

MACKENZIE COMMUNITY ENERGY OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY APRIL 15, 2025
5:30 - 7:30 PM
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WANTED: Your news..!

- EVENTS
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- CELEBRATIONS
- RECOGNITIONS

THE BUZZETTE IS COMMUNITY NEWS.

Ph. (250) 997-5038
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The Macktown Buzzette

March 20 - April 2, 2025

10¢



Repeal drug decriminalization, says Council

Mackenzie town council will write a letter asking Premier David Eby to repeal the province's controversial drug decriminalization law that has decriminalized possession of certain street drugs in small quantities.

The motion, made by Councillor Barnes, followed a letter to B.C. mayors and councils by community advocate Cathy Peters who has independently cam-

paigned for awareness on human and child sex trafficking.

Peters, who has presented to Council in the past, references since-debunked accusations over fentanyl trafficking made against Canada by Donald Trump and states that "decriminalization is normalizing hard drug usage in British Columbia, particularly among youth and the vulnerable."

See 'Drug decrim letter' →

New Buzzette newsstand price!

Buzzette readers will be excited to learn that beginning April 1, Buzzette paper copies will now be ten cents to purchase.

The Buzzette editorial team has wracked its brain(s) to find ways to offer readers a much requested opportunity to support their local print news flyer. A simple dime was deemed affordable and aesthetically pleasing.

See '10¢ Buzzette' over →



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District to Buy Canadian

The District is implementing a policy for the next 60 days requiring equipment and services to be sourced from Canadian suppliers whenever possible, following a motion introduced by Councillor Wright at the last meeting.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Smith will have discretion over purchases that cannot be sourced domestically.

Last year's new fire truck was a U.S. purchase.

Public Works Director Joe Murray noted that a new half-ton pickup is currently needed for the utilities department and is unlikely to be exclusively Canadian made, but emphasized that all truck purchases are presented to Council for approval anyway.

The District's current purchasing policy emphasizes a competitive bid process with a focus on buying local where possible and where the cost difference does not exceed 10%.

Vacant property surtax weighed

The District will research the feasibility of implementing a vacant property surtax for industrial properties. The question was raised by Councillor Kylo at the provisional budget presentation meeting last Monday.

Mayor Atkinson expressed strong reservations, noting that East Fraser Fibre has recently purchased the former Canfor site. She says she wouldn't want to burden companies trying to get something started here.

Council voted 6 - 1 to request a report from staff.

News of the Odd:

Two homeless thieves in France stole a man's backpack last month and used one of his credit cards to buy what turned out to be a winning €500,000 lotto ticket the same day. Elated by their luck, they reportedly left the store, along with their cigarettes and other items, without cashing in.

After discovering the theft, the man tried to block his cards but found out one had already been used. He told French media that he will split the winnings with the pair if they come forward.

"Without them," he said, "no one would have won."

Quotes:

“People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day.”
 — A. A. Milne

Province to crack down on predatory sales practices

Amendments to consumer protection laws in B.C. will crack down on predatory sales practices and ensure people are better protected when making new purchases, says a B.C. government news release.

The amendments are designed to promote contract fairness and transparency and to strengthen consumer rights.

"Our office hears from seniors who have fallen victim to scams and purchased an item or service

See 'Consumer protections' →

Got news? thebuzzette@gmail.com



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1040806 B.C. LTD. FOREST OPERATIONS MAP #104 FLA93631 2025-3

1040806 B.C.'s Operations Map # 104 FLA93631 2025-3, public review and comment from March 20-April 19, 2025, at link below, or in person by appointment Mon-Fri 9 am - 4 pm. Contact the forestry department at the email or phone number below in order to schedule an appointment. 17000 Dunkley Rd, Hixon, BC, V0K 1S1. This FOM is applicable for 3 years and may be relied upon to apply for a cutting or road permit to harvest a cutblock or construct a road displayed on the FOM.

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'Drug decrim letter'...

Her letter asserts that drugs and sex trafficking occur together and “are escalating in every corner of B.C.”

Mayor Atkinson and Councillors Wright and Tapper spoke against the motion. Councillor Wright said that studies show that the measures have reduced harm and have saved lives.

Councillors Barnes, Brumovsky, Kylo and McMeeken provided the four ‘yes’ votes. Mayor Atkinson and Councillors Tapper and Wright opposed.

The Buzzette reached out to Peters for data sources confirming some of her claims. She replied but was not able to provide any specific data by print time.

Canadian Drug Policy Coalition has both praised

and critiqued B.C.’s approach, but states that decriminalization of personal possession reduces incarceration, isolation and other factors which lead to harm and overdose. B.C. Chiefs of Police call for a “balance” of harm reduction and community safety.

Fun Facts:

Spotted Lake, near Osoyoos, B.C., has made several “Weirdest Places to Visit” lists.

It is a shallow lake of calcium and sodium sulphates, epsom salts, and also contains some silver and titanium.

Known to local First Nations as ‘Klilix’, and regarded as a sacred site, the pool evaporates in summer, leaving different coloured deposits in circle patterns.

COMMUNITY NOTES

CREATE A WORLD Do you dream of a wondrous place? Create your very own imaginary world at Mackenzie Public Library. 12:30 - 1:30 pm, Mar 24 - 28 (Ages 12 - 18).

JUNIOR ASTRONOMERS SPACE CAMP March 25 - 28, 9 am -1 pm, ages 6 - 12. \$120 for the week. E-mail: info@mackenziecac.com

A.I. AND ART Workshop by Rebecca Eamon on AI and how to protect your art. March 28. 6:30 - 7:30 pm @ the Legion. Doors 6 pm. \$20. All proceeds go to MCAC's building fund.



SPRING BREAK PUBLIC SWIM w/ WIBIT March 22, 8 am - 5 pm. Regular public swim March 25 - 28, 6:30 am - 4 pm.

KIDS CLIMBING GAME DAY March 25 & 27, 12 - 1 pm. **Assisted Climbing** Sun, Tues, Thurs 1:30 - 3:30 pm. **Learn to Belay** March 22, 1 - 3:30 pm.

BOOK CLUB @ the Library. “The Ministry of Time” by Kaliane Bradley, available now. Meet Apr 7th, 5 pm.

WE CARIBOU Community art exhibit opens April 1 @ the Arts Centre, 9 Laurier Dr. E-mail: info@mackenziecac.com

ARTS CENTRE AGM April 1, 6:30 pm @ the Arts Centre, 9 Laurier Drive.

OUT OF TOWN

SPRING ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES FAIR April 19 - 20 @ the Roll-a-Dome, Prince George. Contact cajun1811@hotmail.com or call 250-614-3083

'10¢ Buzzette!'...

Readers are invited to mail their dimes to The Buzzette, c/o Box 909099. Bitcoin payments (0.0000000011 BTC) are also accepted. Receipts and thank-yous will be broadcast telepathically, in a hoarse whisper, at a time to be determined.



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'Consumer protections'...

they didn't need due to high-pressure sales tactics,” said Dan Levitt, B.C. seniors advocate.

“...[G]iving seniors and others space to review contracts in advance and prohibiting home sales will reduce the opportunities for older people to buy products and services they don't need and can't afford.”

Proposed changes will include:

- requiring businesses to provide important contract terms up front, including improved terms related to renewal, cancellation, return and refund, particularly for online orders;
- introducing notification requirements for auto-

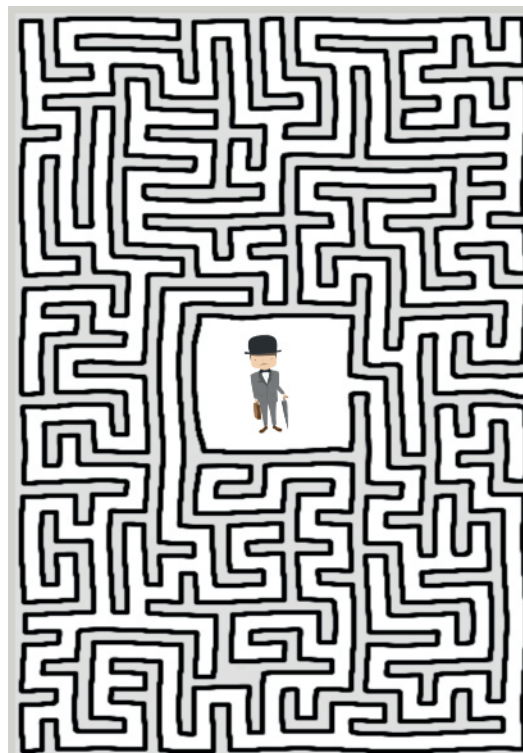
matic subscription renewals and contract changes;

- prohibiting contract terms that restrict participation in class-action lawsuits, restrict consumer reviews or require private arbitration for disputes;
- banning direct sales of high-cost household products, such as air conditioners and furnaces, and prohibit offering credit as part of a direct sale, reducing the risk of predatory sales tactics;
- provide clearer ways for consumers to cancel contracts under specified conditions.

Find more info at:

consumerprotectionbc.ca

A-MAZE ∞ Help Smith out of the labyrinth!



MINI-CROSS SELECT ANSWERS (from March 6): Across: 1. Visas 7. Shitake (really should have two i's) 10. Therapy 13. Rustler. Down: 3. Seawall. 8. Tarot. **WORD SCRAMBLE:** Smarties, Hickory Sticks, butter tarts.

When your children are teenagers, it's important to have a dog, so that someone in the house is happy to see you.

– Nora Ephron



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