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Friday September 29, 2017

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LARGEST WIND MILL POWER FACILITY IN BC OPENS NORTH OF TUMBLER RIDGE

A 179-megawatt Meikle Wind power project north of Tumbler Ridge has had its grand opening.

It's the largest wind mill power facility in British Columbia.

Many local politicians were in attendance for the opening of the Pattern Energy Group Inc. project, located 33 kilometres north of the South Peace town. Tumbler Ridge mayor Don McPherson says the project has been critical to the community over the past three years while other industries were leaving the town. West Moberly First Nations Councillor Dean Dokkie praised the working relationship the First Nations have with Pattern and the company's willingness to find mutually beneficial compromises that honour First Nations' needs and perspectives.

More than 500-thousand person-hours went into construction of the project, with over 30 per cent of construction contracts awarded to First Nations-affiliated contractors.

Courtesy of Peace FM



Pictured: Rohan Soulsby of BC Hydro, Dean Dokkie of West Moberly First Nations, Hunter Armistead of Pattern Energy, Tumbler Ridge Mayor Don McPherson, Chetwynd Councillor Clay Bassendowski, Sebastian Comazzi of GE, Michael Thompson of Pattern Energy, and Marc Richard of Borea.

NVIT LOOKING TO HEAD NORTH

The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology is looking to head north.

The institute, which works extensively with First Nations communities, is eyeing Tumbler Ridge as a possible destination for its third campus.

NVIT already had two campuses in Vancouver and Merritt, but claims that over 60 percent of its students come from the north.

The college estimates they will be building a new campus within 5 years, though an exact destination has not been decided as of yet.

Courtesy of Peace FM

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VEHICLES/PARTS/FARM EQUIP./HEAVY EQUIP.

FOR RENT

2002 GMC Serria SLT 1500HD 6.0L 4x4 full loaded with 157,000kms. Good solid truck that is in fair conditions asking \$8,000 OBO. Call or send text 250-401-1536

2004 Pontiac Vibe, new tires, good cond. Call 250-788-9812

Green shortbox dodge pick-up canopy, \$150 OBO; white Ford full size pick-up canopy, new paint job, needs windows. Call 250-788-1861

Interior Off-road aluminum headache rack and rails. Headache rack is 6' w x 28" t rails are 7'1. Asking \$250 OBO. Call 250-788-9445

2013 F-140 Ecoboost with air bags & winter tires on rims; 2013 26' Puma 5th wheel, only 62,000 km, like new for about 1/2 price. Asking \$50,000 OBO for both. Call Neil 250-401-1586

Old trucks. Call 250-788-9188

Canopy for 1998 Chevy pickup 8' longbox, fiberglass, sliding windows & screens, \$250 OBO. Call 250-219-4171

2006 Chevy Aveo, new tires & brakes, auto trans, mint cond, 112,000 km, \$5000 OBO. Call 250-788-5619

1994 GM 3/4 ton pickup, parts truck, 454 engine, rebuilt tranny, transmission & transfer case, \$1200. Call 250-788-6565

2010 Toyota Matrix, standard 5 speed, 3 sets of tires (2 on rims), 34,000 km. Call 250-788-2049

1 ton Ford diesel dually van, hydraulic lift gate, excellent cond, \$8500. Call 250-788-2805

1974 Mark 4 Lincoln Continental, 2 dr, hardtop, no rust, \$4500 OBO; 1979 Dodge 3/4 ton, 4x4 on propane, power wagon, good shape, lots of rust, \$1000 OBO; 1994 GMC 3/4 ton 4x4 on propane, runs, good parts truck, \$800 OBO. Call 250-786-5295

2011 Dodge Caravan stow/go seats, 157,000 km, runs excellent, 4 nearly new Michelin Defender tires & 4 M&S on separate rims, roof rack, \$9000. Call Jeri 250-788-2944 or Jed 250-788-9421

2002 Hyundai Elantra, 4 dr, loaded, runs great, 4 winter tires on rims, Alberta registered, \$2500 OBO. Call 250-786-5295

2007 Dodge Ram 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, 5.7 hemi, loaded with options, 3500 lb winch & rack, \$4900; 2005 Honda Pilot 4x4, 8 passenger, leather loaded, \$4900. Call 250-734-2255

2 Ford F-150 trucks, motors need work; Volkswagon car, \$3000. Call 250-788-9188

2013 Sante Fe Sport SE 2.0L turbo. Leather interior with lots of extras. 74,000km. \$22,500. Call 250-401-3251

265/75R16 Hakkapeliita tires on Chevy 6 bolt rims, \$1000; 225/45R18 Michelin tires, \$1000; two 25x10-12 quad tires, two 25x8-12 quad tires, 50%. Call 250-401-8940

1996 Arctic Tridem pull trailer, completely rebuilt, sandblasted & painted; 1999 Doepker Super B logger, rebuilt. Call 250-788-5720 or 250-788-2312

Brand new Wrangler Goodyear P235/75/15, \$100. Call 250-788-1829

1996 GMC 1/2 ton, transmission out, weak motor, new starter, good parts truck, \$400. Call Chris 2403-305-9658

2004 Dodge Caravan, new brakes, new starter, new alternator, 300,000 km. Just needs new battery. \$1200 OBO. Call 250-788-3131 or 250-788-5084

2002 Seabring with new tires worth \$700, just under 2000,000 km, runs excellent, \$2000. Call 250-788-3853 or 250-788-6842

4 Nitto Terra grappler all-terrain M+S tires, LT 265/70R17, \$100. Call 250-788-7800

Room for rent, wifi, TV, laundry, parking included, starting at \$450. Call 250-788-5890

3 rooms for rent in a house, 2 up, 1 down, pool table, laundry room, fridge downstairs, kitchen upstairs, downstairs rooms have TVs, N/S, no pets, \$700/mo (includes utilities), damage deposit required. Call 250-242-5888

1 bdrm, own bath in Rodeo Sub with shared living & laundry. Call 250-788-6881

Male has room for rent in Tumbler Ridge, or would consider selling 1/2 the house, or the whole house. Call 250-242-5742

Camper/trailer spaces 2 km west of Chetwynd with power/parking space. Daily, weekly or monthly rates. Call 250-401-1103

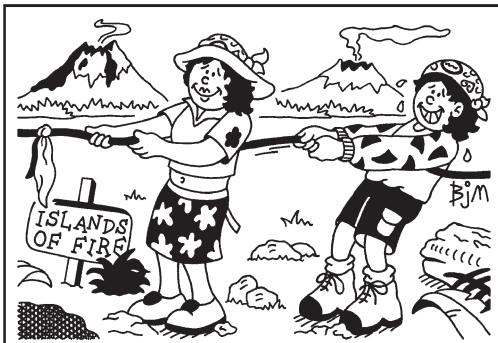
Furnished room for rent in Chetwynd, with shared common areas. Includes utilities & internet. Call 250-401-1985

Room avail Sept 25, \$400/mo, heat included. Call 250-788-1825

3 bdrm full renovated home in Crown Sub, walking distance to school, Library & Rec Centre. Large back deck, new front deck, new roof, new appliances. Ready to move in. Call or text Lee at 250-401-1425

ComParrot
by Bonnie J. Malcolm

Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?



Solution: 1. The on girl's hat is missing. 2. Split appears in palm leaf. 3. Pocket on boy's shorts is missing. 4. More lava appears on volcano. 5. Rock behind boy is colored in. 6. Bottom of leaf by sign is shorter. 7. Tie on girl's shirt has more. 8. Log behind boy is longer. 9. Brim on girl's hat is wider. 10. Post on sign is shorter. 11. "L" on sign is reversed. 12. Rock behind girl is larger.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Double pane UV rated glazed windows, 58 3/4x49.5 heat glazed, \$275; Kenmore 90 series washer, \$175; Teeter hang ups inversion table, \$375. Call 250-401-7513

35 young laying chickens, \$5/ea; 18 month old chickens, \$4/ea. Call 250-788-2805

Brookstone Max 2 massager, new \$200. Call 250-788-2944

Misc Bauer skates, size 9, exc cond with left hockey stick, \$50; Storm Master bib overalls, size sm, \$40; double electric air bed, exc cond, \$50; desk with adjustable chair, \$55; two 1995 Dodge Caravan back seats, 100; lg area rug, exc cond, \$40; genuine lambskin jacket, med, \$50. Call 250-242-5742

Canon Pixma 271 yellow XL ink cartridge for new printer. Opened but unused, \$25; 4 Singer treadle sewing machine heads, antique, \$100. Call 250-788-2944

6'6" long dresser, 6 drawers, 30" high, mirror; 24"x16"x23" dresser; 52" wide, 75" long bed with head board. Best offer. Call 250-788-2606

Hanging baskets, 10" - 16"; patio pots, 2 1/2" - 19"; dish gardens & ovals; trays & inserts. All at discount prices. New, plastics still in the box. Call 250-788-2944

Gerhard Heintzman (Acadian 147536) piano, \$250. Call 250-788-9313

FREE styrofoam coolers, various sizes. Pick up at the Chetwynd Veterinary Hospital. Call 250-788-9374

Entertainment centre, 48"x18"x59", with a TV insert of 27"x21"x21", \$75; Metal desk, 36"x45", \$25. Call 250-788-9313

Delta 10" contractors tablesaw, 4' deck, \$500. Call 250-788-2635

To give away or trade - 4 ducks & 2 roosters for hens. Call 250-788-9155

Free - Black patterned couch & chair. Call 250-788-3672

Fresh eggs, 4 dls dozen. Call 250-401-7081

Kenmore 2 door fridge/freezer with ice maker in good cond, \$400. Call 250-788-5458 or 250-788-2051

2 Livingroom lamps, \$24 for both; Kenwood amplifier, 6ch input, \$35. Large fig tree house plant, \$45. Call 250-788-9313

Delta 10" compound mitre saw, \$75 OBO. Call 250-788-6509

La-Z-Boy recliners, 1 with 3 seats, 1 with 2; 5'x17"x28" Phillips console model record player; 41"x28" flatscreen TV; Champion generator, 9000 run watts, 1250 starting watts, 30 amp breaker, \$1000. Call Henry 250-788-2606

Top load Whirlpool washer or dryer. Make offer. Call 250-556-4188

Oak headboard with box mattress, \$150. Call 250-788-1829

Chopped or whole firewood. Call 250-788-2991

2 hp 50:1 reducer home-built meat grinder with forward & reverse. Comes with stand & drop down table. Clean. Perfect for processing game. \$350. Call 250-788-3639, leave msg if no answer.

24 new cement sidewalk pads, 24x30, \$11.39; 5 ton hand winch, open to offers. Call 250-788-2377

Yamaha Clavinova electric piano, \$900. Call 250-788-7800

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PROPERTY

3 houses for sale at Moberly, each on a 5 acre lot across from golf course with excellent lake views: 1 custom-built log house, 3 bdrm with a basement suite, \$385,000 obo; 2 bdrm bungalow, \$165,000 obo; Large 3 bdrm house with rental suite and wkshop, \$209,000 obo. Call 250-788-6339

Beautiful cabin on prime waterfront property on south side of Moberly Lake, 1000 sq ft, 3 bdrms, master overlooks lake, 100 ft well maintained beachfront, large deck overlooking lake, fully furnished, space for RV. \$300,000. Call 250-788-3573 or 250-788-6187

Reduced to sell - Open concept fully renovated dwelling with hardwood floors, 2 bdrms, 2 baths & office space. Located 5 km from Chetwynd in Wabi Estates. 20x32 heated shop. Year round fresh water. 5.3 acres landscaped for horses, recreation & relaxation. Guest cabin, outbuilding, award winning gardens & 2 landscaped full hookup RV pads. Call or text 250-788-5293

2 storey house on Centurion Cresc, 3 bdrms, 2 baths, 24x28 double dr garage, carport. Call Henry 250-788-2606

House & cabin for sale at 2779 Clark Road, \$175,900. Call 250-788-6625

3 bdrm full renovated home in Crown Sub, walking distance to school, Library & Rec Centre. Large back deck, new front deck, new roof, new appliances. Ready to move in. Priced below appraisal at \$219,000. Call or text Lee at 250-401-1425

3 bdrm, 2 bath home in Rodeo Sub, backs on to green space. Basement finished, own door, priced to sell. Call 250-788-3577

PETS/LIVESTOCK

AQHA, Registered Quarter Horse, 2 year old sorrel filly, 14'3 - 15'0 hh, Dash Ta Fame and Special Effort breeding, gentle, halter broke, easy to catch and handle, good for farrier, \$1,800. Located in Hudson's Hope. Call 250-783-5611

1 intact blue eyed white male goat kid for sale, alpine mix, \$100. Call 250-788-4840

5 beagle puppies, 3 females, 2 males, ready to go after vet check on July 27, \$750/ea. Call 250-788-9254

5 kittens born July 30, ready on Sept 1. Call 250-401-7346

LOST & FOUND

Lost: Set of keys attached to blue lanyard on Aug 9. Call 604-500-3987

Found: Set of 2 keys on Sat, Aug 5 at Yips Rd near the boat launch at Moberly Lake. Claim at Coffee Talk.

Lost: iPhone 6 in Star Wars case. Last seen at Spencer Tuck beach table (Moberly Lake). Call 250-788-2577

Lost: Black Samsung Galaxy S5 with butterflies on the back somewhere between the Legion and Days Inn. Call 250-788-1987

Lost: Black wallet with 3 folds somewhere between Chevron and the water fill station, likely on Sept 23. Call 250-401-7019

Lost: Black Rogers LG flip phone. If found, please text or call 250-601-0104

REC VEHICLES

2016 Honda CRF125 for sale. Located in Chetwynd. Exc cond, has electric start, helmet included. \$3000 OBO. Call 250-788-5763 for more info

1997 Wesport Avion 5th wheel, 36', 3 slides, winter package, leather interior, asking \$10,000. Call 250-401-7286

2012 Arctic Wildcat, 1000, lots of extras, built for racing, 30" tires, snorkels for going in deep water, \$10,000 firm. Call Dan or Pam 250-788-1110 or 250-788-6350

Sears boat & trailer, 5 h Johnson Motor, good cond. \$1400. 250-242-5888

Grueman canoe, AI construction, 36" wide beam, very stable, rated for 4 1/2 HP motor. Paddles, life jackets & canoe cover included. Reduced to \$1200; 8 HP Evinrude motor, used for several trips, \$400. Call 250-788-2482 4pm - 5pm.

17' fiberglass boat trailer, 135 hp Johnson, extra motor for parts, runs great, will pull 2 skiers, \$2200 OBO; 27' 5th wheel travel trailer, sleeps 4, good cond, \$3500 OBO; 21' Class C motor home, very clean, everything works, roof, air & heat, Alberta registered, \$5500 OBO. Call 250-786-5295

1978 Dodge Diplomat motorhome, 24', new fridge & furnace installed in 2011, \$4900 OBO. Call 250-788-3973

2008 Legends 33' 5th wheel, 3 slides, a/c, comes with styrofoam skirting, \$21,000. Call 250-788-5285

WANTED

Wanted: To buy a 499 u-haul haybine for parts. Call 250-719-6142

Wanted: used motorhome tires 8r 19.5 prefer reply by text message at 250-242-7101

Wanted: Used Galaxy 3 or 4 cell phone in working condition, reasonably priced. Call 250-401-8450, leave message

Wanted: 3 bdrm place for family of 3 that are smoke & pet free, clean & quiet. Happy to rent a house that is currently listed for sale as well. We'll take good care of it and treat as our own. Text 519-496-9409

Wanted: Household items (kitchen utensils, blankets, towels, small appliances, furniture, kids toys, etc). Text 519-496-9409

Wanted: House in Tumbler Ridge to swap on work rotation for house in Fort St. John, Dawson Creek, or Chetwynd to male with 2 small dogs. Call 250-242-5742 to make arrangements.

Wanted: A place to rent starting Oct 1, preferably furnished, for 2 professional working adults, no kids, no pets. Call or text 250-263-7937

Wanted: Babysitter for 1 yr old in our home 45 hours a week, 2 weeks a month. Call 250-874-0630

Wanted: 10" conibear traps and #5 wolf traps. Call 250-874-0630

Wanted: iPhone 7 + in super good cond. Text 250-401-7081

Wanted: Smaller older tractor with bucket for use on small piece of property. Call 250-788-2170 or 250-401-7770

Wanted: 6 cords of dry firewood delivered. Call 250-788-2626

THE BOTTLE DEPOT WILL BE

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Gary Underhill

1940 ~ 2017

Gary was born in New Westminster, B.C. on September 6, 1940 and was raised in Maple Ridge, B.C. He went north in 1961 with his sister Sharon and another couple.

We met on May 9, 1964 when I went to Watson Lake to work. We were married on October 2, 1964.

We moved to Whitehorse the same year, where he went to work for CNT. In 1966, he got a transfer to Dawson Creek, where he was finally able to meet my family. My mom loved him dearly from day one.

Adonia was born in Whitehorse and Troy and Darren were born in D.C. We lived there until 1986 when we moved to Chetwynd.

Gary loved his golfing; we went to many dances and golf tournaments over the years. One of the most fun one was the glow ball night golfing tournament at Moberly Lake, where his first shot went off the tree...he managed to lose his glow ball in the bush.

Even after retiring from his own logging truck, he still drove for others hauling logs, water, and gravel. He had to keep busy right up to the end. He was a giving man that never met anyone that did not like him. He loved his children, grandchildren, and great grandsons. When I went to bed I always said, "Night, Love," and he replied, "Night, Babe." We will all miss him dearly.

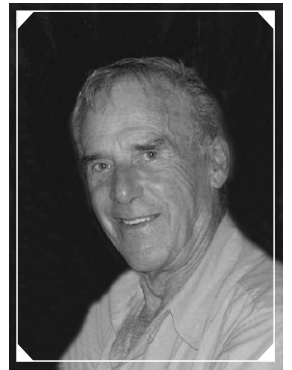
Night Love, Vi

Gary, Gordie, and Wayne golfed countless rounds of golf at Natural Springs, Moberly, and as far away as Kelowna. One time the three of the them went to Kelowna. One morning Gordie and Gary went for breakfast. Gary was probably chewing on his third bite and Gordie was done. Gordie says, "Come on, Gary, are you going to eat that or look at it? Let's go!" Gary says to Gordie, "Did you know you're supposed to chew your food 28 times?" Of course Gordie says, "Who's counting?" Gordie grabs Gary's plate, takes some of the food, eats part of Gary's breakfast and says, "Now you don't have to count so much. We are going to be late." Gary says, "What's the hurry? We have an hour." It wasn't enough to razz each other on the golf course, they also had to at A&W. They considered themselves "The Table of Knowledge." No person left the table unscathed.

Gary's celebration of life was held Friday, August 18, 2017 at 1:00 pm in Chetwynd, B.C. Gary is survived by his beloved wife Violet. He is loving father to Adonia (Tim) Foster, Troy Underhill (Crystal Marshall), and Darren Underhill; dear grandfather to Tia (David) Lawton, Kiefer Foster (Shayna Hammer), Trenten (Crystal) Laarz, Colten Underhill and Talysa Tupper; great grandfather to Waylen and Casen Lawton and Tayven Laarz.

For friends so wishing, donations may be made in memory of Gary to the Dawson Creek & District Hospital, Chemotherapy Unit, 11100 13 Street, Dawson Creek, B.C. V1G 3W8

Very Respectfully Reynars Funeral Home and Crematorium www.reynars.com



KELSEY'S CHRONICLE

Fall Decor Hacks

This season usually involves having company over, for thanksgiving or just a dinner party, which also gives us a reason to decorate our homes with some of those great pinterest decorations we've seen... but which ones will actually turn out great with minimal crafting experience? Well here is a guide to decking out your home with great fall pieces that are easy to accomplish with almost no tools and will hopefully show you that some of these hacks are really just that simple.

Use an assortment of pumpkins and gourds (small pumpkins and weird warty ones) on different levels by using upside down planters, wood crates or round blocks of wood to add flare to your front porch. Try arranging them in

different ways to create your favourite placements.

Ways to incorporate white pumpkin s- If you paint your pumpkins white, there are many things you can try with them. Use a drill bit to drill holes all over the pumpkin for a cool mirror ball effect when its dark (this still requires you to empty your pumpkin first). A similar idea is using circular stickers before painting on the white and removing the stickers after to create a polka dot pattern that pairs beautifully with other orange pumpkins in the above mentioned porch arrangement. A kid friendly idea is to unwrap a few brightly coloured crayons and glue them vertically around the top of your white pumpkin. Once the glue dries, use a blow dryer on the hot setting to melt the crayons and they will drip down the sides of the pumpkin, creating a neat effect.

Pumpkins can also be used as a vase for flowers - Cut a smaller round hole in the top and empty the inside, fill with water and cut the stems so the flowers just come out of the top, not showing any stem. This is an idea that you would want to prepare the day before your party or dinner, as the pumpkins will begin to wilt fairly quickly, but it can also be done with a fake pumpkin.

Change the look of an old glass vase by wrapping it with jute string. It comes in several different sizes, but a thicker strand jute would be the best. Begin at the bottom with glue. Once the glue has set, begin wrapping, taking time to adjust to make sure the glass vase is no longer visible. Once you get to the top, paint on a little glue around the whole circumference of the opening and finish covering with jute. Use a clothes pin to hold it in place while you glue the end of the string inside the top of the vase and while it sets. Fill with red, yellow and orange flowers and voila!

Fill a couple mason jars with a few fake fall leaves or even pinecones and hang them from the before mentioned "jute string" (this is best for indoors, you can imagine why with the wind around here).

This idea is for someone who owns a glass cake stand with a lid... or without would be fine as well. Arrange leaves, vibrant gourds, and pine cones in different levels for a beautiful centrepiece this thanksgiving.

Adding burlap, pine cones, acorns or other nuts that are visually appealing to any arrangement adds a fall flare that will warm up any space, and goes well with any of the above mentioned decor.

I hope everyone tries at least one of these ideas, even if you consider yourself "not crafty." These ideas are almost fool proof and look great!

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*(on Rd 255 at Progress,
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Everything must go!!

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the blue trailer)*

Everything must go!

MLA MIKE BERNIER OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR BC LIBERAL LEADERSHIP



It was all just hearsay until Monday's announcement at a convention in Vancouver's Pan Pacific Hotel. Former Minister of Education and Northern BC MLA Mike Bernier announced he will be the fourth person to declare candidacy to replace Christy Clark as BC Liberals permanent leader.

Bernier made clear his intentions of connecting, innovating and collaborating while listening to British Columbians. He also pledged the benefits of lowering taxes, especially in the resource sector. He acknowledged that connecting a strong economic performance with social benefits will be a challenge the party will have to face.

After Premier Clark stepped down in August, Rich Coleman was named interim leader. The three others that have announced their candidacy thus far are Vancouver/False Creek MLA Sam Sullivan, former Surrey Mayor Dianne Watts and former Advanced Education Minister Andrew Wilkinson.

****Interesting fact from Energetic City-** If elected, Mike Bernier will be the first Northern BC leader of any provincial party in almost 80 years. Thomas Dufferin Pattullo, who represented Prince Rupert from 1916 to 1945, was elected BC Liberal Party Leader in 1928 and even went on to serve as Premier of BC from 1933-1941.

Kelsey Roberts, reporter Coffee Talk Express



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AGM

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Within the context of a patient and family centered care model and in accordance with established vision and values of the organization, the Mental Health and Addictions Counselor provides support services to clients who are seriously affected by substance abuse and/or mental health problems. Participates in the process of case planning, assists clients in the development of life skills and healthy lifestyles and escorts clients to appointments as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS:

2 year Diploma in community Social Services or health related programs, such as Human Services, Mental Health, Life Skills, and 5 years related education and work experience with a focus in addiction. Knowledge of Aboriginal culture and traditional practices.

- Valid B.C. drivers licence.
- Counsel persons with mental health and addictions issues.
- Knowledge of the principals of recovery in mental illness and treatment.
- Knowledge of community, social, health and cultural resources.
- Ability to demonstrate and assist client with development of healthy life skills.
- Ability to deal effectively with conflict situations, manage aggressive behaviour, and use non-violent crisis intervention and behavioural management techniques.
- Ability to work independently and in cooperation with others.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work with a culturally diverse population.
- Must be able to work flexible hours.
- Criminal Records Check Required

Submit your resume, references, and cover letter in person, mail or email

Attention: Tansi-Hiring Committee 5301 South Access Road PO Box 418, Chetwynd, BC V0C 1J0, Fax: (250) 788-2353 or e-mail: addictions@tansifcs.com

Closing date for applications is **Friday October 13th at 4:00pm.**

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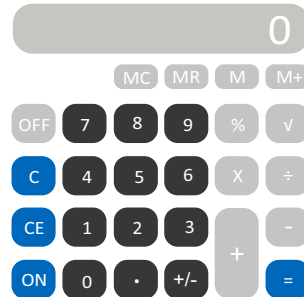
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Ogopogo isn't the only mysterious sea serpent said to swim the lakes of British Columbia. Sicopogo is the most famous resident of

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MAYOR'S REPORT

September 29, 2017

I had the recent pleasure of participating in the Chamber of Commerce-sponsored Business Walk and more recently in handing our Certificates of Congratulation to three recently opened businesses. Both experiences were heart-warming and eye-opening. Thank you to those who took the time from a busy commercial enterprise to answer questions and pose with the Mayor.

The two experiences gave me a renewed perspective on business life in Chetwynd. Not that I am totally unfamiliar, but it has been several years since my wife sold her retail store and retired after eighteen years in business – which makes my close personal experience a little dated.

That said, things have not changed a whole lot in the last three or four years.

Competition from the bigger and “more exciting” centres still makes retailing challenging in home-town Chetwynd. Some of the bigger, out-of-town merchants, to be unnamed, can sell with a profit at prices that small-town merchants have to pay for their stock. So small-town merchants are not out to gouge you; they are simply trying to pay for their stock, rent, taxes, wages, and someday make a profit while providing a much-needed home-town service. So, let's give them a break!

Another challenge is in the labour market. Good help is hard to find and, once found is hard to keep. This means that the owners sometimes have to put in hours that the Labour Relations Board would rule unacceptable if it was the hired help doing the hours. Merchants find themselves having to import workers from neighbouring cities. Let's give them a break.

I remember; I remember. Still I enjoyed the odd time my wife let me work in her store.

I'll share with you an incident: A young man saunters up to the counter where I am on rare customer service duty. “You got anything for stretch marks?” And he rolls up some fabric to display a muscular shoulder where the slightest ripple in the skin is visible if the imagination is active. “You worried about that?” I can't restrain my expression of surprise and astonishment. I should be fired (but workers are hard to find and to keep). “What will you do when you get these?” And I screw up my face to accentuate seven decades of exposure to wind, sun, sleet, hail, snow, stress, and time. The young man answers in two syllables: “Botox.”

When the revenues are not robust, it is incidents such as this that make life at the till so exciting.

And so we welcome new businesses to town and applaud their confidence and trust in the future while we hope that the good folks will help them survive and thrive. It is challenging and fun. In fact, the challenge is a big part of the satisfaction one derives from pushing one's limits, testing one's capacity. But challenge and fun don't pay the bills. That takes revenue.

So I appeal to the folks of our home town to give our merchants a break. Yes, there may be cheaper prices and brighter lights and greater variety in unnamed cities. But we live here and we want our home-town merchants to thrive.

By the way, unless you walk out into the unknown, there is not much chance of making a profound difference in anything.

Merlin Nichols, Mayor



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#ilovelivinghere

I was mowing my lawn recently and it really occurred to me; we live in an incredibly beautiful place! As I reflected upon my gorgeously green lawn and lush surroundings, I couldn't help but compare this little piece of paradise to other places in the world. Places where people need to paint their grass in order to achieve the level of greenery that we so often take for granted. Our community is situated amongst the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, providing us with fabulous mountain views, winding rivers, and serene lakes. Furthermore, the fall colours can not be matched; a showcase of ornate golds and reds that put me in awe every year! As a Realtor, I meet many of our community's newcomers, as I have the pleasure of selling them homes. Many people come to Chetwynd for the diverse economy and active industry, I don't know how many people realize what a truly beautiful place they are moving to! This little community has provided my family with a place to live and grow, a marketplace with vast opportunity, and a deep sense of pride for the surrounding natural beauty. I can say with all sincerity that I love living here!

For more real-estate related tid-bits by Julia, visit her facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/JuliaNelsonRealEstateSales/>



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