



# Kettle River Echo



Trails to the Boundary Society  
3990 Hwy 3, Rock Creek, B.C., V0H 1Y0

Distributed to: Bridesville, Rock Creek,  
Midway, Greenwood, Westbridge, and Beaverdell

News Items & Ads: [echoeditor@trailstotheboundary.com](mailto:echoeditor@trailstotheboundary.com)

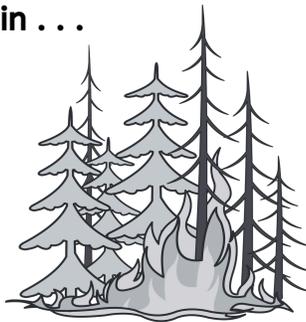
Contributions for the next newsletter are asked to be submitted no later than the 15th of the month.

## STORY COLLECTING FOR THE 2015 FIRE

Trails to the Boundary Society (TTBS) is dedicating 2026 to a Rock Creek/Boundary Legacy Project about the 2015 fire. Our intention is to collect and archive stories, photos, art, and music that will be made available on a public website.

Ten years after the fire, we are anxious to document as much information as possible. The stories coming in are both poignant and educational. We are beginning to understand the many components and effects of disasters such as the fire. We are looking for your stories. Some questions to consider, when getting started are:

1. Where were you during the fire?
2. How did it affect you personally?
3. What impacts did you observe in . . .
  - o Housing
  - o Family
  - o Jobs
  - o Health
  - o Edibles
  - o Community



If you have questions, please call Pat @ 250-528-0227 or email [ragS-relics@hotmail.com](mailto:ragS-relics@hotmail.com)

"Every season is one of becoming, but not always one of blooming. Be gracious with your ever-evolving self." - B. Oakman



## SAVE THE DATE

### 5th Annual BIRD DAY

March 21, 2026  
@ Riverside Centre  
10:00 am - 1:00 pm



More information and speakers will be available in the February issue of The Echo.

IN the NEW YEAR, I HOPE YOU FIND the COURAGE YOU NEED.  
IN the NEW YEAR, I HOPE YOU CULTIVATE more ACCEPTANCE.  
IN the NEW YEAR, I HOPE YOU EXPERIENCE JOYFUL GROWTH.  
IN the NEW YEAR, I HOPE YOU BELIEVE in YOUR OWN WORTH.  
IN the NEW YEAR, I HOPE YOU MAKE ROOM for POSSIBILITY.  
IN the NEW YEAR, I HOPE YOU LET YOURSELF LOVE your LIFE.

The Echo team is pleased to announce that advertising and subscription rates will remain the same for 2026.

**Business card size ads: \$15 + GST**

**¼ page ads: \$30 + GST**

**Subscription rates: \$45 (GST included)**

(Consider sending a subscription to friends/family that have moved from the area).

Remember that The Echo is also online: [westboundary.com](http://westboundary.com)

# SENIORS BEING SEEN

## Upcoming Sessions...

### Thursday, January 22, 2026 - 1:30 pm

- "West Boundary Bird Count, Winter 2025: Initial Findings of Note" – Norma Howes, et al.

### Thursday, January 29, 2026 - 1:30 pm

- "Discussing & Finding Solutions for Difficult Issues in Fraught Times –How Communities Can Proceed to Succeed." – a guided group discussion/exercise to think about and practice.

### Thursday, February 5, 2026 - 1:30 pm

- "What CAN WE DO About Getting Older?" Back by popular request is Diane Evdokimoff, owner of Wild Beauty, who tells us honestly that NOTHING can or will make us look 20 again. BUT – and here is why we've had to bring her back – Diane is the creator of a hand lotion that DOES last the whole day without repeated application. Meet a lotion that actually works; learn to 'Be your own kind of Beautiful.'

Come and join us for lively presentations, socializing and great locally-catered refreshments. Our free-of-charge programmes with refreshments are Thursdays at 1:30 pm at Riverside Centre, 3990 Hwy 3, Rock Creek, BC.

For suggestions and/or further information, please contact Programme Coordinator – Michele (Shelly) Garrison at [shellygarrison1@gmail.com](mailto:shellygarrison1@gmail.com) 250-442-2415 or check our monthly schedule online at [www.westboundary.com](http://www.westboundary.com)



Vicki Gee on Nov 27th talking to Seniors Being Seen on "Food Sustainability in the West Boundary".



# THE BOUNDARY 'C' 4-H CLUB KICKS OFF THE NEW YEAR!

By Malia Eek

At our first meeting of the year, we welcomed new members with a fun skating day at the Midway Arena. The members also voted in new executives for the year! Congratulations Sarah Kelly (president), Garrett Klein (vice president), Grace Kelly (secretary), Carson Humphrey (treasurer and drink coordinator) Sierra Giberson (safety officer), Malia Eek (reporter), and Madison Delisle (snack coordinator).

Members can choose between 6 divisions: beef, sheep, dog, horse, photography, and sewing. Each division teaches kids important life skills, such as public speaking, judging, taking care of animals, and social skills. The club also has many fun days and events where members can meet new people and show off their hard work with their projects.

For questions about the club or registration, please contact club leader Tristan Wintrup at 250-320-7229 or visit the 4-H BC website at [www.4hbc.ca](http://www.4hbc.ca).



IN ORDER TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, HE FIRST HAD TO UPDATE HIS OPERATING SYSTEM, DOWNLOAD AN APP, GET A USERNAME, CHOOSE A PASSWORD, LOG IN TO A HEALTH PORTAL, NAVIGATE TO MESSAGES AND WRITE HIS DOCTOR...BY THEN IT WAS TOO LATE.



## 2025 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT BY NORMA HOWES

The 2025 Christmas Bird Count took place from Christmas day to New Years Eve. This year we had 17 counters, recorded 54 species, and 2061 individual birds compared to last year’s 19 counters, 48 species and 1750 individual birds.

We gathered together on January 9th at Riverside Centre to discuss the count. It was great to see the counters and hear the back stories on what they saw or did not see.

The consensus was that the bird population is declining, with the number of birds not showing up this summer and especially this fall. The weather was warmer than usual, and the birds did come to eat the mountain ash berries or crab-apples till closer to Christmas time.

- The Owl count was way down, and they were not spotted much over the summer.
- We thought our counts would be down, but the Robins did not leave and 100 were sited in Midway and more throughout the West Boundary, reaching a total of 193 compared to 36 in 2000 but most years it’s only a few or none.
- The Dark Eyed Junco topped the list with 301 birds recorded, a flock of 250 Snow Buntings and 218 California Quail. Ravens at 161 and Crows 118.
- The numbers of Chickadees, Nuthatches and Woodpeckers were way down.
- I did see a large flock of over 75 Wild Turkey on January 7th while walking the Trans Canada Trail. We also spotted the Red Crossbills way up the top of the pine trees and Common Goldeneye Ducks on the river. The Red Winged Black Birds were singing on January 8—a bit early for here.
- The Red-Breasted Sapsucker was spotted in two areas and has been around for ages and still around this week. It usually migrates further south but with our warm weather it seems to be sticking around.

If anyone wants to join the count especially in the Midway or Christian Valley area let me know. Contact me at [knohow7@outlook.com](mailto:knohow7@outlook.com) or drop in at Riverside Visitors centre on a Friday afternoon to talk birds with Norma.

A big Thank you to Fred Marshall for donating 4 large volumes of Birds of British Columbia to the Riverside Centre for the community’s use. Come and check them out.



Canada Goose	7	Great Horned Owl	2	Pygmy Nuthatch	3
Common Goldeneye	15	Barred Owl	1	American Dipper	1
Common Merganser	1	Belted Kingfisher	3	European Starling	35
California Quail	218	Downy Woodpecker	10	Townsend Solitaire	3
Ruffed Grouse	6	Hairy Woodpecker	7	American Robin	193
Blue (Sooty) Partridge	9	Pileated Woodpecker	4	Bohemian Waxwings	25
Hungarian/Gray Partridge	15	Northern Flicker	38	Evening Grosbeaks	31
Wild Turkey	21	Northern Shrike	1	House/English Sparrow	6
Rock Dove(pigeon)	23	Canada Jay (Gray)	9	House Finch	70
Eurasian Collared Dove	20	Steller's Jay	21	Purple Finch	20
Great Blue heron	1	Black-Billed magpie	60	Cassin's Finch	8
Golden Eagle	1	Clark's Nutcracker	4	Red Crossbills	6
Northern Harrier Hawk	1	American Crow	118	American Goldfinch	66
Coopers Hawk	3	Common Raven	161	Snow Bunting	250
Northern Goshawk	1	Black capped Chickadee	72	Dark Eyed Junco	301
Bald Eagle	18	Mountain Chickadee	94	Song Sparrow	27
Red-tailed Hawk	6	Red-breasted Nuthatch	28	Red-breasted Sapsucker	2
Rough-legged hawk	1	White-breasted Nuthatch	1	Spotted Towhee	2
17 Participants		54 Species		2061 Individual Birds	

## BOUNDARY INTEGRATED WATERSHED SERVICE 2026 GRANT APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN



THIS GRANT PROVIDES FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS THAT MEET ACTION ITEMS FROM LOCAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANS.

### WHO CAN APPLY:

- Not-for-profit organizations
- Community coalitions and stewardship groups; under a not-for-profit umbrella organization to administer the funds
- First Nations governments
- Schools or school districts

2026 BIWS GRANT APPLICATION FORM



[kettleriver.ca/biws-grant](http://kettleriver.ca/biws-grant)

CHECK project eligibility and requirements on application form

APPLICATION DEADLINE:  
MARCH 2, 2026

✉ [watershedplanner@rdkb.com](mailto:watershedplanner@rdkb.com)



West Boundary Senior Housing Society

## AGM

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

1:00 p.m.

Parkview Manor, Lower level  
670 – 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Midway

New Society members are always welcome, and memberships are only \$10 per calendar year. Come out and hear what's been happening this past year at Parkview Manor, and our ongoing plans for expansion. For further information, call Paul at 604-671-2984 or Judy at 250-445-6352.

WE HAVE ROOM FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS IN 2026!



# SUDOKU

Solution on page 9

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## FREEMAN'S

COUNTRY SUPPLY

Hwy 3 Rock Creek 250-446-2899

Itchy green thumbs?



It may be too early to plant, but it's the perfect time to plan. We have a fresh delivery from West Coast Seeds for 2026, some of which benefit from being started indoors soon. Stop by to pick up a complimentary gardening guide!



West Coast Seeds

## RDKB HomeSmart Marks Two Years of Helping Residents Improve Comfort, Efficiency, and Affordability

The Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) is celebrating the two-year anniversary of its RDKB HomeSmart program — a free, trusted service that is supporting more than 300 residents in making informed, comfort-focused home improvements.

Launched in January 2023, RDKB HomeSmart helps homeowners explore practical changes that make homes more comfortable year-round, reduce energy use, and prepare for future climate needs. The program offers free knowledgeable guidance, support in accessing rebates, and tools to help residents plan improvements at a pace and budget that works for them.

“RDKB HomeSmart has quickly become a go-to resource for residents who want to improve the comfort and efficiency of their homes,” says Grace McGregor, Chair of the RDKB Board. “To see hundreds of people take part in just two years shows a strong, growing interest in simple, effective home improvements.”

Senior Energy Specialist Freya Phillips says residents consistently tell her that affordability, and a simple, clear starting point, matters most.

“Many people want to make their home more comfortable, but they’re not sure where to start,” says Phillips. “That’s where RDKB HomeSmart really helps everyone - whether you’re a retiree, on a tight budget, or simply looking to improve your home. We guide people step-by-step, help them understand what changes make the biggest difference, and can connect them with generous rebates so those improvements are more affordable.”

Over the last two years, residents have explored improvements such as better insulation, draft-proofing, high-performance windows and doors, heat pumps, and other comfort-boosting measures. Phillips says the focus is always on practicality:

“You don’t have to do everything at once,” she adds. “RDKB HomeSmart helps you understand your home as a system and choose improvements that fit your goals, timeline, and budget.”

As the program, which is funded by the Columbia Basin Trust, FortisBC, and RDKB, heads into its third year, the team looks forward to supporting even more residents across the region.

Residents can sign up for free, ask questions, or explore resources at [homesmart.rdkb.com](https://homesmart.rdkb.com), or contact the team at [homesmart@rdkb.com](mailto:homesmart@rdkb.com) or 250.368.0284.



RDKB's Senior Energy Specialist  
Freya Phillips (L)  
with Raven Boisclair

### Mind Body Love collective

Fine Yarns & Art Supplies \* Books \* Natural  
Health \* Locally Made Goods \* Gifts

276 South Copper in Greenwood  
(236) 867-6760



BEAUTY SALON

### *Pennie's Cut Above*

*Located in the basement of Parkview  
Manor. Open on Mondays call ahead  
to make a appointment. Been cutting  
and perming hair for 40 yrs!!!*

*670-9th ave Midway*

*Call (250) 449-2145*

# RCBFA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

-Dean Corbett

I hope your Christmas Season was wonderful and that your 2026 has started well! The RCBFA meets at the fairgrounds pavilion on the third Wednesday of each month. That's Jan 21 at 7 pm this month. The meetings usually take about 1-1.5 hours. Your attendance and input are welcome! We discuss day-to-day RCBFA matters, plan activities and projects for the future. For example: We plan to replace the Arena Announcer's Booth this spring. If you know of a contractor who may be interested, please have them email me at [president@rockcreekfallfair.ca](mailto:president@rockcreekfallfair.ca) or call me at 250-689-7579 for a copy of the plans and a scope of work.

I have been thinking a lot about the prefix "in" for some time now. It is a very strange bit of language, but like many English things, it is rather confusing! Is it a prefix in the word "involved"? Google it and you get a bit of clarity (A I generated, but that is another topic!) "Involved" probably doesn't have "in" as a prefix per se because "volve" is not a modern or common standalone word but is a Latin root word and the "volve" part is not like what we think of as being in "Involve" as in this case, involved means to be "in" something. Confused? I am!

AI also told me that positive meanings of the prefix "in" are for example:

1. **Include:** To contain or encompass within.
2. **Inject:** To throw or force a substance into something.
3. **Insert:** To place or put something into a specific location.

Using the letters "in" in this context really is confusing. Are: "clude", "ject" and "sert" actual words? AI sort of gets the point across, I guess.

The prefix "in" can also have a negative meaning such as:

1. **Inactive:** Not active. **Incorrect:** Not correct. **Insane:** Not sane.

AI gave me more clarity as "active", "correct" and "sane" are all standalone words. No wonder English as a second language is a problem!!

So why is the little prefix "in" at all related to the RCBFA, your community, and particularly, you? If your New Year's Resolution included (is "cluded" a word?) becoming more involved in your community, there are lots of different ways and organizations in which to do so! Studies have shown that mental and physical aging is delayed or slowed the more a person is actively involved in their community. Involved people are less lonely, less depressed, more cheerful, more engaged, generally happier, thus healthier when doing things in or for their community. Sometimes one can get too much of this involvement and burn out (we see it all the time!), but depression and loneliness also burn people out, and those conditions drain rather than add to the community.

This year, and all the time, it is your choice to get or remain "in" (positive way like inspired) or stay "in" (negative way like incommunicado) for community related things. If you are new to our community, or want to become more involved, there are plenty of opportunities to find a way or organization that meets your interests. If you want to join (now that's another curious word as it has "Joy" and "In" all in four lovely little letters!), don't be shy, reach out at the contact information above.

Sometimes, while writing these articles, I think that I am preaching to the converted, but I occasionally get some positive and much appreciated feedback. This month, I have a challenge for you readers: How many times in this article did you read a word with the prefix "in" used in a positive way? Email or call (contact information above) with your answer. It could mean winning a valuable prize!

# RDKB BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

## January 14, 2026 meeting

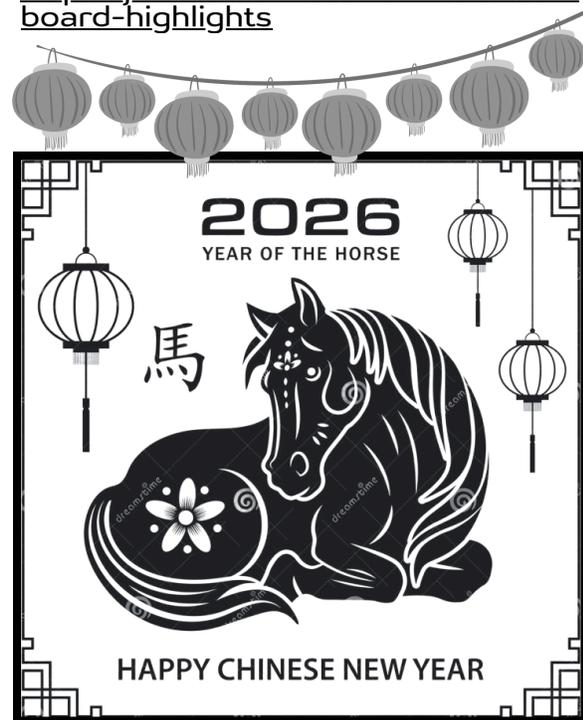
Boundary Animal Control Services – Asset Disbursement Budget Plan  
The RDKB Board of Directors supports in principle the transfer of the property and associated building assets to General Administration Service from the Boundary Animal Control Service. RDKB Staff will initiate development of a lease contract for the use of the building/property for both the 'Weavers' and the 'Woodworkers'.

## Area E Grant-in-Aid approved

- Beaverdell Community Club and Recreation – to support food share program – \$4000
- Boundary Community Food Bank – partially cover operating costs of the food bank – \$2000
- Bridesville Community Club – additional cost to accessibility ramp – \$1292.50
- Greenwood Heritage Society – Attendance for representation at the BCEDA summit – \$1325.73
- Kettle River Horse Club – rental costs from the Rock Creek Fairgrounds – \$1000

Next board meeting: Wednesday, Jan 28, 2026

This is a portion of the RDKB Board Highlights. To subscribe directly to the full RDKB Board Highlights: <https://jointheconversation.rdkb.com/board-highlights>



**Mount Baldy Residents – Have Your Say!**

The Regional District of Kootenay Boundary is hosting a Public Hearing for the Mount Baldy Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1919, and would love to see you there.

**Tuesday, January 27, 2026**

**6:00 pm**

**Riverside Centre, 3990 BC-3, Rock Creek**

The hearing will be **chaired by Area Director Sharen Gibbs**, with **RDKB Planning & Development staff** in attendance to walk through the proposed changes and answer questions.

**What's it about?**

The bylaw proposes updates to zoning rules across **all of Mount Baldy**, including:

- Prohibiting **water bottling facilities**
- Clearer rules for **retaining walls**
- Aligning **secondary suite regulations** with other RDKB areas
- Clarifying **multi-family use requirements**
- Updating definitions, setbacks, and references for clarity and consistency

**How it works:**

Those attending can speak, ask questions, or submit comments – all feedback becomes part of the public record. Written submissions are also welcome **until noon on the day of the hearing**.

**Want to read more first?**

Find the full details, bylaw documents, and background info on the RDKB news page:

<https://rdkb.com/Regional-Government/Latest-News>

Questions? Contact RDKB Planning & Development at **250-368-9148** or [plandept@rdkb.com](mailto:plandept@rdkb.com)

Your input matters – thanks for being part of the conversation, Mount Baldy!



**ARE YOU CERTIFIED TO RUN A CHAINSAW?**



**Trails to the Boundary will be hosting a Basic Chainsaw Operator training course (date and location yet to be announced).**

**The charge for this 2-day course is \$300 per person.**

**Please email [admin@trailstotheboundary.com](mailto:admin@trailstotheboundary.com) if you are interested in taking this course.**

**Settlement & Language Services**

Free support for immigrants in the Kootenay & Boundary region!



**If you are a ...**

- Permanent Resident
- Refugee
- Temporary Foreign Worker
- Naturalized Citizen
- Provincial Nominee
- International Student

**We can help with...**

- Learning about your community
  - English language training
  - Referrals and access to services
  - Workplace skills
  - Preparing for citizenship
  - Making connections
- ...and so much more!

Contact the Settlement Worker in your community to learn more about this **FREE** program!



Funded by / Financé par:  
 Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

**Boundary Office: 486 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Grand Forks**  
**[boundarysettlement@cbal.org](mailto:boundarysettlement@cbal.org) · 250-584-4449 · [www.cbal.org](http://www.cbal.org)**

**HYMNAL INSPIRATION**



A minister decided to do something a little different one Sunday morning.

He said "Today, in church, I am going to say a single word and you are going to help me preach. Whatever single word I say, I want you to sing whatever hymn that comes to your mind."

The pastor shouted out "CROSS." Immediately the congregation started singing in unison, "THE OLD RUGGED CROSS."

The pastor hollered out "GRACE." The congregation began to sing "AMAZING GRACE, how sweet the sound."

The pastor said "POWER." The congregation sang "THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD."

The Pastor said "SEX". The congregation fell into total silence. Everyone was in shock. They all nervously began to look around at each other, afraid to say anything. Then all of a sudden, way from in the back of the church, a little old 87-year-old grandmother stood up and began to sing "PRECIOUS MEMORIES".

# History of Grand Forks By: Vic Boychuk

For hundreds of years the Indians made their living along the Kettle River. In 1870 the Colville Indian Reserve was established so most of the Indians were forced to move to the Reservation. When the 49th parallel was established, the Americans put a tariff on the Hudson Fur Brigades which followed the Columbia River. The Hudson Bay fur brigades then followed the Kettle River from Fort Colville through "Grand Prairie" (now Grand Forks) to the Okanagan and over The Similkameen Trail to Fort Hope.

When gold was discovered at Rock Creek in 1859, and near the Thompson River in 1858 the Boundary Survey Commission established a temporary base in Grand Prairie. Edgar Dewdney extended the Dewdney Trail from Rock Creek through Grand Prairie and onto Wild Horse Creek in 1865. At this time government workers extended some trails, recorded topographical information, defined the border and prepared for the establishment of Grand Forks. Governor James Douglas sent Roger Moore, a sapper with the Royal Engineers, to counter any trouble with the Americans. Roger was given a military grant of 160 acres to secure the establishment of Grand Forks. The Royal Engineers then started constructing roads and laying out the town site, but more importantly securing a strong British presence.

In 1895 prospectors flooded the area searching for minerals. James McConnell staked one of the first claims "The Eagle" on Hardy Mountain. Many mining properties were being developed. Only a dozen or so became producing mines, but none came close to Phoenix. A ten stamp mill was purchased for the Yankee Girl and The Yankee Boy mines. The Franklin Camp was about 40 miles north of Grand Forks. In 1901 the first shipment of ore was brought by wagon from there. Volcanic Mine is another interesting read, but we will leave that for another time.

With the coming of the railroad, Grand Forks was starting to boom. Miners, farmers, business people and prospectors were coming from all over. Within a year the community grew from a few houses to several hundred. In 1897 Grand Forks, Nelson, Rossland and Greenwood wanted immediate incorporation to city status, so the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia passed the "Speedy Incorporation of Town Act" and they all became a city the same year. At this time Grand Forks had a population of 500. In 1899 the population was 1000 and today the population is over 4000.

Prior to the arrival of settlers, the region was largely occupied by Judge Haynes of Osoyoos who had 3000 head of cattle. In 1885 William Covert acquired 320 acres of land in the west end of the valley. He planted 120 acres of apples, pears, peaches and plums. Mr. Covert also had milking cows, chickens and turkeys and also grew grain and hay. He built a dehydrator so he could ship dried prunes. In 1903 William built an irrigation ditch requiring 50,000 feet of lumber to irrigate his orchard. As more settlers came and took up more farm land Judge Haynes wasn't too happy since he once had free rein in this valley.

Lumber and wood, in different forms, were in high demand. In 1908, 100 cords of wood were required for the power house. Seventy thousand railroad ties were required for the building of the railway from Cascade to the Summit. Sawmills were going steady producing lumber for building. In 1901 fire destroyed the Spraggett Sawmill along with 750,000 feet of lumber in the area. A fire in 1908 and another in 1911 wiped out most of downtown, since business was booming most of the buildings were rebuilt. In the early years fire destroyed hundreds of acres during the summer months.

In 1897 two stage lines were running from Grand Forks, one from Marcus Washington along the Kettle River crossing the river at Hall's Ferry (south of Laurier), then crossing at Edward's Ferry (near Cascade), and one from Bossburg, WA. to Grand Forks. In early December of 1898 The Kettle River Stage Co. ran a daily stage between Greenwood and arriving at Cascade in the afternoon, passing through Niagara, and Grand Forks.

The first CPR train whistled into Grand Forks on September 18, 1899. The CPR was quite a greedy corporation. They received the largest land grants that the province had ever seen, plus \$4000.00 per mile. They also sent representatives to each town they went through and wanted a large portion of land and buildings in order to put the town on the CPR map. Since they didn't get what they wanted in Grand Forks, the CPR built their station in Columbia, which is now called West Grand Forks. The Station is situated on the original place it was built. Built in March of 1900 it is now The Station Pub (nice place to visit).

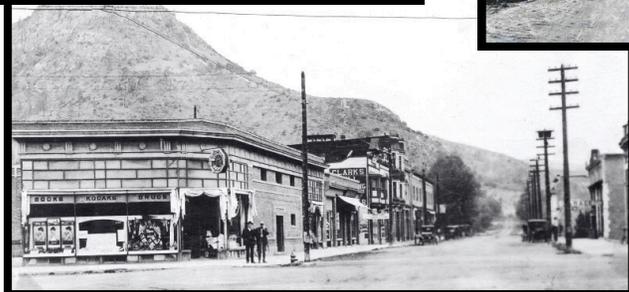
In 1902 Jim Hill and the Great Northern Railway (GN) was slowly creeping into Grand Forks. By 1905 The GN was hauling ore from Phoenix to the smelter in Grand Forks through an easier route than the CPR. The Great Northern was hauling 35 ore cars per day from Phoenix with 35 tons per car, while The CPR was hauling 23 cars at 30 tons per car per day.

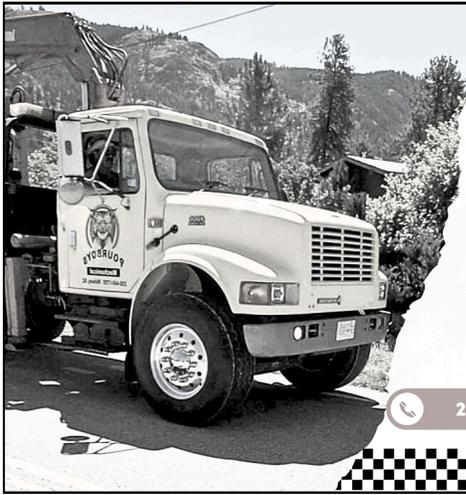
Tracy Holland received a charter to build a railway from Grand Forks to Republic Washington. This rail line had many names, Kettle River Valley Railway, Republic and Grand Forks Railway, Hot Air Line, Kettle River Railway Co., Spokane and British Columbia Railway, and Kettle Valley Line, while Hot Air Line was the most popular name. They also had dreams of building a line North through Franklin to Vernon and on to the coal fields at Nicola Valley. They made it 18 miles north of Lynch Creek and that was the end of the dream. Seven miles up the North Fork of the Kettle River was the home of Robert Clark (also known as Clarks' Camp). In 1897 a petition was circulating to open a post office there with Clark as postmaster to serve miners and prospectors in the area. However, it never happened.

Grand Forks was one of the few cities to have electricity, a complete water system and telephone service by the summer of 1898. The first school and hospital were opened in 1892; the post office was opened in 1896.

In 1911 the brick courthouse was built with stained glass windows. The original post office was replaced with a new brick building in 1913. A copper-clad clock tower was erected in 1914--today this building is the City Hall.

Today's economy in Grand Forks is based on lumber, logging, insulation, orchards, nurseries and tourism. Kettle Falls International Railway (KFR) operates over 44 miles of the former Northern Santa Fe trackage from Kettle Falls, Washington, to Grand Forks, British Columbia. KFR hauls mainly lumber products and abrasives.





## POURBOYS MECHANICAL

- TOWING
- GOV'T INSPECTION FACILITY
- AUTO REPAIRS
- COMMERCIAL TRUCK REPAIRS
- TIRES

805 MURRAY ST.  
MIDWAY, BC

**Darrin Metcalf**

250-449-2764    CELL: 250-449-1700

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## West Boundary Family Connections

*Rock Creek Medical Centre*  
**Every Friday 9:30 – 11:00**  
September to June



**A free play group for families with at least one child aged 0-6.**  
**A healthy snack will be provided.**  
*Registration is not required for this program*  
For any further information please email:  
[mary-ann.dennis@bfiss.org](mailto:mary-ann.dennis@bfiss.org)

This program is presented by Boundary Family Services and funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada



Boundary Family Services  
info@bfiss.org  
www.boundaryfamily.org

1200 Central Ave  
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0  
250-442-2267 or 1-877-442-5355



## DRUG PROBLEM? WE CAN HELP.

NA is a nonprofit Fellowship, or society, of men and women for whom drugs have become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. Narcotics Anonymous has opened a weekly meeting, as of October 22, 2023, and all are welcome to attend.

100 Rock Creek Road  
(around back, lower parking lot)  
in Rock Creek, BC.  
Time: 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm every Sunday.

Come join us. It is an open meeting - everyone is welcome

Call: 1-855-852-5687  
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E	S	P	Y		B	A	C	H		P	A	R	T	
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# StellerVista

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**NEWS FROM THE ROCK CREEK COMMUNITY MEDICAL SOCIETY**

On Sunday, January 11th we welcomed 27 interested, community-minded people in the basement of the Rock Creek Clinic for an early year social meeting to discuss the Clinic's previous year and future focus.

Usually, we welcome members of the Boundary Individual Family Service who come from Grand Forks to bring awareness to our local community on the many services they offer through the Clinic, such as Child and Youth Care, Senior's Care, Mental Health and Legal Advice. However, this year they were forced to cancel due to bad roads.

President Harald Zinner gave a summary of the happenings at the Clinic in 2025, as well as introductions of the Executive and Directors of the Society who fulfil these voluntary positions with dedication and commitment to the ongoing success of our Clinic and its employees. In the future we will be discussing new and innovative ways to communicate more effectively to the local Community what the Society is working on as well as happenings at the Clinic.

Harald spoke about the importance of membership in our Society as a large number of members is an important factor in the grant writing process. There will be a list published soon in the Echo of our 2026 meeting dates if anyone would like to attend. You are more than welcome to provide input as to how the Society can cover the diverse and growing needs of our community.

One of our Nurse Practitioners, Amanda Crockett took time out of her very busy schedule to attend this meeting. Her sister, Jennifer, was not able to attend due to an out-of-town commitment. Amanda was welcomed enthusiastically by the attendees and there were a lot of conversations around the strength, vitality and commitment of the Clinic to the Community and of our Society. Our area is so blessed to have such a dynamic and diverse Community Clinic that offers such a wide range of medical options to our community.

Harald also introduced our new Medical Office Assistant, Carmen Beddall who was working part time and has begun working full time at the Clinic in January. A special welcome was given to our new full time Registered Nurse, Nicole Antoneshyn. Nicole has lived in our area for about ten years and is very aware of the needs and priorities of our community members.

Afterwards, coffee, tea, a lovely cake and goodies were shared, and everyone had a great time chatting and getting to know each other. All in all, it was a very positive and productive meeting with much enthusiasm expressed toward the future of our Clinic!

Thank you to all who attended!

**MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR LOAN**

Rock Creek Medical Society has medical equipment available for people to borrow. We do not charge for the use, but a donation to the society is always welcome.

We have:

- walkers,
- wheel chairs
- bath stools
- crutches
- toilet seats

You may contact Bonnie  
@ 250-528-0185  
or the clinic at 250-446-2272

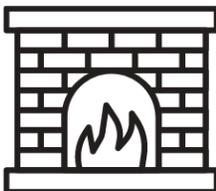


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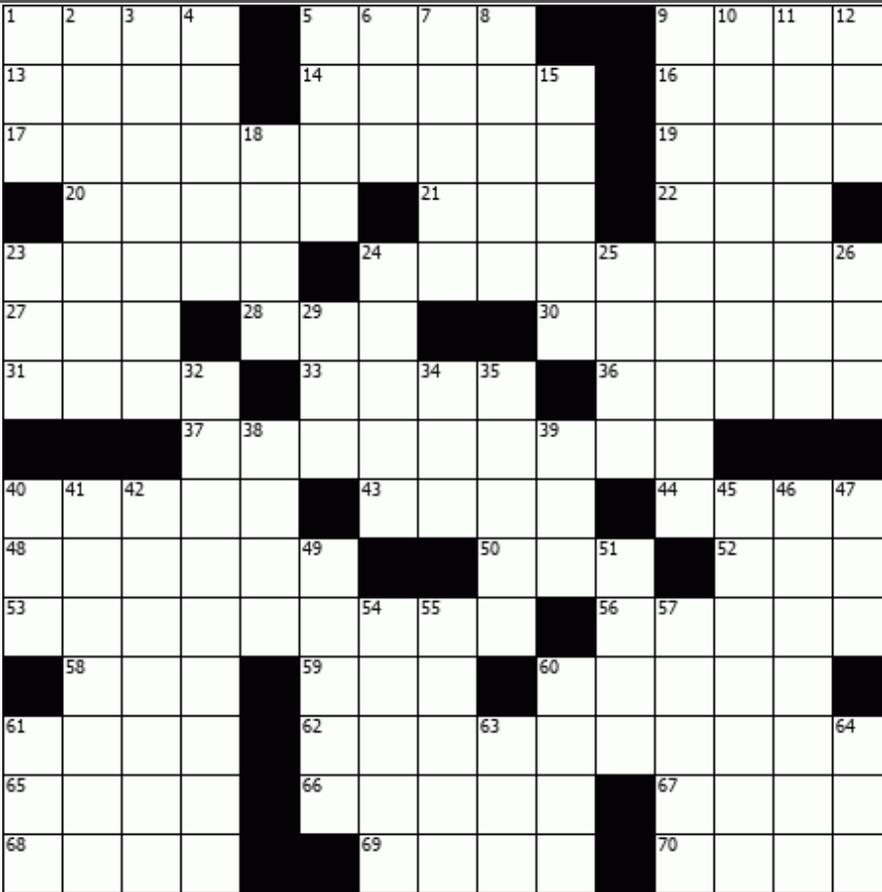


Friends helping Sol Klein celebrate her birthday

# Crossword

**Across**

- 1. Catch sight of
- 5. "Well-Tempered Clavier" composer
- 9. Segment
- 13. "Serving ---" (2002 film)
- 14. Simmering
- 16. Once more
- 17. "Johnny B. Goode" singer
- 19. Latvia's capital
- 20. Lowdown joint?
- 21. "The Star-Spangled Banner" preposition
- 22. "I --- Rock"
- 23. Begin a revolt
- 24. Shopper's lineup
- 27. Flowed
- 28. Psychic sense
- 30. "Gangsta's Paradise" Grammy winner
- 31. "Bus Stop" playwright
- 33. Uh-oh!
- 36. "Dead Man Walking" actress Sarandon
- 37. Lexington and Concord fighters
- 40. Lofty space?
- 43. Rink star Lipinski
- 44. One of Taylor's husbands
- 48. Churchill Downs features
- 50. Watch chain
- 52. Kind of shooter
- 53. Popular locale for skiers
- 56. Change, as the Constitution
- 58. Luau garb
- 59. Audience insult
- 60. The fire station burned down, e.g.
- 61. Princess who founded Carthage
- 62. Tournament rotation
- 65. Privy to
- 66. Head roaster
- 67. Road hog's territory
- 68. Signing ceremony souvenirs
- 69. Mets' stadium
- 70. Jason's fleece-finding ship



**DOWN**

- 1. Key to leave?
- 2. Awfully dry
- 3. Garden chore
- 4. Talks and talks
- 5. Paul Bunyan's sidekick
- 6. Teddy's neighbor on Mount Rushmore
- 7. 19th c. French landscapist
- 8. Job offerer
- 9. Most important
- 10. Characters in fables, often
- 11. Royal attire
- 12. Former airline
- 15. Hammerstein's contribution
- 18. Inventive Swiss painter
- 23. Aristotle, to Jacqueline
- 24. Rainwater pipe
- 25. Stance
- 26. Colleague of Bela and Boris
- 29. Junior
- 32. Exhaust pipe discharges
- 34. School's booster org.
- 35. Feudal workers
- 38. Gets frosty
- 39. Red Guard promoter
- 40. Patients' utterances
- 41. Hauler's rope
- 42. Didn't just buy off the rack
- 45. Where the liquor flows freely?
- 46. Exercising a veto
- 47. Pop
- 49. Cavalry sword
- 51. TV's Roseanne
- 54. Hovers menacingly
- 55. Joey's refuge
- 57. Greenbacks
- 60. Think tank nugget
- 61. Salsa, e.g.
- 63. Name change indicator
- 64. Prefix with phyte



**THERAPIST:** Ever had a job?  
**ME:** I once worked at a zoo.  
**T:** Great! and what did you take from that?  
**ME:** Definitely not a penguin.  
**T:** What?  
**ME:** What!

How many seconds are in a year?

-----  
 second...  
 second, March  
 second, February  
 12! January



Solution on page 9

## We've Merged!



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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### MONDAYS

- **Cribbage** @ Parkview Manor (6:30 pm)

### TUESDAYS

- **Music Jam** @ Midway Social Centre (1 pm - 3ish) 1st and 3rd Tuesday
- **Greenwood Senior's Thrift Store** open 11 am - 3 pm

### WEDNESDAYS

- **Greenwood Seniors Bingo** (1 pm)
- **Bodies in Motion** @ Westbridge Community Hall 1-2pm (starting Nov. 12 - Dec. 3)
- **Yoga** @ Westbridge Community Hall 2 - 3 pm (starting Oct. 1 - Nov. 5)

### THURSDAYS

- **Kettle River Horse Club** meetings (7 pm) @ the Riverside Centre in RC (second Thursday of each month)
- **Crafts** @ Midway Social Centre (9 - 11:30 am)
- **Kettle River Art Club** in Greenwood meets on the 1st Thursday of each month. New members and guests welcome! Located in the McArthur Centre, 1375 Veteran's Lane. Meeting times vary. Please email for more details to: [info@kettleriverart.org](mailto:info@kettleriverart.org) Several Art Markets are planned throughout the year. For a schedule, more information on upcoming markets and vendor applications, please email: [markets@kettleriverart.org](mailto:markets@kettleriverart.org)
- **Greenwood Senior's Thrift Store** open 11 am - 3 pm
- **Westbridge Thrift Store** open 10 am - 3 pm

### FRIDAYS

- **Family Connections** (9:30 am - 11 am) @ Rock Creek Medical Centre
- **Games:** @ Midway Social Centre (12:30 - 3 pm)
- **Games:** @ Greenwood Seniors Centre (1 - 4 pm)
- **Westbridge Thrift Store** open 10 am - 3 pm

### SATURDAYS

- **Greenwood Senior's Thrift Store** open 11 am - 3 pm (closed Saturdays of a long weekend)
- **Lions Meat Draw & 50/50** from 3-5 pm at Prospector Pub in Rock Creek
- **Westbridge Thrift Store** open 10 am - 3 pm

### SUNDAYS

- **Beaverdell Farmer's Market** (10 am - 2pm) starting May 4
- **Narcotics Anonymous** (12:30 pm - 1:30 pm) Rock Creek Medical Centre basement room

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 (1:30 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

- Seniors Being Seen: Norma Howes et. al. "West Boundary Bird Count Winter 2025"

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 (7-9 PM) @ BRIDESVILLE COMMUNITY HALL

- Bridesville Community Club Family Dance

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 27 (6:00 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

- Public Hearing for the Mount Baldy Zoning Amendment

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28 (1:00 PM) @ PARKVIEW MANOR, LOWER LEVEL

- West Boundary Senior Housing Society AGM

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 29 (1:30 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

- "Discussing & Finding Solutions for Difficult Issues in Fraught Times -How Communities Can Proceed to Succeed."

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5 (1:30 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

- Diane Evdokimoff - "What CAN WE DO About Getting Older?"

### SATURDAY, MARCH 21 (10 AM - 1 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

- Bird Day

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