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## "There are teachers ... just not in BC"

A brief discussion by Council at their last meeting concerned teacher vacancies in the school district.

Commenting on a report item from SD57 Board Chair Rachael Weber, Councillor Tapper, a teacher at Mackenzie Secondary, said the school district could consider recruiting teachers from eastern Canada, many of whom have to substitute teach for years before landing a full-time position there.

## Too many closed meetings?

Resident Shannon Bezo raised a question at the last council meeting about the number of closed meetings held by Council.

She said they have been occurring "numerous times" over the last 24 months, and

See 'Closed meetings' over →

## RCMP Report

Investigations of Interest  
-- February --

- On 2023-02-02 Mackenzie RCMP received a report of a sexual assault. Mackenzie RCMP are currently investigating the file.
- On 2023-02-03 Mackenzie RCMP received a report of an assault on a child. Police have obtained statements on file and will be completing a charge package for Crown Counsel with the assistance of Ministry of Children and Families.
- On 2023-02-03 Mackenzie RCMP responded to a report of a stolen truck and work equipment. Truck still outstanding. No further investigational avenues at this time.
- On 2023-02-04 Mackenzie RCMP responded to a report

Continued over →



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# The Macktown Buzzette

March 9 - 22, 2023

## New shuttle service to PG

Kimta Transportation Society has partnered with Evergreen Taxi to provide a shuttle service from Mackenzie to Prince George five days a week. The service "soft started" in February, according to Kimta president Mark Robillard, and has been very popular.

Using a 2023 Toyota Sienna Hybrid van purchased by Kimta, the service leaves Mackenzie at 7 am, picking passengers up at their homes, and arrives back at 6 pm. It costs just \$30 each way. Seats can be booked through Evergreen Taxi.

## Kwadacha story on screen

About 70 people attended a dinner and screening of *Kwadacha By the River* documentary at the CNC Event Centre on Tuesday.

Cathy Warren, of the Kwadacha Education Society, spoke a bit on the history of Sekani communities that lived and worked along the Parsnip and Finlay rivers prior to Hydro's flooding

See 'Kwadacha' over →

## Council pay questioned

Under new business at the last council meeting, Councillor Jesse Wright requested a report on council pay, to determine if it is in line with that paid to town councils in other communities.

Wright, one of two new members to council elected in October, spoke of barriers for young people in running for elected positions that don't offer a liveable salary.

He said, "If we want quality people to run for these

See 'Council Pay' over →

## News of the Odd:

A town in Tennessee has been living with a crusty, dark fungus that coats homes, patios, trees and road signs. The fungus is a byproduct of whiskey distilling - it feeds on vapours from the nearby Jack Daniels distillery and grows in thick colonies throughout the area.

The company says that filtering its emissions can affect the whiskey. The issue is currently in the courts.

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## CRYPTO-QUOTE

OBVD BE J PUDJODZ OYBLI. OT EJK,  
"B ZTL'O YJHD OBVD", BE FBSD EJKBLI,  
"B ZTL'O AJLO OT". – QDOOK DFFBTO

What should you do when you see  
an endangered animal eating  
an endangered plant? – George Carlin



WORD MORPH from last issue: WINDY - WINDS - WANDS - WANTS  
- WAITS - WAILS - SAILS. PLAY FOUR: PONY, UREA, REAR, LORD  
TRIVIA ANSWER: Three minutes.

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## 'Council pay'...

positions in the future, we  
need to pay them as such."

Council agreed to ask staff  
to bring back a report.

In responding, Mayor  
Atkinson commented,  
"None of us got into this  
for the money." She said  
the timing "would be  
challenging" given the  
recent loss of industrial  
tax revenues and with the  
District's current negoti-  
ations with employees.

In 2021, Mackenzie's

mayor was paid \$28,315.  
Councillors were paid just  
under \$13,000, not  
including expense  
allowances and benefits.

A *CBC News* study of  
council and mayoral pay  
in B.C. towns in 2019  
showed Mackenzie in the  
top five in North  
Central/Cariboo for  
council salaries.

In 2020, Council approved  
a 12% pay increase over  
five years for mayor and  
councillors.

## 'Closed meetings'...

asked whether the public  
should be made aware that  
there are "this many con-  
cerns" that need to be dis-  
cussed out of public view.

Bezo said it might help the  
community to know that  
some council topics are  
"pre-discussed" in closed  
meetings before they are  
brought to the public.

Mayor Atkinson responded,  
stating that most topics dis-  
cussed in closed meetings  
come to the public in some  
form later on.

Under B.C.'s Community  
Charter, closed meetings are  
allowed if holding them in  
public could "reasonably be  
expected to harm the inter-  
ests of the municipality."

The Buzzette is published biweekly on Thursdays and distributed to restaurants,  
businesses and public venues around town and McLeod Lake. An e-edition is  
also available online. You can support it by liking or sharing on Facebook, by  
taking out an ad, or by sending in your news and events. Have some feedback?  
Call (250) 997-5038. Or e-mail [TheBuzzette@gmail.com](mailto:TheBuzzette@gmail.com)

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## COMMUNITY

### FOREST THERAPY

Workshop w/ Cornelia Thomi  
March 17, 5 pm @ Mackenzie  
Public Library. Guided walk  
March 18, 10 am or 1 pm.  
Meet at outdoor rink. Arrive  
15 mins early to sign waivers.

### LEGION EVENTS

Wings Night Weds from 5 pm.  
Bingo Thursdays 7 pm, 19+.

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## Roses & RAZZBERRIES



To Rec Services for  
leaving the string lights  
and ice sculptures up on  
John Dahl trail after  
WinterQuest.



To businesses that  
don't clear the ice berms  
in their parking lots,  
causing seniors to trip  
or fall.

## Did you know?

- Bats will hibernate up to six  
months of the year in dens  
called *hibernacula*.
- Bats can eat more than half of  
their body weight in insects in a  
night.
- Bats are currently the only  
animals known to carry rabies  
in B.C., however fewer than  
0.5% of wild bats test positive.

## 'Kwadacha'...

of the valley, and the trauma  
that created for Sekani life  
and generations after.

Several students from Kwa-  
dacha were in attendance,  
having spent a day at Powder  
King the day before.

The dinner, hosted by CNC,  
was catered by Fry Daddy's.

Note: The Buzzette did not learn  
of this event prior to the last  
issue.

Have you attended a great  
local event? Send a  
write-up to the Buzzette!



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## RCMP Report ...

- of a stolen truck. The  
following days the truck  
was located in Mackenzie  
and returned to the  
owner. Nothing located  
during investigation to  
identify suspects.
- On 2023-02-10  
Mackenzie RCMP  
responded to a sudden  
death. Mackenzie RCMP  
worked with BC coroner  
services and it was  
determined the death was  
not suspicious.
- On 2023-02-16  
Mackenzie RCMP  
received a report of a  
missing female from  
Mackenzie. Police  
completed extensive  
checks and with the  
assistance of media  
releases and Prince  
George RCMP the female  
was located safe in  
Prince George.
- On 2023-02-21  
Mackenzie RCMP  
responded to a sudden  
death. Mackenzie RCMP  
worked with BC Coroner  
Services and it was  
determined the death was  
not suspicious.
- On 2023-02-21  
Mackenzie RCMP  
responded to a domestic  
report. RCMP members  
obtained statements from  
the victim who disclosed  
a physical assault and  
threats with firearms.  
Multiple firearms were  
located and seized.  
Charges of assault,  
uttering threats and two  
counts of careless use of  
a firearm have been  
forwarded to Crown  
Counsel. The accused  
was released on an  
undertaking and is to  
appear in Mackenzie  
court in April.
- On 2023-02-23 an off-  
duty RCMP member  
recognized a prohibited  
driver at Morfee  
Elementary School  
parking lot. Police  
completed a stop of the  
vehicle that attempted to  
flee and backed into a  
police vehicle. Accused  
taken into custody and  
released on an under-  
taking to appear in  
Mackenzie court in April.

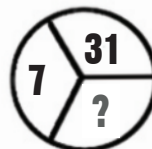
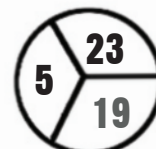
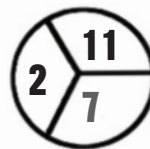
...  
Read the full report at  
[TheMacktownBuzzette.com](http://TheMacktownBuzzette.com)



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## MISSING NUMBER

How do the numbers in each circle relate? Figure out the equation  
and guess the missing number.



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