive by. Then suddenly things take a turn for the worse.

The man in the bushes starts to advance towards the three Canadian Armed Forces officers, which includes himself. Almost out of nowhere, an or senior

Local Jobs. Local Employers. LocalWorkBC

Black Press

BOOK ONLINE AND SAVE! Olympic View Golf Club | goBC.com

# ital Awards

**PENTICTON WESTERN NEWS**

A group of people stand on Lakeside Road watching firefighters douse flames coming from the rooftop of a residence. The neighbouring house initially caught fire and was completely destroyed, spreading the blaze to this home. Kristi Patton/Western News

## UPDATE: 94-year-old woman still unaccounted for

Penticton Fire Department and RCMP investigating a fire that completely destroyed one home

PENTICTON NEWS STAFF / Oct. 11, 2017 7:00 p.m. / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS / VIDEO

(Files from the Western News' Kristi Patton, in the field)

**UPDATE: 2:20 p.m. Oct. 12**

A 94-year old woman is still missing after a house fire destroyed one home and jumped to the neighbours house.

"The residents of one house were able to get out safely. The 94-year-old resident of the second house remains unaccounted for," said Cpl. Don Wrigglesworth. "Fire investigators are on scene with the police assisting with

**PENTICTON WESTERN NEWS**

Update: Firefighters battling fire on West Bench

Penticton Fire Department was called to a fire on Thursday morning

Jul. 20, 2017 9:42 a.m. / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS

Update: 12:19 p.m.

Fire Chief Larry Watkinson reports that crews are still working on the fire and hotspots, but it is now 100 per cent contained.

Residents will be allowed back into their homes in the next couple of hours, and the Penticton Fire Department will be monitoring the fire overnight.

Update: 11:17 a.m.

Local Jobs. Local Employers. LocalWorkBC.ca

Black Press

Journalism with integrity. The most comprehensive local news

**2<sup>ND</sup> PENTICTON WESTERN NEWS**  
 Dustin Godfrey, Jen Zielinski & Staff  
 Excellent use of a TV news-style digital video package by the reporter. Great visuals support a compelling story.

**1<sup>ST</sup> PENTICTON WESTERN NEWS**  
 Kristi Patton & Team  
 From speed of execution to a well-edited digital video of solid fire footage, this entry has it all!

**SAANICH NEWS**

VIDEO: Girl struck by two cars in Saanich intersection

Arbutus middle school student in serious condition, hit while crossing road

Dec. 20, 2017 9:00 a.m. / NEWS

A Saanich girl was seriously injured after she was struck by a vehicle shortly after 8 a.m. Wednesday at the intersection of Ash Road and Torquay Drive.

Eleven-year-old Leila Bui is in Grade 6 at Arbutus middle school and was hit by Mercedes sports utility vehicle travelling eastbound on Ash Road, while crossing Torquay Drive near the crosswalk. Saanich Police believe she was then struck by a late-model sedan travelling westbound on Ash Road. Both cars remained on the scene.

The girl was hit coming out of her own driveway, in front of her house. It's

GLASS DOCTOR HOME + AUTO BUSINESS

Time to renovate?

**3<sup>RD</sup> SAANICH NEWS**  
 Travis Paterson

Well-written story about a problem intersection complete with family and neighbour quotes giving the viewer some emotional context.

# KPU Digital Awards

NEWS VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS E-EDITIONS JOBS CONTACT PICK US UP MARKETPLACE

**VANCOUVER ISLAND FREE DAILY**

#MeToo at work: How reporting sexual harassment works – and how it doesn't

British Columbians have four options to report harassment or assault, but none of them are easy

KARLY BLATS / Dec. 15, 2017 6:30 a.m. / NEWS

Intro **Part 1 Speaking out** Part 2 How to report Part 3 After the trauma



Few would describe Sonia Fursteneau as a victim.

From inspirational school teacher to community activist, to elected local government official to the first Green Party woman to ever be voted into the B.C. legislature, hers is a resume of public service and involvement that boldly states "leader."

Yet there she was on Oct. 19, before the eyes of her peers and the eyes the province in B.C.'s highest house of government, saying "Me Too."

**1ST VANCOUVER ISLAND FREE DAILY**  
 Karly Blats, Ashley Wadhvani, Katya Slepian & Arnold Lim  
 A different angle on the #metoo movement that shook the nation and acted as a catalyst for change. An in-depth look at workplace sexual abuse and harassment that has been overlooked for far too long. MeToo at work gives a voice to the voiceless and a trusted platform for victims to share their stories. Tremendous reporting.

**2ND WILLIAMS LAKE TRIBUNE**  
 Angie Mindus  
 Poignant and powerful storytelling. Effective use of visuals to tell the story of the brave Riske Creek ranchers and their fight to save their community. Strong writing.

NEWS VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES E-EDITIONS JOBS CONTACT MARKETPLACE CONTESTS

**THE WILLIAMS LAKE TRIBUNE**

Ranchers work together to save cattle in fire zones

ANDIE MINDUS / Jul. 13, 2017 11:50 a.m. / NEWS

Shrouded in thick smoke, cowboys on horseback slowly moved a herd of cattle east of Hanceville Wednesday, trying to get them out of harm's way as wildfires continue to ravage the Chilcotin.

"We thought this was a safe spot," said Mike Jasper, as he and other cowboys from neighbouring ranches moved a small herd of cattle, blackened and weary looking, from the Lee's Corner area toward Riske Creek.

"But I don't know — there's fires on both sides of us."

Al Madley of neighbouring Canyon Ranch worked traffic control for the group on Highway 20 as air support from the BC Wildfire Service tried to slow a fire close by along the highway in Riske Creek.

Madley said many of the cowboys from area ranches are working together to help one another. Yesterday, they had found 120 head and were still out looking for another 120 that were missing.

Barbed wire fences were cut and gates were opened during the intense fire in the Hanceville area Friday night in an effort to give the cattle a chance to save themselves while local ranchers and loggers were fighting to save their own homes from the blaze as well.

Several ranches are not out from under the threat of wildfires yet, as the Hanceville blaze continues to grow and move into the Fletcher Lake area.

Madley confirmed ranchers in the Chilcotin are staying inside areas where evacuation orders are in place to protect their ranches and save their cattle.

"When you have that much livestock, that's your whole life," Madley said. "You don't just leave."

Since the fires broke out Friday, ranchers were essentially on their own to deal with the crisis as other fires broke out across the province, spreading resources thin.

Skip to the next and previous photo by typing j/k or ←/→.



NEWS VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES E-EDITIONS JOBS CONTACT MARKETPLACE

**THE NORTHERN VIEW**



Kindergarten students in their weekly Sm'algayax class at Lee Kwan Elementary School. (Shannon Lough / The Northern View)

**PART I: How Prince Rupert schools teach Indigenous language to hundreds of students**

A multimedia series with videos and photos from children's Sm'algayax classes on B.C.'s North Coast

SHANNON LOUGH / Dec. 14, 2017 12:00 p.m. / COMMUNITY / VIDEO



Kindergarten students learn Sm'algayax | Community

**3RD PRINCE RUPERT, THE NORTHERN VIEW**  
 Shannon Lough  
 This series contains all the elements of strong storytelling. Unique, engaging, and educational. Incorporation of video brings this series to life.

**2017 WHISTLER VALENTINE'S PHOTO CONTEST**

**MWAH!**

Send us a photo of your perfect "WHISTLER KISS" and be entered to WIN an amazing prize package!

Two nights stay for two in a deluxe guest room in the casual luxury of the Wickaninnish On the Beach Building.

- A welcome amenity delivered to your room upon arrival
- A semi-private yoga class for two with our Ancient Cedars Spa
- Complimentary Valet Parking & Wi-Fi

Your room will feature either one king size or two queen size beds, a forested beach view looking out to the ocean, double soaking tub set against a picture window, glass enclosed shower with beach and ocean view, heated bathroom flooring, slate-tiled individual balcony and gas fireplace.

**The WICKANNINISH INN**  
Tofino, Canada

Email your photos to us at: [PRODUCTION@WHISTLERQUESTION.COM](mailto:PRODUCTION@WHISTLERQUESTION.COM)

Full details available upon request by emailing: [production@whistlerquestion.com](mailto:production@whistlerquestion.com). Contest closes midnight, Sunday, February 12, 2017. Winners will be chosen by the Whistler Question after the closing date. All decisions are final. Results will be published in the Whistler Question February 14, 2017 issue.

**Question**

PRIZE IS VALID FEBRUARY 14, 2017 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2018 OR OCTOBER 1, 2018 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2019. EXCLUDES SELECTED HOLIDAY PERIODS WHICH INCLUDES ALL CANADIAN AND US STATUTORY HOLIDAY PERIODS, VALENTINE'S DAY/WEEKEND AND OUR EARLY JANUARY CLOSURE DATES.

1<sup>ST</sup>

**WHISTLER QUESTION**

Lou Stevens

Aw, this entry is all kinds of fun! Beautifully designed, and a great promo for both the paper AND a great way to show off the residents and beauty of the community.



**You're simply the best!**

We're kicking off our 20th annual Best of the City Dining Awards poll! That's 20 years of your local shoppers and residents voting in our poll to share their favourite places to live, shop and play in Vancouver. With over 200 categories to be voted for it's time to share and get your locals voting for you! Our voting poll opened December 15 so you can start sharing links and posting content now until voting closes on January 20.

**In this Share Kit you'll find:**

- Key Dates
- Digital Material for social media sharing
- Website links to our voting page



ENTER TO WIN

Tell us your story...

**"My First Crush..."**

Was your current squeeze the first to make you go weak at your knees? Perhaps the first boy or girl who stole your heart turned out to be a bit of a dud? Is your story of your first crush still too heartbreaking to put into words but you have another funny crush story you'd like to share?

For a chance to win one of five romantic pamper packages, tell us, in less than 200 words, your crush story. Submit your story to:

[www.piquenewsmagazine.com](http://www.piquenewsmagazine.com)

**Sample Story:**

*He was blond, with big brown eyes. His name was Jack. He and all his brothers were gorgeous. All the brothers wore crisp, coloured shirts in every colour that boys at that age just didn't wear: Salmon-coloured or peacock-blue cotton, button-down shirts. And Jack wore matching socks that peeped out from beneath his pant legs. He was dreamy, athletic, smart. He was wonderful. He didn't know I existed. I pined for him from across the sports field at school from Grade 3 on. First crush, but also unrequited love – sigh, what a combo...*

2<sup>ND</sup>

**WESTENDER**

Tara Rafiq, Kelsey Klassen, Lucy-kate Armstrong & Westender Staff

Having worked on many long-term campaigns I know how hard it is to come up with something different year after year. "Best of the City" has always been a great concept, but it does need fresh ideas to promote it. This entry's use of innovative share kits is an awesome way to encourage participation from retailers as well.

3<sup>RD</sup>

**PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE**

Lou Stevens & Karl Partington

Beautifully designed. Anything that encourages audience participation (especially in such a fun way!) is a win-win for both the paper and the community it serves.

# Ad Design Award

OVER 25,000

**THANK YOU FOR  
VOTING US ONTO  
THE A-LIST!**





Serving Maple Ridge/Lower Mainland since 1982

P: 604-463-5344 • F: 604-463-0927 • production@plsp.ca • www.plsp.ca  
 #6 - 20295 113B Ave, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 6E9  
 South on 203rd over the tracks first building on your right, Maple Meadows Industrial Park

1<sup>ST</sup>

**MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS NEWS**

Karen Derosia & Kristyn Recknagel

A good example of colour being used in a different way to grab more attention. Well done!



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from all of us at Westwood Honda

<p><b>SAVE up to \$75</b> on a <b>Genuine Honda Timing Belt</b> Receive a Genuine Honda V6 Timing belt for <b>\$75</b> off the installation labour</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Receive a Genuine Honda 4cyl Timing belt for <b>\$50</b> off the installation labour</p> <p><small>Expires Dec 31/2017</small></p>	<p><b>Already Have Winter Tires?</b> Let us mount, balance and perform a four wheel alignment.</p> <p><b>SAVE \$50</b> <b>ONLY \$129.90</b></p> <p><small>Expires Dec 31/2017</small></p>	<p><b>SAVE \$15</b> on one of any <b>Genuine Honda Fluid Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transmission Fluid Replacement</li> <li>• Genuine Honda Fluid</li> <li>• Brake Fluid • Clutch Fluid</li> <li>• Differential • Power Steering</li> <li>• Fluid • Engine Coolant</li> </ul> <p><small>*Coupon is only good for one fluid replacement per vehicle. Expires Dec 31/2017</small></p>
--	---	--



2400 Barnet Hwy, Port Moody  
**604-461-0633**  
www.westwoodhonda.com



2<sup>ND</sup>

**TRI-CITY NEWS**

Matt Blair & Sanjay Sharma

Simple and bold with a playful commonality between the key and a tree for a holiday message/promo ad.

**WEEKEND  
BREAKFAST**

FROM **\$4.99**

**9:30-11:00 AM**

**LANGFORD'S**

*Best*

**BREAKFAST  
DEAL**



**2668 Sooke Rd Victoria BC**  
**250-478-3811**



3<sup>RD</sup>

**GOLDSTREAM NEWS GAZETTE**

Rebecca Wilde

Nice use of colour with a clear offer. Contrast also used well in making this ad stand out.

# 1<sup>ST</sup>

### WESTENDER

Tara Rafiq & Kelsey Klassen

Bold use of colour and a simple yet effective layout combined with copy writing that clearly articulates the organization's message and success! Great ad!

# We recycled 115,000 mattresses in 2016.

That's 115,000 mattresses from across the province that were diverted from landfills. Thank you for supporting our goal of achieving zero waste in BC.



Best Green/  
Eco-Friendly Business

#zerowaste  
#circulareconomy



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

11571 Twigg Place, Richmond

604.324.3211 info@mattressrecycling.ca @recyclecanada

# 2<sup>ND</sup>

### 100 MILE HOUSE FREE PRESS

Evan Fentiman & Martina Dopf

A message we all know, but need to be reminded of sometimes. Nice use of original photo in a montage!

PUT YOUR  
MONEY  
WHERE  
YOUR  
HEART  
IS...



# SHOP LOCAL

This message is brought to you by the 100 Mile Free Press and South Cariboo Chamber of Commerce.

**HOCKEY AT THE HAP**

**POWELL RIVER KINGS**

**VS. ALBERNI VALLEY BULLDOGS**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

**5 PM**

TICKETS.POWELLRIVERKINGS.COM

# 3<sup>RD</sup>

### POWELL RIVER PEAK

Alicia Newman

For the intended target market the use of the hockey photo would connect with fans immediately. The call to action with event time makes it clear what the reader is to do.

# Ad Design Award, Collaborative

OVER 25,000

It's time for the 28th annual  
**TEDDY BEAR PICNIC & GRANDE PARADE**  
 Saturday & Sunday | June 10 & 11

**SATURDAY, JUNE 10 | 3:00PM - 5:30PM**

**FREE CHILDREN'S CONCERT** at Town Centre Park

Don't forget to bring your Teddy Bears - because Teddy Bears like music too!

 <b>Tony Prophet</b> 3:00pm - 3:45pm	 <b>Kellie Haines Ventriloquist</b> 3:45pm - 4:15pm	 <b>Charlotte Diamond</b> 4:30pm - 5:30pm
---	--	--

**SUNDAY, JUNE 11 | 11:00AM - 4:00PM**

**FREE TEDDY BEAR PICNIC** at Town Centre Park Amphitheatre at Lafarge Lake right across from the end of the Evergreen Line. Admission: **FREE** (donations accepted at the gates)

Fun for all young children! Featuring storytelling, puppet shows, rovers, gymnastics and more on Sunday from 11AM-4PM. Free face painting & balloon creations. Bring your picnic or enjoy the food vendors on site.

**Don't forget to bring your teddy bears! They like picnics too!**

**GRANDE PARADE** starting at Coquitlam City Hall at 9:45am

Don't forget to bring your Teddy Bears - because Teddy Bears like parades too!

presented by **Festival Coquitlam**

Thank You to Our Sponsor

For more info please visit [festivalcoquitlam.ca](http://festivalcoquitlam.ca)

1<sup>ST</sup>

**TRI-CITY NEWS**

Gregg Krentz & Matt Blair

The ad layout is playful as one would expect of a teddy bear picnic. The imagery connotes fun. A lot of content but still keeps readers interested. Great colourway!

2<sup>ND</sup>

**TRI-CITY NEWS**

Matt Blair

Excellent retro ad overlaid on the photo of fresh veggies. Makes for an attractive composition. Strong use of greens really attracts the eye. Ad is well aligned.

9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**CUSTOM CAR SHOW AND FAMILY DAY**  
 HOSTED BY  
**save on foods**

**SPIN TO WIN** **HOT DOG SALE**

**SATURDAY, JULY 15<sup>TH</sup> • 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

LOOKING FOR ALL TYPES OF CARS, TRUCKS OR MOTORCYCLES!

PLEASE CALL SAVE ON FOODS AT 604 945 8334 AND ASK FOR KATRINA OR MIKE TO REGISTER.  
 \$10 ENTRY FEE. PROCEEDS SUPPORT:



**KIDS GAMES** **MUSIC**

**PORT COQUITLAM CORNER OF COAST MERIDIAN + PRAIRIE**

Clothes That Work **Mark's**

ALL REGULAR-PRICED  
**Columbia**  
**25% OFF**  
 TILL SUNDAY MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>

**THREE DAYS ONLY**

Clothes That Work **Mark's**  
 Local Shops Support Local Events & Teams  
 20758 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge | 604-463-7277

OPEN: MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM - 9PM • SATURDAY 9AM - 6PM • SUNDAY 10AM - 6PM

3<sup>RD</sup>

**MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS NEWS**

Maryn Goms & Maggie Prince

Love the strong blues and oranges! This ad entices the viewer. We want to go hiking! Composition is strong as is choice of photo and placement of text.

UNDER 25,000

## 1<sup>ST</sup> PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Lou Stevens

The composition, colour choice, and artwork work really well together. The ad communicates its message very successfully.



**Happy Holidays**

AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all my clients, friends & colleagues for their loyalty and support throughout the years. Have a wonderful holiday season filled with family, friends, good cheer & maybe a few powder turns as well!

**BOBCAMERON**  
PERSONAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION

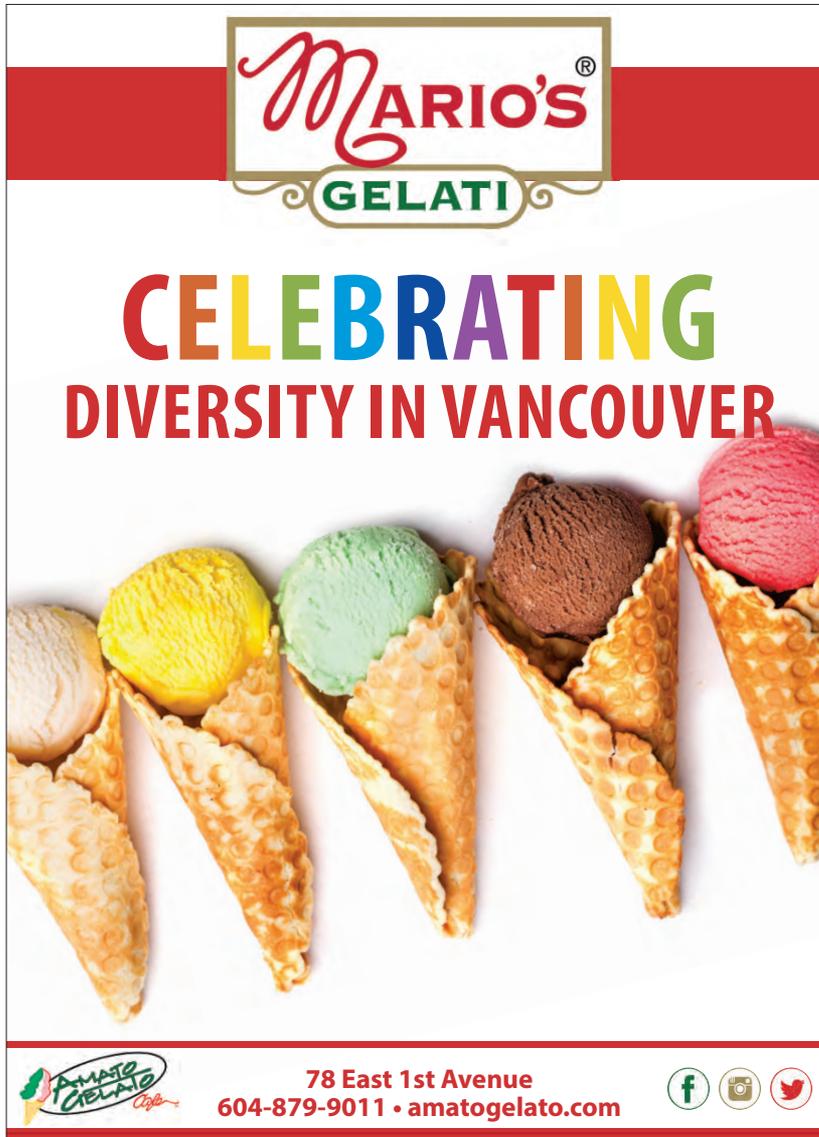
604.935.2214  
BOB@BOBCAMERON.CA  
BOBCAMERON.CA

**RE/MAX**  
SEA TO SKY  
REAL ESTATE  
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

## 2<sup>ND</sup> WESTENDER

Tara Rafiq & Matty Lambert

Great concept! The photography is inviting and the colours really grab attention on the page.



**MARIO'S**  
GELATI

**CELEBRATING  
DIVERSITY IN VANCOUVER**

Amato Gelato  
78 East 1st Avenue  
604-879-9011 • amatogelato.com

## 3<sup>RD</sup>

NELSON STAR

Sandy Leonard, Adam Mandseth & Marc-Andre Hamelin

Strong design concept throughout. The red and black emphasis really grabs the reader's attention. This ad makes burgers exciting!

**4TH ANNUAL  
NELSON  
BURGER  
WEEK**

NOV 3<sup>RD</sup> - NOV 24<sup>TH</sup>  
2017

**PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS**  
Unique and delicious burgers available only during Nelson Burger Week. Try them while you can at these participating restaurants!

All Seasons Cafe, CANTINA CENTRO, Finley's, HUME, Itza, JACKSON'S, LOUIE'S, Old World Bakery & BISTRO, pitchfork, rel-ish, the Dam, THE PAIS, TORCHLIGHT, UPTOWN, West Coast GRILL, YUM SON

With every burger you try, you could **WIN UP TO \$675** in prizes from Nelson businesses!!  
Bring your receipt to Le Grand Fromage or Fisherman's Market and enter to win!

**FOR ONLY \$12.95**

**1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE**  
THE TOTAL OF **\$425**  
WORTH OF GIFT CERTIFICATES FROM PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS!

**2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE**  
**\$150**  
GIFT CERTIFICATE!  
320 VERNON STREET, NELSON

**3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE**  
**\$100**  
GIFT CERTIFICATE!  
577 WARD STREET, NELSON

## 1ST

TRI-CITY NEWS

Matt Blair & Sheryl Jones

The simple, clean design and attention-grabbing headline gets the message across to the reader. The use of yellow really makes the ad pop out on the page. The tire tread impression, composed of tiny trees, is a nice touch and keeps the ad seasonal. Nice design work!



## 2ND

PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE

Claire Ryan

Dumbo Love is a great catchy headline, and readers will be drawn in to find out what it means. The handwritten style font, along with the loose composition work well together for the creative event being advertised. Simple layout, but it works!

## 3RD

MISSION CITY RECORD

Karen Murtagh

A great café campaign needs to show the reader how tasty the treats are and this is precisely what these ads do. The featured pastries are displayed nicely and photographed well. Yum! The headshots give a nice personalized feel to the ads.



# Ad Campaign Award, Collaborative

FOOTLOOSE SHOES  
EST 1983

RAYE

SPRING TIE-M  
637 Fort St. Victoria, BC 250.383.4040

1<sup>ST</sup>

**VICTORIA NEWS**

Cara Robbins & Nick Warrington

Simple, clean design. Really stands out on the page.

FOOTLOOSE SHOES  
EST 1983

FOOTWEAR YOU'LL FALL FOR

637 Fort St. Victoria, BC 250.383.4040



SHOP.EAT.PARTY.enjoy

Lower Lonsdale  
who knew?

Be Entertained in Lower Lonsdale. Movies, markets, festivals, parades and outdoor summer concerts!

What are you waiting for?

LowerLonsdaleBIA.ca  
Lower Lonsdale Business Improvement Area



BIKE.EAT.SHOP.enjoy

Lower Lonsdale  
who knew?

**Bike to Shop Day**  
Sunday, July 23 - 12noon to 2pm  
Plaza beside John Braithwaite Community Centre  
145 W 1st Street, North Vancouver  
Register at [bikehub.ca/biketoshop](http://bikehub.ca/biketoshop)

What are you waiting for!

LowerLonsdaleBIA.ca  
Lower Lonsdale Business Improvement Area

3<sup>RD</sup>

**THE PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN**

Debie Hemich & Grace Flack

Informative but still visually strong.

Healthy Living  
northern health

What is MILK?  
It's Time to Protect, Promote, and Support Maternal & Child Health!

Growing breastfeeding-friendly communities:

Writing a grant application - Anyone can do it!

Preventing injury with IMAGINE grants

a right to breastfeed. Anywhere.

Your health matters to Northern Health

2<sup>ND</sup>

**NORTH SHORE NEWS**

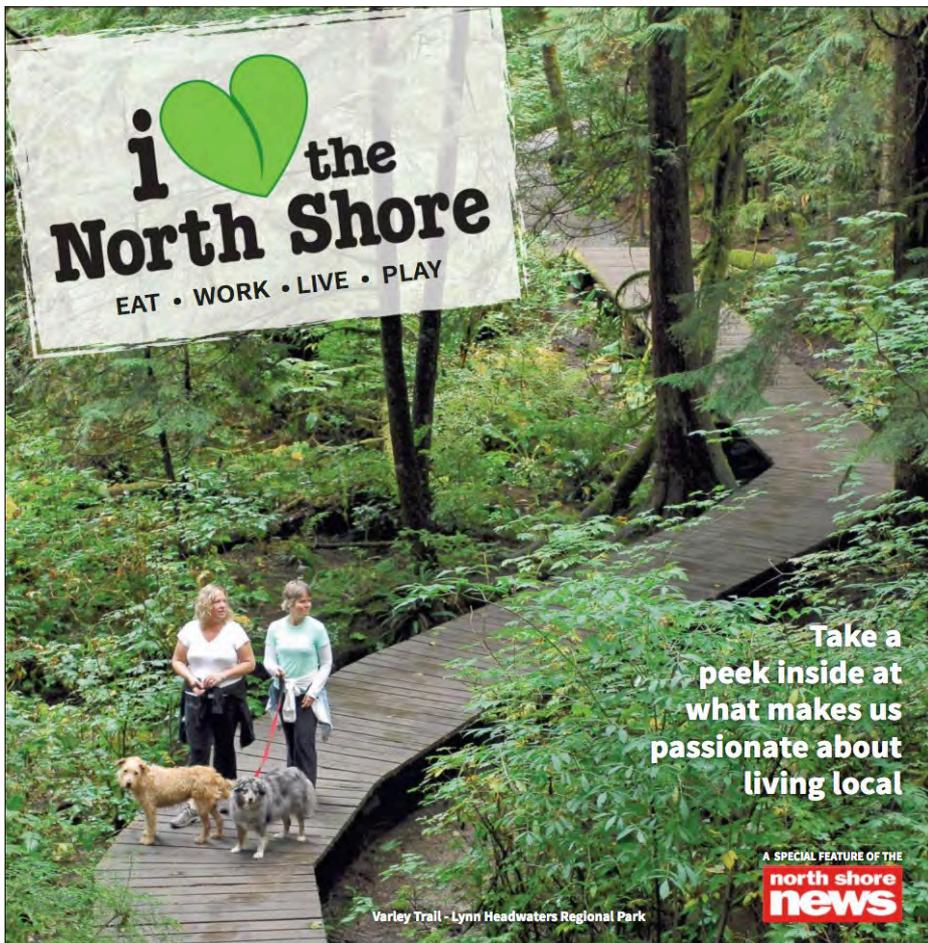
Hollee Brown & Birgit Brunner

Simple effective design and copy.

# Special Section Award

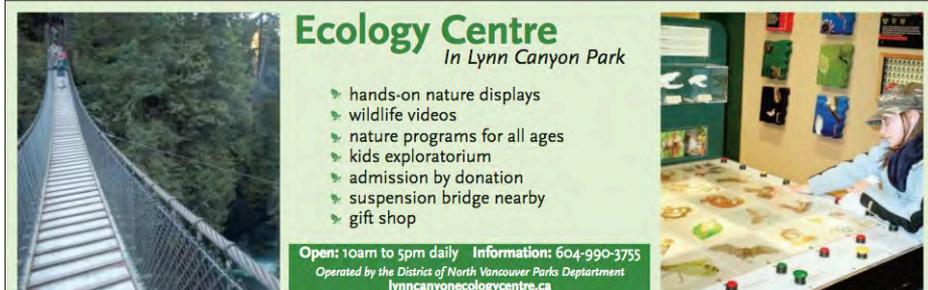
SPONSOR: BC CARE PROVIDERS ASSOCIATION

OVER 25,000

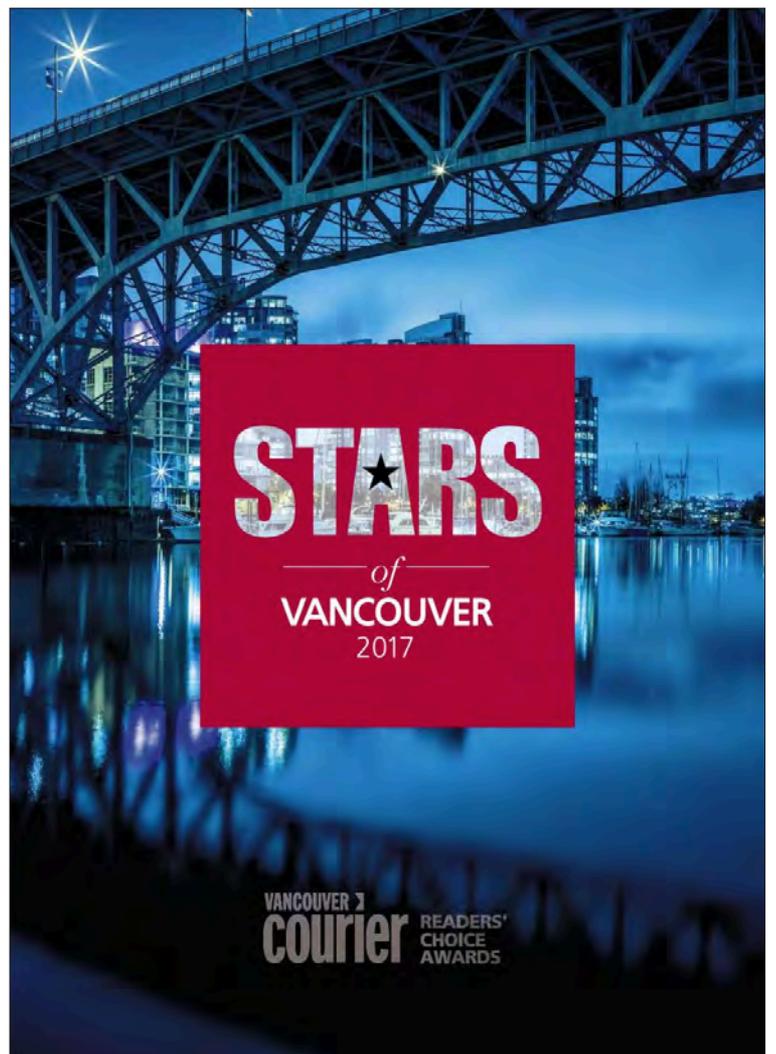


**1ST NORTH SHORE NEWS**  
 Vicki Magnison, Tannis Hendriks, Myra McGrath & Birgit Brunner  
 Nice layout and design throughout. The design really helps to present the nature/fun feeling of the section. The A-Z Buy Local idea is very original and helps to attract more advertising in a unique way.

**2ND VANCOUVER COURIER**  
 Marina Rockey, Michelle Bhatti, David Chiew & Maureen Laventure  
 Love the colourful floating style of the section. Exciting from beginning to end! Great way to attract advertising and makes reader want to spend their money as well.



**3RD VANCOUVER COURIER**  
 Sandra Thomas  
 This section gives the reader a feeling of walking through a life journey as they flip through the pages. Transition of colour/fonts changes from one topic to the other and I was amazed by the end of it. Very well done.



**42 Feature**  
STORY

# Best of Whistler 2017

**LET'S FACE IT: 2017 WAS A ROUGH YEAR** by almost any standard. Between a scandalous billionaire prone to childish outbursts in the White House, a new celebrity scandal at every turn, and what feels like the increasingly toxic cultural conversation on social media, the countdown to a new year could not come soon enough.

Whistler isn't immune to the trends of the wider world piercing our happy little bubble, either. Like other tourism hotspots around the globe, Whistler has had to contend with the growing impacts of its own success in the realms of housing, affordability and transportation, issues that came to a head this fall with the byelection to fill the late Andrée Janyk's vacant spot on council.

All of these challenges make one realize how important it is to take time to appreciate the positives of life — and there are plenty of those to go around in this one-of-a-kind ski mecca.

So, as we look ahead to a brighter new year, let's take a look back at the best places, people and things that Whistler had to offer in 2017, as voted by you, *Pique's* savvy readers.

42 | December 28, 2017 | www.piquenewsmagazine.com

# MINING WEEK 2017

**MAY 14-20**  
Celebrating mining in our province

Supplement to  
**InteriorNews**  
— celebrating 110 years of the valley's trusted news source

Get ready for long summer days & camping!  
Welcome to Mining Week!  
The **BEST** RV Deals are at **SMP RV** on Highway 16 in Houston, AND 3155 Tallow Road in Smithers!  
Check out our website [www.smprv.ca](http://www.smprv.ca) or Phone Toll Free 1-800-665-3151

**SMP RV**  
Family Owned and Operated... Best Selection, Service and Value!

**2<sup>ND</sup> THE INTERIOR NEWS**  
Grant Harris, Nick Briere & Laura Millsip

Editorial content is informative and interesting with a great deal of information profiling mining activities in the region, focusing on the area's strengths. Solid and relevant advertising content, and good use of graphics. A very effective supplement.

**1<sup>ST</sup> PIQUE NEWSMAGAZINE**  
Jon Parris, Clare Ogilvie & Staff

"Best of" productions are common, but this one handles the genre exceptionally. Very well executed, with captivating layout, design, and artwork. Content just keeps getting better and better. Solid profiles of winners and contenders, excellent photos, and very good advertising content throughout.

**3<sup>RD</sup> OAK BAY NEWS**  
Janet Gairdner, Jennifer Blyth, Christine van Reeuyk & Lyn Quan

Very solid content, both in editorial and advertising. The fact that the ads incorporate so much written copy is unusual, and makes them more effective, delivering insight into the people being profiled. Well executed with excellent layout and design, and artwork that supports the package well.

LOCAL WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

**OAKBAYNEWS**

# Women IN BUSINESS 2017

**Women Empowering Women**

**FairfieldSkinClinic** Dr. Julian A Hancock FRCP(C)  
Cosmetic Dermatologist

**BOTOX JUVEDERM**

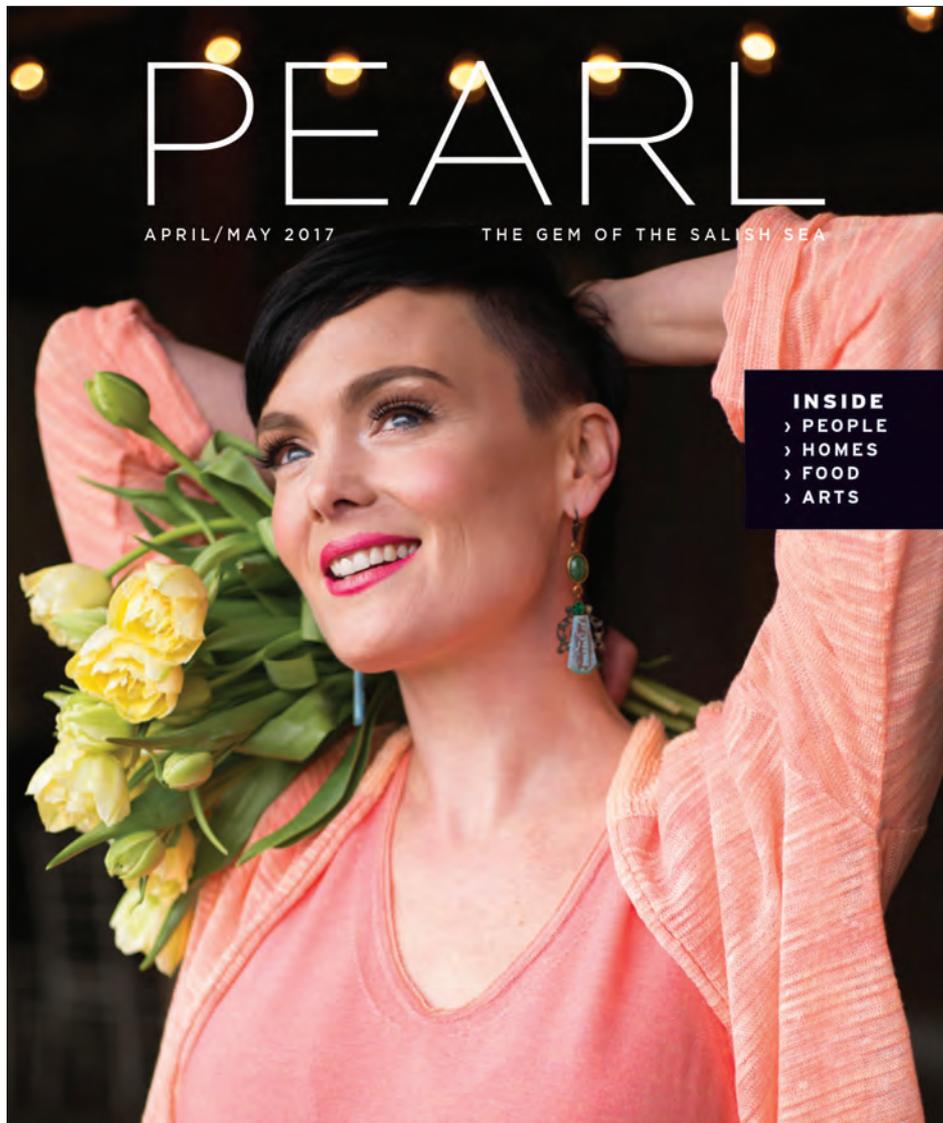
**DRIVE IN BOTOX! IN FAIRFIELD?**  
We now offer drive-in appointments. See the Dermatologist within five minutes.  
Fridays, some Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings.  
Injectables only by experienced Dermatologist, Dr. Julian Hancock, MSP issues also addressed.

**LOOK YOUR BEST. LOOK RELAXED. FEEL GOOD.**  
Cosmetic skin consults with our Medical Aesthetician now available.

Victoria's Cosmetic Dermatology Centre  
1494 Fairfield Rd, Victoria 778 432 3333 [Fairfieldskinclinic.com](http://Fairfieldskinclinic.com)

# Special Publications Award

OVER 25,000



1<sup>ST</sup>

## PENINSULA NEWS REVIEW

Penny Sakamoto, Dale Naftel, Susan Lundy & Lily Chan

This is an all-round fabulous publication. It's proof that you don't have to be glossy to be great! Very classy and attractive with the perfect balance of engaging content, outstanding layout, well-placed advertising and high-quality production. Very, very well done.

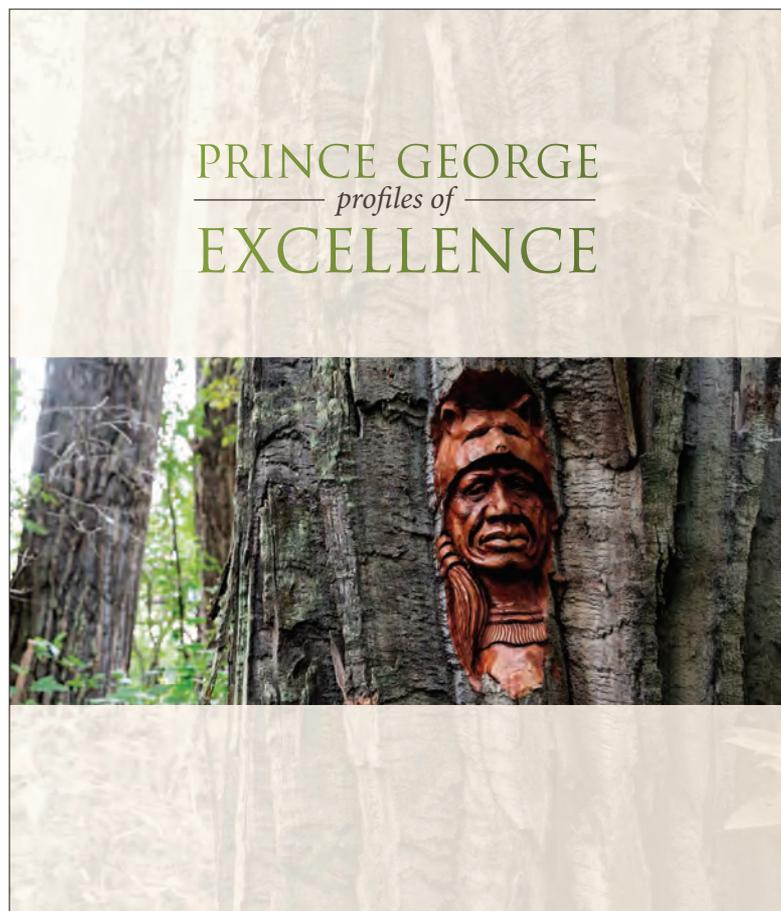


2<sup>ND</sup>

## TRI-CITY NEWS

Matt Blair & Niki Hope

A high-quality, attractive piece that invites readers in and provides marvellous visuals, engaging information and clean, crisp, well-balanced and contemporary layout. Just the right distribution of advertising and editorial.



3<sup>RD</sup>

## THE PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN

Cheryl Stewart & Team

This is a good example of taking information that not all people would necessarily be interested in reading and presenting it in a way that makes it inviting to read. Good photography and balanced, attractive layout with copy that has a personal element and human connection.

# Special Publications Award

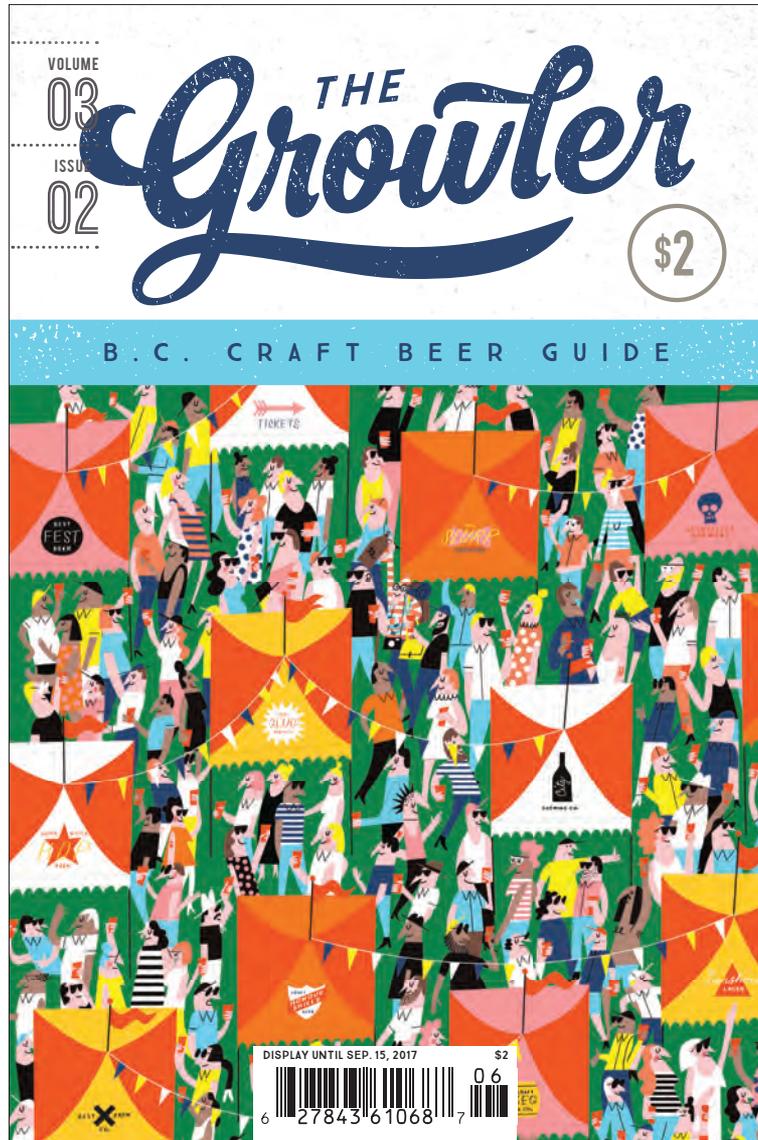
UNDER 25,000

1<sup>ST</sup>

**WESTENDER**

Gail Nugent, Tara Rafiq, Fiona Morrow & Westender Staff

Just an outstanding, fun and attractive piece in every way, from cover to cover. A definite must-have coffee table book to put on display.



2<sup>ND</sup>

**WESTENDER**

Rob Mangelsdorf, Tara Rafiq, Gail Nugent & Westender Staff

Another outstanding book that encompasses all that is an award-winner.



3<sup>RD</sup>

**WESTENDER**

Tara Rafiq, Gail Nugent & Westender Staff

Crisp, concise and chock full of information, presented beautifully and produced top-quality.



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

SPONSOR: LEDCOR



## DON KENDALL

Don Kendall has no shortage of experience after four decades in community journalism.

He has held many positions throughout his career – from publisher to regional manager to vice president and president for various divisions of Black Press.

Kendall even co-founded the Vernon Morning Star and became a publisher at the age of 34. He remembers watching the first edition of the paper come off the press in June of 1988. The paper sold to Black Press in 1989, but Kendall remained publisher until 1997.

In addition to his roles at Black Press, Kendall also sat on the board of the BCYCNA from 1996-2000, which included a two-year stint as president.

Kendall has many career highlights, but his experience as publisher of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin on 9/11 was one of the defining moments of his career.

Being a publisher of a major American daily on 9/11 was a period he says he will never forget. The paper put out three editions that day.

But for Kendall, journalism is about more than covering the big events. It's about giving back to the community.

Kendall has worked on numerous boards and charities throughout his career and has been president of the Penticton Peach Festival for the last nine years.

"He's been a great ambassador for our papers," said Rick O'Connor, president and chief executive officer of Black Press, adding that he deserves to be honoured with the Eric Dunning Award for Dedication and Service to the Community Newspaper Industry.

## ARTS & CULTURE WRITING

### 'A Better Man' screens dialogue between abused and abuser

**SABRINA FURMINGER**  
*Westender*

When Attiya Khan was in her teens, she lived with her boyfriend, Steve, for two years. And for the entirety of those two years, Steve assaulted Khan, relentlessly and viciously, until the day she escaped with her life.

For many domestic abuse survivors, this is where direct contact with their abuser ends. But more than two decades after Khan fled that violent relationship, she had questions for Steve – and he agreed to answer them, on camera.

Those conversations, and Khan's journey to hear Steve and be heard by him, form *A Better Man*, her feature-length documentary debut that screens in Vancouver this week as part of Reel Causes.

More than 23 years have passed since Khan began her life anew, and for the bulk of those years, Khan had little contact with Steve, save for chance meetings on the streets of downtown Toronto.

"When I saw him that first time [after their relationship] I almost fainted and I was terrified, and then, a few years later, I saw him again," says Khan in a recent phone interview.

Those encounters always brought forth a storm of emotions in Khan: "I'd end up having more nightmares than usual, and all of the trauma that I had associated with it would heighten."

But a paradigm shift occurred when Khan (who had since built a career as a professional advocate for women who experience domestic violence) ran into Steve, and "for the first time I looked at him not as the person who had hurt me, and I think that happened because he didn't look well, and he looked unhappy, and I thought, 'I don't wish that on anyone, even the person that hurt me.'"

"That's when I became curious about him and thought, 'I wonder if the abuse

that he inflicted on me has affected his life?'"

Gender-based violence is one of the most pervasive human rights violations in the world: the United Nations reports that roughly 70 per cent of women have been subject to a form of physical or sexual abuse from an intimate partner or loved one.

In Canada, the rate of violent crime against young women aged 15 to 24 (the group that Khan fell into at the time of the assaults) is 42 per cent higher than the rate for women aged 25 to 34, and nearly double the rate for women aged 35 to 44.

Also in Canada: Approximately every six days, a woman is killed at the hands of her intimate partner.

Khan had long been dedicated to ending gender-based violence through her work when the idea for *A Better Man* began to take shape. When she asked Steve to participate in the film, she didn't expect him to say yes.

"I said, 'I have this idea: I think it's incredible that you and I can stand here and have a conversation, and I've been thinking that I'd like to make a documentary about preventing domestic violence, and I thought that it would be really helpful to show you and I having a conversation together,'" recalls Khan.

"And he was just looking at me in disbelief. I let him sit with that, and he said, 'You know, my gut is telling me that this is the right thing to do, and to be honest, if I could help one young man change his path and not use violence, then I think it would be worth it.'"

Their initial conversation took place in a Toronto café. Khan's friend operated the camera while Khan questioned Steve about the violence he'd inflicted on her, and what he remembered about specific assaults.

The conversation was emotionally raw and intimate

and, for Khan, illuminating. "When I left after that first conversation, I had a huge sense of relief," she recalls. "I didn't get a lot of answers, but I got enough, and I left and I felt great."

Khan had originally intended to edit that first conversation into a short film, but how she felt after that initial interview (as well as the response she received when she told people about it) compelled her forward into feature-length documentary territory.

Steve consented to participate in what ended up being a four-year journey.

Many of Khan and Steve's subsequent conversations were facilitated by a therapist who works with men who have used violence in relationships.

"It surprised me that Steve

kept participating," says Khan. "He kept showing up. They weren't easy conversations, but that's part of the accountability. That's how I knew he was really taking responsibility for this, and in such a public way."

*A Better Man* was produced by the National Film Board of Canada and TVO, co-directed by Lawrence Jackman, and counts Sarah Polley among its executive producers. It began its festival journey earlier this year at Hot Docs and has since screened in New York City, Milan, San Diego and Halifax.

Khan's goal with *A Better Man* is not to inspire survivors of violence to enter into conversations with their abusers; rather, she aims to offer a fresh and nuanced look at the healing and revelation

that can happen for everyone involved when men take responsibility for their abuse. She also hopes to empower audience members to play new roles in challenging domestic violence, whether it's in their own relationships or as part of a broader movement for social change. Peruse the comprehensive online resources at [abettermanfilm.com](http://abettermanfilm.com).

• *A Better Man* screens Nov. 23 at SFU Woodward's Djavad Mowafaghian Theatre as part of Reel Causes. The screening will support We Can BC and Battered Women's Support Services. There will be a post-film Q&A with local activists. Tickets and schedule information at [reelcauses.org](http://reelcauses.org). §



## Proud to support the Ma Murray Awards.

We are working together with BC & Yukon  
Community Newspapers Association to make  
a difference in our communities.



### Cannabusiness: The Greening of a Grey Economy

JANE SEYD  
North Shore News

Down in North Vancouver's Lower Lonsdale, just a couple of blocks in from the neighbourhood's bustling main drag, the LotusLand Cannabis Club's storefront proudly displays its green logo in a stripe across the front windows. The words "British Columbia's finest," almost look official.

Inside, through a set of double doors that help keep the smell of marijuana off the street, there's a chalkboard with daily specials behind a large gleaming display counter. The light and airy atmosphere feels a bit like a high-end coffee or chocolate shop. Except it's not. On top of a low table in a seating area, there's a tray with Zigzag rolling papers.

"Indica, sativa or hybrid?" one of the staff asks a man who's walked in off the street. For a mid-week afternoon, there's a steady stream of customers.

Some are buying regular bud, others choosing from an array of "edibles" including brownies, granola and Nanaimo bars.

"If you can eat it, they're going to put marijuana in it," said Steve Morrow, the manager of the store on shift this afternoon.

Cookies behind the counter sell for \$11.

"We only recommend you take tiny bites of that," said Morrow. "We recommend you only take an eighth of a piece."

Strains of marijuana behind the counter are colour coded to indicate a sativa or indica – or a hybrid – strain.

Moby Dick is a popular sativa. "It's supremely energetic. Very clear-headed. It's good for getting stuff done," said Morrow.

So is the Purple Space Cookies indica hybrid. "The vast majority of people who shop here consider it one of the best strains," he said. "When we get that one in, people go crazy."

LotusLand is one of two storefront marijuana shops on this street alone and one of five currently operating in the City of North Vancouver.

Most have opened in the past year and a half, buoyed by the federal government's promise of legalized marijuana.

Selling marijuana from any retail storefront – for either medicinal or recreational purposes – is still illegal in Canada, and decisions about how it will eventually be distributed haven't been made yet.

But with legalization on the horizon and a reluctance to crack down aggressively on pot shops, a number of retail owners have been prepared to take a risk in order to get a toehold on the North Shore.

"A lot of this is testing new frontiers," said Michael Wuest, owner of the Weeds store at 991 Marine Drive near MacKay Road.

Wuest's was the first storefront to open up on the North Shore, in April 2015. Wuest's background is in the hotel and restaurant business and in natural foods stores. The Weeds store in North Vancouver came about after he met Don Briere, a B.C. pot pioneer who's been described as the "Tim Horton's of cannabis." Briere, now in his mid-60s, was once a prolific marijuana grower, and was jailed for those activities.

These days Briere's pot empire includes franchising Weeds stores to local owners like Wuest.

There is competition in the marijuana market. LotusLand, for instance, is part of another chain run by the Vancouver-based pot entrepreneur Robert Davis.

There have also been links between the WeeMedical dispensary on East First Street in North Vancouver and the Green Tree marijuana dispensary chain.

Wuest said the idea behind Weeds is to get marijuana out into the open, along with

making a profit. "We want people to come in and talk with us and see what we have to offer," he said. "We don't hide anything. We don't black out our windows."

In Wuest's store, there is steady foot traffic checking out the tincture-infused drinks in the cooler, the colour-coded plastic totes of Pink Kush and Rock Star. Behind the counter, an employee is diligently making "pre-rolls" or joints, that sell for about \$6 each, with the aid of a hand roller.

Wuest describes the current state of marijuana laws as "a grey area."

Getting in on the ground floor of regulation is part of what the current storefronts are about, he acknowledges. "Why wouldn't we?" he said. "We wanted to be ahead of the curve."

"They want to be there first and gain the recognition in the market," said Werner Antwiler, a UBC professor in the Sauder School of Business, who has studied the marijuana industry. "I understand the business logic."

There is also a risk. "They're not playing by the rules here," said Antwiler. "They're kind of hoping the police and municipalities aren't enforcing it."

For most storefronts, the gamble has paid off so far.

Although the North Vancouver RCMP detachment is aware of the pot shops, officers have taken a hands-off approach.

"There is no cookie cutter approach which would apply to marijuana dispensaries," said Cpl. Janelle Shoihet, spokeswoman for the Lower Mainland's RCMP E Division headquarters, in an emailed statement. "Each one has to be looked at and a risk assessment conducted, to determine what action would be appropriate and when."

"They're in charge of enforcing federal law," said North Vancouver City Coun.

Rod Clark. "The fact they're not jumping up and down and having officers at the door of these establishments means somewhere in their system common wisdom has taken hold."

Officially speaking, that view isn't shared by the City of North Vancouver. "There's this period of time when (marijuana storefront owners) feel they're operating in a grey zone," said Gary Penway, director of community development for the city. "There's nothing really grey about it. It's not permitted."

When the two Weeds stores opened, "They were licensed to sell glass and gifts, not marijuana," said Penway. "They had a condition on their business licences specifically written in to them not to sell marijuana. . . . Then we found they started to dispense marijuana as well."

In the case of each marijuana storefront, the municipality has notified both business owners and property owners that the operations are illegal, and has issued up to eight \$100 tickets per store for operating without a business licence. Recently those fines were hiked to \$400 a ticket.

One of the storefronts – the CannaClinic at 156 Third St. – subsequently closed. Most, however, did not. That's left two Weeds stores, LotusLand, WeeMedical and the Herban Art Collective in business in the city.

"There's sort of a mood where it is going to become legal and retail stores might become part of the distribution system," said Penway. "The reality is we just don't know that."

Last week, a lawyer for the two Weeds stores argued in front of council that the city has no good reason to deny them business licences, pointing out the municipality hasn't received complaints about people harming themselves or "things that really matter."

Coun. Linda Buchanan didn't

agree. "What matters to me is that people are operating under the federal regulations . . . and not what we think they're going to be," she said.

Coun. Rod Clark said he doesn't view the pot shops as a big deal.

"You have to sort of step back and look at the situation as a whole. The Liberal government campaigned on legalizing marijuana in the last federal election," he said.

Clark said there's an argument to be made for turning a blind eye to the storefronts.

"In the majority of cases, people want to go through the door because it makes their life better," he said.

Clark said there are many municipal regulations on the books that aren't stringently enforced. "I can't see spending a whole lot of energy and certainly not taxpayers' money enforcing something that we know is going to have a limited horizon," he said.

The reaction has been decidedly different in the District of North Vancouver. When the Green Tree Dispensary Society opened a storefront at 1370 Marine Dr. in September, and started advertising marijuana strains like Bubba Kush on Facebook – "Great for crushing stress while coercing happy thoughts into the brain for a great good mood feeling. 22% THC . . ." – the municipality moved in.

A cat and mouse game played out over several months, with property owner Randy Leong refusing to hand over a copy of the lease before being forced to do so by a court order.

At the end of May, the district was granted a court injunction, forcing Green Tree owner Jason Liu to close the doors and Leong – who had been receiving \$3,300 a month in rent – to seek a new tenant.

Make that two of them.

Grace Dedinsky-Rutherford, a massage therapist with a specialized practice for

*Continued on next page*

## BUSINESS WRITING

### Cannabusiness: The Greening of a Grey Economy (cont.)

medical patients, had been a tenant in the building for more than a decade. When the storefront first set up, Dedinsky-Rutherford said she wasn't concerned. "Some of my clients do use medicinal marijuana," she said. "I wasn't being prudish about it."

But then the heavy smell of marijuana bud began permeating her office every day, giving her headaches and making her nauseous, she said.

Her patients also started feeling uncomfortable as fights broke out outside the storefront. "There were a lot of unstable people who were frequenting the place," she said.

After six months of complaining to the landlord

with no result, Dedinsky-Rutherford moved her practice – two months before the court shuttered the dispensary.

Carol Walker, chief bylaw officer for the District of North Vancouver, said the municipality will continue to take action against any dispensaries that open illegally.

In West Vancouver, there have been a couple of inquiries about marijuana storefronts, but nobody has applied for a business licence or opened up a store, said spokesman Jeff McDonald.

"It's like any other kind of business. You need good people to run it and you need good product and you need a good location," said

Wuest, who adds population density and proximity to transit probably play as big a role as the political climate in storefronts opening in the city.

Ultimately, though, it's a political decision whether to force the pot shops to close – or not.

"Given that there will be new regulations coming probably within the year, there's a limit to how much in legal costs municipalities want to spend," said Penway.

At Ray Nikiel's Weeds store on East First – a storefront set up next to a Szechuan restaurant and a beauty spa – a customer on a recent afternoon considered which strain of "the flower" to buy, eventually settling on Pink

Kush.

Bags of bud come in one-gram, four-gram or 11-gram sizes.

It's a far cry from high school kids buying "eighths" behind the smoke pit.

Selling grams is part of an attempt to avoid the associations of the black market. "Joints," made behind the counter by employees, have become "pre-rolls," sold individually for \$5 to \$7 each.

Owners are cagey about both how much pot they sell and where it comes from. There's good reason for that, as it's not legal for either licensed growers or others to sell marijuana to storefronts.

"There's a variety of sources,

which I can't get into," said Wuest. "I'm one of the main buyers for this company. We do due diligence on everything we buy."

Wuest said all his marijuana comes from B.C. "There are people growing everywhere," he said. "It's not hard to find."

Large licensed producers are supposed to supply marijuana only to those who are approved by Health Canada to use it. In the wake of court decisions, others have licences to grow their own pot, or to grow it in a limited way for other medicinal users.

*Edited for length*

## COLUMNIST

### The North Side

**PAUL SULLIVAN**  
*North Shore News*

What is it with railways? Is there something about running an iron road that requires an iron head?

Admittedly, the sample is relatively small here in Canada – we have two big national railways, CP and CN, but they both have a tendency to exhibit the sensibilities of an oncoming train.

CP, for example, tried to bully the City of Vancouver into paying through the nose for the rights to the Arbutus Corridor, a track it had pretty much abandoned for decades, by bulldozing children's gardens on the six o'clock news.

It was eventually settled equitably, as we all knew it would be, but not before CP was inducted in the Tony Hayward PR Hall of

Shame, named in honour of the BP CEO who responded to the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster, the worst man-made disaster in history, by telling the world he'd rather get back to his sailboat.

You can't buy that kind of universal condemnation.

The PR Hall of Shame doesn't exist, except in my head. But it should. There never seems to be a shortage of wilful, truculent, tone deaf corporate boneheads prepared to look common sense in the eye and abandon it altogether.

The latest candidate for the hall? CN Rail. When everybody else saw the Arbutus Corridor as an unmitigated PR disaster, CN apparently studied it carefully and adopted it as a communications strategy.

As reported in the North Shore News, Feb. 17, CN filed a lawsuit in BC Supreme Court designed to stop everyone from trespassing ... on the Seawalk.

Yes, that Seawalk, the one that runs along the ocean between 19th and 24th in West Van, the one that attracts thousands on any given sunny Sunday.

I'm struck by the similarities between this one and the Arbutus Corridor:

A profound ignorance of the concept of "public licence": With no attempt to make its

case in the court of public opinion, CN goes to court to get an injunction to prevent the public from trespassing on the Seawalk. Presumably a large wall topped with barbed wire barring access is about to follow.

Lack of self-awareness: Don't these guys (and you can bet they are guys) have any idea how people already see their noisy, dangerous, air-polluting long lines of railcars full of God knows what? And they want to make it worse?

And why do I feel it's even worse – more than a mere iron-clad lack of perspective? There's a suspicion that these guys actually like playing hardball.

The City of Vancouver, after all, did eventually cough up \$55 million for the Arbutus Corridor (admittedly, a bargain for all that west side real estate), which just encourages these guys to roll out the heavy artillery. No pink shirts on this crowd.

Breathtaking greed: both CP and CN tried to hold up Vancouver and West Van for multimillion-dollar payments,

presumably to address all those years when these deadbeat municipalities got to use their rights-of-way for free.

Shocking lack of empathy: Haven't these guys (who else can they be?) ever gone for a stroll on the Arbutus Corridor or the spectacular Seawalk, where maybe you can't see all the way to Alaska, but it sure feels like it? Held hands with their sweethearts?

OK, what was I thinking?

Oddly enough, CN isn't the only West Van candidate for the Tony Hayward PR Hall of Shame. Park Royal just about earned a lifetime membership about a year ago when it tried to evict the folks who had been peacefully playing chess in the mall for 50 years, ordering them to stop taking up valuable food court space or they will have to "reach out to the West Vancouver Police Department."

Mall brass eventually came to its senses, but not before Park Royal was almost subject to a Holy War when West Van Presbyterian Church

announced it was planning a sit-in at the mall in solidarity with the chess players.

And now CN stands at the threshold, ready to fall over on its face.

The problem is, corporate PR blunders such as these make it hard for everyone to do business. Why would anyone trust a railroad that decides one day to kick everyone off the Seawalk? And that's a problem if they want concessions from municipalities ... and they always want concessions from municipalities.

I'm sure this one will end, as did all the others, with a compromise and it will be safe, at least for a while, to go for a walk by the ocean.

But for CN, the damage is already done. There's trouble on down the line and you can't just slam the engine into reverse. §

# Award-Winning Writing

## EDITORIAL

### Pride and a newspaper's place

**KELSEY KLASSEN**  
*Westender*

Oof. An editor's letter on Pride from a straight, cis-gender, white millennial. I must be mad.

I won't claim here to know the complete history of how and why Pride came about. Not because I don't attempt to learn, but, more specifically, because I wasn't there.

I wasn't there in 1972, when the gay community claimed a stretch of summer as Gay Pride Week.

I wasn't there in 1980, when Vancouver's Pride celebrations coalesced into a festival based out of the West End Community Centre. Or, in 1983, when black arm bands appeared in the parade as a symbolic protest of the BC Human Rights Act, which left gays and lesbians vulnerable to discrimination based on sexual orientation.

I wasn't there in 1993, when Vancouver's gay and lesbian food bank faced closure due, in large part, to overwhelming demand from "straights," and volunteers walked the parade with petitions to try to keep the facility open for all. I wasn't there, that same year, when the growing Gay Pride Parade announced plans for a

"new route" down Denman to Beach Avenue, and held fundraisers in the West End to offset the mounting costs.

I wasn't there the first year that the Westender staff signed up to walk in the parade – making it one of, if not the first newspaper in the city to do so. Nor was I there the first time the Westender partnered with the Vancouver Pride Society to print and distribute the festival guide.

I wasn't there; but, as shown by my trip through our archives this week, the Westender was.

While I cannot place myself at the front lines of the fight for LGBTQ+ rights, Vancouverites fighting for equality have long found a front line here, in these pages. And, in this office, the LGBTQ+ community can find a listening ear and an honest pen, a forum for change, when needed, and a place to celebrate, when achieved.

As I sit here writing this, the myriad reasons why we have Pride march through my head. Feel free to tell me why you take part as we're walking side by side on Aug. 6.

I walk because there's so much more we can do, and so many more stories to tell. §



**Congratulations to all the winners & nominees!**

**Together we are leading the future of community media.**

 **Black Press Media**

[blackpress.ca](http://blackpress.ca)

## ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

### Clayoquot Cleanup

**ANDREW BAILEY**  
*The Westerly News*

A colossal cleanup of Clayoquot Sound is about to commence.

An impressive roster of long-time locals, including ship captains, divers, pilots and savvy social media gurus, has come together to create Clayoquot Cleanup: Restore the Shore.

The project involves a colossal two-year effort to clear marine debris from every nook and cranny on the Coast.

Clayoquot Cleanup has split

the Sound into five zones and each one will be tackled in a phased approach that is expected to take two years to complete. The first zone to be covered encompasses the beaches, shores and intertidal zones around Hesquiaht Harbour and work will start on June 1.

Following the two-year effort, annual maintenance cleanups will be done to keep what was cleaned pristine.

"This has to be maintained in perpetuity. This isn't a one and done thing," Tofino's Josh Temple told the Westerly News.

"The first sweep through, over the next two years, is going to be a tremendous undertaking. It's going to require a lot of funding, effort, technical experience, and resources. But, once we get the first couple of years over with, then it's not going to take anywhere near as much to maintain."

Temple is one of the Clayoquot Cleanup's founders and will lead the effort's marine operations.

He said groups like Surfrider Pacific Rim have done a "great job" organizing shoreline cleanups, but synthetic

materials have been piling up untouched around some of the Coast's harder to reach locations for decades.

"Unfortunately the largest areas of Clayoquot Sound and the most inaccessible and the most remote are the ones that are suffering from the most accumulation and the least amount of effort. ... We're going to make an immediate impact by removing the debris that's accumulated for literally generations," he said. "All of that stuff gets shuffled on every high tide and every storm. So, if you don't tackle a massive swath of coastline

all at once, with a huge amount of effort and assets and volunteers, then you're hardly making a dent because everything that's adjacent to the area you just cleaned, from the north and south, is just going to wash back in and re-pollute the area you just concentrated on."

Temple has lived in Tofino for 26 years and has been involved in a variety of formal and informal cleanup efforts. He said Clayoquot Cleanup's founders are sick of seeing trash covering their shorelines and aren't willing to take it anymore.

*Continued on next page*

## ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

### Clayoquot Cleanup (cont.)

"Enough is enough. We need to tackle this and we need to tackle it right," he said. "It's beyond the critical stage now. This is something that is in crisis stage and we have to deal with it. It must be done."

He added debris is not contained to shorelines as animals cart various pieces into the forests.

"You're finding buoys and plastics, that have washed in from the shore, way back in the woods because bears and eagles and all sorts of other wildlife have drug it back," he said.

The cleared debris will be removed using a large barge.

"Some of it is going to be recycled. Some of it is going to be repurposed. But, certainly, it's all going to be dealt with in a responsible and sustainable manner," Temple said.

He hopes the project raises awareness of the West Coast's debris issue and motivates locals and visitors to clean up after themselves.

"I think, to a large extent, most people don't really understand how bad it is in some areas of the sound because of the remote nature of these shores. When they see that barge come into the harbour loaded with tons and tons of debris, that's really going

to raise a few eyebrows and hammer home the point," he said. "Ethically, I think, we have a responsibility as inhabitants of this region to maintain the integrity of the ecosystem. Furthermore, when you're talking about a bunch of local communities here in Clayoquot Sound that depend heavily on ecotourism and the value of that ecosystem being healthy, this is a direct threat on not only the health and the viability of the resource, but on everybody's livelihoods."

Volunteers will be needed in a variety of capacities throughout the project and anyone interested in lending a

hand should check out [www.clayoquotcleanup.com](http://www.clayoquotcleanup.com).

Temple said he's been inspired by the "tremendous amount" of corporate and individual donations the group has received, but expressed frustration over what he's perceived to be a lack of interest from the federal government.

"Thus far, we're completely community funded... We haven't seen a dime from the government and that's completely wrong as far as I'm concerned," he said. "Our goal here is to raise awareness and force the government to recognize that this is a serious

issue that needs to be dealt with.

The West Coast's federal Member of Parliament, NDP Gord Johns, said he's committed to lobbying for funding towards cleanup efforts like Clayoquot Cleanup. Stayed tuned to next week's *Westerly News* to read about the local MP's ideas and efforts. §

## ENVIRONMENTAL WRITING

### Sharing Snow

LESLIE ANTHONY, CLARE OGILVIE,  
JON PARRIS & BEN OLIVER  
*Pique Newsmagazine*

The ski world has always been rife with conflict—whether between hotdoggers and racers of yore, skiers and snowboarders in the Eighties, or boot-packers fouling skin tracks outside resorts. But nothing compares to the growing conflict in British Columbia between heli-ski/cat-ski operations and snowmobiling.

"This year hasn't been bad so far," says Kieren Gaul of Big Red Cats, a cat-skiing operation based in Rossland, B.C. "But a week ago I had a group out and went to test this big avalanche path to see if we could ski it. The group was at a safe spot and I was down testing in the start zone, when these two skiers came out of nowhere and skied the avalanche path right on top of me. If the thing had released... well, we all would have died."

The rogue skiers had accessed Big Red's terrain in a quad driven by a third person who was dropping them off and picking them up using the operation's network of snowcat roads. And

though clearly in violation of the unspoken rules of backcountry land-use sharing — not to mention safety — they were doing so perfectly legally.

Gaul has reason to be alarmed about the incident. A few years back, a snowmobiler accepted money to ferry a skier into Big Red's tenure where he was subsequently killed by a self-triggered avalanche. Big Red had to dig out the body and the police shut down the area to skiing while they investigated, a gross inconvenience for guests from around the world who'd paid hefty sums to experience B.C.'s world-renowned powder. Again last year, a snowmobiler well-known to Big Red who'd been rooping around on its ski runs for years went into an area that had, to that point, proven safe for him — largely because of ongoing use by Big Red. But given the way snow fell last year, they hadn't skied the area as much and it was dangerous, with buried layers uncompressed by the usual skier compaction. The snowmobiler was buried and died, again shutting down a large block of the operation

until the coroner finished investigating.

If this seems unfair to Big Red Cats, you're right. If the obvious solution appears to be formally restricting use of the terrain to the tenure holder, you're also right. But if you think the latter is easily achieved, you're dead wrong. B.C.'s archaic Land Act and the non-exclusive tenure system it has spawned are among the most immovable of legislative objects, mired in a morass of politics. As Gaul sees it, the existing tenure system — in which the province's 600 commercial adventure tourism entities pay for the right to operate on Crown land within certain proprietary boundaries that exclude similar commercial activity but not the public — functions "in a kind of optimistic way where everyone just hopes things are going to work out."

And they largely do work out when stakeholders sit down together. "Since the beginning we've had agreements with local snowmobile clubs not to access our terrain during the months we're operating," says Gaul. "We let them know when we're done for the

season so they can go in and it has worked out really well. But there's always one or two sledders who get it in their heads to go in there then claim they've been using it forever."

Thus the fatal flaw in the land-use system: the integrity of people. That the province continues to put the onus on individuals to know about and respect commercial land users makes that system fraught, susceptible both to impacts by uninformed newcomers to an area, and the one per cent who are in the know but simply don't care. In the end, as Gaul has experienced first-hand, it adds up to "a crazy system that leads to accidents."

#### THE ONE PER CENT

From the Alaska border to the southern Kootenays, B.C.'s heli- and cat-skiing operators have area-based tenures renewable on 20-year terms. When it comes to winter backcountry use on this vast swath of Crown land, however, conflict has a lengthy history, whether self-propelled skiers versus mechanized transport of all varieties, or tenured mechanized commercial operators versus



*Continued on next page*

# Award-Winning Writing

## ENVIRONMENTAL WRITING

### Sharing Snow (cont.)

mechanized public users. Commercial operators have largely worked things out with the non-mechanized crowd, and have made progress in forging share agreements with the mechanized public in many places. But not all.

A number of operators have found themselves in heated and protracted battles with intransigent individuals for years. One, Powder Cowboy cat-skiing near Fernie, was trashed so often and so thoroughly by vindictive snowmobilers that the operation became unviable and folded. That's a big deal in a province that hosts the world's largest mechanized backcountry ski industry, but it isn't unique, occurring wherever the two entities find themselves battling over land. (I was once out skiing with Blomidon Cats in Corner Brook, N.L., at the time the only cat-ski operation east of the Mississippi, when we discovered a bridge the owner had built to access his tenure had been dynamited by sledders with whom he'd been having run-ins. With a cat-load of paying customers he'd had to turn around, issuing full refunds to all after burning up hundreds of dollars in fuel.)

Far from embracing such acrimony, mechanized backcountry operators in B.C. have gone out of their way to sit down with snowmobile groups and government to work collaboratively on mutual-use solutions. Yet conflict continues to accelerate for several reasons: 1) a spike in snowmobiler numbers in B.C., particularly from out of province as the sport has become a serious winter tourism draw (for example, as a jurisdiction, Alberta leads the world in snowmobile sales); 2) more powerful, farther-ranging machines can penetrate deeper and higher into the alpine; 3) an increasingly indifferent element in the culture justifies tearing up wildlife and other closures as a form of protest; and 4) with a strong and moneyed snowmobile lobby supported by sled manufacturers, the provincial government has, to date, been unwilling to fundamentally alter tenure rules to separate clashing user groups.

Some might describe this quandary as laughable — a B-grade Japanese horror flick entitled *Battle of the Carbon Monsters*. But analysis projects a different film: a highly regulated, safety-conscious, world-renowned backcountry snow industry worth some \$200 million annually is battling for space it already pays for with

an unregulated, safety-poor, often disrespectful recreational sector that, coincidentally, is also pouring hundreds of millions — and growing — into provincial and local coffers. One is a mature industry, the other not so much. But there's more than enough space in B.C. for both groups to be out there without overlap, so what's the issue?

"In a word, disrespect," says Beat Steiner, a Whistler resident and co-owner of Bella Coola Heli Sports. "The majority of heli-ski companies try to be respectful of other backcountry users. The vast majority of snowmobilers are equally respectful and there's no problem, but those who do intentionally disrupt other people's pleasure in the backcountry — as well as ignoring impacts on wildlife — are behaving in the opposite way."

#### THE TENURE BOGEYMAN

"In my opinion it has reached a critical point," says Whistler-based resort planner and industry consultant Brent Harley, whose clientele includes several such operations. Harley also sat on the board of the Canada West Ski Areas Association for five years, helping spearhead efforts by the heli/cat industry to get the provincial Adventure Tourism policy adjusted.

"The policy is weak and tries to do too many things for too many people," says Harley. "It covers the whole of what's considered adventure tourism — kayaking, fishing, grizzly bear hunting, rafting, jet-boating — as well as heli and snowcat ops that have unique needs and expectations. The B.C. Land Act allows public access to Crown land, and snowmobiling is one of those activities that happens all over it. There are closed and restricted access areas for wildlife and other reasons but, by and large, snowmobilers don't care. They go anywhere they please, whenever they please."

While true to a degree, like Gaul, most operators are careful to point out that this involves only a tiny fraction of the snowmobiling public. The problem for a business selling a commodity as unique and ephemeral as powder, however, is that it only takes a tiny fraction to do irreparable damage.

"Like anything in life it's one per cent of the people that cause problems," says Don Schwartz of Whistler-based Powder Mountain Catskiing and Heliskiing. "And around here it's not the locals. They understand that

companies like ours employ people and put money into the community. We see the same 20 to 30 people every day going past on our roads heading to sledding areas and there's no problem. In fact, they actually police things for us, telling other sledders how to stay out of our tenure. The locals are also smart and trained. They'd be there to help if we ever needed them. Not so (with) people coming up here from other places."

In the big scheme of things, Schwartz notes, they rarely have problems. "But today was one of those days," he tells me on the phone in early February. "Some new guys from the city came in and wrecked a huge area. We lost \$10,000 today. It's like someone breaking into your store and taking what they want from your inventory. They could have driven 300 metres in the other direction and had unlimited riding. Instead, they were on our runs, creating a real hazard if you're a skier going down and you don't know a sled is coming up at you. They didn't know anything about mountains or avalanches, they're out there guzzling beer at lunchtime, and there's nothing we could do about it. It doesn't just hurt the company if I have to shut down for three days — it hurts 20 staff and their families. I wouldn't go to someone else's work site and wreck everything they sell and endanger their lives."

Gaul believes the solution to be a simple one: heli- and cat-skiing operations should be eligible for a Controlled Recreation Area (CRA) permit — the same used by ski resorts — to cover at least a percentage of their tenure. For example, they may wish to protect certain runs close to their base, or those on which they've done key work such as glading. "There are often areas where you have to finish the day and if sledders rip them up, it's a real problem. A lot of stuff isn't skiable but for the glading and roads we've built, so why shouldn't we have the same protections as a ski area?"

It's a valid point. No right-minded snowmobiler thinks to go in and rip up ski-area runs, but in many cases cat and heli operators have made similar investments in the slopes they use. And the kicker is they're willing to pay for more protection. "Who ever approaches government with an offer to pay more?" says David Lynn, past-president of the Canada West Ski Areas Association (CWSAA), who did

extensive work on the CRA during his term. "I still think it's a good idea. You could protect the entire tenures of all cat-skiing operations without impacting snowmobiling, and with heli-skiing at least part of the tenures. It only makes sense."

Currently, operators pay a yearly base fee for a tenure (in the tens of thousands of dollars) plus a small per-skier fee. According to Gaul, operators would be willing to increase the amount of the skier fee in return for a CRA. In turn he believes the heli/cat sector could grow under such protections, maybe "doubling the number of people out there if you weren't losing all these runs to snowmobilers, and then you could invest more money in glading and opening more runs. It would be a boon to provincial and local economies — especially given the multiplier effect from goods and services travellers purchase."

Gaul also believes the province should have to invest at least part of that extra money in enforcement. "It's incredibly easy to find offenders because they have to park somewhere and they can be traced via (a) licence plate."

For his part, Schwartz sees forging local agreements as the operators' only viable tool, and isn't optimistic about the prospect of a CRA, or that government would actually put more money toward enforcement. "Right now there's only one enforcement guy for all of southwestern B.C. ... so... there's that."

Ian Tomm, executive director of HeliCat Canada, a Revelstoke-based organization created in 1978 to represent heli- and cat-skiing businesses, says the group doesn't favour the CRA solution. "It's a complex problem with many overlapping issues. For instance, the concept of 'high-value' terrain differs between operators. Some don't see it as the areas closer to the base that they've worked on, but the most far-flung areas that they only get to ski once or twice a year," says Tomm, a heli-ski guide most of his professional career. "But over the past couple years, I've seen progress in local processes. Little wins here and there. The big problems continue to be big, but when local stakeholders get together to define a problem and work through it, agreements are made."

*Edited for length*

FEATURE ARTICLE: OVER 25,000

## Nanaimo parent advocates for support

**KARL YU**  
*Nanaimo News Bulletin*

A Nanaimo parent hopes support for children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) will be on equal footing as support for children with autism.

Susan Handlen said her daughter, Lindsay, was born with the complex neurodevelopmental disorder and suffers from anxiety and a severe learning disability. While Lindsay is 10 years old, she reads at a Grade 1 level.

Handlen said Lindsay needs one-on-one assistance. She wasn't doing well at Uplands Elementary School where she was enrolled two years ago. She had behavioural issues, was suspended seven times and didn't want to go to school, prompting Handlen to withdraw her.

After enrolling Lindsay at Nanaimo Unique Kids Organization learning centre, where Handlen said there is a better teacher-to-student ratio, she has thrived, but the \$6,000 annual fee is prohibitive. If Lindsay had autism, she would be eligible for provincial funding, said Handlen.

Nanaimo Unique Kids Organization is in the purview of the Comox Valley school district's North Island Distance Education School.

Handlen said she and her husband receive no help and she is becoming worn out. Lindsay's designation for intensive behaviour intervention or mental illness nets \$9,500 for North Island Distance Education to pay for teaching support, through which NUKO receives a portion of that funding.

"We pay a \$6,000 parent portion to NUKO to have our child there, which I get no funding for," said Handlen. "What I'm looking for is some funding to cover that, so that it doesn't come out of our pockets."

Barbara Robinson, Nanaimo Unique Kids Organization

supervisor, said Lindsay has improved since enrolling in September 2015.

Lindsay had trouble focusing, said Robinson, and if she perceived things weren't going her way, she would start shouting, scratching and pulling staff and children's hair. She would throw things and harm herself, poking herself with push pins.

NUKO's approach includes time out and calming strategies and Robinson said Lindsay "got herself to a much calmer state within the first two months" of attendance. She acts out less frequently and calms quicker. She has friends and is fitting in, said Robinson.

"She's doing more school work, she's getting a lot of her school work done and working hard ... she's really working well in a group, which is something that she wasn't very successful at when she first came and now she's doing a lot of group activities, so we've seen great strides there," said Robinson.

What is ADHD?

Lisa Van Bruggen, a Victoria-based clinical psychologist with Island Health, said ADHD is believed to be genetic.

When diagnosing children and adolescents, Van Bruggen said she is looking for an ongoing pattern of inattention or hyperactivity and impulsivity which is getting in the way of daily life or typical development.

"We're really looking for things that are out of the norm for that age and so often times kids with ADHD will also have difficulty with organizing, maintaining their attention, holding information in mind," Van Bruggen said.

Autism and ADHD have an "overlap" in symptoms but are different disorders. Children can have both, or one or the other, said Van Bruggen.

"ADHD really makes it hard for kids to focus, stay organized and listen to direction," Van Bruggen said.



"In contrast, autism, which also is a developmental disorder, really affects the way a person communicates and interacts with others."

Funding situation

In an e-mail, the Ministry of Education said decisions regarding planning and delivery of support and services for students, including those with ADHD and autism spectrum disorder, are made by school boards and administrators.

The Ministry of Health has funding available for children with autism. Those under six years of age are eligible for up to \$22,000 a year for autism intervention services and therapies. Those between six and 18 are eligible for up to \$6,000 a year for out-of-school autism intervention services and therapies, according to the health ministry.

The Ministry of Health referred inquiries to the Ministry of Children and Family Development, which

said children and youth diagnosed with autism and ADHD are served through community-based child and youth mental health services.

Autism funding recognizes the research based on the effectiveness of intensive interventions for children with autism spectrum disorder is very strong, said the ministry.

Studies have demonstrated that many of the difficulties associated with autism are treatable, particularly if the child experiences early intervention services. Studies also show that funding intensive behaviour-based interventions for children with autism can result in significant and lasting reductions in symptoms for many children.

Unfortunately, the same evidence-based experiences and data are not available regarding early intervention service outcomes for children with ADHD, which is why there is no funding for that, the ministry said.

Elizabeth Martin, assessment

coordinator for Vancouver Island Children's Assessment Network, an Island Health program which provides diagnostics for conditions such as autism and fetal alcohol spectrum, said the situation can be problematic.

"When one particular type of condition is funded and other conditions, which can be equally disabling, are not, you set up a situation where people almost want the diagnosis," said Martin. "I don't think anybody wants a diagnosis, but there's a push for it, trying to find out, would this fit an autism category?"

Martin said it's a complex picture and suggests people advocate for services to be funded as needed.

"[Write] to your MLA and go to the meetings down at city council and advocating hard for those services," said Martin. "The difficulty is often [that] the people [who] are in need of it are the last people who have the time, resources and energy to go out and do that advocating." §

### The Last Hunt

JOEL BARDE, BRANDON BARRETT  
& JON PARRIS  
*Pique Newsmagazine*

Sitting at a table in a small wooden cabin about an hour northeast of Prince George, Tyler Stepp looks exhausted. For the past seven days, he's been tracking grizzlies. He's seen two — but one was female. And the other was "teeny."

So Stepp didn't pull the trigger. He didn't travel all the way from Pennsylvania for a puny grizzly.

He wants a big one. Like the kind shown in photos pinned to the cabin wall behind me. Weathered and faded, they show men standing next to giant dead animals.

In one, Stepp's guide — a Nanaimo man who only agreed to be identified by his first name, Dennis — poses with a massive grizzly. He and his client stand proudly behind the bear, whose head is propped up on a piece of wood, facing the camera.

Stepp, who resembles a bearded Jake Gyllenhaal, is quiet, but quick with a laugh. Throughout the trip, he's made a point of pitching in, helping Dennis clean up and organize gear.

And as Dennis cooks breakfast and explains what urbanites like me don't get about hunting, Stepp chuckles.

A former commercial fisherman, Dennis estimates he's spent over \$100,000 on "wildlife art." His living room is full of taxidermy, including exotic animals he killed in Africa.

The men clearly like each other. And it's times like this, just shooting the breeze, that Stepp values most.

That said, Stepp didn't come here just to make friends. He wants a grizzly — and the challenge of finding one has begun to frustrate him. "People don't play the lottery because they want to lose," he tells me.

In September, Pique spent time with Stepp and Dennis in

an effort to better understand B.C.'s contentious grizzly-bear trophy hunt. The month prior, B.C.'s newly elected NDP government committed to banning the controversial hunt, which was supported for years under the province's BC Liberal government.

"It is time," said the NDP's Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Doug Donaldson.

Paying to kill a grizzly, a species that once roamed much of North America, is unacceptable, explained Donaldson at the time. "Society has come to the point in B.C. where they are no longer in favour of the grizzly bear trophy hunt," he said.

Though thin on details about how the ban will be enforced, Donaldson was adamant that hunters will no longer be able to keep the hide, head, or paws of a grizzly.

A meat hunt, to the chagrin of environmentalists calling for a full-on ban, will still be permitted.

For the Guide Outfitters Association of British Columbia, the ban not only strikes a nerve, but sets a dangerous precedent. The non-profit advocacy group has vehemently opposed it, arguing B.C.'s grizzly hunt is conducted in an ethical and sustainable way.

There are an estimated 15,000 grizzly bears in B.C., and non-resident trophy hunters are only permitted to take a fraction of them. Of the 250 or so grizzly bears killed every year, around 80 are by non-resident hunters.

The association's message — that the hunt is sustainable and well regulated — squares with what the hunters I spoke to at Bear Lake Outfitters said. The public, they feel, is misinformed when it comes to killing grizzlies. They are not the big, bad hunters the media and environmental groups portray them as. They are, rather, conservationists, operating in a sustainable

system that ensures grizzly bear survival. If urbanites don't get that, it's because they have lost touch with rural B.C. and the animal world, they said.

#### THE CASE FOR THE HUNT

At around 6-3 and well over 250 pounds, Bear Lake's owner, Vince Cocciolo, is a bulldozer of a man. When we meet at the one-storey house that serves as his office, he wears a black T-shirt and basketball shorts, revealing his massive, tree-trunk thighs.

A dog — a rambunctious pup named Trump — jumps on my lap and licks my face.

"The government needs to recognize this is an industry," says Cocciolo, in a loud, booming voice. "It's no different than logging, mining — even building homes!"

A promising hockey player, Cocciolo was drafted into the

WHL at 15. In the offseason, he started hunting. It spoke to him, combining his love of the outdoors and wildlife.

After knee issues put an end to his dreams of playing hockey, Cocciolo pursued a career in wildlife management, eventually landing a degree in environmental sciences and a diploma in resource management.

But he soon realized that the world of conservation — or at least what the mainstream considers conservation — wasn't for him. Following a stint working with Ducks Unlimited Canada, he decided to go his own way.

"You're always operating on the government's promises," says Cocciolo, shaking his head with frustration. "You'd have funding — and then you'd turn around and they'd cut off

the funding!"

Cocciolo, who began guiding as a university student, says he "fell into" being an owner-operator. He started in the east Kootenays and has since expanded. His company — Total Adventure Outfitter Ltd. — now runs four operations, including one in Alberta.

People travel from around the world to hunt with him. In addition to hunting grizzly, they kill moose, lynx, mountain lions and bighorn sheep.

But the grizzly hunt is a real moneymaker, he says. A weeklong expedition can net him \$24,000, significantly more than what he gets for a moose or black bear hunt.

Cocciolo purchased Bear Lake several years ago with \$1.1 million he borrowed from a U.S. investor. He bought it with the understanding that

Where thought meets action

**KPU**

## NEED SOME EXPERT ADVICE?

KPU's faculty experts can help you tell the stories that matter in a new way. Our faculty are experts in:

- Television and social change
- Multicultural politics in Canada
- Scientific literacy and "citizen science"
- Food security
- Environmental protection technology
- Socio-politics of incarceration
- Violence in relationships
- Climate change

Give your story a new beginning  
[kpu.ca/experts](http://kpu.ca/experts)

Continued on next page

## FEATURE ARTICLE: UNDER 25,000

### The Last Hunt (cont.)

he'd be allowed to kill 180 moose and 10 grizzlies over a five-year span.

But the government has continuously misled him, cutting his quotas down.

"That's why I'm selling this shit," he says. Alberta is where it's at, Cocciolo claims. He plans to sell his B.C. operations and move there.

With a penchant for grandiose statements, I don't quite believe him. But he's clearly angry with how the province has treated him, and the ban strikes him as an arrogant imposition of urban values on rural B.C.

In Cocciolo's mind, the public doesn't understand the strict regulations around the grizzly hunt. Hunts are "managed very tightly," he explains. "It's not like we're going out there and shooting a bunch of grizzlies.

"My business doesn't thrive if there are no animals. My business only thrives if there are animals," he says.

That, in a nutshell, is Cocciolo's main argument. Under the current system, guide outfitters like him pay for land tenure rights over specific tracts of land, giving them the exclusive right to run commercial hunts.

Because of that, they have a vested interest in maintaining wildlife in their area. It's simple — no animals, no revenue.

Cocciolo, who only had two grizzly tags for this season (meaning he could sell up to two hunts), says he insists that clients only shoot mature male bears. And this, in turn, is good for the overall population. They pose a threat to other bears, hunters, and other wildlife, he feels.

Grizzlies, Cocciolo and the others explain, aren't the fuzzy, cuddly teddy bears city people often view them as. They are unpredictable, dangerous animals, and managing them in a thoughtful way is both ethical and scientifically sound.

There are plenty of grizzlies

around Bear Lake, he explains. Without proper management, he believes their numbers will grow too large, causing them to migrate to urban areas, eventually leading to conflict with humans.

During my stay, he drives me to one of the massive clear-cuts that dot his hunting grounds. It's enormous. All of the trees are gone, revealing an undulating sea of brown topography that goes on for several kilometres.

"Grizzlies need habitat," he explains. "We're not the reason why we're having problems with grizzly bears; the problem is we're losing habitat."

#### STALKING GRIZZLY

The hunters' days take on a similar pattern. Rise before noon. Hunt all day. Come back after dark. Repeat.

When I join them, they patrol a cut-block, following promising signs, like fresh droppings or footprints. Dennis's rifle dangles from his shoulder, pointing forwards — "safari-style," ready for action, he explains.

The men are quiet, trying not to draw attention. They talk in hushed tones, exchanging strategies and plotting the best direction.

We walk through a field of stumps, and the guys, who walk ahead of me, knock into waste-high shrubs, which sends dead white flowers into the air, where they float in the sunlight.

We stop and sit down. It's a good spot, with a nice view of a forested area. From here, we'll be able to surprise a bear, they figure.

Cupping his hands in front of his mouth, Dennis lets out a moose call. To me, it sounds more like a death cry — prolonged and full of agony.

#### GROWING OPPOSITION

Guide outfitters like Cocciolo have a long history in British Columbia.

Since as early as the 1800s,

they have guided hunters from the U.S. and Europe, showcasing the wilds of B.C.

Hunters, who are required by law to hire local guides, view the province as an untapped gem, a spectacular region teeming with large game.

But opposition to the trophy hunt has only grown over time. In 2013, NHL player Clayton Stoner became the unwitting face of the trophy hunt when an image of him posing with the severed head of a grizzly he killed on the Central Coast went viral, sparking outrage across the province. (He was eventually fined \$10,000 and prohibited from hunting for three years for hunting grizzly without a proper licence.)

Polls have indicated that British Columbians are strongly opposed to the trophy hunt. Most recently, a February 2017 Insights West poll indicated that 90 per cent of British Columbians support banning the hunt.

Yet, in spite of this, the BC Liberals — who had been in power for 16 years until this past May's election — stood up for the hunt, fostering strong ties with the Guide Outfitters Association of British Columbia.

The association has a long history of donating to the party. Since 2005, the BC Liberals have received nearly \$60,000 in campaign donations from the association. And in 2012, the group went so far as to award party leader, then-Premier Christy Clark, its annual President's Award.

In addition, the hunt has helped feed government coffers.

While a grizzly tag runs resident hunters \$80, non-residents pay \$1,060.

Sixteen dollars and \$30 of those respective fees goes to the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, which was started in 1981, for grizzly bear conservation. The rest is funnelled into general

revenue. In 2015 alone, the Ministry of Forests collected \$366,400 from grizzly bear hunters. Of that, only \$34,000 went towards protecting and monitoring grizzlies.

The user-pay model for grizzly bear monitoring and conservation has been widely criticized. To date, the government has no organized inventory and only limited monitoring of grizzly bears.

Over the years, environmental groups have drawn attention to the cozy relationship between B.C.'s Liberals and guide outfitters. They have seized upon photos of hunters posing with dead grizzlies to ramp up outrage and rally support for a ban.

One of the hunt's most effective critics has grounded his opposition in Indigenous spiritual beliefs.

Douglas Neasloss opened up a tourism company in Klemtu in 1999, a First Nations community located in the Great Bear Rainforest.

Over the years, the Spirit Bear Lodge has gone from employing two people to 30. The company, according to Neasloss, brings in about \$1.5 million in annual revenue.

According to the Commercial Bear Viewing Association, activities by operators in the Great Bear Rainforest alone were worth \$15 million in 2012.

Neasloss traces his opposition to a traumatic experience. Through his guiding work, he developed a connection to a group of bears. One day, he was leaving their fishing grounds by boat, when he saw a group of hunters barrel past him.

When he went back, he came across a bear's carcass. Stripped of its head, paws and hide, it resembled a skinned human.

"I felt that it was a complete violation of our culture," Neasloss explains. "I probably would have sunk their boat if I had seen it." Since being

elected chief of the Kitsoo/Xai'xais First Nation in 2011, Neasloss has focused his attention on stopping the hunt. With the backing of the Coastal First Nations (CFN) — a collective of Indigenous groups whose territory encompasses the Great Bear Rainforest — he helped produce a moving documentary on the trophy hunt.

Then, a year later, CFN banned grizzly hunting outright under traditional Indigenous law.

For Neasloss, hunting grizzlies is an expression of toxic masculinity, one that should be relegated to the past.

"To me, it's not a sport. My grandmother could go and do it," he says.

#### A BEAR IS TAKEN

Back in Bear Lake, we drive back to the cabin for lunch. As we approach, Dennis spots a brown streak crossing the road. He stops, throws the truck in park, and grabs his gun out of the backseat. Then he and Stepp take off up the road.

This is the moment they've been waiting for.

I struggle, rushing to find my notepad and pen. By the time I get out, they're far ahead, a good 80 metres. I follow them up the road, but they dip into the forest, out of sight.

I pause for a moment, contemplating what to do.

I feel incredibly exposed. I run back to the truck and pick up a pair of binoculars.

I watch as Stepp and Dennis come out of the forest and walk down the road, which slopes downwards, out of sight.

A few tense moments pass.

Shots ring out, piercing the quiet hum of the bush. Four at first, followed by a pause, then three more.

I sit and wait, wondering if they got what they came for.

*Edited for length*

### Dying with Dignity

ELIZABETH NOLAN  
*Gulf Islands Driftwood*

Nearly six months to the day after medical assistance in death was legalized in Canada, a different but related “first” was taking shape in the pages of the Gulf Islands Driftwood.

The Dec. 21, 2016 issue included two obituaries for Salt Spring Island residents with explicit reference to the right to die with dignity.

The notice for Joe Bengé stated his full and varied life journey began in a Chicago suburb and led to the Canadian wilderness, but in his final days “he was bedeviled by increasingly serious chronic obstructive pulmonary disease that literally took his breath away . . . He used the new Canadian law permitting physician-assisted death as the best ending.”

A second obituary, for Roy Kaighin, mourned someone who had been ineligible for such assistance because he had Parkinson’s disease.

“If I could leave you with any thoughts, let it be this. Canadians need to change their mindset about assisted death,” Diane Alton-Kaighin wrote as a final message, after summarizing her husband’s many accomplishments in the military and as a musician.

“It is not killing someone, it is relieving their suffering. Please support Dying with Dignity Canada. It is inhumane for the unnecessary suffering of the person who is ill and their families who have to watch,” Alton-Kaighin concluded.

The unprecedented discussion playing out in the pages of a small rural newspaper echoed the situation taking place across the Vancouver Island region, British Columbia and Canada as a whole. Islanders and Canadians had advocated for and won their right to a compassionate death with the landmark Supreme Court decision *Carter v. Canada* in February 2015, and took up those rights as soon as they became available after federal legislation passed on June 17,

2016. Patients with intolerable conditions and their families soon found, however, the legislation doesn’t meet the full intent of the ruling and shuts out many of the people who would like to have the choice of a medically assisted death. Looking at the situation more than a year later, it’s evident that barriers to access continue to exist, even for those with eligible conditions.

Over the next three weeks, the Driftwood will look at Salt Spring’s role in the national situation, the challenges to accessing service in a small community, and the systemic barriers that are restricting medical assistance in death here and across Canada.

#### A SHIFTING TIDE

“Joe did not want to have a painful lingering ending, so he was prepared to do something even on his own,” said Beate Denz, Bengé’s partner of 10 years. “I am glad he was able to have assisted suicide. It kind of legitimized the process of ending one’s own life without being criminalized for doing so.”

Before 2016, Section 241 of the Canadian Criminal Code stated that anyone who counselled or aided another person to commit suicide was liable to charges leading to imprisonment. That included doctors with patients who were suffering and close to death and had asked for help to bring about that death sooner.

Court challenges by the BC Civil Liberties Association and individuals seeking to end their own pointless suffering helped create awareness and convince the vast majority of Canadians that under certain conditions, a compassionate death should be a right. An Angus-Reid poll conducted in 2012 found over 80 per cent of Canadians supported doctor-assisted suicide.

Gulf Islands residents have been part of the groundswell of support right from the beginning and, as members of the Vancouver Island Health

Authority (Island Health), are part of a larger community that is asserting its rights.

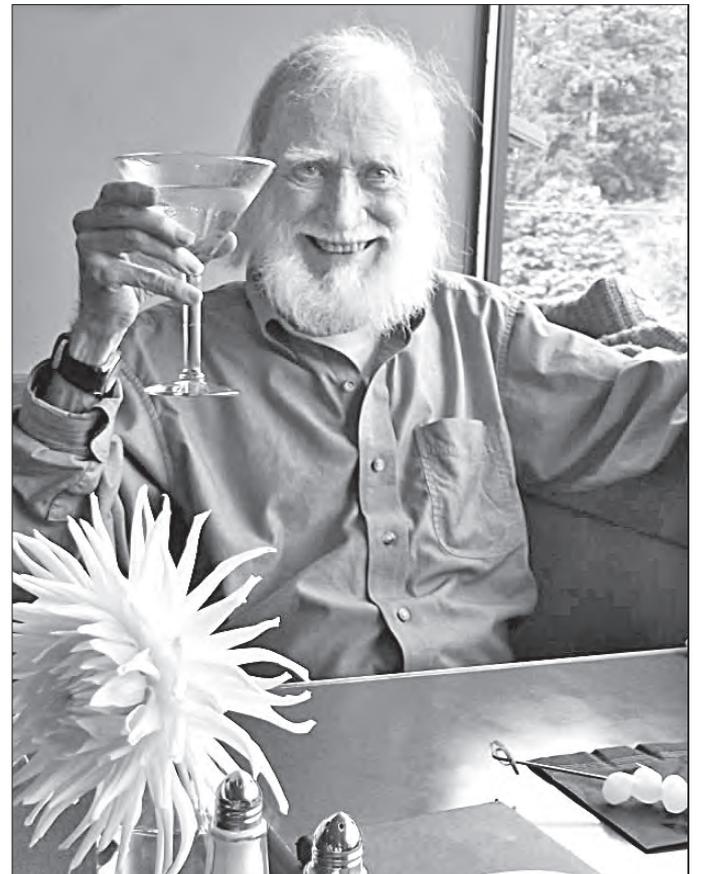
“The islands are a beacon of hope for other parts of the nation, and also the world,” Cory Ruf, communications coordinator for Dying with Dignity Canada, told the Driftwood this year. “The leadership is there — there’s a lot going on.”

This is perhaps due in part to the prominent case of Sue Rodriguez, a Victoria resident who fought for the right to die in the early ‘90s and then had illegal help from a physician when her challenge failed. Kelowna resident Gloria Taylor, who like Rodriguez was diagnosed with ALS, became the face of the BCCLA legal battle in 2011. She received a personal exemption to the law after the BC Court of Appeal ruled against the federal government, but died in 2012 before assistance could take place.

In this environment of awareness, Salt Spring residents formed the first chapter of Dying with Dignity Canada to organize outside of Ottawa. Joan Farlinger and Marcia Hogan started the chapter in the fall of 2012 after attending an info session with Dying with Dignity Canada’s then-CEO Wanda Morrison held at the Lions Hall.

By 2013, the Salt Spring chapter had launched a petition asking the House of Commons “to respect the will of Canadians by enacting new legislation that provides clear guidelines to physicians, and provides competent, fully informed, and terminally ill patients the option to make their own end-of-life decisions.” Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May brought the petition to Ottawa, although the evidence of public opinion failed to sway the Conservative government in power at the time.

Dying with Dignity Salt Spring members were among those who celebrated when the Carter decision of



2015 ended criminalization of medical assistance in death, and ordered the federal government to draft supporting legislation. According to the Supreme Court of Canada, medical assistance is a right as long as the recipient is “a competent adult person who clearly consents to the termination of life and has a grievous and irremediable medical condition, including an illness, disease or disability, that causes enduring suffering that is intolerable to the individual in the circumstances of his or her condition.”

#### EARLY ADOPTERS

During the first year that medical assistance in death was available, people living in the Vancouver Island region took the opportunity at a much higher rate than those living in the rest of British Columbia and Canada. Of the 500 MAID deaths recorded in B.C. between June 17, 2016 and June 30, 2017, nearly half (210) were from the Vancouver Island Health Authority, despite it having only 16 per cent of the provincial population. The island region accounted for fully one-tenth of all the

assisted deaths in Canada over the same period.

Salt Springers were again in the vanguard: Bengé was one of the first islanders to choose a medically assisted death, after his chronic obstructive pulmonary disease intensified over several years.

On Oct. 28, 2016, Bengé won the juror’s award for his submission to ArtSpring’s exhibition *Surfacing*, with a photo he called *Spiffing Up the Entrance*. He told the show’s coordinator how happy he was to receive the honour; and that he was now looking forward to his assisted death. He received the medical service he sought at home on Nov. 16. He was 85 when he died.

Though for Bengé the choice may have been easy, it wasn’t a simple matter for the people around him.

“I am still suffering an emotional sense of loss . . . of my own life with Joe,” his partner Beate Denz told the Driftwood in June. “I was not in support of Joe doing this assisted suicide. To know he wanted assisted suicide and be there by his side until the time came was unbearable.”

*Continued on next page*

## FEATURE SERIES

### Dying with Dignity (cont.)

My heart was pounding in my chest every time I dwelled on what he might be feeling or anticipating — as if it was my life that was going to 'drop off' but, it was Joe's.

"At times I wish he did have a quick death, but he continued on enjoying many days and then when assisted suicide was legalized he made the decision to make

arrangements for a doctor to come to his home."

After a painful period of waiting for phone calls and then a date, a provider came over from Vancouver Island. So far there are no family physicians on Salt Spring who have registered as providers of medically assisted death, perhaps because it would be impossible to keep the fact

private in a small community. A Salt Spring doctor did help Bengé get the assessment necessary to arranging the physician who provided the assistance.

Denz said it was Bengé's wish to mention the manner of his death in his obituary, as he wanted to get the message out that he had planned it even though he could have

lived longer.

"He was an 'ad man' from Chicago. He was good at telling a story and this one was his best one," she said.

#### LEFT BEHIND

Because of the years of pain he endured, Bengé's story cannot be called a happy one, but it does end with a compassionate release. And

it is a marked contrast to the story Roy Kaighin's wife felt compelled to share in his obituary, about what happens when that relief is denied. Part two of this series will delve further into Kaighin's situation and explain how federal legislation has failed to offer the breadth of assistance the Carter decision seemed to promise. §

## INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

### Invisible Violations

**BRANDON BARRETT & CLARE OGILVIE**  
*Pique Newsmagazine*

*\*[Editor's Note: The subject's name has been changed to protect her privacy.]*

Amanda's\* coworker had been pestering her for weeks to go out with him. She eventually relented, but was clear from the start she had no interest in being anything other than friends.

The night started out pretty well. The conversation came easy, and he even paid for a few rounds at a village pub. Amanda was enjoying herself.

But it wasn't long before things started to turn sideways.

"He bought me a couple of drinks and I'm guessing he drugged me at that time," Amanda recalls. "I blacked out hard. I have to drink an excessive amount to black out, and it was very rare in the past, so I was really surprised."

Amanda only remembers brief flashes from the night: the cold floor of a nightclub bathroom. Vomiting excessively. The kind woman who helped carry her out of the club and was reluctant to send her home alone with a guy in the state she was in.

The next morning, Amanda awoke in a fog, unsure of how she got home, her entire body aching. She looked over in disbelief at the man lying in her bed.

"Oh my god, did we have sex

last night?" she remembers asking him. He feigned surprise, offended that Amanda couldn't remember when the sex was "so good." And when she went into work for her next shift, there he was.

#### MORE THAN A MYTH

Amanda's is just one disturbing story, but there are others. Pique heard from over a dozen people while investigating this feature, primarily women, who said they'd had their drinks spiked at one time or another in Whistler. Some multiple times. If there is a silver lining to such a dark cloud, it's that in the vast majority of these reports, someone intervened before an assault could take place. The incidents date as far back as 2009, to as recently as just a few weeks ago, and involve everyone from longtime locals to seasonals, clubgoers to servers.

Anecdotally at least, it's a phenomenon that seems troublingly common here.

"This is not a unique story to me," says Meaghan Mullaly, local radio DJ and musician who believes she was drugged at a busy Creekside bar on New Year's Eve. "It's happened before in Whistler and a couple of times before I even moved out here. The thing is it's more commonplace than people even think about. Most of the women I've spoken to here, it's happened to them as well."

Anecdotes, unfortunately, are all we have to go off of in Whistler, as neither the local police detachment nor Vancouver Coastal Health keep official records on drink spiking. RCMP Const. Steve LeClair recalls maybe five drink-spikings that were reported to police in 2016. In 20 years running bars and clubs across Canada — including five venues in Whistler — Joey Gibbons says he can count the number of drink spikings reported in his establishments on one hand.

It is, admittedly, a tough crime to get a handle on, for the same reasons it appeals to the offenders doing the drugging: it leaves gaps in victims' memories, often happens alongside the consumption of alcohol or other substances, and can be difficult to spot in a dark, crowded bar.

"We don't keep numbers on this, so we really have no way of knowing (how common it is)," says Dr. Mark Lysyshyn, medical health officer for the Sea to Sky and North Vancouver. "This is the problem with illicit drugs: they're all done in secret, we don't know what people are buying or selling, and it's very difficult to keep stats on this stuff."

"It's not always clear when it happens. Sometimes people think it happens and it actually hasn't, they just drank too much. It's definitely a problem that's out there, and it's

unclear how big a problem it is."

Here's what we do know: one in four North American women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime. In the Sea to Sky, sexual assault rates are three times higher than in nearby urban centres such as Richmond and the North Shore. A 2009 report found that, of the 882 study participants presenting to sexual assault centres in Ontario, drugs and alcohol facilitated approximately a fifth of the assaults. Shannon Herdman, sexual assault prevention coordinator for the Howe Sound Women's Centre, believes that ratio is even higher in B.C.

"In talking to peers in the corridor and, generally, around the province, I understand drug-facilitated (assault) represents about 30 to 40 per cent of all sexual assaults in B.C.," she says.

#### KNOWN UNKNOWNNS

When it comes to drink spiking, it's clear there's a wide gap between what's being relayed to authorities and the reality on the ground.

"Generally, we know there's a great deal of underreporting because people just aren't sure of the resources that exist," says Whistler Community Services Society program manager Jackie Dickinson. "You wake up with a lot of questions, so how do you answer those questions?"

That sense of confusion, and the looming prospect of reliving her trauma in court, kept Amanda from reporting her alleged assault to police.

"I've always been someone to believe in the best of people and at that time I was definitely more naïve than I am now. So I kind of ignored it," she says.

"I put that period of time out of my head because I didn't know what to do with it. I wasn't going to report it. What was it going to do? Drag myself through a horrible legal battle that's 'he said, she said?' I still, at that point, hadn't accepted that he had drugged me."

It wasn't until later, three years after another sexual encounter with her coworker that she says became aggressive, that Amanda was able to come to terms with what happened. While tree planting on a farm one summer, she and a friend found a peephole in an outhouse used to spy on workers. The discovery left her shaken.

"I ended up reporting it to police, and that invasion of privacy triggered a whole bunch of stuff ... In the next couple of days, I started to unpack this previous drugging and rape from this guy in Whistler and it all sort of came out finally," she says. "It takes so long for someone to come to terms with things. Even with just basic

*Continued on next page*

# Award-Winning Writing

## INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

### Invisible Violations (cont.)

small issues in their life, but something huge like that, it's really hard to accept. Your brain does really surprising things to put it away."

Another barrier is how few sexual assaults — the most underreported violent crime in Canada — actually lead to conviction: 99.7 per cent of perpetrators will never be held accountable for their crimes, according to a 2012 study.

Adding to the challenge of responding to an already elusive offence is Whistler's appeal as a vacation destination.

"The difficulty of Whistler is that (offenders) may come to the community, blend into the perfectly fun, friendly and safe population, these crimes occur and then they leave," says Herdman. "It may well be

the victims of the crime are not from Whistler as well, and they have to ask themselves: do I want to be attached to this crime that occurred here?"

#### RECOGNIZING THE SIGNS

The majority of drugs used to facilitate sexual assault, typically known as date rape drugs, are sedatives, but other common recreational drugs, such as MDMA, can also be used. The most common date rape drugs tend to be Rophynol, GHB, and Ketamine, although over-the-counter drugs like Gravol, or anti-depressant and anxiety medications can also be used to spike drinks, according to Women Against Violence Against Women, a Vancouver rape crisis centre.

Some of these substances are colourless, tasteless, and

odourless, making them near impossible to detect. What's more is they often leave the system quickly, so drug tests aren't necessarily conclusive.

The effects can come on within minutes, and the danger increases when date rape drugs are mixed with alcohol.

"Basically people become drowsy, they become sleepy, and they may have trouble talking, slurring their speech. It becomes really concerning when they're having trouble staying awake, and particularly concerning when they're having trouble breathing," Lysyshyn says. "Some sedative drugs are also disinhibiting, and they allow you to do things you wouldn't otherwise." Victims also report experiencing blackouts, memory loss, and hallucinations.

While sedatives can often mimic the effects of alcohol, many of the individuals Pique spoke with say they noticed considerable differences in how their body reacted to a date rape drug.

"I was lucky I was with my friends, and they said we got back to the house and my head started to drop and my eyes were rolling. I couldn't speak, I couldn't stand, my muscles weren't working and they said I was basically a rag doll," wrote one Whistler resident in a message to Pique. "They got me into bed and my friends stayed awake for the night because I was in and out of sleep and my body was shaking. I had cold sweats but my body was burning."

While popular date rape drugs are believed to be the most common substances to facilitate sexual assault, that is not the case in B.C., Herdman says, and alcohol remains the No. 1 drug used for that purpose.

"At least in B.C., most drink spiking does not use the classic date rape drugs. We all are aware of Ketamine, GHB and Rophynol, but often it's just cold medication that's put into drinks," she says. "Or, a survivor asks for a one-ounce drink and gets a three-ounce drink.

"So pay attention if you're feeling weird. Don't play it off."

#### THE PSYCHOLOGY OF DRINK SPIKING

While very little research has been done examining the motives of drink spikers, last year a team from the University of South Carolina spoke with 51 American university students who indicated they had either drugged someone or knew someone who had.

Published in the academic journal *Psychology of Violence*, the study found the two most commonly cited motives for spiking drinks were for fun and to have sex or sexually assault someone. Other motivations reported in the study included to calm someone down or make someone go to sleep.

Researchers also spoke with victims, asking what they thought perpetrators' possible motives were, and the responses were broadly divided along gender lines. Women were much more likely to cite sexual assault as a motive, while men were more prone to indicate the culprit simply wanted to have fun. A closely related motive mentioned was to get people "to loosen up" or get them more drunk or high.

"Even if a person is drugging someone else simply 'for fun' with no intent of taking advantage of the drugged person, the druggers are still putting a drug in someone else's body without their consent — and this is coercive and controlling behaviour," said lead researcher Suzanne Swan in a release.

Herdman was quick to point out that perpetrators of sexual violence are often repeat offenders, and over time have become "good at their game," learning how to hone in on the most vulnerable targets. One common tactic used by druggers, for instance, is to spike several drinks at a time and wait to see who is most adversely affected before moving in.

"In some cases this may be somebody who has a medical condition," Herdman notes. "Perpetrators are playing Russian roulette, and it's extremely callous."

There is no typical victim of drink spiking. And while the targets of drug-facilitated sexual assault are overwhelmingly women, men are not immune. Former Whistler resident Ben Ruddy says he was drugged on his 22nd birthday at a village club.

"I probably had about one or two sips of it and went from pretty much completely sober to falling asleep on the couch," he says. "The only silver lining for me was I was drinking the same thing as my girlfriend, so they may have been trying to spike her, and I might've taken that bullet."

*Edited for length*

**YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS  
ACROSS WESTERN CANADA**

READ AND SHARE YOUR NEWS  
ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.

Richmond News, New Westminster Record, Delta Optimist, North Shore News, Vancouver Courier, and a tablet displaying the Vancouver Courier website.

**GLACIER  
MEDIA GROUP**  
glaciermedia.ca

## HISTORICAL WRITING

### The unbreakable Susie Chew

**CORNELIA NAYLOR**  
*New Westminster Record*

This is not the Waffle House Susan Chew left behind when she moved from New Westminster to Toronto more than 50 years ago.

The restaurant has moved two times and passed out of the family altogether since she first opened it as a small cafe in 1955 on the corner of Sixth and Sixth.

Today, though, on Jan. 29, its newest iteration at 636 Sixth St. is packed with familiar faces.

Chew's youngest sister, Grace Yip, has surprised her with a party for her 90th birthday and booked the whole restaurant for the occasion.

As Chew makes her entrance, someone places a wreath of orchids on her head (a nod to her years as a professional hula dancer); Mayor Jonathan Cote is on hand with flowers, and current Waffle House proprietor Robert Babayan poses with Chew in front of a big black-and-white photo of a much younger Chew working the Waffle House irons in the 1950s.

To one person in the crowd, that version of Chew 60 years ago would have been a familiar sight back in the day.

Verla Thompson (née Staples) was a waitress at the Waffle

House then and Chew's roommate in 1956.

It would be a hard year to forget.

In the course of trying to find an apartment, the pair had sparked a national news story of racial discrimination that would show the Royal City at its worst — and best.

The Waffle House

Born in Victoria, the eighth of 11 kids, Chew grew up working with her siblings on her immigrant parents' Saanich farm.

"We worked like men," Chew tells me during a visit to her Vancouver apartment a few days after her surprise party.

When an appendectomy made her unfit for the work, she moved to New Westminster at age 20 to help in her sister Alice's grocery store, the Handy Fruit Mart, on the corner of Sixth and Sixth.

She took over the place in 1946 and was eyeing new opportunities when a space opened up next door in 1955.

"I decided to start a little restaurant," she says, "and I called it the Waffle House, and I specialized in waffles."

Was it normal in the late 1940s — before the women's rights movement of the 1960s or the repeal of Canada's

infamous Chinese Exclusion Act — for a young, single, Chinese-Canadian woman to launch her own independent business ventures?

"No, that was just Susie," her sister had told me with a laugh earlier. "She did all these kind of things that regular people didn't have the initiative to do."

"I guess I was born with a lot of confidence in myself," Chew says.

If there were people in New Westminster in the 1940s and '50s who thought being Chinese-Canadian should have limited her role in the community, their feelings hadn't yet registered with Chew.

Even before opening the Waffle House, Chew had organized fundraising efforts for victims of the catastrophic 1948 Fraser River flood; she was a Cubmaster at Holy Trinity church, belonged to skating and tennis clubs, modelled in fashion shows and studied music.

The Waffle House, meanwhile, became a popular hangout for both young people and reporters in the 1950s, when the Columbian newspaper published daily in New West and CKNW still broadcast from the Royal City.

"They were regular

customers," Chew says of the media back in the day, "We were all pals."

As a well-known local personality, Chew says she provided them with plenty of material, like the time she was robbed at gunpoint at the Handy Fruit Mart while her dog, Satan looked uselessly on.

"The Columbian covered me beautifully," Chew says, "Every excuse they could get, they would be there with their photographer. I guess I was kind of a colourful character in New Westminster."

The Bermuda House

When Chew and Thompson decided to find a place together, it was only natural their friends in the press would be invited to the housewarming party.

Finding a place, though, turned out to be not so easy.

"They would have signs on the window," Chew says of the first few apartments the pair checked out. "We would knock on the door and see if we could rent. And they'd say, 'Oh, it's gone.' 'Oh yeah, it's rented.' We didn't realize that we were turned down for discrimination when they saw that I was Chinese."

Finally, in March 1956, they landed a bachelor suite at a "swanky" new apartment block that had just gone up

at 1303 Eighth Ave. — the Bermuda House.

(The building, renamed Hillcrest, still stands today, with balconies painted mint-green.)

With the deposit paid, the two women ordered furniture from Eaton's, and on March 17 Chew hopped into her '52 Pontiac Catalina and drove to the Bermuda to see if it had been delivered.

It had all right, but the building's manager, John McIlroy had sent it back.

She couldn't move in after all, he told her then, because she was Chinese.

What she felt wasn't anger but searing shame.

"I thought of crawling into a dark cellar, into a hole," she said. "That's what came to my mind when I was driving home."

Like Henny Penny, she said, it seemed to her like the sky was falling.

In a parting blow before she left, McIlroy had advised her to keep quiet about the whole thing since it wasn't likely she'd get much support from other people in town.

It would take only a matter of days before he — and everyone else in New Westminster — found out just how wrong he was.

*Edited for length*

## OUTDOOR RECREATION WRITING

### A Century in the Mountains

**JOEL BARDE, BRANDON BARRETT & JON PARRIS**  
*Pique Newsmagazine*

At just after 7 a.m., I get a call from the trip leader.

"How much room do you have in your tent?" asks Heather Filyk, explaining how she and the rest of the group are en route to Joffre Lakes Provincial Park, where we will be spending the night.

I sit up in bed, trying to sound peppy. "It fits three!"

In reality, I'm not sure. Because

the tent, in fact, isn't mine — I borrowed it from my editor. This whole thing — backcountry camping — is new to me.

Motorhomes and car camping: I'd done that. Lugging food and shelter into the wilderness? Not so much.

When I meet the group, that much is obvious. With a rolled-up air mattress in one hand and a tent the other, they look at me aghast — like, seriously?

One of the guys, a bearded

uni student with plenty of backcountry experience, offers to help. Laying the mattress on ground, he methodically re-rolls it, ridding it of excess air.

Then he grabs some straps out of the back of a car and fastens everything to my pack. "These always come in handy," he says.

The group is part of the University of British Columbia's Varsity Outdoor Club (VOC), a student-led organization that turns 100

this year. Made up of current students, alumni, and non-UBC affiliated outdoor enthusiasts, the VOC has served as an important incubator for some of B.C.'s most prolific explorers, some of whom have played a vital role in Whistler's development.

Built on an instruction model where members teach other members (for free), the VOC has also enabled thousands of people with little experience — that is, people like me — to explore B.C.'s backcountry.

The hike up takes a few hours. And apart from sore feet (note to self: don't wear skate shoes while hiking), it's fun. The views in particular — the way the clouds float over the trees and gently blow across the mountainside — are breathtaking.

As we ascend, Filyk — an ebullient 24-year-old wearing a purple sleeveless top and purple pants tucked into wool socks — checks in with us constantly: making sure we aren't moving too quickly, explaining the importance of

*Continued on next page*

# Award-Winning Writing

## OUTDOOR RECREATION WRITING

### A Century in the Mountains (cont.)

keeping on the path rather than trampling over the plant life beside it.

In the past few years, Joffre Lakes has emerged as a social-media darling, leading thousands of people — with differing levels of experience and respect for the backcountry — to make the trip from the Lower Mainland and beyond.

According to BC Parks, it has seen tremendous growth in visitation within the last five years, and in the 2016-17 season has already accumulated 100,000 visitors. Staff routinely haul bags of trash out of the park and there have been calls to severely limit access to it.

I watch as well-dressed city folk with impossibly clean shoes venture onto the notorious "selfie log," a fallen tree that extends from the shore onto Middle Lake, allowing people to capture "the perfect shot."

Manipulating their bodies like celebrities on a red carpet, they attempt to fit the Holy Trinity of the lake's beauty into the frame — its unbelievably blue waters, the stream that feeds it, and the towering mountains that surround it.

#### WHISTLER: THE EARLY DAYS

Sitting on the Marketplace Tim Hortons patio, Karl Ricker — a former VOC president — explains the outsized role the club has played in making Whistler an internationally recognized destination for outdoor adventure.

A no-nonsense type with an encyclopedic knowledge of the history of the club, he looks like he's just returned from the bush. Wearing a worn-out black vest, his black horn-rimmed glasses contrast with his wild mane of white hair. Clear tape, used as a makeshift bandage, covers one hand.

In mountaineering circles, Ricker is best known for conquering the Spearhead Traverse, an iconic alpine route that connects Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains. Along with a group of three other VOC members, Ricker was the first person to complete the trip in 1964.

Explaining why he wanted to do it, Ricker, who seems allergic to pretense, is matter of fact: He'd done a similar traverse in Austria, and thought, "Well, let's see if this one is as good as that one."

Over the years, the Spearhead Traverse has grown popular, with Arcteryx-clad athletes in high-end touring gear regularly completing it inside of a day. (The Spearhead Huts Society is currently in the process of building a series of state-of-the-art huts along the 40-kilometre route — something Ricker first envisaged long ago.)

By today's standards, the equipment Ricker used was pre-historic: Heavy metal skis, packs brimming with food and thick ropes, and a map that "wasn't bad — a bit vague in some places."

Ricker's group took nine days to complete the trip, one day less than they had

budgeted for. Self-described "peak baggers," they climbed 17 peaks and ridges along the way.

This, of course, was well before satellite phones, and rapid-response search-and-rescue teams. "You didn't worry about it," says Ricker, when asked about the risks. "The biggest fear was breaking your leg in those days. A broken leg is a real pain in the ass."

In an entry that appeared in the 1964 VOC journal, Bert Port documented the trip, noting where the group found the best skiing and where the map needed to be amended. The weather wasn't great, but the group had a blast. "All in all, this is a fine touring area," concluded Port. "It deserves more attention than it has had in the past."

For Ricker, the trip spoke to the awesome potential of the area. "We felt like we'd found another circuit like I had seen in Austria," he says between sips of coffee. "And we knew it was going to be popular over time. The secret was to get the lifts built on the mountains, to get the trip started."

#### IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME

During the traverse, Ricker was contemplating a big decision.

A group of forward-thinking businessmen wanted to build a ski resort on Whistler Mountain, and they'd come to the VOC with an offer: Free land, as long as you come and build a cabin. For Ricker and

other VOC executives, it was tempting.

Since the late 1940s, the VOC had organized two-week "pilgrimages" to nearby Garibaldi Provincial Park. They already knew the area held something special.

After some deliberation, the VOC decided to take the offer. As project manager for the build, Ricker led a team of students and alumni in an incredible feat of cooperation and self-reliance.

Forming a chain, workers moved materials half a kilometre by hand, and within four months, they had built the Whistler Cabin, an impressive building with a massive fireplace and an "indestructible dance floor" that still stands proudly, just off Nordic Drive.

Excess manpower was dispatched to explore and build trails in the area that are still popular today, including the Cheakamus Lake and Singing Pass trails.

The only hiccup, says Ricker, was that it "turned out the government knew nothing about the club cabin area." The Garibaldi Development Association — which had given the club the go-ahead — didn't have the right to assign the land.

Thanks to some help from John Macdonald, an understanding UBC president with government connections, they were able to sort it out. "We started pouring cement before the government gave us the final go-ahead," says Ricker, breaking into a

mischievous smile.

Now 81, Ricker continues to explore and enjoy nature with a group of former VOC members. Bonded together by the extraordinary adventures they've had the privilege of experiencing, they take annual ski and hiking trips.

"Once you're in the VOC, you're in for life," says Ricker. "The activities breed (camaraderie) naturally. Once you enter the mountain fraternity, you're sucked in it for life."

#### SCRAMBLING

We set up camp at the last of the three Joffre Lakes, Upper Lake, an oval body of water that looks like an infinity pool from where we stand, dropping off into the valley below.

Katie, a recent UBC graduate, helps me set up. An experienced camper, she clears the site of debris and orients the entrance of the tent towards the water.

Then, at Filyk's suggestion, we go "scrambling," VOC-speak for hiking on sketchy rocks. Using a GPS device, Filyk guides us up a field of boulders the size of beach balls. Beneath us, water flows.

Jumping from boulder to boulder, I start to get the appeal. I feel free, thrilled to be exploring a last vestige of the natural world with a group of kind, likeminded people.

*Edited for length*



## SPORTS WRITING

### A soccer star's tale of two worlds

ERIC WELSH

#### *The Chilliwack Progress*

If Victory Shumbusho appears to play soccer with more joy than others on the field, if he seems to have a bigger smile on his face as he darts around the pitch, it is because the Beautiful Game holds a special place in his heart.

Soccer sustained him through the darkest times of his life. It gave him happiness in a dark place where happiness was in perilously short supply, and for that he loves it.

Others on the pitch may be passionate about soccer, but their love can't match his.

How could it?

His teammates and his foes could just as easily have grown up playing hockey or baseball, rugby or tennis. They could have found their passion elsewhere, but for Victory, soccer was the only choice.

Before he ever danced around the pitch for the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds, Victory flew barefoot up and down a hill in Africa.

He was nine years old when he came to Uganda. Fleeing civil strife in Congo, his family sought refugee status, settling in a small village called Bwerenga. Located about halfway between the cities of Kampala and Entebbe, their new home was close to Lake Victoria. Most people earned their living as fishermen but Victory's father, Janvier, did not. He was a preacher who delivered sermons on Sundays. The family's meager income came from Victory's step-mom Louise, a nurse by trade who ran a small clinic and sold medicine.

The family rented two rooms in a house. His parents slept in one room. Victory, his older brother Glory (now 22) and his younger brother Benjamin (now 15) slept in the other, but in daytime hours their room was the clinic. They were expected to wake up early to wash the floor and make sure it looked nice for visitors.

Every morning Victory and his brothers walked 90 minutes to school and journeyed back in the late afternoon. Twice a day they took jerrycans and trekked 60 minutes down a hill to the lake, filled them with water and walked another hour back. They collected fire wood for the stove and washed clothes at the well, and only after all their chores were done were they free to do what they wanted.

Thankfully, the sun went down very late.

Victory ran to the field, a barren gravel pitch still burning hot from the blistering African sun. It was littered with tree stumps and tilted so that one team had to play uphill. Of the 22 players on the field only two or three wore cleats.

The entire village came together every night, sharing one ragged soccer ball.

Most villagers weren't good enough to play and had to watch from the sidelines. Though they were among the youngest, Victory and Glory were always chosen.

When they played on their own they improvised, fashioning a ball out of garbage bags and clearing away enough bushes to create a field. The trees they couldn't remove stood as silent defenders.

For however long they played, Victory was able to forget the hardships of Bwerenga. His exhaustion melted away. With the ball at his feet he darted around the trees, raised his arms in triumph and whooped with delight when he scored a goal. For a few minutes he lost himself in another, better world.

But he could never fully escape.

The game always ends. Bwerenga waited for him to return and its dusty roads taunted him the next day as he walked to school.

'Where and what is Canada?' Victory wondered, tossing the idea around in his head for five long years while his family

waited for their immigration request to be approved.

He pictured a country with big buildings and nice cars, with people living lives he could only dream of.

Victory couldn't wait to leave Uganda and go to this wonderful place.

The first time he left a country, it was a frightening experience. He remembers escaping east from Congo to Rwanda and walking four hours to cross from Rwanda into Uganda. He recalls Benjamin faking ill so his parents could plead for mercy at a border crossing and his father handing over all of the family's money to pay off the guards who would let them through.

The rest is fragments of memories that he'd just as soon as soon forget.

Coming to Canada though, that's something he'll always remember.

When the time came, Victory was the first one on the airplane, determined to not spend another day in Uganda.

He didn't know what his new life was going to be like, but he knew it would be better than what he was leaving behind.

On March 6, 2012 the Shumbushos landed in Vancouver and were driven to Chilliwack. They spent their first night at the home of Henny and Greg Munroe, members of the Canadian Reformed Church of Chilliwack, which sponsored the new arrivals.

Victory's family left their shoes outside and found them frozen the next morning, learning the first of many lessons. Don't leave clothing outside in the Canadian winter.

One of the first places Victory visited in Chilliwack was a McDonalds drive-thru where he watched in amazement as Henny spoke to a machine and was handed a bag of food. It took a while to wrap his head around the idea of

bank cards and ATMs, magical machines that spat out money.

And if you were driving on the No. 1 five years ago and had to lay on your horn as two teenagers scrambled across with their bikes, Victory apologizes. He and Glory tried it once, realized that the cars went really fast and weren't inclined to stop for them, and never tried it again.

Within two weeks the Shumbushos moved into their own house, which was a five minute walk from Townsend Park. Soon after moving in, Glory went for a bike ride and spotted kids training on a beautiful emerald green field.

He rushed back to the house and, with breathless excitement, told Victory he had seen kids who looked like a professional team with matching jerseys, shorts and socks.

And they wore cleats!

Victory rushed back to the field with him. From the sidelines they gawked, wishing they could join in.

Within days a kind woman named Wilma Wilkinson (Victory now calls her Auntie and Rick Wilkinson uncle) arranged for a try out with a Chilliwack FC U-16 fall soccer team.

Victory was sure the Canadian kids would be much better than him. They learned the game on nice fields with the best equipment, and more than one soccer ball for Heaven's sake! He was just some African kid who grew up playing barefoot on a field of gravel. He remembers the curious looks from players and parents as he walked out onto the field, this dark-skinned newcomer who looked and sounded so different.

But the language of soccer is universal.

The moves he used dribbling his garbage-bag ball around trees in Uganda translated to the tryout.

Watching from the sideline that day, it was clear Victory was a special talent. He made

the team and his coaches weren't the least bit surprised when, after three seasons of rep-soccer dominance, the young man was invited to join the Vancouver Whitecaps residency program. Nor was there surprise when Victory, earlier this year, signed on with the UBC Thunderbirds, one of the premier university men's teams in the country. And there was no shock at all when the 19 year old opened this season with two goals in his first four games.

Sometimes, when he feels the FieldTurf under his feet at UBC's Ken Woods field, his old life feels like no more than a dream, details of it fading more with each passing day. But Victory doesn't want to forget.

Not entirely.

Harsh as Uganda was, he credits it with crafting him into the man he's become. His work ethic. His maturity. Two things Canadian kids don't always possess because they've never had to walk hours each day to fetch water, wake up early each morning to scrub a floor until it shines and fight to survive in a foreign land.

In his mind nothing is given.

Whenever he finds himself taking his new life for granted he reminds himself who he is and where he came from and his focus is renewed.

He misses his mom Beatrice, who still lives in Uganda.

He misses his friends in Bwerenga, and it makes him sad to know that most of them will never get the chance he did. It is because of them that he feels driven to make the most of this.

One day he'll go back.

Victory will look them in the eye and tell them he didn't waste his opportunity.

Maybe he will play once more in the village soccer game, as the sun slides low in the east African sky, kicking around a brand new soccer ball he's brought from Canada. §

# BCYCNA CN Community Journalism Scholarship Winners



## Kwantlen Polytechnic University - Journalism



### MARCUS BARICHELLO

As a Journalism and Communications student at Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Marcus has learned how to tell a story through visual mediums, and to examine societal problems such as lack of childcare in BC. His goal is to find employment that allows him to continue to tell important stories about British Columbia.



### ALYSSA LAUBE

Alyssa finds journalism fulfilling because it enables her to find the humanity and truth behind influential Canadian stories. Her passion has led her to a career as a freelance journalist and the coordinating editor of *The Runner*, Kwantlen's community newspaper. She finds working within local communities rewarding, and would like to continue doing so in the future.

## Langara College - Journalism



### LINDSEY LLOYD

Lindsey has lived in rural communities for most of her life but her appreciation for community newspapers has grown since entering the Journalism program at Langara College. She looks forward to having a role in community news where she can provide information to the public to make decisions and act accordingly.



### CAMERON THOMSON

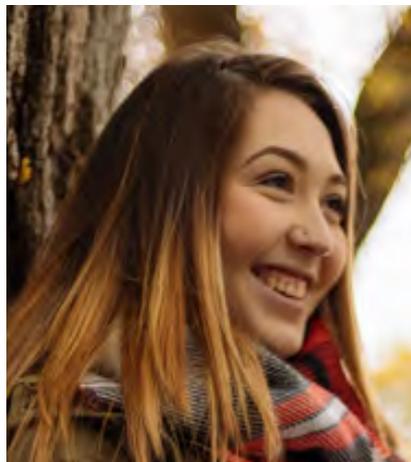
Cameron discovered his passion for journalism whilst traveling in Europe, after meeting a pair of freelance journalists. He knew immediately that it was the right career fit for him, and this feeling was solidified in the Journalism Diploma Program at Langara College. Here, Cameron writes for *The Voice*, continues to develop his photography and design skills, and enjoys the practices of investigative reporting and audio editing.

## Thompson Rivers University - Journalism



### JUAN CABREJO

Born in Colombia but raised in Calgary, Juan is a third-year Journalism student at Thompson Rivers University. He has been able to explore his passion for photography as a photojournalist and contributor for *The Omega*. He is interested in gaining more experience by working at a community newspaper.



### CAILYN MOCCI

Growing up in Osoyoos, Cailyn learned the importance of community reporting before she set out to pursue a career in Journalism at Thompson Rivers University (TRU). She currently reports on the growing art scene at TRU for *The Omega* as the Arts Editor. In the future, Cailyn hopes to link her passion for social issues with storytelling to enlighten those around her.

## University of Victoria - Professional Writing



### JACOB NOSEWORTHY

Jacob is a second-year student at the University of Victoria, majoring in political science and professional writing in journalism with a publishing minor. He is interested in using his knowledge and skills to eventually pursue a career in political journalism, such as political analyst or legislative bureau chief.



### CORMAC O'BRIEN

As a child, Cormac used to compare his own written sports recaps to those on the BBC, and he has since progressed from being a volunteer to a staff writer, and is now the Editor-in-Chief for *The Martlet*, UVIC's student newspaper. His current priority as a community journalist is to seek out stories that matter and enact as much positive change as possible.

# Silver Quill Recognition Awards



**MARIO BARTEL**  
Tri-City News



**DALE BASS**  
Kamloops This Week



**KEN GOUDSWAARD**  
Abbotsford News



**TODD HAMILTON**  
The Northern View



**KAREN HILL**  
Kelowna Capital News



**VIKKI HOPES**  
Abbotsford News



**GREG KNILL**  
The Chilliwack Progress



**PHYLIS LAFLAMME**  
Black Press North



**KEVIN MILLS**  
Abbotsford News



**BRENDA MITCHELL**  
Black Press



**J.R. RARDON**  
Parksville/Qualicum Beach News



**DIANE STRANDBERG**  
Tri-City News



**LORIE WILLISTON**  
Black Press North

Congratulations to  
the winners of the  
2018 Ma Murray Awards!

**CN**  
www.cn.ca



## BC & YUKON COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS ASSOCIATION: 98 members as of April 28, 2018

100 Mile House Free Press  
Abbotsford News  
Agassiz-Harrison Observer  
Alaska Highway News  
Alberni Valley News  
Aldergrove Star  
Ashcroft-Cache Creek Journal  
Boundary Creek Times  
Bowen Island Undercurrent  
Bridge River / Lillooet News  
Burnaby Now  
Burns Lake / Lakes District News  
Campbell River Mirror  
Castlegar News  
Chemainus Valley Courier  
Cloverdale Reporter  
Coast Reporter  
Columbia Valley Pioneer  
Coquitlam, Tri-City News  
Courtenay / Comox Valley Record  
Cranbrook Townsman  
Creston Valley Advance  
Dawson Creek Mirror  
Delta Optimist  
Duncan Cowichan Valley Citizen

Fernie Free Press  
Fort Nelson News  
Fort St. James Caledonia Courier  
Gabriola Sounder  
Golden Star  
Goldstream News Gazette  
Grand Forks Gazette  
Gulf Islands Driftwood  
Haida Gwaii Observer  
Hope Standard  
Houston Today  
Kamloops This Week  
Kelowna Capital News  
Keremeos, The Review  
Kimberley Bulletin  
Kitimat, Northern Sentinel  
Ladysmith-Chemainus Chronicle  
Lake Cowichan Gazette  
Langley Advance  
Langley Times  
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows News  
Merritt Herald  
Mission City Record  
Nakusp, Arrow Lakes News  
Nanaimo News Bulletin

Nelson Star  
New Westminster Record  
North Delta Reporter  
North Island Gazette  
North Shore News  
North Thompson Star/Journal  
North Thompson Times  
Oak Bay News  
Oliver Chronicle  
Osoyoos Times  
Parksville/Qualicum Beach News  
Peachland View  
Penticton Western News  
Pique Newsmagazine  
Powell River Peak  
Prince Rupert, The Northern View  
Princeton, The Similkameen Spotlight  
Quesnel, Cariboo Observer  
Revelstoke Review  
Richmond News  
Rocky Mountain Goat  
Rossland News  
Saanich News  
Salmon Arm Observer  
Shuswap Market News

Sicamous, Eagle Valley News  
Sidney, Peninsula News Review  
Smithers, Interior News  
Sooke News Mirror  
Squamish Chief  
Summerland Review  
Surrey Now-Leader  
Terrace Standard  
The Chilliwack Progress  
The Local Weekly  
The Prince George Citizen  
Tofino-Ucluelet Westerly News  
Trail Daily Times  
Vancouver Courier  
Vancouver Island Free Daily  
Vanderhoof, Omineca Express  
Vernon, Morning Star  
Victoria News  
Westside Weekly  
White Rock, Peace Arch News  
Whitehorse, Yukon News  
Williams Lake Tribune  
Winfield, Lake Country Calendar

## THANKS TO OUR JUDGES

Brad Alden  
Brian Antonson  
Les Bazso  
Amy Beart  
Chuck Bennett  
Karen Bennett  
Blanca Blandon  
Dean Broughton  
Cheryl Carter  
Sandra Caulder  
Jackie Chapman  
Margaret Chapman

Michelle Cook  
Colin Corneau  
Jim Davidson  
Robert Dodds  
Ian Doig  
Tannis Drysdale  
Christopher Duffin  
Deborah Dunn-Roy  
Neil Gillon  
Karen Griffin  
Kirstin Hallett  
Sheryl Ho

Joy Jones  
Jordan Junck  
Elizabeth Keurvorst  
Alfie Lau  
Brenda Leadley  
Catherine MacDonald  
Glen Mazza  
Brian McCristall  
Shannon Miller  
Melissa Mills  
Yumimi Pang  
Derrick Penner

Matthew Ramsey  
Matt Rockley  
Aleksandra Sagan  
Michael Sasges  
Prarthana Sharma  
Rick Shaver  
John Streit  
Ann Sullivan  
Dixon Tam  
Gladys Tsang  
Derek von Essen  
James Waugh

## THANKS TO OUR TEAM

### PRODUCTION & MULTIMEDIA

io media  
AV Strategies  
Devin Jain

### GRAPHIC DESIGN

Kerry Slater  
Matthew McKinnon

### EVENT MANAGEMENT & SPONSORSHIP

Kerry Slater

### AWARDS GALA TEAM

Curve Communications Group

### BCYCNA GENERAL MANAGER

George Affleck

### BCYCNA AWARDS GALA CHAIR

Sarah Strother

### BCYCNA

9 West Broadway  
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1P1  
tel: 604-669-9222  
toll-free: 1-866-669-9222  
info@bccommunitynews.com  
www.bccommunitynews.com

# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

## TITLE SPONSOR



## PRESENTING SPONSORS



## AWARD SPONSORS



*A toast to you.  
Yes, you.*



Congratulations to all of tonight's winners.

