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Sick notes nixed for short term absences

A long-time plea from B.C. doctors is being answered this year with a legislative change that will reduce the practice of sick notes requests.

The change to B.C.'s Employment Standards Act will eliminate the requirement for workers to get sick notes at their employer's request for short-term absences from work.

Minister of Labour Jennifer Whiteside introduced Bill 11 to ease the administrative burden sick notes place on health-care practitioners by clarifying when it is appropriate for employers to request a sick note from workers.

"We've heard clearly from doctors around the province that unnecessary paperwork robs them of valuable time to see their patients," said Josie

See 'Sick notes' over →

The Macktown Buzzette

April 17 - 30, 2025

Extra measures planned for Kennedy caribou

The District has been invited to comment on the province's plans to add protections to the caribou habitat and migration corridor at Kennedy Siding. Wayne Crossland of the BC Caribou Recovery Program presented to Council on Monday.

The plan would allow no new construction of roads in the designated area, and no primary forest activities, although existing licenses will be unaffected.

This would remove 8,322 hectares of potential harvesting from the Mackenzie Timber

See 'Kennedy siding' over →

SD57 seeks child-care operator

School District 57 has now opened the application process to find an operator for its new 62-space child care centre, coming to completion this year at the former Mac 1 school site.

Construction began in September 2024 and opening is anticipated for this fall.

Interested organizations can apply through the BC Bid portal to May 13.

News of the Odd:

A restaurant patron in Pittsburgh overheard the 81-year-old server waiting on her table mentioning to another customer that she couldn't financially retire.

The patron, a young mother, recorded a video that became a groundswell fundraiser for the woman, raising \$300,000 within just a few days. The money was enough to hire a financial planner and set up a trust fund.

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Quotes:

“Don't be intimidated by what you don't know. That can be your greatest strength and ensure that you do things differently from everyone else.”

— Sarah Blakely

Did you know?

Ever hear yourself or others saying to a baby or a pet out of affection, “I could just eat you up!” Or “I could squeeze you to death!”

Researchers in recent years have called the response **cuteness aggression** and posit that the “aggression” is triggered by a feeling of

overwhelm in response to cuteness triggers such as baby humans or animals.

The human body is known to be hardwired to respond in protective fashion to cuteness triggers such as large eyes, short limbs and roundness of certain features. Cuteness aggression may be linked to this innate response.

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Biofuels project cancelled

A biofuels project for the area announced in 2022 has been suspended.

The Sekani Biofuels Project, slated for Mackenzie, proposed to make gasoline from wood waste, producing up to 2000 barrels a day of clean gasoline.

A partnership between Tsay Key Dene Nation and Provectus Biofuels formed for the purpose has now been dissolved by mutual agreement, the company announced March 31.

“The regions surrounding the District of Mackenzie have a tremendous abun-

dance of wood waste biomass that, if used as a feedstock for a biofuels project, represents a tremendous economic opportunity for the region,” said Jon Jaque, CEO of Provectus.

“Provectus remains optimistic about the region's potential for a biofuels plant. However, we believe an important first step for the entire region is a regional biomass strategy that enlists the support of all stakeholders and industry participants... to secure the power and fibre supply required for an industrial scale project.”

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Thought of the Day...

This constant lying is not aimed at making people believe a lie, but at ensuring that no one believes anything anymore.

A people that can no longer distinguish between truth and lies cannot distinguish between right and wrong.

And such a people, deprived of the power to think and judge, is, without knowing and willing it, completely subjected to the rule of lies. With such a people, you can do whatever you want.

— Attributed to Hannah Arendt (1906 - 1975)



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'Kennedy siding caribou'...

Supply Area (TSA), representing 0.00679% of the total TSA.

The ministry says road densities in that area are among the highest in the Omineca region and are approaching a level at which caribou begin to avoid.

In 2012, the Kennedy Siding herd numbered just 29 adults and some calves. After protection measures and feeding programs were implemented, the herd was estimated at 150

in 2024, according to the ministry.

The information stated that most or all of the herd uses its low elevation range from late October to mid-January, and that the measures are focused on this winter habitat.

The feeding station at Kennedy Siding attracts 200 - 300 human visitors per year.

Crossland said it is the "premier site in B.C. to view caribou."

COMMUNITY NOTES

NEIGHBOUR ISSUES:

PART 2 People's Law School Webinar Tuesday, April 22, at 12:00 p.m. Sign up at peopleslawschool.ca

SPECTRUM SUPPORT GROUP 4th Sunday of the month, 2 pm @ MCS. Contact Cassandra (250) 997-6595.

POETRY SLAM/RECITAL April 25th, 4 - 6 pm. Sign up at the Library. Ages 15+

FEDERAL ELECTION April 28. Vote at the Rec Centre, 400 Skeena, 7 am - 7 pm. More info at: elections.ca.

SPRING EXPO May 2 -3 @ the Rec Centre. More info @ Mackenzie Chamber

Have a public notice?
thebuzzette@gmail.com

OUT OF TOWN

OTHER PEOPLE'S TREASURES ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES FAIR April 19 - 20 @ the Roll-a-Dome, 2588 Rec Place Dr. Prince George

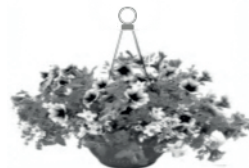
EARTH DAY RALLY Tuesday April 22, 12 noon. Public Square at 1142 5th Ave., Prince George. Speakers: Sabina Dennis, Francois Prince, Ruby Prince, Peter Ewart

"TABLE TALK" Prince George Potters' Guild Exhibition about dinnerware @ Two Rivers Gallery, Prince George, opens Apr 24, 7:30 pm.

NOTICE OF SALE

Under provisions of the Repairer's Lien Act (BC), notice is hereby given that 1999 Ford Truck VIN # 2FTZX1721XCB03897 belonging to debtor Jason Sansor will be sold at Mackenzie, BC, to recover costs owing in the amount of \$1,085.28.

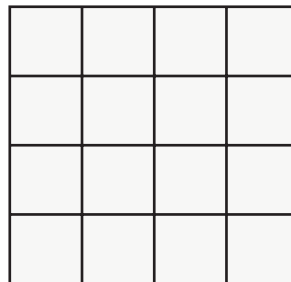
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Across

1. Keep, fasten
2. Having finished
3. A young messenger or helper
4. At a reduced pace

Down

1. Flavour ingredient in beer and ale
2. Ellipse; not round
3. Toy bricks
4. Drafted, sketched

SELECT CROSSWORD ANSWERS from last issue: ACROSS: 4. Arise. 11. Deals. 13. Misdirect. 27. Confidant. 28. Soya. DOWN: 1. Foamy. 3. Tinder. 5. React. 8. Adrift. 10. Piccolo. 14. Diplomat. 17. Fester. 20. Windy. BRAIN TEASER: e.g., 20 = 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6.

Can't understand why a person will take a year to write a novel when he can easily buy one for a few dollars. — Fred Allen



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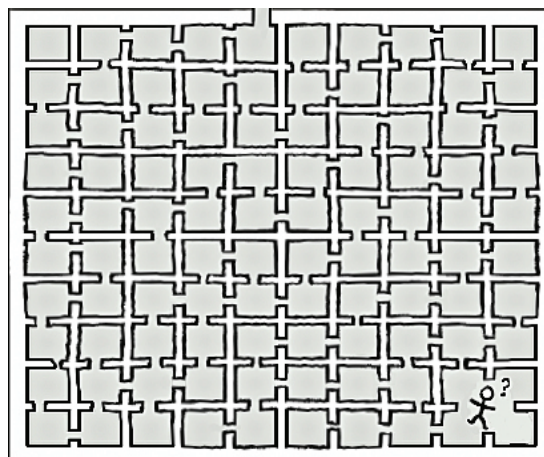
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'Sick notes'...

Osborne, Minister of Health.

Regulations setting out how many days is considered a short-term absence

and how often an employee may be absent before the employer can request a sick note will be established following engagement with stakeholders, the province says.



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