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## Zimmer beats own record; Lib candidate wins 2nd place

Monday's federal election returned Bob Zimmer to Parliament for a fifth term. Zimmer won the Prince George – Peace River – Northern Rockies riding handily, breaking his previous vote scores to reach 70.9%\* of the popular vote for the riding so far.

Zimmer has represented this riding for the Conservatives since 2011, succeeding Jay Hill, who held it for 18 years before that.

No less surprising was the turnout for the Liberal candidate Peter Njenga, who is

a complete newcomer to the region, having moved here only two weeks before the election began.

A no-show at the candidates forum, and having run an extremely low-profile campaign, Njenga nevertheless beat out the NDP's Corey Grizz Longley of Dawson Creek for 2nd place, taking 19.6% of the vote share to the NDP's 6.1%.

(\*As of Thursday morning, 14 of 272 polls were still to report for this riding, according to CBC News.)

## BOTTLES 4 PLANTERS & MEMORIAL BENCHES

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## The Macktown Buzzette May 1 - 14, 2025

### Hopeful news on Parsnip W bridges

Word arrived to Pete Kylo this week that the Ministry of Forests will give him the chance to repair bridges at Lamonti and Patsuk creeks on the Parsnip West Forest Service Road, potentially allowing the road to remain open.

Mr. Kylo has been leading a fight since last year to keep the road north of town open after the ministry had

slated bridges at 41 km and beyond for decommissioning.

Kylo, who was elected last fall to Mackenzie town council, says he has some permitting and regulation to work through, and that engineered drawings are required by the ministry before work can begin.

See 'Parsonip W' over →

### Site C work camp going to landfill?

As work on the Site C Hydro dam wraps up, BC Hydro is trying to find a taker for the \$470 million work camp which housed up to 1,700 workers at the dam construction's peak and which includes a movie theatre, gymnasium, coffee shop, bar, games room, and 21 three-storey

dorms, a CBC News article reported last month.

Local leaders fear it may end up in the North Peace Regional Landfill, after an inquiry to the regional district from BC Hydro earlier this year.

Once the dam is opera-

See 'Site C camp' over →

### Final budget nears approval

The last public budget meeting took place on Monday with a presentation by Finance Director Kerri Borne of the Final Budget for 2025.

Reflecting a loss in industrial property tax revenue, the budget will see a 3.4% decrease from 2024.

Final residential property tax and utility rates will see average increases of \$223.84 this year.

Borne pointed out that compared to other municipalities, and factoring in taxation from other government agencies like school districts, Mackenzie had the 11th lowest taxation in the province, and was 38th lowest for municipal taxes alone.

The Mackenzie Elks is having a

## Garage Sale and BBQ

by Donation!

June 7th  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

To donate items, contact George  
250-997-1667



## New budget line for trails maintenance

For the first time since the Little Mac bike park was expanded to include blue and black diamond mountain bike/multi-use trails, Recreation Services will now have a budget to maintain them.

Under an already reduced Parks & Rec budget for 2025 which includes new cost efficiencies and some service cuts, Rec Services Director Terry Gilmer said he requested a line in the budget to capture costs of trail maintenance for Little Mac bike park as well as the John Dahl Park trails.

A new budget of \$21,927 will reflect the costs of staff to

See 'Trails budget' over →

## Quotes:

“No organism can afford to be conscious of matters with which it could deal at unconscious levels.

— Gregory Bateson

## Fun Facts:

- Rabbits can see behind them without moving their heads.
- A baby rabbit is called a kit, a female is called a doe and a male is called a buck.



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## COMMUNITY NOTES

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

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### 'Parsnip West bridges'...

He says he is hoping to have the road open for traffic by the July long weekend.

above to help keep the road open and said he will help expedite the permitting process."

The ministry will not be funding any of the work, citing no money in their budget, Kylo stated in an e-mail, but added, "I will be reaching out to businesses, our community and the boaters from across the rocks for help once I have the details and costs figured out."

Kylo was meeting with the head of engineering for the Prince George region this week to work out details and timelines.

He added in closing, "The District Manager in our local [Forest District] office has gone over and

### Library closure May to mid-June

The Mackenzie Public Library advises that it will be closed May 15 through approximately mid-June to allow for flooring replacement.

Director Alice Pritchett said that while they're closed, they'll continue to provide access to hold items as best they can, arranging for pickups, with items available on a shelf outside the library, similar to service during Covid-19.

### 'Trails budget'...

remove blown down trees – a significant concern last year, says Gilmer – and repair trail and bridge features. Gilmer confirmed that the money was just for these two parks, and not for the newer trails built and maintained by Mackenzie Outdoor Routes and Trails Association (MORATA).

The prospect of future maintenance costs for trails was raised by town council members in past years. Prior to this year, no allocation had formally been made in the budget.

Gilmer said that he can't speak to decisions made then, but that adjustments are needed with the changes in the community over the last five years and the growth of the trails network.

**3RD ANNUAL RED DRESS DAY MARCH** for MMIWG  
May 5th, 12 pm @ McLeod Lake Indian Band Hall. Lunch at 11 am. More info: [mllib.ca](mailto:mllib.ca)

**COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP DAY** May 7th Gather with friends or a team to pick up trash in a designated section of town. Details and sign-up at the Rec Centre.

**WILLISTON RESERVOIR UPDATE** Presentation by BC Hydro on Williston Lake levels. Thursday, May 8th, 6 - 7 pm. Rec Centre, 400 Skeena Drive.

**CAR ACCIDENTS AND INSURANCE IN BC**  
Webinar Tuesday, May 13 at 12 noon. The ins and outs of no-fault insurance. Sign up at [peopleslawschool.ca](http://peopleslawschool.ca)

Got news?  
thebuzzette@gmail.com

## OUT OF TOWN

**OF WOUNDS AND SONGS**  
Multimedia works by Iranian-Canadian artists at Two Rivers Gallery, Prince George, opening May 9.

## BUZZETTE MINI-CROSS

1	2	3	4	5	6
7					
		8		9	
10	11				
12			13		
14			15		
16					

- DOWN
1. Overnighting outdoors
  2. To the same degree or amount
  3. Distinguished, unusual
  4. Police presence (slang)
  5. Protector against financial loss
  6. Acquiesce, give in
  9. Rub out
  11. Thought, opinion
  15. Returning Officer (acr.)

- ACROSS
1. Handles the till
  7. Type of poplar
  8. Stand for holding painting
  - or music sheets
  10. Image, drawing
  12. Ugandan dictator

13. Past tense of run
14. Closest to
16. A-plenty

PLAY FOUR ANSWERS from last issue: ACROSS: Hold, Over, Page, Slow.

"I before e..." Except when your neighbour Keith receives eight counterfeit beige sleighs from feisty caffeinated weightlifters. Weird.



### 'Site C camp'...

shouldn't have been a plan in place from the beginning for the camp to be reused and recycled.

Boon wrote, "We live in a province with an affordable housing shortage and a homeless person crisis... Now we also have taxpayers (or ratepayers) covering the cost to dispose of a camp."

In a letter last week to Energetic City, long time Bear Flat homeowner and Site C opponent Ken Boon asked if there

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