Columbia Valley, BC #52 Issue



# The Voices of the Columbia Valley













# MARCH 8

international women's day

INVERMERELIQUORSTORE CA

# NSIDE THIS EDITION

# GLOBAL WAR -LOCAL IMPACT

The escalating war, instigated by Russia in the Ukraine, has sent commodity and energy prices soaring which affects all areas of global currencies and markets.

### INVERMERE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The District of Invermere seeks additional feedback on their transportation master plan.

### Housing Prices Rise

Columbia Valley sees increase to housing prices.

# DON'T DRIVE DISTRACTED

Police are increasing enforcement surrounding distracted driving.



# LETTER FROM THE VOLUNTEERS

There is still hate in our world. The war between Russia and Ukraine continues with the impact reaching both globally and right here in our own communities.

Despite the fact this incident is happening across the world, the effects of it can still be felt right here in the Columbia Valley.

The cost of oil is skyrocketing which in turn costs more to drive which is a necessity for many to get to and from work, school, and wherever else you need to go. Not to mention the strain this has on our supply chain which

increases our cost of food and necessities. Tyranny and war is running rampant with no signs of easing for the people of Ukraine. This means we will continue to feel the impact at home. What can you do about it? Speak out. Show your support against war, hate, and negativity. Yes, we can't go to Russia ourselves and stop this madness. Though, we can show our support and stand in solidarity with the Ukraine against war. Every positive though, feeling, and sentiment brings us one step closer to peace.

The VVV

2



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

O4 GLOBAL WAR -

The sovereign nation has been a victim of attacks from Russia

11 Invermere Trans-PORTATION PLAN

Cranbrook makes strides towards housing for the community.

18 Housing Prices Rise

The District of Invermere seeks feedback on their transportation master plan.

21 Don't Drive Distracted

Police are increasing enforcement surrounding distracted driving.

WAKEBOARD DAMAGE CONCERNS

Resident Bill Ark shares his concerns with Invermere council.

30 SEXISM IN GAMING

There's no room for it in our community.

### How are we doing?

The Volunteers of the Columbio Valley Voices Online Magazine are dedicated to providing content that is generated and supported by our valley residents.

We welcome and encourage all communication - we want to know how we're doing!

Send us a note on Facebook or Instagram @thevoicecv

DR

by email to <a href="mailto:news@thevoiceca.ca">news@thevoiceca.ca</a>



# Global War -Local Impact

The escalating war, instigated by Russia in the Ukraine, has sent commodity and energy prices soaring which affects all areas of global currencies and markets.

While the global economic impact of that conflict is difficult to predict, mainly because its outcome – and longevity – are so uncertain, the uncertainty contributes to the immediate spikes being seen in the energy markets as well as disruptions to the global supply chain.

Canada has joined in cracking down on Russia's aggressive actions by imposing wide-ranging sanctions aimed at crippling the country's economy and impacting their ability to advance into Ukraine. But just how significant an impact is the crisis likely to have on the Canadian, and our local, economy?

# Oil & Energy

The most obvious immediate impact to our global and local economy surrounds the price of oil. Russia is an energy superpower who currently pumps about 10% of the world's supply of crude oil every day. You'd think when one energy giant turns off the proverbial taps it opens the way for others to fill the need. Unfortunately, that's unlikely to happen with Canada because pipeline and export capacity for oil and natural gas may already be stretched to their max.

"That's an impossibility,"said Eric Nuttall, a partner and portfolio manager at Torontobased investment firm Ninepoint, in an interview surrounding the prospect of Canada boosting oil exports to take some leverage away from Putin. Despite sizeable energy resources in Canada's oilsands and U.S. shale, Nuttall says the decision years ago to limit pipeline expansions have limited North America's ability to export as much oil as possible, to the point where both Canada and the U.S. still import oil from overseas. Shortages and rising costs are in direct correlation to being pushed out of the world's trading economy through sanctions brought on by Putin's decision to invade the Trudeau's Ukraine. Here. Canadian government further clamped down by announcing that Russian crude oil would be banned

However, there are those that feel that Canada does not need to suffer the financial consequences. Dan McTeague, president of Canadians for Affordable Energy, says Canada has the capability to ramp up its own oil production and needs to begin producing more barrels.

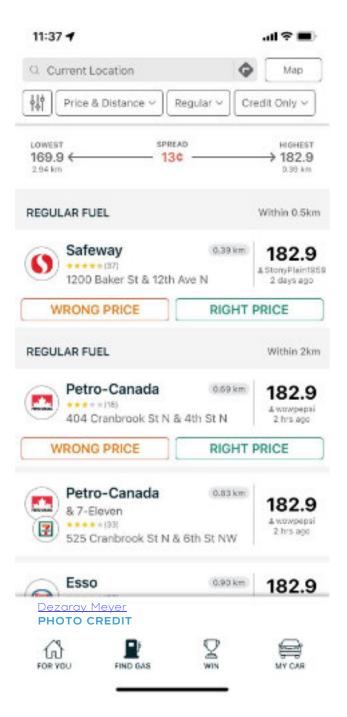
"There is no telling how bad it's going to get," McTeague said. "There is one thing that is clear: it is going to get bad and it's going to become very expensive," says McTeague. "Russia's war of aggressions is fueled by our need to buy their gas. I think it's pretty clear we have to change our course."

How does this translate to the general populous? The most immediate impact can be seen right at your local gas pumps. Within our valley, prices are ranging from 169.9 to 182.9, while places like Vancouver are seeing record-breaking prices like 209.9 or 169.9 in Calgary.

Unfortunately, the Province of BC whose

government is run by John Horgan, has done nothing to combat the rising prices nor provide financial relief to his constituents.

Surprisingly, it's Alberta who seems to be offering the most financial support and protection to those impacted by rising oil prices. Premier Jason Kenney announced (Alberta to temporarily drop 13-cent-a-litre gas tax | Calgary Herald) that Albertans will receive 13-cents-per-litre worth of relief at the pumps starting on April 1 as well as a rebate of \$150 that will be applied directly to utility bills. One can hope we'll see relief like this soon too.



# **Agriculture**

The rising costs and potential shortages have to do with the fact that Russia, a top-three oil-producing country and leading global fertilizer manufacturer, has been pushed out of the worlds trading economy through sanctions brought on by its decision to invade Ukraine.

Canadian farmers are a group that are already feeling the financial effects of the war in Ukraine as the prices of commodities like fuel and fertilizer, needed to grow a large healthy crop, surge and chip away at producers margins. Some producers are already looking to spring with increasing worries.

Marty Derks, a producer of grain and sowing seeds at his multi-thousand acre Chesterville Ont., is deeply concerned about the year's outlook. "We're forecasting about a 20 to 30 per cent increase in fuel costs," says Derks, adding that he uses nearly 140,000 litres of diesel each year. "Prices have been just kind of steadily climbing and fertilizer prices are going to be dramatically increased this year. Supply may be an issue for farmers."

Derks says, like many other farmers, he has already purchased many of the supplies needed for the upcoming growing season which means the true impact of the price hikes will likely be felt next year.

"Coming into the end of 2023 I'll be very exposed. I sell my crops before they're even

planted and then I know what my cost of production is, I know what my margin is. But I've already locked in my cost of production. I'm about 70 per cent covered," says Derks. "In Ukraine, planting starts in about 40 days there and if that crop doesn't get in the ground, it's not on the market for a whole year, and that will drive commodities even higher."

The cost of grain is also in turmoil. Why? Because Russia is the number one wheat producer, and the Ukraine leads the planet in sunflower seed oil production. Combined, the two countries produce about 25 per cent of the world's supply of wheat, and Croft at RBC says those supplies are now in doubt because of Russian aggression. "Given the recent Russian Black Sea naval deployments, we think there is a considerable risk that Ukraine's ports may be inoperable," Croft said. "As a major wheat exporter, Canada will feel that part of the conflict directly."

While demands to fill the gap may shift onto other countries, it's too soon to tell for Canada. Brendan Phillips, vice-chair with Grain Growers of Canada, says "The removal of those supplies is sure to increase demand from other nations and in turn increase costs to Canadian farmers. Canada's crop of hard red wheat, canola barley, etc. is not yet seeded let alone what quantity or quality will be available for export."



6

# Inflation, Exchange and Interest Rate

Naturally, the rising costs of food production and consumption contributes to the inflation seeing multi-decade highs, which the central banks are working to combat by raising interest rates. The Bank of Canada raised its policy interest rate by 0.25 percentage points earlier this month to 0.5%, its first rate increase since 2018.

Many forecasters expect the rate hikes to continue, despite the uncertainty brought on by the war in Ukraine, since inflation has shown little signs of slowing. Economists at Scotiabank expect Canada's policy rate to hit 2 per cent by the end of the year, rising to 2.5 per cent next year.

"It's surprising when you look at the stress level people have with a 1.5 to two [percentage point] increase in rates, but we've lived in a world of low interest rates for so long," said Paul van Eyk, national leader of KPMG's restructure and turnaround services in Canada.

Unlike in past rate-hike cycles, companies have fewer levers to pull to relieve the pressure on their bottom lines, Mr. van Eyk said. "You can't lay people off because you're just trying to hold on to the people you have, your supply chain is in chaos and then you add in all the geopolitical events and the pandemic," he said.

The Canadian dollar fell against its U.S. counterpart on Friday and was on track for a weekly decline as the intensifying war in Ukraine triggered a flight to quality, overshadowing encouraging U.S. jobs data. Canada's dollar will strengthen over the coming year as soaring commodity prices boost the domestic economic outlook and the Bank of Canada hikes interest further, but gains for the loonie will be less than previously thought, a Reuters poll showed.

The loonie was trading 0.7% lower at 1.2773 to the greenback, or 78.29 U.S. cents, its biggest decline since Jan. 3.

The currency touched its weakest level since Monday at 1.2790. For the week, it was on track to decline 0.5%.

The value of Canadian building permits fell by 8.8% in January from December, Statistics Canada said. Analysts had expected a gain of 2.0%.

Canadian government bond yields were lower across the curve, tracking the move in U.S. Treasuries. The 10-year fell 7 basis points to 1.708%.

However, it's clear Canadians are not the only group being impacted. The value of Russian currency plummeted in response to sanctions, making imports of IT equipment and services significantly more expensive. As a result, many companies are refusing to ship orders to Russia even if payment is possible. This may also mean that Russia's own manufacturers of PCs, servers, and communications equipment will be unable to operate. Geopolitical tensions are also impacting other currencies throughout the region, including the Euro

The euro fell below \$1.10 on Friday for the first time in almost two years, having shed over 3% against the dollar this week for its biggest weekly fall since March 2020. European banking stocks index fell around 16%, its worst week since March 2020, bringing year-to-date losses to 20%. Shares in Russia-exposed lenders such as Austria's Raiffeisen and France's SocGen fell around a third over the week.

In Germany -- the euro area's benchmark bond issuer -- 10-year bond yields fell 30 bps this week in their biggest one-week fall since the euro debt crisis in 2011.

At -0.08%, German Bund yields are back in negative yield territory. In other words, investors are willing to pay Germany's government to hold its bonds in an uncertain environment. That was not the case a week ago, when Bund yields stood at 0.22%.

Wall Street's main indexes fell sharply on Monday, with the Nasdaq Composite confirming it was in a bear market, as the prospect of a ban on oil imports from Russia sent crude prices soaring and fueled concerns about rising inflation.

Nasdaq ended down 20.1% from its Nov. 19 record high close. That marks the Nasdaq's first bear market since 2020. The Dow Jones Industrial Average ended down 10.8% from its Jan. 4 closing record high, confirming it was in a correction. A correction is confirmed when an index closes 10% or more below its record closing level.

### Felt Around the World - And Here at Home

There's no question the impact of the war between Russia and Ukraine is affecting our day-to-day lives. It's going to be more expensive to continue living our lives the way we need to from gas prices to rising food costs and inflation. Each day the war continues we are further away from recovering not only from the impact this war is having but also the pandemic. Who starts a war during a global pandemic?

We're not the only people feeling the effects of Russia's actions against Ukraine. The entire world is still dealing with a pandemic, trying to recover their economy, keep their people safe, and now all eyes are on what's happening between Russia and Ukraine.

# KEEP CALM AND PREPARE FOR A PRICE INCREASE

\*Bear markets occur when prices in a market decline by more than 20%, often accompanied by negative investor sentiment and declining economic prospects. 1. Bear markets can be cyclical or longer-term. The former lasts for several weeks or a couple of months and the latter can last for several years or even decades.

8

# Seed & Plant Swap Sunday March 13 11 to 1:30 pm



Bring your seeds from last year and any indoor plants you have to swap or sell. Make sure to label seeds with name and date. Plants should have a tag with name. Entry fee for sellers suggested: 20% of sales by donation.

# At the Groundswell Greenhouse

A yearly get together, before spring comes, to dream about gardening and to share our knowledge and expertise. Sure to be a fun event! Bring your family to see the produce growing in the greenhouse and enjoy a Sunday outing and buy some indoor plants and/or seeds for your garden.



9



ACTIVE
TRANSPORTATION
NETWORK PLAN

The Village of Radium Hot Springs is seeking **your input** to help develop an Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP) that will guide the future of active transportation in the community. Whether you walk, roll or bicycle, this Plan will help shape the way we move around Radium.



# WHAT IS ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION?

Active transportation is any human-powered way of getting around, such as walking, biking, using a wheelchair or rollerblading. Facilities that support these activities include bike lanes, multi-use trails/pathways, and sidewalks. Other new and emerging transportation modes that are either assisted by or fully powered by electricity (i.e., micro-mobility), such as e-scooters and e-bikes, may also use these facilities.

### HOW TO GET INVOLVED

### COMMUNITY SURVEY

A survey is open from February 14 to March 13 to collect feedback from community members.



Hard copies of the survey are also available for pick up and drop off at the Village Office (4836 Radium Blvd). Please drop off completed surveys by March 13.



### INTERACTIVE MAP

Take a virtual tour around Radium's existing sidewalks, trails and pathways and pin your comments on the map to let us know what walking and cycling facilities you like and where you think there is opportunity for improvement.



For more information on the project, visit www.radiumhotsprings.ca

radium hot springs

# Transportation Master Plan SCHEDULE

### JUN OCT NOV DEC JAN MAR APR MAY JUL AUG PHASE 2 PHASE 1 PHASE 3 PHASE 4 Project Launch and Exploring Finalize Invermere Evaluating Refining Options **Data Collection** Opportunities and Transportation Master **Existing and** and Draft Plan Future **Defining Direction** Development Conditions

# Invermere

# **Transportation Plan**

The District of Invermere seeks additional feedback on their transportation master plan.

A survey was released by the District of Invermere to its residents in efforts to develop a master plan for transportation in Invermere. The first survey saw over 350 participants providing their feedback to shape the plan into something that will work for the community. The Transportation Master Plan is set to respond to updated transportation needs and trends of the community.

The district has reviewed the input received from the participants of the previous survey and summarized the major findings and themes to date. The input received is <u>located</u>

on the district's website as the "What We Heard Report". All input and feedback was carefully considered from the first survey and will be incorporated into the draft plan.

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT** 

The District of Invermere is now asking for additional feedback from the community on the input and comments they've received. After reviewing the report, you can <u>TAKE THE SURVEY HERE</u> to provide any additional comments or feedback on the Transportation Master Plan.



APRIL 1<sup>st</sup> 4-7 PM Radium Hot Springs Center

Radium Rotary
Invites Locals From
Spilli to Dry Gultch
For Free Spaghetti Dinner



Proof of Vaccination & Masks Required For More Info email rotaryshar@gmail.com

Donations to Rotary or Food Bank optional



Coaches Ashley and Christian have a combined 17 years experience. We offer both adult and kids Brazilian Jiu jitsu programs, as well as women's options for both Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and self defense.



### We can be contacted via:

e mail @ journeybjj2020@gmail.com

phone @ 250-421-7886

Facebook @ <u>Journey Brazilian Jiu Jitsu</u> Instagram @ <u>journeybrazilianjiujitsu</u>

# SERVICE YOU CAN COUNT ON



- · Security Systems · Audio/Video
  - Internet and Wifi
  - Home Automation

RFEALARMS.COM (250) 342-6549



# VALLEY PROMOTIONS



### CRANBROOK FINANCIAL PLAN

### KEEPING THE HERD SAFE

Cranbrook city council has passed their five-year financial plan which includes a 2.75% increase to municipal taxes. The plan outlines a 1.75% general tax increase and a 1% increase to the dedicated road tax. The increase of municipal taxes will only be put towards the municipal portion of the property owner's taxes. The plan will be in effect from 2022-2026.

Ensuring the safety of Bighorn Sheep is a top priority for many residents in Radium. In an effort to keep the herd safe until winter season is over, Radium Hill sheep patrol will be running seven days a week until the end of April with the two controllers being stationed on Fridays. You can learn more about helping the Bighorn Sheep herd in Radium here.





# CANAL FLATS DCC DISCUSSION

### ACCIDENT IN PANORAMA

The Village of Canal Flats will be hosting a virtual meeting to discuss the establishment of Development Cost Charges (DCCs). These are paid by owners of subdivisions for the creation of new residential lots, and at building permit level for construction of multi-family, commercial, industrial, and institutional buildings. The virtual session will be held at 4:00pm on March 9th.

At approximately 12:45pm on February 27th, a guest at the Panorama Mountain Resort fell off a chairlift on the Mile One Quad. Panorama's propatrol and mountain safety team were at the ready to respond immediately and provided arrangements to the local hospital by helicopter. No further details have been revealed though it is being further reviewed by the team at Panorama Mountain Resort.





# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS & CONNECTIONS & SIGN UP NIGHT!

COLUMBIA VALLEY CENTRE VITHURSDAY APRIL 2151, 2022 4PM -7PM

THIS EVENT IS YOUR ONE STOP SHOP FOR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION!

IF YOU ARE A SPORT, RECREATION OR LEISURE
BUSINESS, NON-PROFIT OR COMMUNITY GROUP, MAKE
SURE YOU SIGN UP FOR A TABLE TO LET OUR
COMMUNITY KNOW ABOUT YOUR GREAT ACTIVITIES!
CONTACT EVENTS@INVERMERE.NET

AND ID READY WHEN ENTERING

# Want to improve your English?

Free English Language Classes are available!



CBAL's English classes are open to permanent residents and other newcomers to Canada.

To register, email wvsettlement@cbal.org or call/text 250-341-7188.



### TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT:

Jennifer Pratschke, Settlement Worker





www.cbal.org



wvsettlement@cbal.org

Finance par :























# Prices Rise

Columbia Valley sees increase to housing prices.

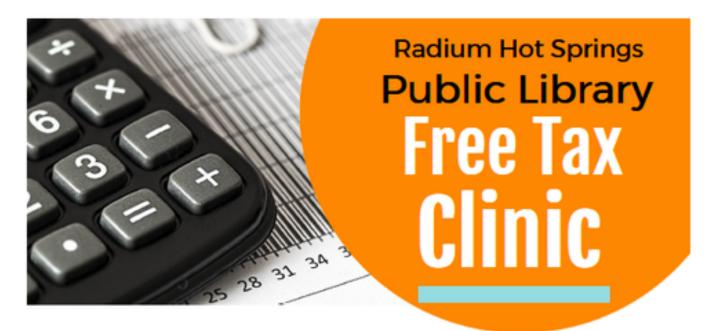
Residents across the Columbia Valley received property assessments and confirmed what many had expected, prices are rising. The average value of a singlefamily home in Invermere and Radium increased by 26%. Invermere saw a rise in average pricing from \$418,000 to \$527,000 where Radium saw a rise from \$315,000 to \$397,000. Canal Flats saw the most increase based on percentages with a 43% increase and the average value going from \$194,000 to \$277,000.

Reported by the Columbia Valley Pioneer, representatives of Canal Flats and Invermere shared their perspectives on the rising assessment values.

"It's a good news and a bad news story... It means obviously the village (of Canal Flats) is in demand. But also one of the value pieces of Canal Flats is its somewhat lower cost of housing. So when that goes up, it affects a bit of the value within Canal Flats," says Canal Flats Chief Administrative Officer Adrian Bergles.

"It is a big increase," says Invermere Mayor Al Miller. "But really I believe that what we are seeing is a catch-up, in some respects. If you look back not just in the past year or two, but instead over the past five or even ten years, maybe even all the way back to the 2008 crash, what you see is that housing prices were pretty level for a long time. It couldn't stay level forever, obviously. It had to go up again some time. I think that's what we're seeing now, and that's what I mean by a catch-up."

All 27 communities across the Kootenays saw a double-digit percentage increase in the value of the average single-family home. The reason for smaller communities seeing a much higher percentage is due to the high cost of housing prices in larger communities. Single-family homes assessed in larger communities will have a higher value than those in smaller communities. In 2019, 56 single-family homes were sold in Invermere alone and the number continues to rise. 84 homes were sold in Invermere in 2020 and 92 sold in 2021.



# Free Personal Tax Filing at the Radium Library-Beginning February 22, 2022!

Free tax clinics are available for eligible individuals through the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

This free personal tax preparation service is available for individuals who do not exceed the BC Low-Income Value. Please go to our website to review full eligibility criteria, or call the library at 250-347-2434 to inquire!

If you qualify for this service, you can drop off your income tax documents in-person at the library. Please bring government issued ID with you. (It is required to submit your forms)

- Drop off available: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays. Bring your documents to our front desk anytime during open hours (11:00am-4:00pm)
- We will ask you to fill out a quick intake form before you submit your documents
- Tax returns will be completed by our volunteer tax assistant off-site, and we will notify
  you when it is ready for pickup
- Phone and in-person appointments with volunteer tax assistant available upon request

# The Clinic will end on April 21, 2022.



# Radium Hot Springs Public Library

4863 Stanley St Radium Hot Springs, British Columbia V0A 1M0 | 250-347-2434 https://radium.bc.libraries.coop/









# VALLEY PROMOTIONS



# Don't Drive Distracted

Police are increasing enforcement surrounding distracted driving.

Distracted driving is the second leading cause of care crash fatalities in the province with over 25% of fatal collisions being caused by distracted driving. BC Highway Patrol is reminding all drivers to focus and pay attention while driving to avoid collisions that can cause death or serious injury.

Distracted driving collisions are completely preventable by paying attention while driving and keeping your hands on the wheel. Drivers who are found to be distracted while driving will receive penalties and fines appropriate to the distraction. For example, the penalties for "Using an Electronic Device" while driving can start at \$368 and four penalty points for the first offense with both increasing with each subsequent offense.

The month of March is Distracted Driving/ Occupant Restraint Awareness Month and there will be an increased police presence across the province as they crackdown on distracted drivers. It's important to note that distracted driving doesn't only mean using your cell phone while driving. It also includes eating/drinking, reading, fiddling around with your backseat, grooming yourself, distractions from other passengers, and even being lost trying to find your route.

For more information on distracted driving in B.C. visit the Government of BC website.



We are Hiring - Program Coordinator

Are you passionate about the environment and want to make a difference in your community? Wildsight Invermere is looking for an outgoing, motivated individual to work with our Branch Manager and dynamic Board of Directors. We are a long-standing, grassroots ENGO, dedicated to promoting environmental stewardship and community sustainability in the upper Columbia Valley.

This job offers an opportunity to carry out our ongoing programs and to develop new project ideas that support our vision and mandate. Details: 18-30 hours per week (negotiable); some weekend and evening work; salary based on experience; valid driver licence and access to vehicle; Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

### Core responsibilities include:

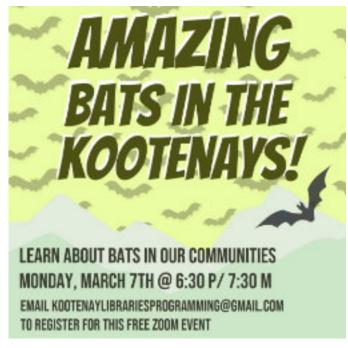
- · Program management and development
- · Communication and outreach with Wildsight members and the public
- · Write funding proposals, prepare project budgets, manage fundraising activities
- · Implement strategic plan and work with Board of Directors

Please see wildsight.ca/Invermere for full job description and application form. Please fill out the application form <a href="mailto:online">online</a> by 4pm March 13, 2022. For more information invermere@wildsight.ca

# VALLEY PROMOTIONS

22





















23



# Damage Concerns

Resident Bill Ark shares his concerns with Invermere council.

Kinsmen Beach is a hotspot for locals and tourists alike during the summer months. Once we start seeing those warmer temperatures it's a sure bet you're going to see motorboats traveling through Lake Windermere. Though there are concerns surrounding the damage these bring to the ecosystem of Lake Windermere and one resident is asking Invermere council to step in.

Bill Ark outlined his concerns in a letter received by Invermere council on February 22nd. A statement from the letter, provided below, was reported by Columbia Valley Pioneer.

"Wake boats are increasing in numbers, in power, and in noise on Lake Windermere. They are also causing major sediment and toxic damage to lake bottoms shallower than 10 meters deep." It was also noted by Ark that there is a section of Lake Windermere adjacent to the District of Invermere which is only six meters deep at it's deepest during high water level in the spring. Outside of these times, the water level is only one-meter deep which can cause ecosystem damage when a motorboat travels through.

The suggestion being presented is to provide awareness and education in the area through signage. Ark believes by educating boaters on the damage wakeboarding boats can potentially cause will help alleviate the damage on the ecosystem. The council will be forwarding the letter to the Lake Windermere Ambassadors for input on the suggestions presented.



CNC By Design
You draw it, we will huild it.
All products are custom mode to order
Arian Daviduke [250] 542-5959





Thursday March 10, 2022 12:00pm - 1:00pm

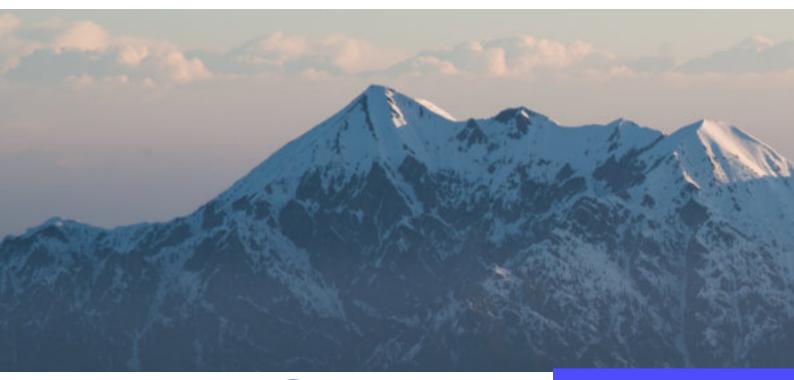
Event by RCL Branch # 71 Windermere District - Invermere

Located at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No 71

Lunch at the Legion with friends. Call 250-342-1196 to reserve your lunch!



# VALLEY PROMOTIONS



# VALLEY SHARES

KINDNESS FROM THE SOUL

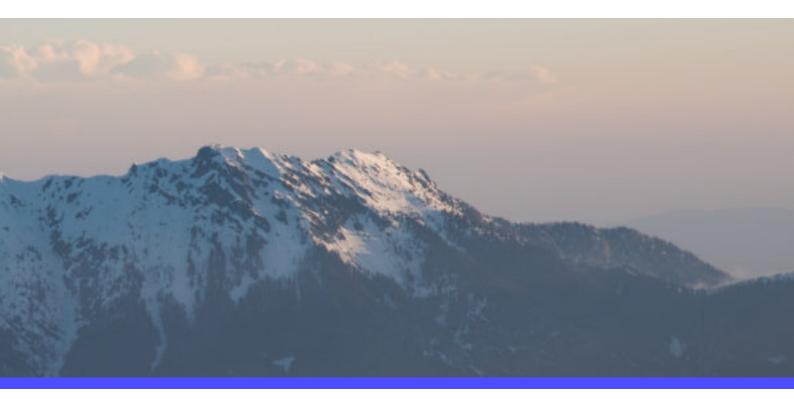
**WASA LAKE TRIATHLON** 

Brittany Christine shared on Facebook these notes that were placed on cars in the hospital staff parking lot in Cranbrook. Brittany shared the struggles the Healthcare community is facing and thanked the kind soul for reminding them why they do the work they do for our community.

In June 2022 the Wasa Lake Triathlon & Events is a 2023 World Sprint and Standard Triathlon Qualifying event along with the BC Sprint Triathlon Championship event! There are events for everyone including Triathlon, Duathlon, Aquabike, Trikids, Team-relay, and the Wasa Warrior. Visit the <u>event website</u> for more information on how you can take part.







### BRINGING HOME THE GOLD

Canada won a gold medal at the FIS Alpine Junior World Ski Championships! The gold medal was awarded in the Mixed Team Parallel event and you can watch the replay to share in the excitement!

## BINGO NIGHT TO SUPPORT UKRAINE

The Rotary Club of Radium Hot Springs is hosting a bingo night in support of the ongoing war efforts in Ukraine. All proceeds from the 50/50 draws on March 17th and April 21st will be put towards supporting the Ukraine defense efforts.

The event will be in-person and more information can be found by contacting Sharlene at 250-688-1561.



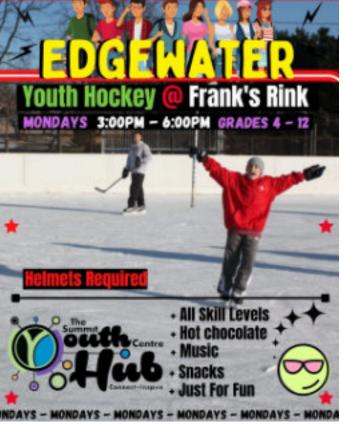












# VALLEY PROMOTIONS



# Sexism in Gaming

There's no room for it in our community.

Sexism in the gaming community is not new and has been a problem since its inception. Whether it be men not wanting to "play with girls", or streamers being sexualized, all the way to development companies not following state law, it's still happening.

Activision Blizzard has been under the spotlight over the past couple of years due

to the complaints surrounding work environments and sexism. There has been calls from the gaming community for CEO Bobby Kotick to step down which has not happened. Though, Microsoft recently acquired Activision Blizzard which gave many in the community a white light at the end of the tunnel. Though, the company is now under fire from the State of California for violation of one of its laws.



A California law went into effect on January 1, 2019 that states a company of the size and nature of Activision Blizzard requires at least three women on their board of directors by the end of 2021. The annual report from the company outlined they failed to comply with this law as they currently only have two women on a board of ten members. The excuse provided by the company was they failed to appoint a third woman due to the upcoming Microsoft acquisition, which doesn't close until 2023.

At the time the law went into effect, Activision Blizzard had two women on their board and has not made any additions since the law came into effect. Considering talks with Microsoft began in mid-November 2021, the reasoning behind their failure to abide by the law is no

excuse. They had more than two years to appoint one additional woman to their board of directors, prior to talks with Microsoft.

This is another blatant case of sexism not only in the gaming community but the industry as a whole. This needs to stop. Many streamers have been outspoken towards the apparent sexism throughout the gaming industry and also going so far as to call out other streamers showing sexism. There has been reports of streamers disconnecting themselves from games when they identify a woman is with them, claiming playing connection failed. The more we can highlight the issue, the better we can come to a solution.

**JOSH GRIEVE** 

Gamer and Author

<u>@The\_incrediblejosh</u> on Instagram



Are you ready for an amazing week of learning? Then join us!
Brush up on you resume, cover letter and interview skills, and grab some key tickets.

### **ELIGIBILITY...**

- Between the ages of 15 & 30
- Not attending full-time studies
- Valid SIN number

# TICKETS YOU GET

- · Level 1 First Aid
- Transportation Endorsment
- WHMIS
- Flagging Ticket

# PLUS SOME PERKS

- Daily Lunches
- Work Boots & Hat
- Completion Bonus



250-489-2464 ext 3063

Jenn.Higginbottom@ktunaxa.org

BladeRunners





Funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canada-British Columbia Workforce Development Agreement.



# A LITTLE FUN

### Across

 Composer Khachaturian; 5- Jest; 9-Hound's trail; 14-Ha'i; 15- Met highlight; 16- Now; 17- Antiquing agent; 18- Covers; 19- Author of fables; 20- Bugbear; 22-Crunch; 25- Greek Radical; 24geometrician: 26- For sure?: 29- The house of a parson; 31- Cordillera of South America: 32- Pianist Peter: 33- Health haven: 36- Digit of the foot; 37- Polish remover; 40- Chop off; 41- Nine-digit ID; 42- All over; 43- Employ again; 45- More tender; 47- Armed guard; 48-Pull out; 51- Poses; 52- Noblewoman; 54- Set apart; 58- Exhausted; 59- Songbird; 61-Hanging to one side; 62- Strikes out; 63- Of coursel; 64- Urn; 65- Uneven; 66- Repair; 67-Limerick language;

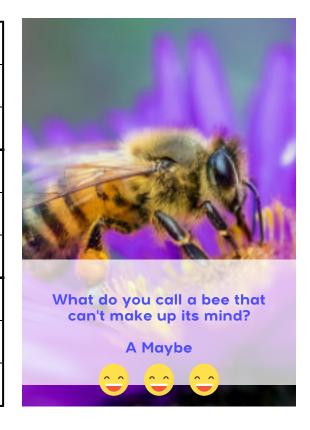
1	2	3	4		5	8	7	ā		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21				22	23					
			24						25					
26	27	28					29	30						
31						32						33	34	35
36				37	38					38		40		
41	Г				42					43	64			
			45	40					47					
43	49	50						51						
52						53		54				55	56	57
58						59	60				61			
62						63					64			
05						00					67			

### Down

1- Simple rhyme scheme; 2- Prego competitor; 3- Shake \_\_\_\_ (hurry); 4- Extraordinary occurrence; 5- Decrepit automobile; 6- The Hunter; 7- Josh; 8- Effortlessness; 9- Prestige; 10- Compel by intimidation; 11- Ford flop; 12- Model Campbell; 13- Keyed in; 21- Light wood; 23-

Chemically inactive gas; 26- Phooey!; 27- Seth's son; 28- Mideast gulf; 29- Unit just above a yard; 30- Get one's ducks in \_\_\_\_; 32- Branta sandvicensis; 33- Garden pest; 34- Prepare to be shot; 35- Copycat; 38- Ministers to; 39- Muse with a lyre; 44- Shackle; 45- One thing after another; 46- Hans Christian Andersen's birthplace; 47- Dared; 48- One in a black suit; 49- Conger catcher; 50- Yo Yo's instrument; 51- Seductively beautiful woman; 53- Meager; 55- Chemical used on trees; 56- Throw; 57- Piece of fencing?; 60- Enzyme ending;

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



# **GET INVOLVED**

There are MANY ways you can get involved with this awesome online publication! We hope to hear from you.

# **BUSINESS ADS**

Any and all businessess, organizations and entrepreneurs are welcome to sumbit a business ad for free. \*Ads must be refreshed periodically. Once an add is out of date or stale, we will remove it.\*

# FOR A FULL-PAGE PLACEMENT

Donate a product or service for giveaway through the Valley Voice. Help us give back to the readers and we will help place you. Though, we will likely reserve this to one per issue. Businesses can choose to host more than one giveaway through Valley Voices to obtain additional feature pages.



# FOR A FULL-PAGE FOOD WRITE UP

We will ask you to provide the meal set you want tasted, at no charge, to our public food writer. (One of the front facing volunteer positions through the Valley Voice where anonymity is not always possible.) You will be notified when to expect the critic and they will introduce themselves. Once the meal has been completed, you can expect a full-page review, complete with photography of your food, to appear in a future issue.

# TO GET ON THE COVER

This one is really easy... take the best photo. If the best photo has been submitted by a business, it's the business who will be credited on the front page.

# BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

We are always looking for content curators, liaisons, photographers, and promoters.

Want to get involved?

Email us at <a href="mailto:news@thevoicecv.ca">news@thevoicecv.ca</a>

VISIT US ONLINE

VISIT US ON SOCIAL @thevoicecv