BEYOND THE BLUEPRINTS

A look at Whistler’s rich history of home building.
#1256 DELTA WHISTLER
4308 MAIN STREET - VILLAGE
$169,000
The Delta is located in the center of the Village with easy access to lifts, shops and restaurants along with Celebration Plaza, the Valley Trail and the Whistler Conference Center. It’s truly designed for year-round use.
SHARON
sharon@wrec.com
604 905 2827

#1313 DELTA WHISTLER
4308 MAIN STREET - VILLAGE
$177,000
This unique 1 bedroom suite has an extra large living area and balcony. Enjoy the sunny exposure overlooking the lush courtyard! The Delta has been a favourite of owners and guests for all the amenities it provides and its central Village location!
SUSIE
susie@wrec.com
604 932 1368

#110 SUNRISE
6117 EAGLE DRIVE - WHISTLER CAY
$499,000
Great Whistler location. Walk to the Village, golf course and lifts from this 2 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom Sunrise townhouse in Whistler Cay Heights, a popular complex. This unit has a very large sundeck and patio with mountain views.
ALLAN
allanjenner@wrec.com
604 905 9589

#109 WOODRUN
4910 SPEARHEAD PLACE - BENCHLANDS
$749,000
Located slopeside on Blackcomb Mountain, this spacious 1,055 square foot, 2 bedrooms, luxury west facing condo has been completely renovated with new vestibule, bathrooms, kitchen flooring, counter tops, lighting and furnishings.
DAVE
davebrown@wrec.com
604 905 8438

#617 FIRST TRACKS LODGE
2202 GONDOLA WAY - WHISTLER CREEK
$449,000
This beautifully appointed 1 bedroom suite is located on the top floor in one of the best ski-in/ ski-out luxury hotels in Whistler. Put your skis or bikes into your huge storage locker and enjoy the heated outdoor pool, hot tubs, and steam room.
STEPHANIE
stephanie@wrec.com
604 932 7949

#10 HIGHPOINTE
2101 WHISTLER ROAD - WHISTLER CREEK
$325,000
One bedroom and den townhouse with a great layout, location, and views! With the living area on the main level, a spacious master bedroom plus den on the upper level and storage below, this property has everything you need.
AMBER
amber@wrec.com
604 902 1321

#10 HIGTHOINTE
2101 WHISTLER ROAD - WHISTLER CREEK
$3,150,000
This beautiful 5 bedroom home (including a Nanny suite) sits high atop Alpine Meadows with the most spectacular views of the entire valley, including Whistler and Blackcomb. This very private, custom designed home is a must see.
STEVE
steve@wrec.com
604 902 3335

4557 BLACKCOMB WAY
VILLAGE - COMMERCIAL
$35 / SQ. FT.
One of Whistler’s finest and most successful restaurants. Located in the Le Chamois which has just undergone extensive exterior upgrades. At the base of the Blackcomb Lifts across from the Fairmont Hotel and down from the Four Seasons Hotel.
BOB
bobh@wrec.com
604 905 2818

7219 FITZSIMMONS ROAD N.
WHITE GOLD
$2,699,000
Five bedroom, 3.5 bath custom built chalet situated along the Fitzsimmons Creek with views of Sprout Peak. This location is ideal for easy walking access to Whistler Village and amenities. The home also has many high-end features and finishings.
CAROLYN
carolyn@wrec.com
604 905 2873

8380 MOUNTAINVIEW DRIVE
ALPINE MEADOWS
$2,699,000
This beautiful 5 bedroom home (including a Nanny suite) sits high atop Alpine Meadows with the most spectacular views of the entire valley, including Whistler and Blackcomb. This very private, custom designed home is a must see.
STEVE
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*Prices Effective At Whistler Nesters from Thursday, January 31st to Wednesday, February 6th, 2013. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Sale limited to stock on hand. Some items subject to HST, plus deposit, recycling fee where applicable.*
Beyond the blueprints

Whistler’s rich history of home building grows beam by beam. - By Alison Taylor

COVER: Residential building has come a long way since Whistler’s builders first picked up their tool-belts. The home featured on the cover has been known as the “Origami House” reflecting the angular and surprising perfection in symmetry of its pleasing design. Built by Glen Lynskey, a well known and respected builder who died suddenly last fall, it was conceived by Patkau Architects — the same architectural firm in charge of designing Whistler’s new Audain Art Gallery. - Photo by Bonny Makarewicz

FINDING FINE ART IN THE FOREST

Audain Art Museum conceptual design unveiled

LUGE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

A spectator’s guide to the biggest sliding event held in Whistler since the 2010 Olympic Games

VIMFF

Explore Squamish’s untouched canyons in Down The Line

WINTERPRIDE HIGHLIGHTS HOMEGROWN DJ TALENT

Local DJs, a fashion show and the annual Snowball mark this year’s festivities

PIQUE CAL

Art is on display this week with the Layers showing at Scotia Creek Gallery, the welcome figure installation by the Squamish and Lil’wat at Whistler Village Common and the Made-in-Whistler Market as well. Feeling energetic? Take part in the famous Peak to Valley race this weekend.
1 Hour goes by quickly... 1.5 hours is much better... but 2 hours is absolutely perfect!

Try an Amazing 2 hour Massage Session for ONLY $95.99!

GET A MASSAGE NOW... TO PREVENT INJURY!

Massage Helps To Loosen Up And Relax Your Muscles Before And After You Ski Or Snowboard! Reduce And Relieve Pain And Speed Up Recovery! Our Ski And Snowboard Massages Target The Muscles You Use During Those Activities!

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$49.99 For A 1 Hour Massage
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Reception Desk and Access through Castros Cuban Cigar Store

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Massage Type</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Skier Massage</td>
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<td>SnowBoarder Massage</td>
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Although our Masseuses are not RMT’s in Canada, they are generally students, Physiotherapists, registered or qualified Masseuses from other countries but not in Canada. Most Masseuses are here on 1 or 2 year working visas and it takes upwards of 3 years to become an RMT in Canada even if you are qualified in another country! By employing these amazing people we are able to offer high quality massage at this very affordable rate!

We understand that being located above a Cigar Store is unusual but it actually works quite well for us. We are able to utilize the Cigar Store sitting area (Don’t worry, there is no smoking as it is illegal to smoke inside commercial buildings in B.C.) as our reception area which cuts down on our operating and staffing costs substantially, allowing us to pass the savings on to you and offer you such a great price for massage! Plus it is a great location right in the heart of the village. The idea was founded by realizing that, for example, husbands and wives would come to the cigar store on vacation and generally the husbands would buy cigars and the wives would stand around waiting patiently with nothing to do. Now sometimes we sell more to the wives in massages than the cigar store sells to the husbands in cigars.

Your session starts and must finish at the predetermined time of the booking. If you are late your massage will still end at booking time. Please be 5 to 10 minutes early for your sessions to fill out the paperwork. Once you are here, get ready as quickly as possible when entering the massage so your massage can start and you can receive the maximum length of massage possible. Also, when finishing the massage please get ready quickly as we need to change the lounge for the next customer. Massage will end approximately 2 mins before the end of the session.

The services provided at AVIVA are solely for relaxation purposes and should not be construed as a substitute for medical examination, diagnosis, or treatment and you should seek a physician, or other qualified medical specialist for any physical ailment or injury that you are aware of.

We work with various insurance companies to offer you the best possible rates. Please contact your insurance company directly to check if your plan covers massages.

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Family Day important for ski industry

British Columbians celebrate their first Family Day next weekend with a day off on Monday, Feb. 11. The long weekend holds a great deal of promise for Whistler Blackcomb and the 19 other B.C. ski areas — including Whistler Olympic Park and the cross-country trails at Lost Lake — that are offering B.C. residents half-price tickets on Family Day.

Indeed, the holiday could almost be called Family Ski Day, the efforts of the ski industry being critical to the results of an online poll that asked British Columbians whether they preferred the third Monday in February for the holiday.

“The third Monday in February is a holiday in the USA and five Canadian provinces, thus, many BC Ski Resorts are already operating at full capacity on this weekend,” said the Canada West Ski Areas Association in its lobbying efforts last spring. “Therefore, having BC Family Day on this day would diminish the potential for British Columbians to enjoy BC Ski Resorts and other tourism experiences throughout the province. Moreover, it would result in a significant lost economic opportunity for the province.”

The expectation — buoyed by an ad campaign by CWSSA and Tourism BC and promising early bookings at many resorts — is that many B.C. residents will decide to go skiing on the new long weekend.

That should benefit businesses throughout Whistler and other ski towns.

But as encouraging as the signs are for Family Day, and as healthy as Whistler Blackcomb appears to be, the ski business needs to rebuild. And half-price tickets for one day — even free tickets for Grade 4 and 5 students through the decade-and-a-half-old SnowPass program — are only a small part of the answer.

The U.S.-based National Ski Areas Association states one of its primary missions “…is to help resorts understand the implications of the significant demographic shifts that lie on the horizon. Simply put, as Baby Boomers — a generation that helped build the industry into what it is today — continue to age, they will begin dropping out of the sport at an alarming rate. Without an industry-wide effort focused on attracting newer, younger participants and converting them into loyal skiers and riders, ski areas could face dramatic declines in visitation in the not-so-distant future.”

The NSAA’s Canadian counterpart, the Canadian Ski Council, acknowledged the importance of converting beginner skiers and snowboarders into devoted skiers and boarders in a 2011 report titled Running to Stand Still: Why Growing the Sport Matters Now More Than Ever.

“The national beginner conversion rate now stands at 18.4 percent, up only 1.4 percentage points from the 2001/02 season, and well short of the 25 percent goal for the industry. And while some have observed the Canadian rate is significantly higher than the U.S.’s beginner conversion rate of 16.7 percent, others would consider that cold comfort given declines in overall snowsports participation in Canada.”

The NSAA produced its own report last fall, which stated in part: “As an industry, we convert only about 15 percent (sic) of first-timers into long-term participants.” Improving the quality of ski area operations helps but, “If they can add to these efforts, a renewed focused commitment to growing their first-time skiers and snowboarders by 6 percent annually and gradually improving the conversion rate from 15 percent to 25 percent, the industry can accomplish the overall turnaround that is badly needed.”

“The NSAA notes that many ski areas (including those in Canada) have taken measures to improve the beginner skier and boarder’s experience, including state of the art learning centres, ticket-lesson-and-equipment deals, employee incentives and better equipment to learn on. This has helped boost the number of first-timers to snowsports, particularly in resorts near urban areas. But, “while these tangible efforts are encouraging, conversion… has emerged as the predominant roadblock in the industry’s ultimate goal of growing the sport by 10 percent. The intangible ‘psychology of conversion’ and the ‘golden hour’ between trial and conversion must be more effectively addressed.”

The importance of converting beginners is reflected in the fact that the Canadian ski industry has “seen international visits decline by over half what they used to be in 2001/02, and domestic visitation has shown anemic growth built not on increased participation, but on increases in average days skied/snowboarded.”

The Canadian Ski Council estimates there were about 2.3 million “active” skiers and snowboarders in Canada in 2010/11. While that number goes up and down each season the 10-year trend shows “an erosion in our active participant base.” As well, the average number of days an “active” Canadian skied or snowboarded peaked in 2007/08 at 8.3. It declined steadily to 7.1 days by 2010/11.

“Decline in two data points has frightening implications,” said the CSC. “We have a gradually declining number of active participants skiing and riding fewer days per season.”

Like the NSAA, the CSC concludes converting beginners into lifetime devotees is critical but notes: “Everything is interconnected. Conversion impacts not just the beginner skier and rider but everyone in their travel party.” If a child, an adult, a girlfriend or boyfriend has a bad experience as a beginner it will influence the family or friend’s decision to return to the sport.

So happy Family Ski Day. Let’s hope it leads to more than just one day on the slopes.
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READY? APRIL 12 - 21, 2013

The best end-of-season party is in Whistler.

Online ticket sales start on February 1st!
Get your tickets before they sell out.

Don’t say we didn’t warn you!

LODGING
starting at
$99* per night

starting from rate is based on 2 people sharing a studio or one bedroom from April 10 - 24, 2013. Offer is subject to availability at time of booking and may change without notice. Taxes and fees are extra. Two night minimum stays are required and other restrictions may apply.

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Pride in our elephant

While Mr. Maxwell is writing about “killing the elephant” of the Whistler Sliding Centre, I would like to suggest that he get up from behind his “elephant” of the Whistler Sliding Centre, I would like to suggest that he get up from behind his calculator and wander about the village this week to see the amazing collection of world-class athletes from over 20 countries here for the World Luge Championships (Pique, Jan. 24). Perhaps he could even engage in a conversation or two and hear them describe how much they really like the Whistler track and their experience of being in Whistler.

As he is worrying about the Whistler Sports Legacies’ chequebook, Mr. Maxwell might also consider the world-class exposure that Whistler receives for hosting international sliding events and the fantastic opportunity for training for athletes of all ages. World Cup events at the sliding centre are televised and streamed worldwide allowing thousands of viewers to see our Whistler majesty.

Maybe Mr. Maxwell missed the opportunity to ring his cowbell as Jon Montgomery won gold for Canada at the 2012 Olympics? Maybe he didn’t get to feel the pride and excitement as Canadian Kallie Humphries took first place in this year’s women’s Bobsleigh World Cup event or as Canada’s Lyndon Rush and Sarah Reid medaled in the two-women Bobsleigh World Cup event or as Kallie Humphries took first place in this year’s Bobsleigh World Cup event or as Canada’s Lyndon Rush and Sarah Reid medaled in the two-women Bobsleigh World Cup event or as Canada’s Lyndon Rush and Sarah Reid medaled in the two-women Bobsleigh World Cup event.

Perhaps the North American sliding events don’t have the large following that their European counterparts enjoy, but the Whistler track is an outstanding venue for bobsleigh, luge and skeleton races at every level. This season the track has successfully hosted World Cup, Intercontinental Cup, North American Cup, BC Cup bobsleigh and skeleton events, and this week the World Luge Championships. The public bobsleigh and skeleton rides offer our Whistler visitors a unique opportunity to experience these sports for their own excitement.

Clearly WSL’s new CEO, Roger Soane, has some financial and operational challenges to address, but the track is already built; the investment is made. We can all be proud of our track and our Canadian athletes in all disciplines.

Find yourself another elephant to go after, Max... - KIRK HULSE

Find yourself another elephant to go after, Max; and while you’re at it, find yourself a little more appreciation for the sports of these dedicated athletes!

Kirk Hulse
Whistler

Thinking beyond the trail

Whistler is a wonderful place to live and Stu Skjelset makes it even more wonderful!

Stu is the mechanic at Nicklaus North Golf Course and under his own initiative has been grooming the service trail along fairways one and two and then the cart paths on fairways 14 and 15 for walkers, dogs and snowshoers. He has designed the groomer that he pulls with his own snowmobile.

He does this so that he and anyone else can walk their dogs on a groomed trail, but not disturb the trails around the golf course that are part of the Lost Lake Trails.

“Stu’s Stroll” makes it easy to connect with the Valley Trail by the Clubhouse or at Nick North Blvd to cross the highway.

We would like to thank Stu for taking on this
endavour and also to thank Nicklaus North Golf Course for allowing the trails on fairways 14 and 15 to be open for non-skiers.

Maureen and John Richmond, and Dickens, Eddie and Chairsw

Whistler

FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH

There are 7,000 people throughout the province who have an inherited risk of fainting or dying suddenly from an abnormal heart rhythm (arrhythmia) — often this is only discovered through an event like fainting. However, research indicates that this is just the tip of the iceberg — for every person identified with inherited arrhythmia, four or more family members may unknowingly be at risk.

The condition can be managed with simple medical intervention, but when left unmonitored, it puts lives in danger. As the recently appointed Sauder Family and Heart and Stroke Foundation Chair in Cardiology, we are assembling a team of experts to build a network of clinics to discover those British Columbians at risk, and provide them with protection.

Despite all of our advances in prevention and treatment of heart disease, several thousand people in British Columbia die suddenly every year. I feel this is a key challenge for my team — to identify why this happens, who is at risk and how to prevent these tragedies. I am proud to be able to pursue this work, thanks in part to the generous Heart and Stroke Foundation donors.

This February is Heart Month. When a Heart and Stroke Foundation canvasser arrives at your door, please give generously. Your support enables me and my fellow researchers, to continue vital work to identify why this happens, who is at risk and how to prevent these tragedies.

Together, we can Make Health Last.

Marshall Viner

The Sauder Family and Heart and Stroke Foundation Chair in Cardiology

SMART MINDS ON SMART METERS

In response to Mr. Eldridge letter in last week’s Pique regarding smart meters it is clear that (he) has done little to no research on smart meter technology and appears to simply have copied and pasted a lot of techno mumble jumble from technology and appears to simply have copied has done little to no research on smart meter technology.

In his letter Mr. Eldridge states “looking at the SMART meter on my own house, there does not appear to be an antenna there, so presumably no radiation at all.” My cell phone as well does not have an antenna, yet I still make and receive call, and yes, IT DOES still emit radiation. He also states that any antenna would have to be on the outside of any metal enclosure. Once again, Mr. Eldridge demonstrates his lack of a “smart mind” on smart meters, as he doesn’t appear to have a grasp on how RFID technology works. A simple screen will not interfere with an RFID signal. The screen would need to be constructed in a similar way to a Faraday Cage. As well the meter would have to be enclosed on all four sides. If it’s attached to your wall it can only be enclosed from three sides. And guess which side is not enclosed? Yes, the one facing the inside of your house leaving the signal only one way to go. THROUGH YOU.

In 2011, the World Health Organization released a report on radiation from cell phones (saying they) may have a significant carcinogenic effect. The report also went on to state that radiation at any dose, no matter how small, is unsafe. Even the radiation from the WI-FI on your lap top was enough for the WHO to recommend in that same year, to avoid resting your lap top on your actual lap when in use.

Health effects aside, I think the main issue that should concern most is the surveillance technology being used. The European Data Protection Supervisor has warned that smart meters and other surveillance technology are a significant privacy threat and wants limits on the retention and use of customer data.

He adds that the technology will “also enable massive collection of personal data which can track what members of a household do within the privacy of their own homes.” That might sound fanciful, but researchers have already demonstrated that the pattern of energy consumed by a decent flat-screen TV can be used to work out what program is being watched. The attacks could be pulled off by stealing meters — which can sit outside a home — and reprogramming them. Or an attacker could sit near a home or business and wirelessly hack the meter from a laptop, according to Joshua Wright, a senior security analyst with InGuardians Inc. These flaws also could get hackers a key step closer to exploiting one of the most dangerous capabilities of the new technology: the ability to remotely turn someone else’s power on and off. Even the hydro company itself can monitor and also went on to state that radiation at any dose, no matter how small, is unsafe. Even the radiation from the WI-FI on your lap top was enough for the WHO to recommend in that same year, to avoid resting your lap top on your actual lap when in use.

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remote access any appliance in your home that bears an Energy Star logo and since the meters send this information to the hydro company every 60 seconds, should they determine that your using too much power at peak times can remotely turn off your appliances and keep them off.

I wish I had more space to go into the fact the two homes in the Vancouver area have already burnt down shortly after having smart meters installed. The fires determined by the fire marshal have originated with the meters themselves.

Smart meters are not a B.C. mandate or even a Canadian mandate, and no it’s not the Americans either. Smart meters are a global incentive but no one can seem to pin point who exactly is mandating this. Does this make sense?

A couple of weeks ago two housewives from Illinois were arrested for obstruction when refusing to allow the installer of these meters on to their property and are now facing criminal charges. If you don’t see anything wrong with this or why they’re so desperate to get these meters installed, then go back to your iPhones, YouTube, and television, remaining blissfully asleep. But you’ll only have yourself to blame when you finally wake to the nightmare around you.

Michael McArthur
Squamish

OLD METERS WERE JUST FINE
Any commentary on effects of radiation from the new electric house meters does not engender any clear information as to what it does but one thing is certain.

The new improperly called smart meters, as though they had a mind of their own, are absolutely not necessary. The old meters were working very well for a long, long time.

Time will tell how long the new electronics will stand up and show what a bill of goods we have bought.

Terry Smith
Garibaldi Highlands

THERE IS ROOM FOR RIDERS
After another week of negative commentary in regards to mountain biking in the Spearhead area of Garibaldi Park, I feel compelled to respond to the continued misguided belief that allowing cross-country mountain biking in alpine areas will somehow unleash an uncontrollable torrent of off-trail riding that will cause irreparable damage to the environment.

This argument is the primary justification cited by BC Parks in their Draft MP Amendment and media comments, and also by others in the community in support of the decision to continue the ban on mountain biking in these areas.

I can’t decide if those who make these arguments have just seen a Redbull Rampage highlight clip and think that everyone on a mountain bike wants to jump cliffs and freeride everywhere, but I’d like to assure you that those interested in the type of riding being proposed in the Spearhead area are not those types of riders.

The type of riding proposed by WORCA and other proponents of alpine mountain biking is cross-country riding, with rides taking several gruelling

Backcountry Advisory

AS OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

TRAVEL ADVISORY: We have received around 30cm of storm snow during the past week. Prior to the snowfall, conditions in the alpine varied greatly due to strong winds, warm temperatures, and the solar effect during the previous week. Some small, variably soft and stiff slabs have been continuing to develop daily with the light amounts of new snow and moderate SW winds. While initially reactive, they have settled out quickly. You can expect to see some surface instabilities develop on solar aspects with the arrival of any sunny breaks and mild temperatures over the next several days.

AVALANCHE ACTIVITY: Size 1-1.5 soft and stiff slabs with crowns from 10-40cm deep have formed periodically in lee terrain since last Friday. The loading has been extremely variable and you will find areas that are still scoured down to the old surfaces. Northwesterly winds produced some reverse loading during the past 24hrs, with some new slab formation in southerly terrain now possible.

SNOWPacking:
Firm wind, temperature, and solar affected surfaces in the alpine and at tree line now possible.

The bulk of any avalanche activity since last Friday appears to have involved only the most recent storm snow layers and the bond to the underlying old surfaces dating back to Jan 23 is strengthening. Below the tree line a buried surface hoar layer can still be found up to 70 cm deep. A more recent layer of surface hoar that may also be found below treeline buried about 20 cm below the surface may be worth keeping an eye on.

WEATHER: A continued moist and unstable NW flow will bring periods of florries and gradually rising freezing levels throughout the duration of this week. Sunny breaks can be expected after the passage of each weak system. Conditions may vary and can change rapidly. Check for the most current conditions before heading out into the backcountry. Daily updates for the areas adjacent to Whistler Blackcomb are available at 604-938-7676, or surf to www.whistler-blackcomb.com/weather where there is also a link to the Canadian Avalanche Association public avalanche bulletin, or call 1-880-667-1100.
hours with minimal incentive to venture off trail. Many of the arguments presented in this paper, as well as by BC Parks and others seem to hinge on the misconception that every rider will have an uncontrollable compulsion to ride off trail at any and all times.

As someone who has hiked in the area and looked at the potential opportunities as a mountain biker, I can assure you that off trail riding in an area such as the Musical Bumps or Singing Pass is highly unlikely and very undesirable. The terrain is filled with lots of big holes and rocks that are hidden by vegetation, presenting major hazards that would cause injury and damage to equipment if hit unexpectedly.

The irony is that in the times I have hiked there, I have witnessed many hikers off trail in the alpine meadows, an easy and inviting thing to do when one is walking. However, riding off trail on a bike isn’t as desirable or appealing as the detractors are suggesting. Additionally, riders completing the proposed route (uphill on Singing Pass) would be looking at a ride of likely five to eight, or more, hours. These are not rides done on heavy downhill bikes, or by people who will travel off trail. These are long-distance, physically demanding cross-country rides done on lightweight bikes, where the participants are out for a hiking-like experience in the backcountry. I am heartened that BC Parks has taken the time to sit down with WORCA and begin a dialogue moving forward.

The Whistler mountain bike community has proven over the past 25 years that it is a committed steward of the trails and a world leader when it comes to trail maintenance and management. There are many easily implemented management solutions to address concerns and potential issues, and it is past time to come together and harness the passion and energy the mountain bike community in Whistler has to work together and help make the trail system in the Spearhead area safe and sustainable for the long term for both hikers and mountain bikers.

Todd Hellinga
Whistler

A GREAT GAME OF SHINNY
The Birken Volunteer Fire Dept would like to thank everyone who showed up for the fifth annual Gates Lake Shinny Tournament.

Thanks to Chana, Jeanne, and Susie for working the concession. Thanks to James for working the grill. Thanks to the firefighters for working on the ice and getting worked on it. It was another great day for pond hockey and the ice held out long enough for Birkenstoned to take home the cup. It is the participation of a great many fine individuals that make this the extraordinary community event it has become. Pond hockey rules. See you next year.

Moldy (a.k.a. Daved Moldofsky)
Birken Volunteer Fire Department

A FOND FAREWELL
As I finish up my time as the library director for the public library in Pemberton, I have been given much opportunity to reflect on the many fond memories that will come with me.

The years of engaging with this community have provided me with many new friends, wonderful experiences and amazing growth opportunities both personally and professionally. I will miss the random chats, intellectual banter about books and life, the staff — current and past — who are very much a part of my family, the volunteers and this community of library users. It has been my privilege and honour to work with you, beside you and for you. Thank you to everyone for the past few weeks of kind words, both spoken and written, and your support and encouragement as I move onto my next chapter and adventure.

I truly appreciate it, and I’ll see you around town!

Shannon Didier Ellis
Pemberton

THANKS FOR BEING YOU
To the great little mountain town of Whistler, thank you for your community spirit, for your beautiful alpenglow, your tall trees and fresh mountain air. The past eight years have brought so many amazing memories with some of the most special people that I have met.

I would like to thank my previous employers and co-workers at Whistler Community Services Society and Whistler Mental Health & Addiction Services. I cannot say enough about the exceptional work that these organizations do to help those in need.

To our friends and our “Whistler family,” who have been there in good and challenging times, you will remain in our hearts always and forever.

Thank you for being you!

Jodi Annett-Kish
Whistler

I can’t decide if those who make these arguments have just seen a Redbull Rampage highlight clip and think that everyone on a mountain bike wants to jump cliffs and freeride everywhere...

- TODD HELLINGA

www.piquenewsmagazine.com | January 31, 2013 | 11
Finding fine art in the forest

AUDAIN ART MUSEUM CONCEPTUAL DESIGN INCORPORATES FOREST, LANDSCAPED GROUNDS

By Alison Taylor

It isn’t often exquisite works of art are in a building that appears to be “floating through the forest” but that’s where Michael Audain’s collection is set to be housed in Whistler.

The conceptual design of the new B.C. art museum, unveiled to the public this week, meets perhaps one of the most critical design elements outlined by the Vancouver businessman and philanthropist who owns the collection and wants to build its permanent home here, that it communes with nature. As such, just a few cottonwood trees will be removed from the site. The rest will remain largely untouched.

Raised up one storey above ground, the museum is a sleek linear rectangle building stretching diagonally across the municipal site between day parking Lots 3 and 4. One length of the building is a walkway of windows, the other side darkened to accommodate the gallery space.

“The original intention that Michael Audain had was to find a site that was treed because he wanted to get a site for a gallery that had a relationship to nature,” said architect John Patkau. “And that ultimately is why he chose the Whistler site because he felt it accomplished that aspect of his ambition the best.”

Contacted by Pique for comment on the conceptual designs, Michael Audain preferred to reserve his opinion, allowing time for the public process to take place.

Patkau, however, explained his rationale for the design, which came relatively easily given the constraints of building on a flood plain — that necessitated a raised structure — and preserving the existing trees.

“Actually it came fairly straightforwardly,” he said of the design. “It fell into place and it’s not often that happens.”

He begins his description with the bridge leading from Blackcomb Way through the trees to the covered porch and main entrance of the museum.

Inspiration for the walkway came from Japanese temples, a visual, physical cue that you are heading somewhere different, perhaps somewhere more spiritual.

“You are removed from a terrestrial connection and take an elevated route to the building through the trees and so it is very special in terms of the kind of experience you have relative to normal experience,” explained Patkau.

The porch will be illuminated in warm rich wood colours to create a “lantern-like experience,” explained Patkau.

The museum will be dark to blend into the forest. “Because it’s embedded in the forest, it is more discreet,” said Patkau.

The museum will be far cry from that angular home with its slanted walls.

“So that, we expect, will become an important public walkway running right through the middle of the building,” said Patkau.

It’s designed to evoke feelings of peace and tranquility.

This is the second building Patkau Architects have designed in Whistler. Their first design is the “Origami House” in Sunridge (see cover feature).

Patkau explained that as the owner of that particular site tasked them with using their imagination, they began by taking the limits of the site and sculpting roofs that would shed snow in the right direction.

“The shape just came out of that,” he said of the geometric, origami-shaped home.

“One length of the building is a walkway stretching diagonally across the municipal site between day parking Lots 3 and 4.”

The museum will be dark to blend into the forest. “Because it’s embedded in the forest, it is more discreet,” said Patkau.

The museum will be dark to blend into the forest. The light from the windowed walkway will again create that illusion of a lantern in the forest.

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RMOW budget — no tax increases, surplus to divvy up

STAFF FINDS MORE THAN HALF A MILLION DOLLARS IN OPERATING EFFICIENCIES IN ZERO-BASED BUDGET

By Alison Taylor

Not one member of the public was on hand to hear council deliver its best news to date in 2013 — the proposed municipal budget will hold the line on taxes.

But perhaps when taxpayers learn there’s a $363,000 budget surplus, to be divvied up, saved or spent at council’s discretion, public interest could step up a notch in the coming weeks.

“That’s a number that we can use to fund additional costs... it’s something that we can use and consider what’s in the best interests of the municipality,” said Ken Roggeman, RMOW’s director of finance, at Tuesday’s Committee of the Whole meeting in which he presented the draft 2013 budget as part of the municipality’s Five Year Financial Plan.

And while things could change between now and the approval of the budget bylaws in March, all indications are pointing to a municipal budget, lean on spending, with more operating efficiencies than have been seen in a long time — efficiencies that are being felt in the back pockets of Whistler taxpayers.

“It makes us look really good as a council,” said Councillor John Grills, expressing the general sentiment at the table of how pleased council was to see the proposed zero tax increase.

He was quick to deflect the praise away from council, however.

“But there’s a great deal of work done by the staff and management.”

Even though there are increased costs this year to the tune of almost $1 million for things like the RCMP budget, the new ice rink at the Olympic plaza, and labour, staff also found more than half a million dollars in efficiencies at the hall. That comes on top of the $1.1 million reduction in the annual operating budget in the 2011 service review through cuts to services and increased fees, as well as other cuts done in 2012 in the organizational review that eliminated a department at the hall, among other things, and which found another half a million dollars.

“I think there’s been a level of scrutiny... some of that scrutiny really quite intense, to go through the budget and zero base it to some degree,” said Councillor Roger McCarthy.

When the half a million in efficiencies is considered increases in hotel room tax revenues and RMI revenues, along with other changes, it puts Whistler in the position of a $363,000 preliminary surplus at this point.

And that leaves a lot up for debate before this budget is passed in March.

Some of the staff/public requests for increased funding are:

- $60,000 for the library to open on Sunday
- $8,568 for snow clearing services to go back to previous service levels before the program was cut in the 2011 service review
- $54,700 for village maintenance to include earlier litter pick up completion (10-11 a.m.) and increased snow shovelling
- $18,356 for parks sanitation services to re-establish weekend service levels (second daily clean up in parks and washrooms).

Council also heard of the 2013 capital budget of $13.5 million, the bulk of which is paid for out of municipal reserves and not the operating budget.

About half of that budget is for annual recurring projects such as Fitzsimmons Creek gravel removal, bridge reconstruction, and Valley Trail reconstruction.

A further $1.9 million has been set aside for continuing projects: the cashier counter at municipal hall, master planning of the hostel site, and finishing off Bayly Park.

And then there are new capital projects worth $2.9 million. Those projects include:

- $48,000 for the municipal website and social media integration
- $40,000 to update the community’s energy plan
- $65,000 for records management at the hall
- $100,000 for the Whistler Gateway, a project that will examine and undertake opportunities to enhance the Highway 99 arrival experience with things like welcome signs, commercial signs, vegetative screening.

Other parts of the budget reveal what it will cost Whistler to ready the site and make way for the Audain Art Museum — roughly $639,000.

A line item of $400,000 in the capital budget has been outlined as the cost to relocate the Village Shop on the museum’s site — municipal village operations are based out of that shop, which will be relocated to the public works yard. That will require upgrades to the shop. The budget also includes miscellaneous costs associated with the clean up and modifications to the impound yard.

A second line item of $239,000 is for the costs dealing “with the location, ownership structure and other related matters” — $164,000 of those costs is for permit fees that will not be collected from the developer.

There will be a budget open house on Feb. 19 before the regular council meeting.
Mayor Nancy Wilhelm-Morden is well aware there are some weighty decisions looming in council’s future.

“The expectation is that there will be some critical decisions that will have to be made in the later part of 2013,” she said.

In the upcoming months, recommendations may be delivered from the Economic Partnership Initiative, the Learning and Education Strategy Task Force, the Recreation and Leisure Master Plan and the Cultural Plan.

Last week’s two-day council retreat was a time to talk about the work in the pipeline and prepare for the coming year.

“We mapped out when we’re expecting to see these various reports and these various actions,” added the mayor.

“These big pieces coming in will have their own set of actions in the remainder of 2013 and moving into 2014.”

Meanwhile, the retreat also offered another in depth view of what’s been going on at municipal hall since council approved the Corporate Plan last June.

Senior managers checked in with council with overviews on their division’s goals — whether they had been achieved, were ongoing, taken off the work plan or yet to be initiated.

“When you see that report and see the amount of work that’s been done in 2012, keeping in mind that the corporate plan only came into existence in June of last year, so really it was only a six or seven month window of opportunity, there really has been a substantial amount of work accomplished. I’m rather proud,” said Wilhelm-Morden.

“Being a person who likes lists,” she laughs, “it just is really gratifying to see checkmarks beside many of these things.”

Municipal CAO Mike Furey explained that the corporate plan is not just a passive work plan; it measures how the municipality meets its goals. In that way, it’s a snapshot of whether it’s getting the job done, or not.

“I think you’ll see for the most part we have moved the dial in a positive direction,” he said. “There are a couple of areas that need a little more work.”

Namely, satisfaction with transit service and cost recovery at the Meadow Park Sports Centre.

But the overriding sense from the retreat is that council and staff are on the right track.

Furey said it’s now a matter of “keeping our heads down” and staying the course with the established priorities.

When asked what the difference was between this year’s retreat and last year’s retreat, the mayor said: “The feel in the room last year was substantially different than it was this year. Last year of course we were newly elected, we were feeling our way, we were just starting to get to know one another. There was almost an ‘us versus them’ kind of feel in the room last year. We don’t have that feeling at all now.”

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**Whistler Council prepares for tough decisions in 2013**

RMOW’s Corporate Plan updated to show progress on actions

By Alison Taylor

Norovirus warning sent to local schools

An unusually intense outbreak of norovirus has prompted the region’s medical health officer to send a warning about the condition to parents though local schools.

“Norovirus outbreaks occur every year, however, the activity this winter has been unusually intense,” said medical health officer Dr. Paul Martiquet in a release. “Infections are very common, especially in schools.”

Norovirus illness usually includes a sudden onset of nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Though people can get quite uncomfortable, the illness is generally not serious. People infected with norovirus usually get better on their own in a few days without treatment. Because a virus causes these infections, antibiotics do not work.

The main source of norovirus is vomit and feces from infected people. As the virus can survive on hard surfaces (such as counter tops, sink taps, door knobs) for a long time, attention to proper hand washing and cleanliness of washrooms and common touch surfaces is extremely important.
Welcome Winter Pride.
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Being proud of WinterPRIDE

OVER 3,000 EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN EIGHT-DAY GAY AND LESBIAN SKI WEEK CELEBRATIONS, FEB. 3-10

By Andrew Mitchell

Dean Nelson, the executive producer of the WinterPRIDE gay and lesbian ski week, is pretty calm for a guy who’ll be playing host to over 3,000 people from around the world next week in one of the largest and longest-running winter gay pride events anywhere. But this is the seventh year that he’s been running the show with his company, Alpenglow Productions, and despite the weak economy and growing competition the event is solid.

“Everything looks really strong, so we’re really excited about that. There’s a good vibe out there in the community right now and the advanced ticket sales to the events are right on par with last year — and a few events are a little ahead as well, which is encouraging,” he said. “I’ve spoken to our hotel partners and the clubs we’re working with this year, and they’re all excited as well. The village should be busy next week.”

But while the festival is strong this year, Nelson said Whistler’s success has been noted by other ski resorts that are hosting pride events of their own — and investing in them as well. Nelson did apply to the Resort Municipality of Whistler to get a share of Resort Municipality Initiative (RMI) funding for the festival, requesting between $30,000 and $100,000 to book an A-list performer. He was denied because the RMOW wants to concentrate funding on events that take place during Whistler’s slow months — and February doesn’t qualify.

Nelson said that decision, announced back in December, doesn’t impact the festival but not knowing either way until less than two months out did make it harder to plan. He also hopes that the municipality will reconsider in the future, or WinterPRIDE could lose ground to competing events. “Competition in the gay tourism market is becoming very, very fierce,” he said. “... a lot of new destinations are coming on board where the host organization actually has the support of the destination, and they’re giving the event producers a ton of money to bring in talent they normally wouldn’t be able to afford. Aspen (Gay Ski Week) have just brought in Drew Carey as their headline comedian, which is absolutely phenomenal.

“When you have destinations supporting the local producers in attracting that audience, they’re going to build a market share. Nelson needs to decide whether we want to be as competitive with this market, or keep doing what we have in the past — which is fine too, although our share of the market will shrink.”

WinterPRIDE is one of the events selected by the municipality for an economic impact study, and Nelson is confident that the numbers will make a good case for supporting the event. “There’s a wide range of events and activities targeted to the gay and lesbian communities, including the return of the Mr. Gay Canada pageant on Feb. 7 and the Snowball all-night dance party on Feb. 9. All events are open to the public. For a rundown of celebrations see page 72.

While the Whistler event is more of a celebration than a political statement, a special edition of Whistler Debates will discuss whether pride events are still relevant, given the level of acceptance and the fact that a lot of political issues such as gay marriage have been addressed. It will be held at the museum Feb. 6 at 8 p.m., doors opening at 7:00 p.m.

Nelson said it should be an interesting talk. His own opinion is that pride events reflect the local conditions.

“Every pride movement around the world is in a different stage in its evolution, and in some cases pride is still very grassroots and struggling for basic human rights,” he said. “... Then you have places like Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal, large urban centres where the festival is more about celebration and entertainment.”

That said, Nelson said that his festival hosts gays and lesbians from around the world, including a lot of places where the lifestyle isn’t accepted. For example, Nelson knows that Russians will book flights to places like Austria, and then fly from Austria to Canada for WinterPRIDE. “That’s the way things are going over there right now,” he said.

The festival program is at www.gaywhistler.com.
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**WHISTLER BLACKCOMB**

**SUNDAY FEB 3**

- **FIRE AND ICE SHOW** – 6:30PM. Whistler’s best skiers and riders jump through a blazing ring of fire. Free to watch, Skier’s Plaza.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **WOMEN’S ALL STAR SNOW CAMPS presented by ROXY** – FEB 9 & 10. 2-day camps for beginners to advanced skiers and riders. From park to pipe to all mountain, plus gifts from Roxy.

- **WINEMAKER APRÈS SERIES – FEB 14.** Wine and dine with your valentine. Atop Whistler Mountain at Steeps Grill and Wine Bar with Winemaker Derek Kontkanen from Jackson Triggs. 2pm, tickets $69 at 1.800.766.0449

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- **DISCOVER WHISTLER DAYS** are on now at Snow School until February 8. SAVe 30% on select lessons.

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**PEAK TO VALLEY FEB 1 & 2**

This long standing and unique team race challenges teams of 4 to race down Whistler Mountain through 180 gates. That’s over 5 km long!

**COURSE DETAILS**

Beginning at the top of the Saddle, the course then crosses under The Peak Chair continuing to Old Man, Upper and Lower Franz’s then all the way to the valley, merging with Lower Dave Murray. The best place for spectating is The Peak Chair load area and the bottom of Jimmy’s Joker.

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**OPERATIONS UPDATE**

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<tr>
<th>MOUNTAIN ACCESS</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
<th>MORE INFO</th>
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<tr>
<td>Whistler &amp; Blackcomb Mountains</td>
<td>8:30am-3:30pm</td>
<td>New Extended Hours!</td>
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<tr>
<td>PEAK 2 PEAK Gondola – No Skis? No Problem.</td>
<td>Enjoy both mountains now until 3:30</td>
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<td>Sightseers are welcome on the PEAK 2 PEAK Gondola. Tickets available at any ticket window.</td>
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**WHISTLER BLACKCOMB**

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Rebagliati strikes gold after ‘crazy’ week of interest

MEDICAL-MARIJUANA COFFEE SHOP TO HAVE TWO WHISTLER LOCATIONS, NO POT — FOR NOW

By Cathryn Atkinson

Ross’s Gold, the medical marijuana-coffee shop franchise planned by Olympic gold medal-winning snowboarder Ross Rebagliati, could open its first of two Whistler locations by the end of March, sans the medical marijuana dispensary for the time being.

Two resort coffee shops are now planned for Whistler Village and Creekside, followed by others in Vancouver and Toronto. The venture developed following an announcement from Health Canada in December of its intention to privatize medical marijuana supply and sales.

“We are moving very quickly,” said Rebagliati’s business partner, Patrick Smyth of Ocean Eclipse Venture Capital.

Rebagliati gained notoriety after being almost stripped of the men’s snowboarding gold medal at the Nagano Olympics in 1998, when minute traces of marijuana turned up in a drug test.

He was thoughtful when considering his reasons for pursuing the venture and branding himself this way.

“My name is already synonymous with this. It has been 15 years since I’ve been known for it. Other people are still concerned with having their names associated with (marijuana). I don’t have that luxury,” he said.

“I’ve tried to maintain my perfect Canadian status and my perfect gold medalist reputation, and it is just not flying. I cannot shake the association, so now that I’m 41 and have a family to care about I realized it would be irresponsible for me not to play the hand I’ve been dealt.”

Rebagliati said they envisioned a Ross’s Gold Coffee Shop with a backroom for 18-years and older which would have a medical marijuana dispensary and a doctor’s office where prescriptions could be filled. There would also be a retail section where smoking paraphernalia would be for sale.

“Our front, the coffee shop (section) would just be a beautiful high-end atmosphere, the same sort of retail you’d see at any other coffee shop, mugs, tumbler cups, all branded as Ross’s Gold,” he added.

“Our goal is to be nationwide in all the big metropolitan cities, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Vancouver. Like Tim Hortons you can find it anywhere.”

Smyth wanted to emphasize that the plan is to follow current legal guidelines.

“We know what the laws are, and everything they’re going to do will be within the bounds of the law. We are getting into the market early, before everything is set in stone, and the reason is the branding,” Smyth said “We know we have to wait until everything is done properly with the laws before we go full-on with the medical marijuana dispensary.”

Could Whistler, with its thousands of overseas visitors, one day supply foreign visitors suffering from conditions and ailments on the government’s approved list (including cancer) medical marijuana from a Ross’s Gold dispensary?

“Yes. And if they smash their face on a tree in the daytime,” said Rebagliati, jokingly.

“That’s all dependent on what the doctor or the nurse practitioner says. It is dependent on the laws and the regulations,” Smyth said.

“A spokesperson for Canada’s Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq said a “storefront scenario” is not Health Canada’s vision.

“I can’t speak to what their plan is, but what I can say is that public safety is something that we’re trying to balance. We want to move into private distribution and that doesn’t mean stores where people can go, sit down and smoke pot. That’s not legal,” the spokesperson said.

“Because we now are going to be putting this to private industry, there are rules that companies will have to abide by. They can’t be near schools, they have to be a certain (number of) square feet, they need security measures in place to stop break-ins.”

The minister does expect the private sector to open up business possibilities.

Public comments on the proposed legislative changes to the Marihuana (sic) Medical Access Regulations are welcome until the end of February. The changes will be presented to Parliament in March. The changes are due to come into effect in 2014.

See Page 20

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Join us for a memorable lunch for International Women's Day and learn how mentorship can change a community. Mentorship opportunities will be available with influential professionals from a cross section of industries. All proceeds from the event go to the Kathy Barnett Memorial Fund, which provides support for women in leadership roles in the Sea to Sky Corridor.

The Kathy Barnett Memorial Fund is held by the Community Foundation of Whistler.

**EVENT HOST**

Sophie Lui  
Global BC Morning News Host

Sophie Lui sets her alarm for 2:30 a.m. - as co-host of the Global BC Morning News. Her favourite part of the job is the opportunity to learn something new everyday. She loves that she has an occupational excuse to call just about anybody to ask just about any question.

Sophie was born and raised in the Lower Mainland and has been a news junkie for as long as she can remember. She attended BCIT and graduated from the Broadcast Radio program. From there, she worked at several news radio stations like CKNW, CKIQ-Kelowna, and CFAX-Victoria - before turning toward television news at CHEK TV in Victoria. She has been with the Global BC family for several years and co-hosts the Morning News alongside Steve Darling.

Sophie’s hobbies include travelling, listening to music, reading, and procrastinating.

**GUEST SPEAKER**

Jane Francisco  
Editor in Chief, Chatelaine

Jane Francisco is the award-winning editor-in-chief of Chatelaine, Canada’s leading lifestyle brand. Francisco has evolved the 85-year-old publication into a multiple-platform business while retaining its position as number one in the Canadian marketplace. A graduate of the University of Toronto, she started her career at the helm of the visual arts publication, Venue. After a stint as Marketing Director at Fashion Magazine, she was hired by Rogers to launch Glow — Canada’s premier beauty and health magazine. She was then named founding editor-in-chief of Wish magazine, where she remained for five years. Francisco also served as editorial director of St. Joseph’s Media’s Lifestyle Group, overseeing content on the Wish, Gardening Life and Canadian Family brands. Prior to joining Chatelaine Francisco ran the editorial department at Style at Home magazine.

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Cyclist threatened by truck driver while on training ride

RCMP INVESTIGATE CLAIMS AND LAUNCH SEARCH FOR ANGRY DRIVER

By John French

A cyclist on Highway 99 was surprised last week when an unhappy driver pulled a baseball bat out and threatened him.

The incident happened on Highway 99 at the north end of Whistler. Two cyclists were out for a northbound training ride when a black Ford F150 passed the pair as they rode single file on the right side of the white highway line.

A honk came from the truck as they rode by the Whistler heliport, said one of the cyclists. The cyclists carried on and spotted the truck stopped at the Wedgemount entrance.

"At the time I thought whoever pulled over might have been someone I knew," one of the cyclists said. (The two cyclists asked that their identities be kept confidential for safety reasons.)

Then the truck's driver came into view holding a baseball bat.

"The guy with the bat started coming out to the road towards me with his bat saying he wanted to kill me."

The cyclists sprinted away and called 911. Staff Sergeant Steve Leclair confirmed that the RCMP responded and made efforts to find the truck.

Whistler road cyclist Tony Routley was disappointed when he heard the story.

Routley is friends with the riders, describing them as experienced cyclists. Routley recounted a similar incident on Jan. 20 while riding on the Paradise Valley Road north of Squamish.

Routley was riding with Dr. Cathryn Zeglinski when a group of five other riders joined them in the northbound lane. Routley said the pack also included a 15-year-old and one of the people confronted by the man with the bat on Jan. 25.

Zeglinski said the oncoming vehicle was driving right towards the vulnerable group as the cyclists rode two abreast in the northbound lane.

"We're looking up and wondering what he's doing," said Routley.

The car got so close that Routley said riders were contemplating bailing off the road and into the ditch.

"He intentionally came into our lane straight at us and swerved at the last minute," said Zeglinski. "If his timing was off a little bit he would have killed us."

The man behind the wheel of the small car was reportedly laughing as he drove by. Zeglinski said she tried to sprint after the car to read the license plate number but there was so much dirt on the vehicle that it was impossible to make out.

According to Zeglinski, too many people don't understand the laws of the road.

"We have the right to the road and it may mean that cars are required to slow down for a very short limited time but they have to be aware that when they're slowing down they are slowing down just like it was for a slower moving car," said Zeglinski.

The Motor Vehicle Act in B.C. states: "...a person operating a cycle on a highway has the same rights and duties as a driver of a vehicle."

She noted that Whistler's tourism-based economy is dependent on visitors who will come in increasing numbers with the arrival of Ironman Canada and its proposed bike route between Pemberton and the Callaghan Valley.

Rebagliati

Rebagliati

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Whistler Mayor Nancy Wilhelm-Morden said safety was her primary concern.

"If the federal government moves along with these regulations, we're going to have to have a look at our bylaws and regulations, obviously, to see if they have to be amended," she said. "This isn't really something the municipality has any choice about... It will be interesting for us if this goes forward."

On top of everything else, Smyth added that he and Rebagliati had been contacted by the producers of two different reality TV shows.

"It's crazy. They contacted us. We'll entertain the offers, I think it would be great if we could do something," he said.

Health Canada forecasts medical marijuana users to grow from 26,000 currently to 300,000 in the next decade, creating an industry worth $5 billion. [END OF的故事。]
Sea to Sky leads province in alcohol consumption

By John French

A quick glance at statistics released by the B.C. Liquor Distribution Branch suggests that alcohol sales in the region outpace the rest of the province.

The B.C. Liquor Stores in Sea to Sky sold 3.7 million litres of liquor in the 2011-12 fiscal year. In a per capita comparison with other regions around the province the amount of alcohol sold in the region puts other regions around the province the fiscal year. In a per capita comparison with 3.7 million litres of liquor in the 2011-12 outpace the rest of the province.

For some people it’s their once-in-a-lifetime vacation. They’ll buy an expensive bottle of wine, or buy two. Does that make them an alcoholic? No.”

Brisbois pointed out that many of the festivals hosted in Whistler draw young crowds who enjoy alcohol, while many of the employees in the resort are under the age of 30. Many of them enjoy having a few drinks in their time away from work environment they let loose.

Brisbois pointed out that many of the employees in the resort are under the age of 30. Many of them enjoy having a few drinks in their time away from work noted Brisbois.

The busiest liquor store in the province is at 39th and Cambie in Vancouver with $549,000 in sales in 2011-2012. ■
P

Pennies out of circulation on Feb. 4

By Andrew Mitchell

Pennies are close to worthless, unless you have jars full of them — and even then you’d need about 2.3 kilograms (almost five pounds) worth to make $10; a lot of people would struggle to lift $100 worth using two hands, while $1,000 in pennies would fill the trunk of a car and weigh about the same as a snowmobile.

And so pennies get thrown into the garbage or vacuumed up because it’s not worth the effort to pick them up. They get pushed back over store counters, or plunked into “Take a Penny, Leave a Penny” trays, tip jars, or donation boxes (although few donation boxes than before as most non-profits are realizing that the time and cost of processing all that small change outweighs the benefits).

The Government of Canada, via the Royal Canadian Mint, has stamped out over 32 billion pennies since Confederation, about six billion of which are still in circulation. But the era of the penny officially comes to an end this Feb. 4.

A transaction for $1.02 will be rounded down to $1 and a transaction of $1.03 will be rounded up to $1.05. Electronic transactions are exempt from rounding.

The Whistler Chamber of Commerce has kept Whistler retailers informed about the change in newsletters, providing a link so retailers can get more information.

Because some transactions round up and others round down, there’s expected to be no net loss for businesses. As well, Canada is already among the leading nations for non-cash transactions with only about 32 per cent of transactions using cash in 2011.

The decision to do away with the penny was made in July 2012, and is expected to save the government $11 million a year in production costs. Currently the cost of making a penny — labour, materials and distribution is 1.6 cents.

There are some costs associated with phasing out the penny for the first few years. The federal government will spend around $60 million redeeming six million pennies 2018, plus another $20 million in administrative costs. Some $42 million will be raised by selling the metal — mostly steel, but also copper, zinc, tin, etc. — for scrap, for a total cost of $38 million.

However, when you factor in the $11 million in annual savings, Canada still comes out ahead. Costs will be high the first few years, but averaged out over the next six years the savings will be around $4 million a year.

Any bank will accept pennies as legal tender providing they’re rolled up, and some banks have change counters that people can use for a fee (usually around 10 per cent) or that are free for members. As well, banks are providing their clients with bags that they can fill up and exchange for $25.

Nick MacDonald, the manager of customer service for TD Canada Trust in Whistler, said they haven’t seen a large influx of customers asking for penny bags or bringing in jars of change, but they’re prepared for it.

“We get lots of questions about it, but we’re not seeing tonnes of pennies coming in,” he said. “TD Canada Trust head office is telling us what to expect and what we’re going to do, and on Feb. 4 we are going to start rounding — we’re able to take pennies in but we’re not going to be giving them out.

“When customers come in and have it explained to them, I think they may start emptying their change jars and bringing them in.”

Although the bank does accept rolled coins, MacDonald suggests using the coin bags to save time.

Some thoughts for your pennies:
- Pennies are not made out of copper any more, which is far too valuable a metal for coins. Since 2000, Canadian pennies have been 94 per cent steel, 1.5 per cent nickel and 4.5 per cent copper as plating. From 1997 to 1999 pennies were mostly made of zinc, which is also too valuable. Pennies from 1996 and earlier are about 98 per cent copper.
- The two maple leaves on the back of pennies minted after 1937 are accompanied by the initials KG, which stands for British designer G.E. Kruger Gray.
- Pennies are also called “cent” pieces, after the French for “hundred.” However, in Quebec pennies are sometimes called “sous,” slang for a small coin of little value.■
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Katmandu: the end of the beginning of an era

ICONIC STORE CLOSES VILLAGE LOCATION TODAY, BUT DEVELOPING SPACE AT FUNCTION JUNCTION

By Andrew Mitchell

As of Jan. 31, 2013, Katmandu will be closing its village store. But what started out as a “going out of business” story has become a story of rebirth. In the month or so since the word got out that Katmandu was closing up shop, owner Rusty Long has had a change of heart — partly prompted by the encouragement of loyal local customers and staff, and partly because he’s been his own man so long he’s not keen on the idea of going to work for someone else.

“I need a job, and I’d rather give myself one than look for one,” he joked over a pint at the Dublin Gate — ostensibly because it’s Robbie Burns Day, but more to fortify himself before an afternoon of attacking walls at what will become Katmandu’s new location in Function Junction.

He’s also looking to take his eclectic mix of products online and to branch out into specialty goods like musical instruments, longboard skateboards and head-shop-style products — bongs, rolling papers, vaporizers, that kind of thing.

While it’s been difficult personally, Long said the decision to move to Function Junction was an easy one to make.

“The support from customers and staff has been quite overwhelming actually. And believe me, I don’t want to close, that’s not what I want to do — I’m further in debt because of this (decision to keep the store going) than anything else. If we made enough to keep people working, to keep the store running and allow me to live I’d be happy, but it’s taking me backwards.”

If anything, change has been the only constant in Katmandu’s 20-year history. Long worked for 20 years in the restaurant business before he got into retail, launching a consignment store in Function Junction in 1993 with diverse products like sweaters, power tools and stereo equipment in the window. Long moved to the village in 1996, soon after the North Village and Marketplace were completed. The new Katmandu was primarily a snowboard and mountain bike store that was wildly successful with four or five staff members working at any given time.

However, Long said he has been slowly forced out of his most profitable lines by competition and other realities in the Whistler retail scene, as well as things like Internet comparison shopping. Rather than compete with bigger chains he’s tried to stay ahead of the curve bybranching out into specialty goods like musical instruments, longboard skateboards and head-shop-style products — bongs, rolling papers, vaporizers, that kind of thing.

In the end, Long said it was a combination of issues that got the better of his store.

TOO MUCH COMPETITION?

One of the main reasons Katmandu has been forced to close is competition. When some larger chains moved into his area his revenues went down $350,000 in the first winter. The next year he cut his order and his revenues dropped again by roughly the same amount.

He used to have a few exclusive high-end brands, but when those brands decided they wanted to be in the bigger stores it took his advantage away.

The result was that those companies now had more exposure, but lost the enthusiasm that Long and his staff had for their products.

In the summer months Katmandu used to specialize in bikes, but Long said that margins are low and the opening of the bike park favoured stores closer to the mountain. As well, Katmandu backed a few bike brands that were themselves mismanaged.

After watching accounts that used to be $100,000 or more drop to $10,000, Long...
started to diversify his product selection — a strategy that has met with some short-term success. But anywhere he diversified successfully, competition inevitably followed. Now Katmandu is one of three head shops in the village.

As well, Long said Internet comparison shopping has taken a bite out of retail, especially where the tourist market is concerned.

“There was a guy who came in here a few weeks ago looking at badge glue, to stick a badge on his jacket and he agonized over the decision for half an hour before saying, ‘I think I’m going to buy online, I feel safer that way.’ For badge glue,” said Long, shaking his head.

Cal Jelley, who has worked for Long the past five years, said it’s a common problem these days. “People would rather go to the web even when there’s an actual human being in front of them who’s used the product, who’s telling you it’s going to work,” he said.

THE LONG RECESSION

For a lot of people the latest global recession started in late 2007 with the collapse of several U.S. investment banks, but Whistler’s busiest winter ever was back in 2000-2001 before the economy took a hit after the September 11 terror attacks. Cross-border travel has become more difficult since then, while the Canadian dollar rose to parity with the U.S. greenback. The impact on retail was significant.

“I talk to a lot of the store owners here, and from what I can tell about 20 per cent of stores are doing really well, about 20 per cent are suffering and the other 60 per cent are just covering costs. Unfortunately I’m in that bottom 20 per cent,” he said.

When the Canadian dollar was between 60 and 70 cents U.S., he said retail was much easier. American visitors still like to shop, he said, and are still big spenders compared to other markets, but there are fewer of them and they’re spending less than they used to.

For several years, Whistler’s bread and butter has been the Lower Mainland, but Long said visitors from Vancouver tend to stick to the chain stores or don’t shop at all.

“I get a lot of people who will come in and check us out and say this is the most interesting store in all of Whistler — but they don’t buy anything,” he said. “I’d say that 90 per cent of my business is local… which also makes a case for moving to Function Junction.”

Young, transient and seasonal workers are also a key market for Long, but in the last few years the winter workforce has also shrank. According to the Whistler Housing Authority survey, some 14,500 employees were required to keep Whistler running back in 2002-2003, while in the winter of 2010-2011 the total number of hires was around 11,800.

“Those 3,000 young people, they were my customers,” Long explained.

THE HIGH COST OF DOING BUSINESS

While rising rents have been cited in the closing of other Whistler businesses, Long said his rent has been fair over the years — although the increase in property taxes, Tourism Whistler fees and maintenance fees have increased significantly since he moved to the village in 1996 and now account for over a third of his total bill per square foot. To put it into perspective, Long said that moving to Function will reduce his overhead costs by over 90 per cent.

For Jelley, it’s been tough to see the store he loves losing ground.

“Our thing is that we’ve always been happy to see people in the store. They get a smile, they get a ‘hi,’ we go out of our way to help them,” said Jelley.

“Someone will come in with a broken binding that really wants to go up the mountain that day, and nobody else will help them. But we’ll take it into the back, stick it in the drill press, cut some bolts down to size. It will take us 45 minutes and we’ll only charge $10 or $15.”

“The store is the embodiment of all of us in a way, it’s what we make it.”

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Squamish announces downtown ambitions

TRANSFORMING CENTRAL BUSINESS AREA IS COUNCIL’S TOP PRIORITY

By John French

Squamish Council has announced its top priority this year is to transform the community’s downtown area.

A strategic action plan for the next 20 years is to kick off this year with the transformation of downtown being a priority for the seven members of council in the last two years of the group’s mandate.

Mayor Rob Kirkham announced last week at a Squamish Chamber of Commerce luncheon that residents of Squamish can invest in and bank on the downtown improvement work to be done in the future.

The downtown improvement plan includes a list of what the DOS is calling improvement work to be done in the future.

The downtown improvement plan includes a list of what the DOS is calling improvement projects that will deliver quick wins. This includes finalizing a neighbourhood plan for the area, creating a public art policy, installing more public art, upgrading one block of Cleveland Avenue, upgrading the entrance to the downtown, cycling routes and implementing tax and development incentives for developers that build there.

A community engagement process is planned for the spring before the initiative really gets rolling by the end of May.

Longer-range planning includes the creation of waterfront parks and walkways to better connect the oceanfront and Mamquam Blind Channel to the commercial area. Other big projects will focus on the creation of a new town square, improved parking and traffic flows to promote cycling and walking along with holding events designed to animate the downtown and draw people to the area.

“There are multiple documents that have been created on this subject, and we want to see them all brought together and synthesized into one guiding action-oriented document,” Kirkham said to members of Squamish’s Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Jan. 23. “There is a great amount of work to be done. Staff are on board and we’re ready to throw all our energy, focus and resources towards this.”

One of the top priorities in the plan has been an ongoing project dating back to the closure of the chemical plant that operated at the top of Howe Sound between the 1960s and 2001. The DOS has tasked the Squamish Oceanfront Development Corp. with finding a partner, or partners, this year to start the process of turning the former industrial site into what the corporation describes as a world-class “work-live-learn-play” community.

The leader of Squamish’s downtown business improvement association, Scott McQuade, said he was pleased by the announcement.

“We’re always happy when the district recognizes that we’re still the business centre of town,” McQuade said.

The two-decade action window didn’t cause McQuade any concern.

“That’s just the reality of it,” he said.

“I’d much rather see them say it’s going to be 20 years and actually get it done as opposed to telling us it is going to be five and nothing gets done.”

Name that lift WB contest

Whistler Blackcomb is looking for a name for the new Crystal Zone quad chair, which is to be installed before the start of the next season.

The “You Name It” competition will run for two weeks and the person who submits the best name chosen by Whistler Blackcomb to crown the new quad will receive a choice of either a $1,000 Whistler Blackcomb gift card or a 2013/14 unlimited winter season pass for two weeks and the person who submits the top of the new high-speed Crystal Zone quad chairlift, which is to be installed before the start of the next season.

The competition is open to anyone over the age of 13 and contestants can enter as many names as they like. The winner will be announced on February 26, 2013. Submissions can be made at www.whistlerblackcomb.com/younamethis.

The new high-speed quad chairlift in the Crystal Zone will be 1,708 metres (5,604ft) in length, with a vertical rise of 535 metres (1,755ft). The top of the new high-speed Crystal Zone quad will have the same location as the current fixed-grip, triple chair next to the Crystal Hut.

The competition is open to anyone over the age of 13 and contestants can enter as many names as they like. The winner will be announced on February 26, 2013. Submissions can be made at www.whistlerblackcomb.com/younamethis.

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FEBC recommends federal riding boundary changes to include Pemberton

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMUNITY TO JOIN WEST VANCOUVER-SUNSHINE COAST-SEA TO SKY COUNTRY TABLED

By Cathryn Atkinson

Pemberton and Mt. Currie will join the West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sky federal riding if recommendations of the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission (FEBC) report are adopted.

The FEBC handed down its recommendations in Ottawa on Jan. 28, which were then tabled in Parliament. The decision was reached “as a result of submissions received,” stated the FEBC report.

The region’s MP John Weston said if passed, he would gain Pemberton and its agricultural region at the expense of the more densely populated North Vancouver riding. I’m really excited to welcome them back to the Sea to Sky corridor where there is a natural community of interest.

“I’m glad to see that the federal boundary commission paid attention to the argument that Village of Pemberton, the (Squamish-Lillooet Regional District) Electoral Area C put forward that reflect the right alignment in that virtually everything that affects us on a daily basis is oriented to the south, be it recreation, societal issues, environmental, transportation, business opportunities, it all flows down the Sea to Sky corridor,” he said.

Lillooet’s request for more SLRD hydro funds put off for 2013

The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District was able to avert a possible revenue crisis for 2012 following a request by the District of Lillooet for $300,000 from the SLRD’s Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) fund paid to it annually by BC Hydro.

The SLRD receives just over $1 million per annum from BC Hydro, with two-thirds of that generated by three power stations just outside Lillooet in SLRD Areas A and B. From this, the town, which is the service centre for the northern part of the regional district, received just under $25,000 in 2012.

It was feared that in order to maintain SLRD services, hydro funds that would normally flow to other SLRD communities would instead flow to Lillooet. To meet this, every community in the SLRD would have needed to find the equivalent of a one per cent increase in taxation. This led to heavy discussions at the SLRD board meeting of Jan. 29.

But at the district’s Committee of the Whole meeting on Jan. 29, it was resolved for the board to keep funding allocations the way they were in 2012, said SLRD chair Patricia Heintzman. More information from the three northern jurisdictions was required and the ramifications needed to be better investigated, she said.

“The entire board acknowledges the challenges that Lillooet is facing,” said Heintzman in an interview. She added that the conversation over the PILT issue would continue throughout 2013.

- Cathryn Atkinson

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The Squamish Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) wants more time to investigate an application by Frank Silveri, owner of Whistler Aggregates, for a permit for a mobile asphalt plant at the Green River Pit, after receiving a letter outlining the concerns of a resident living near the site.

A resolution allowing for notice to be given for the permit request was changed to include an investigation into these concerns at the monthly SLRD meeting on Jan. 28. The proposed asphalt place is two kilometres north of the Wedge Woods subdivision on the east side of Highway 99.

Silveri told Pique in January that the plant was “to service the areas for the north.”

The SLRD received a letter from David Williams, a resident on Soo Forest Service Road in Area C, whose residence and hobby farm “will be located 300+ meters (sic) from the proposed asphalt plant.”

Williams states: “My environmental concerns are based on the extremely high water table that is evident in the Southern half of this lease,” going on to name two creeks and a wetland that he felt would be impacted. Williams also noted his property’s location near an exhaust stack on Cougar Mountain that, due to its positioning, would lead to exhaust lingering rather than dissipating.

District staff reported to the SLRD board that they were unable to inspect the site due to high snow levels. Area D director Maurice Freitag expressed surprise that the B.C. ministry of the environment had not noted the presence of a wetland, and was told one was not noted on ministry maps of the area.

Area C director Susie Girnse said she was most concerned about the air-quality impact.

“These are pretty significant impacts and before moving forward I would like some investigation in terms of exhaust, air quality and wetland impacts,” she said.

Pemberton Mayor Jordan Sturdy suggested that rather than a three-year temporary use permit be given, a one-year temporary use permit be issued with the impact of the asphalt plant to be reviewed.

The board passed a resolution that public notice be given and that staff investigate the issues brought forward in the letter, along with the length of the permit.

**STEPS TAKEN TO SUPPORT MUSIC FESTIVAL IN PEMBERTON VALLEY**

The Village of Pemberton submitted a non-farm use application to the SLRD, acting as agent for two agricultural property owners who want their land to be temporarily used for a potential music festival. The properties would be used for camping.

“All of a sudden this has gained momentum,” said Pemberton Mayor Jordan Sturdy. He added that co-operation would be needed by all stakeholders, including Mount Currie, SLRD Area C and Whistler, “or such an event would not take place.”

No event is currently in the works for 2013. The Pemberton Music Festival in 2008 brought 40,000 people to a three-day festival. The request was unanimously supported by the regional district board and will be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission for a decision.

- With files from Alison Taylor
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SLRD seeks information regarding temporary use permit for asphalt plant

BOARD WANTS MORE ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

By Cathryn Atkinson

The Squamish Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) wants more time to investigate an application by Frank Silveri, owner of Whistler Aggregates, for a permit for a mobile asphalt plant at the Green River Pit, after receiving a letter outlining the concerns of a resident living near the site.

A resolution allowing for notice to be given for the permit request was changed to include an investigation into these concerns at the monthly SLRD meeting on Jan. 28. The proposed asphalt place is two kilometres north of the Wedge Woods subdivision on the east side of Highway 99.

Silveri told Pique in January that the plant was “to service the areas for the north.”

The SLRD received a letter from David Williams, a resident on Soo Forest Service Road in Area C, whose residence and hobby farm “will be located 300+ meters (sic) from the proposed asphalt plant.”

Williams states: “My environmental concerns are based on the extremely high water table that is evident in the Southern half of this lease” going on to name two creeks and a wetland that he felt would be impacted. Williams also noted his property’s location near an exhaust stack on Cougar Mountain that, due to its positioning, would lead to exhaust lingering rather than dissipating.

District staff reported to the SLRD board that they were unable to inspect the site due to high snow levels. Area D director Maurice Freitag expressed surprise that the B.C. ministry of the environment had not noted the presence of a wetland, and was told one was not noted on ministry maps of the area.

Area C director Susie Gimse said she was most concerned about the air-quality impact.

“Before moving forward I would like the impacts investigated,” said Gimse.

“But these are pretty significant impacts and before moving forward I would like some investigation in terms of exhaust, air quality and wetland impacts,” she said.

Pemberton Mayor Jordan Sturdy suggested that rather than a three-year temporary use permit be given, a one-year temporary use permit be issued with the impact of the asphalt plant to be reviewed.

The board passed a resolution that public notice be given and that staff investigate the issues brought forward in the letter, along with the length of the permit.

STEPS TAKEN TO SUPPORT MUSIC FESTIVAL IN PEMBERTON VALLEY

The Village of Pemberton submitted a non-farm use application to the SLRD, acting as agent for two agricultural property owners who want their land to be temporarily used for a potential music festival. The properties would be used for camping.

“While of a sudden this has gained momentum,” said Pemberton Mayor Jordan Sturdy. He added that co-operation would be needed by all stakeholders, including Mount Currie, SLRD Area C and Whistler, “or such an event would not take place.”

No particular event is currently in the works for 2013.

The Pemberton Music Festival in 2008 brought 40,000 people to a three-day festival that featured Coldplay, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, Nine Inch Nails and Jay-Z.

The request was unanimously supported by the regional district board and will now be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission for a decision, along with a report put together by SLRD staff.

- With files from Alison Taylor
Austen’s power

I

September 2008, I found myself in the town of Winchester in Hampshire for a work meeting at a magazine where I freelanced. Afterwards, I had time before my train so I went for a walk in what is a very ancient and pretty place — it was already old when it was King Alfred’s capital of Wessex, circa 870 AD.

I went straight to Winchester Cathedral, a charming Norman-gothic building in a small quadrangle and ducked inside to pay my respects to the novelist Jane Austen. Her flagstoned grave is about halfway up the north aisle as you face the nave. I was alone apart from two or three others; it was a quiet weekday, and I felt very lucky not to be overwhelmed by tourists and to be able to be alone with my thoughts about the great writer. Mostly, I was reminded that it had been a while since I’d picked up one of her books. I rectified that when I got back to Canada and have been rereading a couple a year ever since.

This year is the 200th anniversary of the publication of Pride and Prejudice, Austen’s best-known work. In fact, it was on Monday, Jan. 28.

Austen’s ongoing power and popularity stems in part from her ability to make observations about human relationships that are no less relevant today than they were in 1813. Her themes may have revolved around how women living in impoverished gentility could neither support themselves through work nor easily inherit under British law, but her universals can cover just to make observations about human folly. The writing is itself proof. Her ideas were driven through her characters and their actions and are especially brilliant when describing human folly. The writing is itself proof.

A personal favourite quote says a lot about my unwillingness to engage in stupid arguments:

“Elinor agreed to it all, for she did not think he deserved the compliment of rational opposition...” (Persuasion).

There’s something for Valentine’s Day:

“If I loved you less, I might be able to talk about it more” (Emma).

Another quote I think we can all relate to on some days:

“Life seems but a quick succession of busy nothings” (Mansfield Park).

There’s one that easily pertains to people having drinks on a Whistler terrace in the summer:

“To sit in the shade on a fine day and look upon verdure is the most perfect refreshment” (also Mansfield Park).

And, finally, a tabloid journalist’s creed:

“For what do we live, but to make sport for our neighbours and laugh at them in our turn?” (Pride and Prejudice).

It is humbling as a writer to learn that Austen’s six finished works were published between 1811 and 1818; two were posthumous, as she died in 1817, though, of course, she had been writing since childhood. By anyone’s definition, that is a horrendously slender morsel of time in which to write so many consistently extraordinary pieces of literature.

And but for the interest of a publisher called Richard Bentley we might not have heard of her at all; Austen’s novels were out of print for 12 years, from 1820 to 1832.

With the 200th anniversary, the Janeites (as the serious fans are called) will be out in force. There is Austen’s simple ability to tell a story well. There is her relevance to women and their rights. There is Pride and Prejudice’s combination of pure romance and clever observation in the story of an arrogant man forced to reflect on his life and behaviour because of love, and of a woman whose misunderstandings of another person could belong to anyone.

Pride and Prejudice is an industry on its own, with 50,000 copies selling in the U.K. every year. Sorry, I couldn’t find the Canadian numbers. David Leaman of the Jane Austen Centre in Bath told the BBC that 60,000 people a year visit his museum.

There are the filmed versions, Colin Firth as Mr. Darcy in one, Kiera Knightly as Elizabeth Bennet in another, Donald Sutherland trying (badly) to pull off the English accent of Mr. Bennet.

And there is a more recent adaptation, Pride and Prejudice and Zombies, which was bloody silly but also bloody fun.

On Monday’s anniversary, there was a 12-hour Internet livestream reading of the book and hookups with various Jane Austen Societies around the world.

And in that spectacularly eccentric English way that we could do with more of in this country, the BBC is creating Pride and Prejudice: Having A Ball, at Easter.

The show is a 90-minute historical look at the Regency era through the re-enactment of one of the more famous chapters in the book, the Netherfield Ball. The experts will be out to talk about the food, the music, the customs, the dress, and, of course, the dancing.

That’s all very nice and colourful, like all circuses, but my tip is to find a nice place and a stretch of time, take the book and read your heart out.
COLORADO AND OTHER JURISDICTIONS MOVE AHEAD WHILE U.S. FEDS DISCUSS PERSONAL MARIJUANA USE

By Allen Best

With Whistler resident and Olympic medal winner Ross Rebagliati’s plan in the news to open a number of medical marijuana dispensaries across the country, and news, broken last year by the Pique that a medical marijuana grower plans to set up a large operation in the Sea to Sky corridor, questions around the use of marijuana are staying in the headlines. While many organizations in B.C., including the Union of B.C. Municipalities, have come out in favour of decriminalization, our neighbours to the south have taken it one step further. In this Dispatches reporter Allen Best looks at the debate in Colorado, where last November voters approved an amendment to the state’s constitution that allows possession of up to an ounce of marijuana by people aged 21 and older.

Unlike some, Jim Schmidt admits that he has inhaled. “It makes me cough,” he says frankly of smoking marijuana.

That hacking is well in the past. Schmidt, 65, a former mayor and current council member in Crested Butte, Colo., drives a bus for a living and is barred from entering federal buildings by federally chartered banks. They have remained against federal law, a fact noted when young voters are most likely to vote.

But possession and use of marijuana remains against federal law, a fact noted by federally chartered banks. They have been leery of granting loans to marijuana businesses for fear their assets will be seized. Observers say the federal government can’t ignore states thumbing their nose at federal laws. But with immigration, financial debt and climate change already on the agenda, will Congress have time to wrangle through this issue?

“One person, I have always felt that the (federal) government has wasted a lot of time prosecuting marijuana sales,” says Schmidt. “If we legalize it and tax it, hopefully we will take it out of control of the drug cartels (in Mexico). I think that’s an important thing. It might put it into control of corporations. They might be just as evil, but they tend not to kill as many people.”

Ski towns, like other jurisdictions, are mostly biding their time until Colorado’s legalization begins in 2000, when nearly 54 per cent of voters approved a constitutional amendment that authorized use by patients diagnosed with glaucoma, cancer, and other illnesses, but also severe pain, persistent muscle spasms, and other ailments.

The law gave permission to caregivers and patients to legally possess marijuana, but only two ounces.

That put Colorado into direct conflict with the federal laws, but there were few clashes.

A state court ruling in 2007 cleared the way for street front dispensaries, and in 2009 state officials eliminated the five-patient limit for caregivers.

Soon after, officials in the new Obama administration announced they would not prosecute patients and caregivers who were in “clear and unambiguous compliance” with state law.

Within just a few years, the number of people with medical marijuana cards in Colorado, population 5.3 million, ballooned from 1,000 to 145,000. About
Marijuana

70 per cent of patients were males, with an average age of 40, according to the Washington Park Profile.

Only one per cent of patients have glaucoma, and two per cent cancer, while 94 per cent of patients cited “severe pain” as the basis of need. About 85 per cent of referrals were made by a handful of doctors.

Regulations adopted by the Colorado Legislature gave ski towns and other jurisdictions latitude of restricting dispensaries by location and number, or even banning them altogether. Some towns and counties did exactly that.

Vail’s town council concluded that marijuana distribution would tarnish the town’s image. This was despite the vote of citizens in 2000 in favour of medicinal marijuana. Among ski towns, Breckenridge has been ground zero. There, voters in 2010 legalized possession under the local ordinance, the first in Colorado. Adverse consequences were expected. But the effect was little, reports Rick Holman, then the town police chief and now the assistant town manager.

“I think a lot of people thought the floodgate would open, but we didn’t see a huge increase (in obvious use),” says Holman. “Really, we didn’t see much of any change.” But worrisome is the increased use in marijuana among high-school students since legalization efforts have begun, he says. That concern also resonates with Schmidt, who worries that THC will be added to candy. “If a youngster is smoking something, you can pick up on that,” he says. “But if a kid has a lollipop in his mouth, how do you know?”

Judge Buck Allen, the municipal judge in Breckenridge, Vail, Avon and Eagle, says three or four cases of marijuana possession or use he saw per month were mostly incidental to traffic stops or other routine police work. Possession is no longer illegal, however.

But public use remains illegal, even in national forests. “About the only place it is 100 per cent clear you can smoke marijuana is a free-standing home that you own,” advised The Denver Post.

Yet to be seen are the revenue gains for local jurisdictions. The 26 medical marijuana dispensaries in Boulder, the college town at the centre of a metropolitan population of nearly 300,000, have produced a stable $314,000 or so a year, reports the Boulder Daily Camera. But in ski towns, the revenue has been just a drible. “It’s less than we thought,” says Schmidt of Crested Butte.

Some city officials suspect that transactions have slipped under table. “If you look at the sales tax from any of these, you have to wonder how they keep their doors open,” says David Smith, city attorney in Durango, a college and ski town. It has eight or nine local dispensaries. He suspects under-the-table dealings. “When you have an ATM machine just inside the door, it’s not hard to figure out it’s mostly a cash deal.”

Others say that Colorado’s slow process has culled the shady operators and those left standing are almost certainly reputable.

One key issue before Colorado regulators is how to define impairment by drivers. Should presence of THC, the principal psychoactive constituent in cannabis, in a person’s bloodstream make a person under the influence?

“If personally know a lot of patients who can handle a huge amount of THC in their systems and don’t show any impairments,” says Chris Olson, spokesperson for the County Sheriffs of Colorado. And if mere presence of THC is considered impairment, then what about caffeine? “There’s a point at which you can have too much in your system and you can’t do anything. You can’t even sit still,” he says.

Olson, who has had two transplants and has had his colon removed, opened a medical dispensary in Frisco, just off Interstate 70, in August 2009. He argues that Colorado, despite the legalization, has mishandled the permitting requirements, making it difficult for people with legitimate needs for marijuana to gain access.

While the local sheriff joked about the epidemic of 21-year-olds with neck pain, Olson argues that marijuana is safer for human consumption than Tylenol.

Regulators, he says, have been ignorant and had to be trained. However, he admits that “a lot of business owners who weren’t of high integrity” had become dispensers of medical marijuana.

With the complete legalization of possession, but still not public use, many feel a certain relief. Smith tells the story of a student at the local Fort Lewis College, who was arrested for smoking pot in a parking lot. In her defense, she produced evidence of a medical need: irritable bowel syndrome.

“The story became that, one bad morning in the bathroom and you too can qualify for a medical marijuana card,” says Smith. “To me, the hypocrisy has been lifted by Amendment 64 (approved in November), but it will be a very, very hard thing to monitor and control.”

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www.piquenewsmagazine.com | January 31, 2013 | 35
A SPEN, Colo. — Can Aspen use less electricity? Sure, say experts, who describe energy efficiency and conservation as the “vegetables” that should be consumed before the dessert of renewable resources.

But like broccoli, many people would just as soon not become energy efficient.

That’s the policy conundrum Aspen city officials now find themselves in after a defeat at the ballot box in November, when the city government issued a climate change manifesto called the Canary Initiative. Among other goals, the plan identified a 2015 deadline for producing all of the electricity distributed to consumers of Aspen Electric from renewable sources.

That includes about two-thirds of the electricity used in the town.

In achieving that goal, Aspen had a giant head start, due to several decisions made in the 1980s and 1990s to reduce dependence on coal. With further purchases of wind-generated power, the utility is now 75 per cent divorced from coal and natural gas.

Retrofitting of an existing dam between Telluride and Montrose to produce electricity will further push the utility to 89 per cent.

But the low-hanging fruit was to have been replacement of a hydroelectric plant that was decommissioned 50 years ago.

By diverting water from two local creeks, Castle and Maroon, the plant was projected to displace another eight per cent of the electricity now produced by burning coal.

Although originally approved by voters in 2007, the hydro project ran into increasing opposition, in part because of the perceived impacts to the local creeks. By a narrow margin, Aspen voters in November expressed their dislike of the project.

While that vote did not formally demand an end to the project, council members agreed to reconsider. One argument is that instead of producing more electricity, Aspen needs to figure out how to do more with less.

The Aspen Daily News reports that the city is now talking about toughening up regulations, to demand greater efficiency.

The city has had voluntary programs that encourage the efficient use of energy, but the program has been largely ineffective, according to Phil Overeynder, the city utilities engineer.

Steve Barwick, the city manager, says regulations could be created, but it would be a long and difficult process. And Mayor Mick Ireland said he supports such regulations, but experts strong pushback from the community.

The Aspen Daily News reports that four people spoke in favor of the new approach of greater efficiency. Ken Neubecker, who has broad expertise in water matters, said he believes it can work.

He said he constantly hears people say that conservation and efficiency will not be able to meet the gap between supply and demand. “But the problem with water is that they just don’t make any more of it,” he added.

In other words, more can truly be done with less.

SMALL HYDRO TO HELP YELLOWSTONE GO GREEN

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS, Wyo. — A small hydroelectric plant has started operations at the northern gate to Yellowstone National Park.

Park officials say the $1.1 million micro-hydro plant can deliver electricity equivalent to what is needed in 100 homes and will pay for itself in saved electricity costs in 12 years.

Unlike a hydroelectric plant proposed at Aspen, this system relies only on water already diverted from several streams for treatment as drinking water. The power plant taps the energy of water as it travels more than 152 metres downhill.

The Bozeman (Mont.) Daily Chronicle explains that U.S. Army engineers installed a 100-kilowatt turbine to provide electricity to Fort Yellowstone in 1903. The plant continued to produce electricity until 1966, when commercial power became abundant and cheap.

The new plant will help Yellowstone reduce its carbon footprint. The National Park Service has set a goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions 15 per cent by 2016, the centennial of the formation of the Park Service.

PARK CITY WOULD LIKE TO SPREAD THE WEALTH

PARK CITY, UTAH — While Aspen continues to work diligently to hang onto the X Games each January, Park City remains vigilant about its ties to the Sundance Film Festival.

The 11-day festival draws all the cinema crowd from across the country and film critics from the major newspapers, not to mention Paris Hilton and her entourage. It fills up the town.

The Park Record says that town leaders would prefer that the festival was rescheduled, so that it didn’t overlap with Martin Luther King weekend. As is, skiers who might otherwise come find Park City’s pews already filled.

But Sundance likes the current schedule, so that it can be the first major film festival of the year.

Compiled by Allen Best

NOTICE

PARCEL TAX ROLL REVIEW

This notice is applicable to owners of property situated within the Resort Municipality of Whistler and whose properties are subject to one or all of the following parcel taxes:

- Emerald Sewer Specified Area Parcel Tax
- Water Parcel Tax
- Sewer Parcel Tax

The Resort Municipality of Whistler advises that the parcel tax roll for the 2013 roll year is available for public inspection at the Resort Municipality of Whistler Municipal Hall, 4325 Blackcomb Way, during business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday only (inclusive) (statutory holidays excluded).

The Resort Municipality of Whistler also advises that any complaints regarding the tax roll must be received by Anna Lamb, Manager of Financial Services no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, March 11, 2013.

Valid Complaints are:

- Errors or omissions of a name or address,
- Errors or omissions of a parcel,
- Errors or omissions of taxable area or frontage,
- An exemption has been improperly allowed or disallowed.

A complaint must be in writing and must:

- Include an address for delivery of any notices in respect of the complaint,
- Identify the property of which the complaint is made,
- Include the full name of the complainant and telephone number where they can be contacted at regular business hours,
- Indicate if the complainant is the owner of the property,
- Indicate, if applicable, the name of the complainant’s agent and telephone number where they can be contacted at regular business hours,
- State the grounds that the complaint is based upon,
- And any other prescribed information.

Dispatches OUT OF RANGE

Mountain News: Aspen faces food, energy questions

from the community.
Settling down in Whistler — Tom Pro brings his family to the mountains

"Home is where the heart is" - Traditional

It's not like he was a stranger or anything. The place had woked its fascination on him since he'd discovered it as a teen-aged racer in the late 1960s. The mountains, the snow — the people, the culture, the endless list of potential adventures — Whistler boasted everything he most cherished in life. But it wasn't yet his home. He was too busy gallivanting around the world for that.

Besides, Pro was having the ride of his life racing those monster-long boards of his straight down the hill for fame and... well, if not for fortune, then for a heck of a good time. Settling down came when you got old, if not for fortune, then for a heck of a good life racing those monster-long boards of his gallivanting around the world for that.

But it wasn't yet his home. He was too busy boasted everything he most cherished in life. The snow — the people, the culture, the aged racer in the late 1960s. The mountains, the snow — the people, the culture, the endless list of potential adventures — Whistler boasted everything he most cherished in life. But it wasn't yet his home. He was too busy

But that was in 1988. And back then Pro was just a single-gen pro-athlete dude lifestyle. You know, Harley Davidson in the garage, frequent flyer cards in his wallet and a travel-bag that never gets unpacked (except for laundry day of course). And it suited him — given his particular talents, going fast for a living seemed like a natural fit. No wonder he was always smiling.

And then he blew his knee out while forerunning a World Cup downhill. "And that was that," says Tom. The timing couldn't have been worse. And for some, the injury would have been a devastating blow. But Pro seems to have taken it in stride. "Sure, it was disappointing. But for me, it was clear. Time to grow up and get a real job."

Well, sort of a real job. His old racing buddy, Dave Murray, was the director of skiing at Whistler Mountain. And he needed coaches for the booming adult racing program he'd recently launched. "Mur had mentioned it to me before," says Pro. "So after my knee injury I approached him about it..." He stops. Takes a deep breath. "And in true Murray fashion he just said: 'Get your Level II instructors and let's go!'" He smiles. "So that's how the whole Whistler thing began."

But there's more. "I haven't thought about this in a while," he continues, "but once I started coaching at the Murray camps, Dave started really working on me. You should move up to Whistler full-time,' he'd say, 'you'll like it here...' And he just wouldn't let it go."

He shrugs. "Fitting, eh. Mur gave me the job that got me to Whistler, and then he talked me into becoming a full-time resident here."

More laughter. "A few things happened in-between though," he admits. Like marrying his long-time sweetheart — Claire Thornithwaite — in 1989. But the real shift came with the birth of their first child. That's when everything changed. "It happened all in one day," asserts Tom. "That was May 14th, 1991. On the same day our son was born, I sold my Harley, sold our North Van house and bought a home for us in Whistler."

Say what? "It's true," he says. "I started thinking about raising a family — and what kind of environment I wanted my kids to grow up in. A place. 'So I asked myself: 'If I were a kid, where would I want to grow up to?'" He laughs. "The answer was pretty evident. Whistler won hands-down. And even if we had to sacrifice a few things to move up here, it was worth it."

But selling the Harley? "It wasn't really that bad," he says. And laughs. "My father-in-law offered to help me out so I could keep it. But I said no. It was time to move on..."

Tom has never been afraid of hard work. He spent four summers — from '88-'92 — crouving on commercial fishing boats off the West Coast of BC. "I started on a Haida boat," he says. "And then I moved to Mitch Ponak's seiner Arthur Fisher. That was a great crew — everyone on the boat was a skier."

And it was good money too. But being away from home all summer didn't really fit with being a new dad. "So I looked around for something local, and ended up taking a job operating Glen Lynsay's lumber mill," he says. And smiles nostalgically. "I was Tom Sawyer for ten years. That was the best summer job I ever had..."

But his winter job wasn't so bad either. Turns out, Pro really liked teaching skiing to adults... and adults really liked being coached by Pro. He never got too complicated, or overly-technical with his charges. Never got too carried away with his own words. An adherent of the KISS (keep it simple, stupid) principle, Pro demystified ski racing for a whole generation of born-again Alberto-Tombas. He made it fun. Accessible. Social even. And people responded in kind.

By the winter of 1996, Pro had risen through the Dave Murray Camp ranks until he was managing the whole shebang himself. "I was program supervisor from '96 until 2007," he tells me proudly. "We had a great team in those years. And some truly outstanding campers. It was a lot of fun..."

Like many Whistlerites, Pro came to Whistler for the skiing... and stayed for the biking. A lifelong aficionado of two-wheel adventures, he quickly became enthralled to the unique pleasures of all-terrain cycling in Sea to Sky country. Soon he was as proficient on his bike as he was on his ski. And another door opened.

In 2001 the bike park manager job at Whistler-Blackcomb became vacant. Tom applied for the job... and got it. "Rob McSkimming was the general manager of the bike park," he explains, "and he knew how much I loved the mountain biking..." He pauses. Smiles. "And given my work with the Dave Murray camps, he also knew that I wasn't a rookie in the Whistler Blackcomb (WB) way of doing things."

So they struck up a deal. Tom agreed to supervise a team of bike park builders and WB agreed to give him a free reign in managing his team. And it worked beyond everybody's wildest dreams. "You have to remember," he says, "that very few people ever believed the bike-park thing would work back then. But we proved them wrong. We were successful — and that's because our 'formula' came from the heart. We really believed in what we were doing. That, and our understanding of the ski business made for a very potent combo."

And, oh by the way, he adds, they built a pretty cool bike park. "It was a real team effort," says Pro. "Everybody pulled their weight."

It didn't take long for the world to pick up on the team's success. "I started noticing that I was spending a lot of my time showing foreigners around the park," says Pro. "That's when I began to realize that there was nobody else out there doing what we were doing. So we started talking about it amongst ourselves. We should start a consulting company," somebody said. 'Yeal', said another, 'we should show the world how to build a bike park.'" He laughs. "And that, pretty much, is how Gravity Logic was launched."

And he laughs some more. "It's amazing to think now how little we knew about trail building before we left Whistler. I mean, you have to leave your backyard to discover these things. And we discovered so much..." He's still laughing. "Like, for example, just how challenging trail building is in other places around the world." He stops to catch his breath. "Funny too how things turn out. We're now considered experts on working with the US Forest Service. I barely knew what the Forest Service did ten years ago..."

Back up a bit. So Gravity Logic was launched in 2005 as a new WB venture. But didn't it hit rough waters quite early? "For sure," says Pro. "When Fortress bought Intrawest in 2006, they soon realized that Gravity Logic made less profit than their smallest coffee shop. So they decided to get rid of it. That's when I said: 'I'll buy it!' There were four of us involved in the company at the time: me and Dave Kelly, and two WB guys, Jeremy Roche and Rob McSkimming. But Rob and Jeremy had dream job with WB and couldn't be involved in both companies. So Dave and I — and new partner Rob Crozier — bought Gravity Logic for ourselves.

It's been pedal-to-the-metal ever since. "We've got so much work it's ridiculous," Pro tells me. "We've done projects in the Ukraine, Russia, China, Britain, Austria, Sweden and the US. And they're still not done with Whistler. We built the new Top Of-The-World trail," he explains. "And that was important. Thanks to WB, we learned everything here... and on their nickel too. So yeah, we still like being involved in local projects. I mean, it's our backyard, you know... we want it to be leading edge."

So you see! The Slovakian guy I met in the Tatras Mountains on that mysterious, smoky night was right. That Tom Pro fella, he's a great Whistler man. And fun. Very much fun... for sure! | www.piquenewsmagazine.com | January 31, 2013 | 37
Tourism may be the bread and butter of Whistler, but there is another industry that could perhaps be described as its backbone these past 40 years — construction. It has been transformative, revolutionary, cutting edge, and a multi-million dollar industry that has kept hundreds of community residents busy over the years, and still to this day.

This small valley of lakes, dotted with a few rustic cabins and old lumber camps, has grown into a town of award-winning architecture. And as the architecture has morphed from basic A-Frame cabins and Gothic Arches to contemporary avant-garde works of art in themselves, so too have the local builders.

"Construction has always been and will continue to be a key economic conduit in this community," says Chris Addario, president of the Whistler Chapter of the Canadian Home Builders Association.

"If and when someone invests in our town and hires one of us to build, renovate or repair their home we then distribute a portion of that money throughout our community in particular by employing locals. A lot of the money they earn is spent around town, which in turn provides jobs and opportunity for others."

While many builders have come and gone over the years, a few like Glen Lynskey, Mathew Dürfeld and Andy Munster have stayed the course right from the beginning.

They came in the early days, more often than not, just to ski. And building homes became their ticket for doing just that. But it became more than that. They discovered they were truly talented at the job, up for the challenge, able to improve and get more refined and willing to evolve.

That typical eight-month building window from April to December began to stretch into multi-year projects as the builds became bigger, more complex.

"Nobody came here with all that expertise," says Dürfeld. "That expertise grew and developed here."

In this first of an ongoing and occasional series of articles on the Whistler building industry, Pique examines the legacy of Lynskey, the evolution of Dürfeld, and the tradition of Munster. In the coming months Pique will be looking at the Whistler construction industry in a series of features running from green building, to award winning builders to the all-time top sellers.

Perhaps the trade has been quiet in recent years as the world’s recession came to the mountains too. Perhaps customers have been worried about the bottom line, more value conscious than in years past.

But you’d never guess it stepping into the latest homes of these three Whistler builders. Their stories, in a way, mirror the story of Whistler.

It’s about coming of age; about seizing unbelievable opportunities; about welcoming the world in a laid-back, laissez faire way; about becoming the best, but with a quiet, almost humble air.

THE LEGACY OF GLEN LYNSEY

The "Origami House", as it’s come to be known, will be called many things in its lifetime — a geometrical conundrum, a theatrical statement of architecture. It could also be called Glen Lynskey’s swan song — for it is a home he will never see finished. In a tragic turn of events Lynskey died suddenly last fall after complications from a fall on his bike.

He was 60 years old and arguably at the top of his professional game. The "Origami House" in many ways is his ode to taking chances, to bucking convention, to living, quite literally, on the edge.

Like Lynskey, the house is undoubtedly unique, seemingly defying gravity, certainly defying convention, hanging off the side of a cliff in Sunridge.

It was designed by the award-winning Canadian firm, Patkau Architects, who were charged with using their imagination.

Owner Martin Hadaway, who lives in Hong Kong, knew Lynskey was the man for his job as soon as he met him.

"We warmed to him immediately as he was a calm experienced guy with an excellent track record whose honesty and integrity shone through," he says. "Our house became a labour of love for all of us."

Since Lynskey’s death his crew, one of the biggest and most loyal in the local industry, has been carrying on, finishing up the four, multi-million dollar builds Glen left behind.

His legacy, however, lives on not just in the latest homes of these three Whistler builders. Their stories, in a way, mirror the story of Whistler.

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Alpine Meadows is a popular subdivision in Whistler being close to the rec centre, a convenience store and the high school.
Call Allan to view.
Crazy? Hardly. A visionary, never one to shy away from testing the boundaries? Truly.

As the world began coming to Whistler, using architects became the norm, particularly as the homes stretched into the multi-million dollar range and with that, increasing complexity.

"A lot of people gave him chances based on just talking to him," says Heather.

In 2008 Alta Lake Lumber was named a finalist in the Canadian Home Builders’ Association’s annual Georgie awards, honouring excellence in construction and design in B.C. It was the first time they had ever entered the awards, says Heather.

It would be hard for Lynskey to pick a favourite says Heather but one was close to his heart — The house is in Horstman Estates, a four-year build, another labour of love.

Down at Lakecrest Lane, Lynskey’s black pick-up truck is parked outside another big build on the lake. His crew is hard at work, pouring concrete today.

It’s for two side-by-side lots for a family home that stretches across the lake. One building for the home — bedrooms, kitchen, living area. The other building for a home office and studio, gym and spa.

Lynskey’s right-hand man, Brian Gavan, who is in talks with Heather to take over Alta Lake Lumber, says they are working not just on finishing up the ongoing projects but securing new ones for the future too.

“We’ve got some irons in the fire,” he says. His comments are tinged with sadness the more he talks about Lynskey, the man who took a chance on him, mentored him over the years, his friend.

It’s one of the things that perhaps people didn’t know about Lynskey, says Heather. At his core he was a kind person, always sensitive about how people felt.

“It was always about the challenge,” says Lynskey’s wife Heather. “Otherwise, he was bored.”

Lynskey was gifted, his intelligence pegged at an early age at school in Toronto. He quickly moved into gifted programs and ended up with a BA in history from the University of Toronto.

He also loved to ski, couldn’t be enticed away from the hills when he was a boy. And that’s how he ended up in Whistler in 1971.

Tree planting and building were the order of the day in Whistler at that time. Getting into construction meant he had the winters off to ski and also meant he could exercise his mind too.

Within a decade he had incorporated Alta Lake Lumber and was making his mark in residential homebuilding as new subdivisions began to spring up in Whistler seemingly overnight.

Lynskey always wanted to be an architect says Heather. He designed houses in the early days, including his own, complete with two-storey concrete walls.

Heather remembers what people were saying to her at the time: “Don’t let him do it — he’s nuts!”

"Origanami House" but also in the more than 40 houses he built throughout Whistler.

And while most don’t have the immediate reaction of the “Origanami House,” many of them have qualities that speak to the uniqueness of the unconventional builder himself.

When other builders talk of him it’s in a somewhat reverential way; he was a master craftsman with an old school approach.

Take a house in Alpine, one of Glen’s first homes that he designed in the early 80s. It looks like any other old ski chalet — peaked roofs to shed the snow, wood siding, a silver pipe for the wood burning stove rising up toward the sky.

But take a closer look and there’s something a little different about this house — the roof seems to bend and curve. It’s almost as though your mind is playing a trick on you. It’s a hyperbolic parabola, like a saddle, or a Pringles chip. Not your typical roof. And not what you expect to find in an old ski cabin.

What you can’t see from the outside is another architectural feat within; the house is designed on the Fibonacci mathematical sequence — 1+1=2, 2+1=3, 2+3=5, 5+3=8, and so on. That same mathematical sequence found throughout nature — the arrangement of leaves on a stem, the flowering of artichoke, the arrangement of a pinecone, the shell of a snail.

Such was the mind of Lynskey.

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It’s one of the things that perhaps people didn’t know about Lynskey, says Heather. At his core he was a kind person, always sensitive about how people felt.

“He was a really caring person,” she says. Then again, perhaps they do know. Many local contractors got their start at Alta Lake Lumber. Lynskey took many a chance on a 19-year-old kid, helped them, and let them go when it was time for them to forge their own way in the industry.

Heather hopes his legacy won’t just be his houses but that Alta Lake Lumber carries on too without him.

“It’s about coming of age; about seizing unbelievable opportunities; about welcoming the world in a laid-back, laissez faire way; about becoming the best, but with a quiet, almost humble air.”
pointing to Lynskey's work. Four houses in this subdivision were built by Lynskey, the amenity buildings too from the boathouse to the mailboxes.

His mark is everywhere. Wouldn't it be nice if it were called Lynskey Lane, he muses? In his mind, it always will be.

THE EVOLUTION OF MATHEO DÜRFE LD

Matheo Dürfeld hasn’t built a log home in five years. Don’t be fooled by that; business is… busy.

But as times have changed, so too has he—evolving to meet those changes.

For a man, whose company in many ways symbolizes the so-called "Whistler-style," his latest project is a massive departure from the norm.

Instead of heavy log and timber, there’s exposed concrete, glass flown in from Italy, zinc roofs, blackened steel and VG fir in a house that takes Whistler building to a whole new level.

And yes, there are audacious view decks, made from Stanley Park wood, again cantilevered out of the house—heading out to the clouds.

Rising up out of the snowy ground are two large concrete oculi—rounded telescope-like features. They are, in effect, futuristic skylights, one to pour light into the wine cellar below, the other to light up the hot tub.

The windowed corner of the master bedroom looks out over massive treetops, giving the illusion that you too are in a glass cocoon, living above the forest.

There is an over-riding sense of peace from simply looking outside. It belies the level of activity going on throughout the house as the crews work to get it finished.

This project takes contemporary lines to the extreme, where architectural elements throughout the house either line up, radiate or converge on several planes and in numerous materials.
It’s a whole new generation of what building can be,” says Dürfeld simply.

It’s designed by American architectural firm Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, of Bill Gates and Apple store fame among its many accolades.

“Whether that’s even my favourite is not even the answer. It’s more… has it been the most challenging?”

Without a doubt. But he’s up to it. Or rather, he adds modestly, he has a crew that has embraced the challenge.

Dürfeld has always been in construction it seems. It was, he says, his ticket through university where he studied psychology and general arts and, he liked it more than working in the sawmills of Williams Lake, where he grew up.

He ended up in Whistler in 1978, not to ski, but for a job.

“I got into log building fairly soon on,” he recalls from his home office out of his garage in Whistler Cay. “There was a resurgence of log building in the early 70s/mid-70s in B.C.”

Everyone wanted to have a log cabin, it seemed.

And so the story goes that one job literally led to another. His small crew became the log building experts — their work showcased around the valley from the Crystal Hut on Blackcomb Mountain to the Four Seasons.

Dürfeld knew that to keep his crew busy he needed to diversify. Log building soon morphed into general contracting where they would oversee a project from start to completion.

He never ventured into the design aspect. Where other guys in Whistler billed themselves as ‘design/build’ Dürfeld stuck to focusing on the build part, leaving the design to the architects and designers.

“At best we would be then really good at interpreting what they want,” he says, with the philosophy of “measuring well and building well.”

But his boldest diversification, biggest leap of faith, is just on the horizon.

Three years ago Dürfeld oversaw the construction of the Austria Passive House in Whistler for the 2010 Olympic Games. It was to showcase passive house construction from Europe.

It opened his eyes to the future.

He tested out his theory on a duplex lot in Rainbow and it convinced him that the technology worked, that it could be affordable, that his company could do it, and perhaps most importantly of all, that this was truly the way of the future.

“We believe that this is the next generation of how we should be building houses in North America,” says Dürfeld.

The Rainbow Passive House is the first residential building in Canada to be certified by the Passive House Institute in Darmstadt, Germany, it was announced on Jan. 29.

And while North America doesn’t have the same kinds of pressure that pushed Europe into passive building such as no secured oil supply, huge energy subsidies, among other things, Dürfeld believes the construction speaks for itself.

“The main reason (to build passive homes here) has to be: they’re simply healthier, more comfortable houses to live in.”

This year he hopes to begin construction on a plant in Pemberton at the industrial park that will build passive house components.

Does he see it supplying homes across Canada?

“Oh, we hardly have those kinds of ambitions. We’ll stick within our own skin… We see ourselves working throughout B.C.”

And so his evolution continues.

Dürfeld is nervous. He’s excited. This is the biggest investment the company has ever made.

“We’re recognizing that we can’t just wait for one big house after another to fall in our lap.”

THE TRADITION OF ANDY MUNSTER

Perched atop Andy Munster’s large wooden desk in his home office at Tapley’s Farm is a small, framed photograph with neat cursive pencil underneath saying “Andy’s First House.”

It dates back to when he was a boy, growing up in Quebec’s Eastern Townships, a mini rudimentary A-frame of sorts, two sides leaning together in a peak, tall enough for a child to scramble through.

You can almost hear the childhood secrets whispered under those two leaning walls, the adventures plotted, plans hatched. A place to escape the world, find respite from the summer sun.

Large trees surround the fort, sunlight glances off a lake in the background.

“My mother sent it to me,” says Munster with a slow smile, memories flitting across his face.

It dates back to when he was a boy, growing up in Quebec’s Eastern Townships, a mini rudimentary A-frame of sorts, two sides leaning together in a peak, tall enough for a child to scramble through.

On the other side of his desk a golden Georgie award glints in the winter sun pouring through the office window, an enduring reminder of another house Andy built, one who’s name — Akasha — came to symbolize just how far the building industry in Whistler
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had come at the time.

Perhaps it’s fair to say that Andy was always going to be a builder; he just didn’t know it when he moved to Whistler in 1971 to ski.

To keep skiing, however, he needed to work. And it didn’t get any better than a job with the winters off.

“I started right from the bottom, packing lumber, wheel-barrowing cement around — there was no pump trucks at that time — so basically starting right at the very bottom and gradually working up to carpenter’s helper, carpenters’ supervisor and then project manager.”

Within five years he had his own company doing renovations and small houses.

It was around that time he built one of Whistler’s iconic homes.

No, not Akasha. Not yet. But, by and by, this house would come to have its own name too.

“We didn’t really have a name for it,” says Andy, harkening back to the carefree hippie days of the mid-70s. “People have called it Munsterville.”

Looking at the black and white photo at the museum, B.C. hippies caught in a carefree moment, Andy among them, it’s easy to imagine the shenanigans at Munsterville.

If “Andy’s First House” was built for fun, “Munsterville” was built out of necessity.

With rental housing scarce back in the day — a problem that would continue to plague Whistler over 40 years until just recently — Munster took matters into his own hands.

He picked a prime location next to Fitzsimmons Creek, close to what are now the present-day day skier parking lots, and built a squat there, complete with a front porch and French windows.

It cost $50.

There were about 30 squatters in the valley at the time.

Munster recalls that as he was squatting, and effectively living rent free, tax free, and mortgage free, he was building an addition onto municipal hall for the land company that was developing the village.

“We would just walk across to work from the squat,” he says.

His blue eyes twinkle, thinking about the fact that a new multi-million dollar art museum — the Audain Art Museum — will now call that squatter’s paradise home.

He was there until 1979.

Munster couldn’t squat forever and as he got married, had a family; one new house began to lead to another. Basic ski cabins in neighbourhoods like Alpine and Emerald morphed into more complicated homes in tonier subdivisions. Munster began designing the homes himself, with the help of his wife.
Bonnie and local engineer David McColm.

And then came Akasha.

Built not for fun, not for necessity but on spec, gambling on the fact that Whistler’s real estate was on the rise, that it would tolerate multi-million buyers.

The gamble paid off.

One month before it was finished, it sold for $7.9 million — the most expensive house sold in Canada in 2000. Munster won two coveted Georgie awards for it.

Thirteen years later, Akasha is still owned by the American businessman who first fell in love with it and had to have it.

It has been up for sale of late and it remains to be seen if someone else will own it soon. But it will always be Munster’s.

“You build it, you sell it. But it still feels like yours,” he says.

You think it would be his favourite, he muses, but it’s hard say which one is closest to his heart. He picks he latest build on Blueberry.

In a changing style that’s bringing more modern contemporary looks to town, this build is classic Whistler and by extension classic Munster. Like Akasha, Munster, Bonnie and McColm designed this one from start to finish.

Big round beams rise up through the foundation.

The floor to ceiling windows pull you through, towards the views that are impossible to look away from — Mount Currie and Wedge Mountain from the family room, the golf course and village and Whistler Blackcomb from the dining room, the peak of Whistler Mountain from the living room.

When you think of the Whistler chalet of your dreams, this is what you picture. This is the kind of house where you imagine kicking off your ski boots, snuggling into the oversize couch and watching the alpen glow unfold.

“The house has to feel good when you walk in,” Munster explains.

As he walks through that house, he highlights things that make it “his” such as the signature roof downstairs in the games area — Alaska yellow cedar with red cedar trim.

This house wrapped up two years ago and he’s been working on a few smaller jobs since then. He’s got his fingers crossed that his newest design for a private spa will get approved on an estate lot.

He estimates he’s had a hand in about 35 homes in the valley.

It may be a long way from Munsterville, even longer from “Andy’s First House,” but the old hippie still remains.

Coming to Whistler was “the best move I’ve ever made in my life.”

That’s not because he became an award-winning builder/designer, not because he was able to make a living from these multi-million dollar homes.

It was the fresh air, the mountains, the lifestyle: “That, to me, is worth millions.”

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See next page for prize packages and contest details...
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- Ric’s Grill: $200 gift card
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What’s the craziest thing you’ve done in the name of LOVE?
At Nozawa Onsen in the Japanese Alps, the skiing is insanely deep — but nowhere near as insane as the annual Dosojin Fire Festival

Story & photos by Leslie Anthony

This is what I remember:
the monkeys keeping their distance. Plodding through the snow in single-file silence, like soldiers in winter.

Soon they were mere shadows in the forest, hunched grey phantoms glimpsed between trees. And we were alone again on our skis.

That’s how Japan comes to you: in pictures snapped through windows and goggles, scenes so foreign to the senses that they are engraved instantly — with no clear context — to be sorted out later.

It usually starts in Tokyo, where everything opens your eyes. It’s like landing in some arcade of the future, sights and sounds out of time, overwhelming. Before you even have time to absorb anything you’re looking for a way out. A bus, a train, maybe a van full of skiers you happen to know. Then the laborious process of exiting the mega-city, faces pressed to the window, the nighttime madness of districts like Shibuya, Shinjuku, and Ropongi flashing by like giant video games.

Waiting, waiting. It’s what you do in Japan. Patience is a virtue. You let your mind take pictures. You have no choice and begin to understand how Zen works: you eventually arrive where you’re going and find what you came for: snow. Here, the amount you find usually boggles the mind.

A warm island adrift in a cold ocean raked by Siberian winds, Japan comes by its atmospheric snowmaker honestly. This precipitation bonanza graces the steep terrain of the Japanese Alps and what is very likely the best tree-skiing in the world. The wide-open hardwood forests, with their quiet solitude and room to turn, are a potent draw for any powder-addicted skier. We’d already spent a week being those people, buried to the shin, knee, thigh each snowy day.

Just when we thought it couldn’t get any deeper we’d arrived in Nozawa Onsen amidst another dense snowfall. A small village built around the chaotic discourse of hot water bubbling from the Earth’s volcanic skin, Nozawa offers the kind of cultural immersion required to understand and appreciate Japanese mountain tradition: historic architecture, regional foods like pickled nozawa (a local green vegetable), sake street vendors, snow-god shrines, fastidious guest houses, geothermal heating, hot-spring baths and even a foot-soaking trough in the village centre where you can doff your ski boots and kick back with a beer. Some of our group had disappeared into the town’s maze of shops and open, steaming watercourses, but a couple of us couldn’t resist heading up the unseen mountain. Though it was 3 p.m., already into the gloaming of a January dusk, we’d managed three bottomless runs that dropped off several kilometres of often knife-edged ridges into seemingly endless steep, north-trending chutes and valleys. In a stand of trees near the bottom of one I’d looked up to see a strange animal dolphining down the chute beside me. The kamoshika is a deer relative whose look and size is best described by a friend’s riotously accurate moniker of pig-sheep-goat-fish-llama-dog. It made skiing with monkeys seem routine.

It had been waist-to-chest deep — with moments of snow breaking around our necks — and light enough to tunnel through. At this time of a day at a busy resort (and it was busy), it seemed insane. But nowhere near as insane as the annual Dosojin Fire Festival that took place that night.

The festival, dating to 1863, is held on January 15 every year to pray for a plentiful harvest, health, good fortune. An old belief in
Japan dictates that the two most unlucky ages for men are 25 and 42. So local males of these ages — up to 100 of them — construct an 18-metre high beechwood shaden (shrine). The shrine is endowed with its own god by a Kosuge priest. Along with the shaden, several toro (lantern poles) are erected by families celebrating the birth of a first son; this year there were three. As the festival began, the 42 year-olds perched atop the shaden and the 25 year-olds stood guard at its base. Free saki was dredged from huge barrels in bamboo cups and passed around a surging crowd. By the time a cabal of torch-bearing villagers attempted to break through the young guards and ignite the shaden, thousands were drunk. The battle was dangerous and lively. Defenders tried to put out the fire by striking it with pine branches; punches were thrown, people slipped on ice and snow. The attack lasted an hour until, finally, the shaden and toro finally went up in huge balls of flame, conflagrations so dangerously molten they put Burning Man to shame. Nothing could put out the fire. Not even the suddenly renewed snowfall that was accumulating on the smouldering remains. It seemed that the good-luck offering had worked — certainly for skiers. Tomorrow would be another insane powder day in Nozawa Onsen.

PHOTOS, CLOCKWISE FROM MAIN: Shreddy, aim fire: Cortina’s trees on a low-snow day. Roadside shopping: en route to Nozawa. We’re toast: Burning down the house at the Nozawa Fire Festival. Getting lit before the fire: volunteers ladle free saki in Nozawa.

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By Andrew Mitchell
andrew@piquenewsmagazine.com

I know you’re not supposed to focus on results and titles,” said Maëlle Ricker, but it was the one missing piece on my resume. I definitely had a lot of goals technically and physically for the weekend, but I also really wanted to get that title — especially to get it on Canadian soil.”

The missing piece was a World Championship title, something that has eluded the most successful athlete in snowboardcross history. She won the Olympic title in 2010 and has 39 World Cup medals to her credit stretching back to 1997 — including a few medals in the sport of halfpipe when she was a dual-sport athlete. She won the overall World Cup Crystal Globe in 2010, and the snowboardcross overall title in 2008 and 2010. She won at X Games twice, and has now won the Mt. Baker Legendary Banked Slalom six times in a row.

But through it all she’s never won at a World Championship. Her best result at the event before last week’s win was at the MAZDA FIS Snowboard World Championship at Stoneham, Quebec, where she was second of four medals in 2005. Injuries kept her out of one event, but otherwise she always finished just short of the podium — fourth place in 2011 and 2009, fifth in 2007 and fourth place back in 1997.

She started competing at age 17 and now, at age 34, she’s been on the World Cup tour for half of her life.

To get the medal this time around she had to get the best of teammate Dominique Maltais, the Crystal Globe winner from last season and the winner of the first two events this season. While they’re friends off the course, and have worked together in a few races to fend off other riders, both of them were looking for the World Championship title.

“Dom qualified second and I was in top spot, so right away it set the stage for a head-to-head battle in the finals,” Ricker told the Pique from Quebec on Monday, in route to the airport and the next World Cup at Blue Mountain in Ontario.

“I managed to be a little bit quicker on the top part of the course, got out of the gate in the lead and just held myself there the entire way around the course. It was really important on that course to make landings and exit the corners with as much speed as possible because there were a lot of flat traversing sections where someone could catch you. I just had to get myself in the lead before the bottom of the course, which was quite a bit slower.”

Ricker and Maltais have shared numerous podiums over the last few years and starting with Ricker’s return last season from injury they’ve claimed the lion’s share of the gold medals over the past two seasons. It’s no fluke, says Ricker, as the two have stepped up training, both on course and off, while constantly improving on their equipment to give themselves every advantage.

“It’s really a combination of a lot of things,” said Ricker. “I know we’ve been developing this team and this program, and Robert Joncas, the high performance director, has assembled a team that’s done an amazing job and given Dom and I all the benefits on race day, from really fast boards, and all the technology that our coaches and board techs have been working on, to physical training and physiotherapy with Marilyn (Adams) to keep us together.

“We also spent a lot of time over the fall kind of fine-tuning a lot of our technical snowboard techniques when we’re on course, in the air, in the turns, and I think the proof is in the pudding when you look at our race results. We’re going to keep pushing at this level until next February (2014 Olympics). It’s really exciting for us to have a really great support system beneath us. There’s lots of help available and we’re taking full advantage of it.”

While Ricker will battle Maltais at every competition and in the next Olympics, she said the athletes don’t take things personally and the atmosphere is positive.

“The whole tour is like that actually, it’s a really big family kind of atmosphere,” she said. “We’ve all been travelling the world now for a number of years, and of course we all want to be fastest on race day, we want to win, but outside of the race we’re all friends. We go out to dinners together and there’s a lot of camaraderie among racers. It’s lots of fun, and that’s one of the main reasons I’m still doing it.”

Ricker was among the first athletes to sign on for another four years after winning the Olympic title in 2010, although she suffered a knee injury the following season that resulted in her ninth and 10th surgeries. She came back strong, but by the time she was back on snow the Olympics were just over two years away.

“It’s going quickly, it’s amazing how quickly a four-year cycle goes by,” she laughed. “But it’s a year out and it’s go time. The intensity is different at every start gate and everybody’s pushing it. All the teams are dialed in all the little things and every result counts this year so everything has been taken to the next level. It’s going to be even more heated over the next 13 months.”
Ricker

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While a win at the World Championships gets Ricker a guaranteed spot in the Games, the pressure isn’t off. “I think I’m always competing for the same reasons, but most of the pressure that’s on now and for the rest of the season is from myself,” she said.

“I have some high expectations how I want to improve my riding and racing strategies, and how I can keep on top of the division’s news. So many younger girls are really improving a lot and I definitely have some specific goals that I haven’t attained yet — maybe it’s a different style of riding or just personally how I can contribute as a leader for the younger girls who I can inspire and try to mentor. And the final three World Cup events in Europe — including the World Cup finals in Spain. ‘That’s definitely something to smile about,’ said Ricker, who always takes advantage of her busy travel schedule to see the world.

While it’s not as exotic as Spain, she’s also looking forward to racing at Blue Mountain this coming weekend. While it’s a smaller mountain, the organizers went all out last season and hosted a series of events around the snowboardcross races that drew out huge crowds. This year the organizers are going even bigger, moving the event to Saturday to increase the spectator experience.

Ricker said organizers are also hosting a talent identification camp the week after the races.

“I think it’s going to be a huge success for our sport to get out there in front of people and get more kids into it,” she said. “The organizers have done a great job to make it fun.”
A spectator’s guide to the Luge Worlds

By Andrew Mitchell

Luge is one of the fastest non-motorized sports in the world, with athletes roaring down tracks at speeds over 140km/h while experiencing gravitational forces that exceed what most astronauts face.

In fact, the track records at sliding tracks around the world are usually split between luge, which features a lone athlete (or two athletes in doubles) on a 46-55 pound (21-25kg) sled pulling from a set of gates at the top, and the sport of four-man bobsleigh, where the combined weight of the sled and athletes is over 1,300 pounds and all four athletes sprint from the start.

This weekend, Friday, Feb. 1 and Saturday, Feb. 2, the Whistler Sliding Centre is playing host to the International Luge Federation (FIL) Luge World Championships. It’s the biggest sliding event to take place on the track since the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

Here’s what you need to know:

HOW TO WATCH THE EVENTS
Tickets to watch the event are $10 and are available online at www.whistler.com, at the information centre outside the Conference Centre or at the venue itself if you bring cash. Kids six and under are free.

There’s no event parking, but you can upload the Excalibur Gondola in Skier’s Plaza and get out at Base II to access the track, which is a five-minute walk away.

Once inside the venue, there are a lot of different viewing places. Many like to watch at the final corner — also known as Thunderbird — where athletes are travelling the fastest and will exceed 140km/h.

Before the luge starts were lowered as a result of the death of athlete Nodar Kumaritashvili on the opening day of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, the top athletes were breaking 155km/h after just one season — and tracks do get faster over time as crews improve and athletes learn the track.

Snowboard Worlds

The biggest surprise came in the halfpipe competition. The program lost funding last season, and only now is having some funding restored with Whistler’s Dan Raymond stepping in as head coach. The team netted a pair of top 10 results, with Squamish’s Brad Martin and Whistler’s Alexandra Duckworth both placing 10th.

‘I wasn’t able to improve my qualifying position (fifth) unfortunately,’ said Duckworth. ‘Today’s not really my day. I was struggling a little bit with the conditions. We had a lot of snow in the halfpipe.’

For Raymond, who is working to qualify athletes for the 2014 Olympic Games and prove the program is worth fully funding, it was a step in the right direction.

“The level of riding in the field today was truly world class and the conditions were utterly against the riders in general,” he said. “It was a pleasant surprise to see how well Alexandra and Brad did. We had a plan in place and we stuck to it and it worked quite well. We look forward to building up momentum leading towards Sochi.”

Iouri Podlatchikov of Switzerland won the men’s contest, followed by Taku Hiraoka of Japan and Markus Malin of Finland.

In the women’s competition, Arielle Gold of the U.S. was first, followed by Holly Crawford of Australia and Sophie Rodriguez of France. Whistler’s Mercedes Nicoll and Katie Tsuyuki were 14th and 15th respectively, and Calynn Irwin was 25th.

NO MEDALS FOR ALPINE SNOWBOARDERS

The Canadian alpine snowboard team struggled at home, with no athletes cracking the top 10.

In the PGS, Ekaterina Zavialova was the top Canadian in 24th, with Marianne Leeson 31st, Caroline Calvé 34th and Ariane Lavigne 38th. In the men’s PGS the top Canadian was Matthew Morison in 19th, followed by Jasey-Jay Anderson in 20th, Michael Lambert in 32nd.

In the women’s parallel slalom, Caroline Cavel finished in a tie for 19th, while Ariane Lavigne was 24th and Ekaterina Zavialova 28th. Jasey-Jay Anderson moved up to 12th in the men’s race, while Matthew Morison was 15th, Michael Lambert 18th and Steve Barlow 22nd.

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There’s an area to watch near the finish line that’s near a big screen and which also gives spectators a view of a technical section of track known as the Gold Rush Trail (after Olympic medallist Lyndon Rush), which is sometimes called 50-50 because at one point athletes said you had a 50-50 chance of crashing. A little further up is a high-speed corner known as Shiver, and above that is a corner called Linx where athletes have to make a pair of 90-degree left turns with all the speed they carry out of Corner 7, also known as Lueder’s Loop after Canadian bobsledder Pierre Lueders.

Because of concerns about track speeds the men will start between corners two and three, formerly the women’s luge start, while the women’s and mens doubles have been lowered to the novice start area at Corner 6. As a result the athletes won’t come close to the course record of 155km/h set by Germany’s Felix Lochin in 2009, but they will still break 140km/h.

**HOW ARE THE CANADIANS DOING?**

Extremely well. Historically, luge has been a weak sport for Canada, but Calgary’s Alex Gough broke through in the 2011 season as the first Canadian to win a World Cup medal, then later as the first non-German to win a race since 1997. She was also the first Canadian to medal at a world championship race — a feat she’s now accomplished twice with bronze medals in 2011 and 2012. She’s been Canada’s best luger this season as well, kicking things off with bronze medals in her first two events. She has two fourth place finishes to her credit and was in the top six in two other events. She now ranks fifth overall on the tour.

The Germans are still the favourites and have the top three athletes in the women’s rankings with Natalie Geisenberger first, Anke Wischnewski second and Tatjana Hufner third.

While Gough is usually Canada’s top medal hope, her teammates are improving from week to week and finding their way into the top 10. In doubles, Justin Smith and Tristan Walker have finished sixth twice this year.

In women’s luge, Arianne Jones has broken the top 10 several times while newcomer Kimberley McRae has posted new personal best results and also cracked the top 10 this season as well, kicking things off with bronze medals in her first two events. She has two fourth place finishes to her credit and was in the top six in two other events. She now ranks fifth overall on the tour.

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yet to win an individual podium but has already tied his career-best sixth place result this season.

But while Canadians are improving individually, collectively they shine in the team relay. The team has two silver medals so far this season, with Gough racing first, Edney second and Walker and Smith starting last. They missed one event with Walker suffering a mild concussion in a training accident, but were back racing two weeks ago.

They have a solid chance of winning a medal at home this weekend in the new team discipline, which will be part of the Olympics in 2014.

In relay, athletes have to hit a target hung over the course at the finish line as they pass through, which in turn allows the next team member to start. It’s a one-run format, and rankings are based on combined time.

WHAT’S THE DEAL WITH LUGE? HOW HARD COULD IT BE?
It takes a decade to develop a luge athlete, and athletes are typically recruited around the age of 10. Most talent identification camps won’t talk to athletes once they’re 15 or older because it’s too late to start, and so older athletes who get into the sliding sports late tend to gravitate to bobsleigh and skeleton.

It takes years for athletes to learn to use their legs to steer the runners on their sleds, how to corner properly and how to deal with gravitational forces that top out around 5g — the equivalent of having four times your own body weight pressing down on you. To put that into perspective, astronauts blasting into space on a Soyuz rocket experience 3.6 to 4.2g.

Starts are extremely important, and athletes spend years practicing their pulls so they can snap out of the gates with as much speed and power as possible.

Each leg rests on the outside of a runner, and by exerting force onto the runners an athlete can steer their sled through the icy corners. The goal is to follow the fastest line and to carry the most speed out of corners and features, while avoiding bumping into the walls or other mistakes that can cost an athlete speed.

Races can be extremely close, which is why timing is in the thousands of a second versus hundredths of a second for other sports like ski racing.

Athletes can see down the course while they’re racing, but athletes spend a lot of time training and studying courses as well, so they can make split second decisions as they go.

WHO WILL BE WATCHING?
The audience for luge and the other sliding sports is relatively small in Canada, but is growing thanks to a strong Olympic performance and the increased number of events hosted in North America since the Whistler Sliding Centre was built. Now, in combination with Calgary, Lake Placid and Salt Lake City, there are enough tracks to host a North American leg of the World Cup Tour.

The race events will be broadcast worldwide, and are a big draw for Eurosport. Last season the European audience was 400 million across 59 countries, with Germans accounting for 320 million of those viewers over nine events.

The World Championship is an annual event, but this is the last one before the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia, and athletes will be looking to earn quota spots and lock up their own spots in the Games.

The men’s doubles start at 3 p.m. on Friday, followed by the men’s individual races at 5:15 p.m. The women race at 3 p.m. on Saturday, followed by the team relay at 6:15 p.m.
Canadians take eight medals at X Games

Canada’s Mark McMorris successfully defended his X Games slopestyle gold medal from 2012 in Aspen, Colorado, this past weekend, this time facing an all-star field that included American Shaun White.

McMorris also accomplished his win with a score of 98.00 — the highest in X Games history for the sport, and one of the best snowboard scores of all time.

He actually had the event in the bag with a 94.66 after his first two runs, with teammate Maxence Parrot sitting second with a 90.00. Rather than rest on his laurels, he made his victory lap count.

“Coming into today I was tired but I was so excited that I overcame everything,” he said. “I was able to land a run that I’ve always dreamed of. On my last run I did a cab 1260 double cork, which I’ve been working on quite a bit. It was an amazing day. I couldn’t really ask for anything better.”

Parrot, who was the youngest competitor at 18, threw a backside triple cork 1440 into his run.

Canada’s Sebastian Toutant just missed the eight-man superfinal in 10th place.

In the women’s slopestyle, Spencer O’Brien — first at the World Championships the previous week in Quebec — placed third overall behind American Jamie Anderson and Sarka Pancochova of the Czech Republic.

McMorris’s silver medal in the big air was behind Torstein Horgmo of Norway and ahead of Norway’s Stale Sanbech.

Canada’s Sebastian Toutant was sixth in that competition.

Canada picked up a fourth snowboard medal at X Games in the street event, with Louis-Felix Paradis taking the win.

In the women’s ski halfpipe, Canada had another double podium with Roz Groenewoud and Megan Gunning finishing second and third. It was an off-day for the men’s halfpipe team with none of the Canadians making it through to the final. Noah Bowman just missed the top eight in ninth place overall while Matt Margetts was 11th and Mike Riddle 14th.

Kaya Turski and Dara Howell picked up Canada’s third double podium of the weekend. Whistler skier Yuki Tsubota, who was only invited to the X Games the previous week, was right in the mix and finished sixth overall, less than two points back of the podium.
Guay back on podium in Kitzbühel
QUEBEC SKIER CLOSE TO TYING STEVE PODBORSKI’S RECORD FOR MOST CANADIAN PODIUM APPEARANCES

By Andrew Mitchell

Ca nada’s Erik Guay isn’t motivated by the record books, but when you’re as consistent as the 31-year-old has been in recent years then the record books come to you.

On Saturday, Jan. 26, Guay pulled out a silver medal on the famed Kitzbühel "Hahnenkamm" downhill course — his 19th career medal and the first time he’s made the podium on the incredibly technical course.

"If there’s a place you want to podium, it’s Kitzbühel," he said. "It’s definitely the Super Bowl of the World Cup. I’m definitely pumped with the day. I stepped up where I needed to. Now I’m really excited for [the World Championships] in Schladming."

Guay has been solid this season, earning a bronze medal in Italy in December. He placed fourth at Wengen, Switzerland the previous race and was fourth in the opening super G at Kitzbühel.

Dominik Paris of Italy took the win, while Hannes Reichelt of Austria was third overall.

While Guay’s podium was the highlight, it was a good day for the Canadian team with all four racers finishing in the points in the top 20. Whistler’s Manuel Osborne-Paradis started back in 40th but managed to place 10th overall, while Benjamin Thomsen and Jan Hudec were 17th and 18th respectively.

With Guay closing in on Steve Podborski’s record of 20 medals, comparisons to the Crazy Canucks downhill teams of the past are inevitable — and the team isn’t shying away from it.

"This is what we needed to do to start comparing ourselves to the Crazy Canucks," said Osborne-Paradis. "Our goal is to be one of the best teams ever in Canada but we still have a long way to go.

"I lost a lot of time in the middle — there were some massive bumps starting from the back. But at least now I’m going back into the top 30 (bib draws)."

Canada’s connection to Kitzbühel is strong. Ken Read started a win streak after Brooker in 1983. Rob Boyd was the last Canadian to podium on the downhill course back in 1991.

"Everybody knows the history of Kitzbühel and what it means to Canadian ski racing. Our guys kept to their plan, kept focused and went out there and took care of business," he said.

In the super G on the day before, Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway picked up the gold, followed by Matthias Mayer of Austria and Christof Innerhofer of Italy. Guay’s fifth place result led the Canadians, with Hudec placing 15th, Osborne-Paradis in 22nd and Thomsen 28th. John Kucea is continuing to recover from his string of injuries and surgeries, and placed 34th on the day.

There were no Canadians racing the super combined, with Ivica Kostelic of Croatia picking up another medal, followed by Alex Pintzault and Thomas Mermillod Blondin of France.

In the slalom, Whistler’s Michael Janyk placed 14th overall, his second top 30 result in a row after not finishing several races where he was on pace to do well only to straddle a gate or ski off course.

Janyk was 16th after the first run and picked up the pace on his second run to crack the top 15.

"I’m happy," he said. "It was like the old Mike in the second run. I’ve been doing it in training but needed to do it on race day. I was super happy to make the next step. Top 15 is where I set my goal for today."

The other Canadians continued to struggle with neither Julien Cousineau, Trevor White nor Trevor Philp qualifying for a second run.

Meanwhile, the Canadian women were in Maribor, Slovenia, for a pair of technical events.

In the opening giant slalom, Marie-Michele Gagnon placed 16th overall while teammate Marie-Pier Prefontaine was in the points in 25th.

Kamiloops’ Elli Terwiel led the team in the slalom race in 17th — tying her best World Cup result to date — while Gagnon was not far behind in 20th. Brittany Phelan also earned points in 29th. ■
The 77th annual Teck Enquist Slalom took place at Mount Seymour this past weekend with racers on Saturday and Sunday on a long, 60-gate course on the Unicorn run. Athletes were born between 1995 and 1998.

Conditions were warm and soft for the most part, and courses got bumpier as the days wore on. On both days, the men were greeted with a course full of ruts and holes after 40 female racers had been through.

In the opening women’s race, Antonia Wearmouth of the Grouse Mountain Tyees took the win, followed by five Whistler athletes: Stefanie Fleckenstein was second, Sarah Kapur third, Gabrielle Smith fourth, Mikayla Martin fifth and Claire Baragar sixth. Also finishing in the top 15 were Cassandra Mah in ninth and Jasmin Smallwood in 12th.

In the boy’s race, James Crawford placed first for the WMSC, followed by teammate Max Peiffer. Also in the top 15 were Riley Seger in fourth, Alex Gershon in fifth, Jeffrey Cadman in sixth, Carson Llewellyn in seventh, Griffin Renzoni in ninth, Charlie Tuer in 12th and Antoine Carignan-Turcotte in 13th.

On day two, Antonia Wearmouth was first once again, this time with a gap of almost four seconds after two runs. From Whistler, Eame McTavish was second, Gabrielle Smith third, Mikayla Martin fourth, Sarah Kapur sixth, Cassandra Mah seventh, Cheyenne Ling 10th, Tamara Smallwood 11th, Maggie Tuer 13th and Jasmin Smallwood 14th.

In the second men’s race the win went to Sam Mulligan of Grouse followed by six Whistler skiers; in order, they were James Crawford, Cameron Alexander, Max Peiffer, Jeffrey Cadman, Alex Gershon and Max Kirshenblatt. Charlie Tuer and Antoine Carignan-Turcotte also cracked the top 15 in 11th and 12th respectively.

The next race for the WMSC is a home event, with the club hosting the annual Parson’s SG and SG provincials from Feb. 15 to 17.

Complete results are posted online at www.bcalpine.com.

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Sports Briefs: B.C. Freestyle series coming to Whistler

The top up-and-coming freestylers in the province will converge in Whistler from Feb. 8 to 11 for the second stop of the BC Freestyle Ski Timber Tour and Super Youth Challenge. The series kicked off at Apex last weekend and will finish at Silver Star in March.

The Whistler event includes moguls, halfpipe and slopestyle events, with kids aged eight to 19 taking part. The Timber Tour is for kids 12 and older, while younger kids take part in Super Youth events.

The training gets underway on Friday. Saturday is the Super Youth moguls and Timber Tour slopestyle, Sunday is Super Youth slopestyle and Timber Tour halfpipe and Monday, B.C.’s new stat Family Day holiday, is Super Youth halfpipe and slopestyle in the Nintendo Terrain Park on Blackcomb with the halfpipe and Timber Tour moguls. All events take place on Blackcomb with the halfpipe and slopestyle in the Nintendo Terrain Park and the moguls contest on Davies Dervish.

There will be a gala dinner and fundraiser on Feb. 10 at the Roundhouse and the moguls fundraiser on Feb. 10 at the Roundhouse and the moguls fundraiser on Davies Dervish. There will be a gala dinner and fundraiser on Feb. 10 at the Roundhouse.

The proceeds will go towards the Whistler event includes moguls, halfpipe and slopestyle events, with kids aged eight to 19 taking part. The Timber Tour is for kids 12 and older, while younger kids take part in Super Youth events.

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There are still spots available for this classic event, which has teams of four — one must be female — skiing a long giant slalom from near the top of the mountain to the timing fl ats above Creekside. The total vertical drop is 1,443 metres with roughly 180 gates over five kilometres of snow. Teams will be ranked by combined age, with half the skiers racing Friday and the other half on Saturday The fastest participants — usually former international ski racers — take between four and five minutes to reach the bottom, depending on conditions, while the average is usually between five and seven minutes. For more, visit www.whistlerblackcomb.com. If you’re a solo racer looking to link up with a team, call WB Guest Relations and ask to join the wait list.

**EVENTS CALENDAR**

**WHAT:** Peak to Valley Race  
**WHEN:** Feb. 1-2  
**WHERE:** Whistler Mountain

There are still spots available for this classic event, which has teams of four — one must be female — skiing a long giant slalom from near the top of the mountain to the timing fl ats above Creekside. The total vertical drop is 1,443 metres with roughly 180 gates over five kilometres of snow. Teams will be ranked by combined age, with half the skiers racing Friday and the other half on Saturday The fastest participants — usually former international ski racers — take between four and five minutes to reach the bottom, depending on conditions, while the average is usually between five and seven minutes. For more, visit www.whistlerblackcomb.com. If you’re a solo racer looking to link up with a team, call WB Guest Relations and ask to join the wait list.

**WHAT:** Luge World Championships  
**WHEN:** Feb. 1-2  
**WHERE:** Whistler Sliding Centre

This is the biggest luge event to take place in Whistler since the Olympics, with new story for the men. The fastest male races posted times well over 150km/h on the world’s fastest track. Racing starts at 3 p.m. each day, closing with the new Team Relay event that Canada has excelled at the past two seasons. Tickets are $10. For more information, visit www.luge.ca, or for tickets visit www.whistler.com.

**WHAT:** King of the Rail  
**WHEN:** Saturday, Feb. 9  
**WHERE:** Base of Whistler Mountain

Registration is available at Showcase Mountain Catskiing, lodging in Tofino, spa and restaurant gift certificates and, of course, ski gear.

Tickets are $45 for adults, $35 for kids and are available online at http://tinyurl.com/wbfsc-gala.

**WHAT:** Park Rider Series  
**WHEN:** Sunday, Feb. 10  
**WHERE:** Blackcomb Mountain

The fourth even in the Park Rider Ski and Snowboard Event series is another slopestyle on Blackcomb. All ages are welcome to take part, and advance registration is $29 both online and at Whistler Blackcomb Guest Relations. Day of race registration is available at the Rendezvous Lodge until 9:30 a.m. for $35.

**WHAT:** Kokanee Valley Race Series  
**WHEN:** Thursday, Feb. 21  
**WHERE:** Blackcomb

The fifth event in the series is a Terrain GS in the Nintendo Terrain Park, with racers weaving their way around flags placed on the ski cross track. Early registration is available online for $29, and day-of-race registration is $35 at the Rendezvous Lodge. The annual super G race is the following Thursday, Feb. 28.
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What 10 year olds can teach us

EATING LIKE AN OLYMPIAN, AND MORE

Could you let a 10 year old cut your hair? How about plan your weekly menu?

Before answering, let me tell you about the first question, which drove one of my best theatre experiences ever.

At Vancouver’s 2008 PuSh International Performing Arts Festival, Mammalian Performing Arts Festival, Mammalian…

By Glenda Bartosh

Diving Reflex — a cool Toronto-based arts group that often celebrates kids — set up Haircuts by Children. In it, 10 year olds from a Surrey school cut and styled the hair of volunteers like me, all of it filmed.

Last year, Mammalian returned to PuSh with Eat the Street. This time, grade fivers and sixers were restaurant critics, weighing in on food, service and décor. You could dine with them in Vancouver restaurants and hear what they had to say.

Personally, I love what Mammalian’s artistic director, Darren O’Donnell, has to say about kids: they should have the right to vote. I’d add that a 10 year old should sit on every Canadian committee and board — political or otherwise.

And after reading Portion Size Me by A co-writer of the film Super Size Me, Marshall and his mom were inspired to look for Whistler’s performance group that often celebrates kids — set up a fun and effective way to get on track to good nutrition.

Ditto. "Do you eat like an Olympian?" Smart’s project for teaching nutrition to her Grade 4 and 5 students. Nutrition is part of the B.C. curriculum and board. But Smart wanted to really bring it home.

First, the class investigated the nutritional needs of high performance athletes. They used the Internet for research, but they also had guest speakers to make nutrition come alive.

Golf pro Alan Kristmanson is a former member of the Canadian national men’s basketball team, competing at the Seoul 1988 Olympics, where Canada placed sixth. "He talked all about nutritional needs, how to keep your body fueled, the fallacy of sports drinks — all those sorts of good things," says Smart. Alan was joined by two-time Olympian, World Cup medalist and pro snowboarder Mercedes Nicoll, and Nesters Market nutritionist Tracy Higgs.

The kids divided into groups based on the sport they were interested in — everything from hockey to table tennis. After their research, they planned a sample week-long menu for their sport and presented it to a mock Olympic committee composed of Higgs, Nicoll and Smart.

Then, using the Canada Food Guide, they investigated their own nutritional needs based on their activity level and age, and compared them to an adult Olympic. Finally, each group wrote a summary.

"It was a really neat project," says Smart. "I was really pleased with how much they learned."

The kids agree, or at least the ones I spoke with do.

Ten-year-old Jack Morrow plays left wing for the Whistler Winterhawks’ Atom A team and he’s into ski cross.

Before the project, if you’d asked Jack, "do you eat like an Olympian?" he would have said he was pretty much in the middle. After, he says he is way closer to yes.

"Now I eat more vegetables and a bit more fruit," says Jack, who researched table tennis athletes. "I started having a plate of vegetables every Monday — it’s nothing but vegetables. And I eat them the whole week long. For supper I’ll have them with something else on the side." Carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, zucchini, pumpkin and beans all figure on Jack’s list.

Now, like the Reids, Jack’s family is also eating better. Dad, John Morrow, is already a vegetarian, but he’s starting to eat more vegetables and his mom, Janet Pashleigh, is too. As for Jack, he notices he’s getting much faster in hockey and stronger in ski cross.

"The stronger you are, the harder you can push out of the gate and off the rollers," he says.

Strong is good in Abby Unruh’s world, too. Even before the project, this nine-year-old was into nutrition big time. "I like being strong," she says. "(Nutrition) is good for me to stay healthy and it’s good for doing gym."

Along with Byran, Kristmanson (Alan’s daughter), Sophie Chalk, Bella Linton, and Abby researched soccer athletes.

“We found out that goalies can have a full-on breakfast and then play a soccer game, but forwards had to eat an energy bar," she says. "So basically if you’re doing more exercise and more running you eat less because you have to have energy for the game."

"But I also realized a lot of the nutrition things are fruits and veggies, eggs, carbohydrates, protein, and vitamins C and B12 or whatever. So that project has helped me to learn things about nutrition so I can take those ideas in for myself and use them."

In fact, Abby’s whole family is taking them in and using them, too. Mom, Jeanette, who also teaches part-time at Myrtle Philip, says they’re having a lot more conversations around healthy eating and making better food choices, all urged on by Abby.

So here’s to kids! Never mind letting them plan our menus. I say let them sit on our so-called grown-up committees and boards and get them the vote soon — before we really mess things up.

Glenda Bartosh is an award-winning journalist whose kid-haircut was great.
The Winter Fancy Food Show was held in San Francisco on Jan. 21. This is noteworthy because for the first time B.C. wines were showcased at the event.

Our province is known as a young wine region and at this point most of the volume produced in B.C. is also consumed in B.C.

One Whistler wine expert, Eric Blouin, says the decision to have a presence at the event in San Francisco makes sense on two fronts. First he says the best wines produced in B.C. are great and worth sharing. Second he sees the promotion of B.C. wines south of the border as a good thing for B.C. tourism.

“The Okanagan is one of the most beautiful regions to visit, even for someone that lives in Napa,” says Blouin.

Once Californians make the border crossing to check out this amazing wine region they’ve heard about called the Okanagan Valley they may choose to swing over to Whistler on the way back home to check out this amazing mountain resort they often hear about.

Miles Prodan, the executive director of the B.C. Wine Institute (BCWI), calls California a vital market.

“We’re thrilled to be showcasing British Columbia’s standout VQA wines to key industry and wine, food and travel media at this year’s Winter Fancy Food Show,” says Prodan.

The wine producers have now conquered their home turf and it is time to look for growth beyond the borders.

According to the BCWI, British Columbians choose B.C. wines over imported wines from any other region or country.

For wineries like Fort Berens in Lillooet or Blouin’s One Barrel wine venture and the rest of the wine producers in the province, elevating the profile of B.C. wines outside the province can only be positive.

The United States is the largest retail wine market in the world and it is also reportedly one of the fastest growing markets. Americans drank more than $32 billion worth of wine in 2011. That year marked the 18th consecutive year the market in that state has expanded.

More than 17,000 people attend the Winter Fancy Food Show each year. Amongst them were Vancouver sommelier and chef DJ Kearney and Cassie Doyle, Consul General of Canada in the San Francisco-Silicon Valley area.

According to B.C. cabinet minister Pat Bell, Kearney and Doyle’s California networking is a good way to draw attention to B.C. vineyards and wineries to set them up as must-sample tourist destinations and must-have products.

It is a good start to opening up B.C. red and white to one of the most influential states in the union.
You’ve likely heard the phrase “relationship marketing” as it relates to the business world.

It’s a simple concept: form a relationship with your customers, keep them happy and they’ll be with you for the long term.

For Pascal Tiphine and his team at Le Gros the relationship marketing concept has been perfected and perfectly preserved in a very traditional way.

On a Saturday by noon, the Swiss-trained, French-born chef has been at work for three hours already. This three hours of work comes after what we’ll just call a very late evening the night before.

Tiphine has been in Whistler since 1979 when he came to Whistler and worked at the Highland Lodge where the Rimrock is now located. He came to the resort after checking out Montreal and Vernon.

“I wanted a ski area because that is what I was doing as a young man,” says Tiphine in his distinct European accent.

He doesn’t ski much any more because he’s very busy at Le Gros continuously perfecting his version of relationship marketing.

For Tiphine, success in business is as simple as making people feel like they’re at home. He starts the process by serving great food. He proudly reports his potatoes are Yukon Golds grown in Pemberton and his rabbit comes from Horselly, a small community in the foothills of the Cariboo Mountains near Williams Lake.

Tiphine says he does business with them because he likes both suppliers and they deliver quality products. In short, he has a great relationship with these two suppliers.

The Yukon Golds, the rabbit and the other food items on the menu are put together in the kitchen on Alta Lake Road. From kitchen to table the relationship continues to evolve. The deal is closed when the food reaches its destination and the customer, also known as a friend of Le Gros, understands how truly delicious the relationship is.

“We treat everybody the same way,” says Tiphine after indicating that James Bond once ate at the restaurant and Sarah McLachlin has enjoyed the food at Le Gros.

Everybody is treated like a star.

Not long after settling in to talk about his restaurant the phone rings, and of course Tiphine answers the phone because he’s the only one working this early. The caller wants to place a reservation for 7 p.m. next Friday. Tiphine writes the reservation into a thick reservation book.

Take note of how this customer went old school and didn’t email a reservation request. There wasn’t a Tweet, no website reservation form to fill out, no text message. Tiphine’s customers feel right at home calling him to say hello and request a reservation.

“I’m the old kid in town,” says the accomplished chef and successful businessman. “I know everybody.

“It’s not just a restaurant, its a social place.”

One of the most important ingredients in a relationship is humour. There’s no doubt about whether or not Tiphine has a sense of it.

“I ate the other one,” says Tiphine with just a tiny hint of a smile when asked what happened to make Les Deux Gros become Le Gros.

The interview goes on hold for a pause filled with laughter.

His former partner is alive and well, as is their relationship — like every other relationship forged by Chef Tiphine.
Mussels a la Pascal

SERVES TWO

INGREDIENTS:
1.5 lbs live mussels
2 oz diced shallots or onions
2 oz double cream
4 oz white wine
pinch of garlic
pinch of parsley
salt and pepper

METHOD
Put all the ingredients into a pot
and cook on low heat for about eight
minutes. When the mussels open turn
off the heat and let the mussels sit for
one minute. Serve the mussels using the
liquid as a sauce.

WEIGHTY ISSUE
La Gros Chef Pascal Tiphine isn’t skinny and he likes

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Explore Squamish's untouched canyons in *Down the Line*

**The Canyoneering Film is one of Dozens of Adventure Flicks Screening at the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival Feb. 8 – 17**

By Alyssa Noel

Adventurers in the Utah mountains have long been squeezing themselves into tiny, uncertain canyon entrances to rappel into the unknown.

But only a small group of their Sea to Sky counterparts has begun to explore the burgeoning sport of canyoneering here. These pioneers are at the center of *Down the Line*, the debut documentary of photographer-turned-filmmaker François-Xavier De Ruydts, as they discover two new canyons near Squamish.

“Some people say it’s caving with the roof off,” says De Ruydts, originally a geographer from Belgium. “Usually it involves going down waterfalls and swimming and walking down streams.”

Slated to premiere at the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival, the 20 minute film captures an excursion in the Monmouth Creek and through a series of rushing waterfalls in the Box Canyon Creek, where the canyoneers suspect no one has ever set foot.

Although De Ruydts was new to filmmaking, his skills as a photographer are apparent in lingering shots of lush greenery, impossibly curved canyon rock and scenic creek beds. “I was starting to make this movie, but I didn’t know what it was going to be about,” he says. “I started filming Cypress Mountain. I was trying to understand how the camera worked, to be honest. Then I saw two guys going down into a canyon.”

He quickly befriended the pair, including Damien Briguet, an enthusiastic canyoneer Originally from Switzerland. A week later, he was crossing the Squamish River with Briguet and Lucia Chu, a nurse from Vancouver, before bushwacking up a mountain, film gear in tow.

“It’s all about discovering new, natural, beautiful places no one has seen before,” he says. “It’s what sets canyoneering apart from climbing. If you’re exploring, you just drop into the canyon. There’s no way you can get out. The only way out is down. You go down and you discover amazing places.”

They might be amazing, but in B.C. they’re also very wet. Those conditions can pose unique challenges for canyoneers, who typically don wetsuits and use special rappelling techniques much different from those used for climbing.

“The additional danger is the water,” De Ruydts says. “If you tangle up in your rope in a waterfall, it could be deadly. All these things climbers do we don’t do because we don’t want to get stuck in a pool of water.”

Add to those challenges a camera. “I’m kind of used to these environments,” he says. “It’s kind of my specialty to bring my cameras where others don’t.” Last year he did a feature for Canadian Geographic about caving in Canada. That taught me a lot about how to get back with your gear still working.”

Though you wouldn’t be able to tell by the images in the film, De Ruydts only picked up a camera a couple of years ago, shortly after moving to Vancouver with his wife in search of adventure. He became interested in capturing not the extreme sports that are so popular in the area, but rather the hidden landscapes.

“I’m more interested in exploration and weird sports,” he says. “I myself started doing (canyoneering) a year ago. I found two amazing canyons. I’m sure there are other amazing canyons out there we haven’t found yet. It’s got great potential for adventure and exploration.”

De Ruydts hopes his film will draw more people to the sport locally. “There’s a small community growing slowly,” he says. “We’re probably 15 now, which isn’t much... but all you need is a spark. I’m sure the movie will do something and people will try to catch up. Get out there and try this new sport. It’s got great potential in the Vancouver area, (including) Whistler and Squamish.”

*Down the Line* is screening Feb. 11 at Vancouver’s Rio Theatre at 3 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival — now in its 16th year — includes productions by several other local filmmakers, including *Tempting Fear* by Mike Douglas at Switchback Entertainment, *Endless Spring Day* by Darcy Turenne, *Jalap Tash* — A Kyrgyzstan Epic by Anthony Bonello, Strength in Numbers by Ian Dunn at Anthill Films and *All I Can.* by Sherpas Cinemas.

The festival runs from Feb. 8 to the 17 at theatres in North Vancouver and Vancouver. In total this year, 19 of the 66 adventure films are from Canada.

For a complete list, more information and tickets visit [www.vimff.org](http://www.vimff.org).
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– Sanctity of Winter –

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Layers: a look at making art

SQUAMISH SCHOOL WINS AWARD, TWO NEW EXHIBITS OPEN

By Alyssa Noel

They say it’s the journey not the destination, but does that adage also apply to art?

Find out for yourself at Scotia Creek Gallery opening Feb. 4. Layers, a new exhibit running through Feb. 27, features the work of three multi-media artists who demonstrate their varied processes for creating art.

“In the pieces, one can see that this process allowed the artists to observe their own personal growth and the background influences their fine works reflected,” a press release explains.

The artists include Nasser Ghaderi, an artist and film producer who puts paint to canvas in unusual ways like throwing and dripping, Sarah Northcott, who adds polymer gel to her acrylic work to either hide or bring out layers, and Kendrick James who layers accidental moments in photography before screen printing them with four-colour separation.

The opening reception will take place Feb. 4 from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at Millennium Place.

VICTORIA PAINTER FEATURED IN SOLO SHOW

The Adele Campbell Gallery is hosting a solo exhibit called Courageously Calm by Victoria artist Laura Harris, beginning on Feb. 2.

A fourth generation Vancouver Islander, Harris’ work has been called “beautifully imperfect” with bright colours, prominent textures and an air of romance. She’s self-taught, though she says her father, who worked as a draftsman, taught her about perspective and technique while encouraging her to be expressive.

Harris worked as a graphic designer until 2001 when she decided to work full-time as an artist. Since then, she’s become one of Adele Campbell Gallery’s signature artists with a large local draw.

The opening for her exhibit is from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the gallery.

Sanctity of Winter opens at Nita Lake Lodge

Bowen Island painter Georgina Farah offers a tribute to winter with her new show Sanctity of Winter at Nita Lake Lodge’s Train Station Gallery.

Presented by the White Dog Studio Gallery, the exhibit features her landscape paintings, which play with light, using a layered technique. Farah is inspired by the beauty of her west coast home and attempts to capture a moment in time. The exhibit opening is Feb. 1 at Nita Lake Lodge from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

High School Plays Award

Howe Sound Secondary School learned this week that its edgy play Dog Sees God — which takes on heavy topics from suicide to sexuality via Peanuts characters — won three major awards at the recent North Shore High School Drama Festival.

David Thomson won outstanding actor, Hayden Billon was awarded outstanding supporting actor and the entire play tied with a West Vancouver high school for outstanding production.

“They were pretty excited,” says drama teacher and director Janice Carroll. “It was a great performance, really tight. We had a private and public adjudication with Max Reimer (artistic director of the Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company). He was deeply impressed and the kids were really excited about it.”

The production will advance to a provincial competition at Douglas College on May 2.

Music Fest lineup to be revealed

The recently renamed Squamish Valley Music Festival announced Tuesday that it will be unveiling its lineup for 2013 during a launch party at Vancouver’s Commodore Ballroom March 1.

Local indie rockers Yukon Blonde and synth-pop solo act Diamond Rings will also perform. Tickets are available Feb. 1 through Ticketmaster with a limited presale price of $10.27 and additional tickets for $20. The festival is slated to take place Aug. 9 and 10th.

High school play wins award, two new exhibits open

By Alyssa Noel

...
Hosted by public artist and in a bar ting for art events in bars, Sharai Rewels has her faith in the people of Whistler. “I’m pretty confident,” she says. “I think the last shows we did people were respectful.”

Rewels has put together an event that pulls its influence from both Valentine’s Day and Whistler Pride Week. Stripped: Art Show (which doesn’t feature any actual nudity, despite the suggestive name) will include an art show with work from local and Vancouver artists, as well as a burlesque show performed by both men and women, Feb. 6 and 7 at Maxx Fish. The theme: burlesque and pin up culture.

“I thought it would be fun and interesting to come together under one theme,” Rewels says. “There are a bunch of artists — over 20 — and they’ve got lots of different styles. Some are painters, some photographers, some have been working to create new (pieces) and some have submitted previous work under the theme.”

The art will be on sale for under $500 in the hopes that it will be accessible to all, she adds. (Side note: the sales are cash only.) “As an entry-level art buyer, for myself I would prefer to buy something under $500,” she says. “People use (art) for different purposes. They can put it on the wall and look at it or follow the artist in their career. I’m hoping to sell the majority of the work there.”

Maxx Fish will be set up as a pop-up gallery for the art show, which features work from locals like painters Andrea Mueller, Dave “Pepé” Petko and Kris Kupskay, along with mixed media artist Arne Gutmann and photographer Blake Jorgenson, to name just a few.

“The female form is a very popular subject,” Rewels says of the submissions. “Some of the women’s interpretations are brash and bold and some of the men (portray) a softer side.”

The bar will open at 2 p.m. for public viewings then transform into a burlesque show in the evening. On Feb. 6, Sweet Soul Burlesque, Western Canada’s longest running professional burlesque troupe, will perform. “It’ll be more of a lounge atmosphere by day and a party at night,” Rewels says. “Sweet Soul Burlesque have been together as a dance group for 10 years. They’re so talented.”

On Feb. 7 the ladies will turn the stage over to a “male revue performance” by Whistler’s Wonder Brothers. Rewels is anticipating two very different shows. “The boys are more... I don’t know how to put it,” she says with a giggle. “We still call it burlesque because it’s not the full monty... I think it will be mostly women, which in turn brings out the guys.”

In the end, she says, the purpose of the event is two-fold: “I’d like to give arts in Whistler an extra boost,” she says. “The Whistler Arts Council does great work, but... if you give artists motivation to create, they will. To be honest, I really like wearing high heels and this is an event I can wear high heels to.”

By Alyssa Noel

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Shambling Love?

Zombies have been awesome for the past 40 years because it’s easy to see them as Shit, they are — viewed from far enough away wouldn’t humanity just look like one big shambling horde? The same way we might see an anthill?

And since the world didn’t come crashing down last December 21 a Zombie Apocalypse seems to be the next big cultural paranoia. AMC’s The Apocalypse seems to be the next big cure for the “incurable” zombie virus, with zombies.

Also opening is Mama, a ghost-story/thriller about two little girls who disappear after their deranged father kills their mother. The toddlers turn into flesh-eating bush kids who hole up in a creepy cabin until they suddenly turn up years later. It goes without saying that the good-natured uncle and rock’n’roll girlfriend who adopt them are in for a lot more than they bargained for.

While it looks creepy enough, early word on Mama is that it’s really formulaic. True horror fans are used to that though, and willing to overlook it. Mama’s CGI “monster” is apparently borderline laughable but otherwise solid visuals and Jessica Chastain keeps things afloat.

Chastain is up for an Oscar this year with her work on Zero Dark Thirty (still playing at the Village 8) and is currently Hollywood’s actress du jour after knocking off roles in acclaimed arthouse hits like Tree of Life, Take Shelter and The Help.

The thing about horror movies is the protagonists are so often just ordinary people, not CIA agents or super heroes, which gives an actress like Chastain perhaps more to work with than ever before. And she steps up. Mama is not great, but it’s good enough to help you through the January doldrums.

Speaking of, Movie 43 is still playing and has been called “the Citizen Kane of awful” by Richard Roeper (a.k.a. Siskel #2). Apparently the handful of essentially un-linked gross-out comedy sketches starring huge name stars like Kate Winslet and Emma Stone (and McLovin and Stifler) is so piss-poor and tasteless that it sinks far below the “so bad it’s good” benchmark to wallow in the sludge that lines the cinematic septic tank. Now I want to see it that much more.

Perhaps that’s what will save us from the Zombie Apocalypse — bad taste. (Which is also the name of a classic zombie film, made by the guy who made The Hobbit. Download of the Week.)
Cybernaut

Mega man

Kim Dotcom is everything wrong, and everything right, with the Internet today. Ruthlessly inventive and self-promoting — he changed his name to “Dotcom” from Schmitz, if that tells you anything — Dotcom is something of a pirate. He’s been a hacker. He’s been sentenced for computer fraud and espionage, and he got a suspended sentence in 2003 for insider trading and embezzlement.

In January 2012, he was the subject of a (totally gratuitous) SWAT-team style takedown at his home in New Zealand after being accused of defrauding the entertainment industry of half a billion dollars through Megaupload, a torrent site with over 180 million users when it was shut down. He’s still fighting charges related to that arrest, which suggest that Megaupload did more than create a forum for copyright infringers, but actively and knowingly took part in infringing activities.

So what do you do when the authorities are trying to pin massive infringement charges on you and the FBI is working to extradite you to the U.S.? If you’re Kim Dotcom, you go back to the drawing board. Last week he launched a new cloud service like Dropbox that has been subjected to all kinds of legal tests. Because Mega encrypts all of your data, nobody can claim that they’re aiding and abetting copyright infringers. People can share materials by sharing the encryption key with others, but again everything is done in a blind way so Mega ostensibly doesn’t know what’s going on.

Except... they kind of have to. In their own terms of use, Mega said they reserve the right to delete duplicate files as a way to save space. Rather than hosting 500,000 copies of the same bootleg movie or television show, they’ll host that file once and issue 500,000 different links to the same file. But if everything is encrypted, then how is this possible? How can Mega delete duplicate files if they don’t know what’s in the files, as they claim?

The best you can say about Mega is that it isn’t technically illegal, and making it illegal would strafe into some very uncomfortably territory for democracies when it comes to issues like privacy, free enterprise, free speech, international copyright law and other similar themes. On the surface, Mega — which gives users 50GB of free cloud space, about 25 times what’s available for free on Dropbox — really does have legitimate uses. There are all kinds of valid reasons people would want to back up their personal files using encryption. But there’s also no doubt that it will be used for lots of illegal activities, from copyright infringement to storing and sharing child pornography.

In fact, it’s a safe bet that most of the content on Mega’s servers will probably be illegal in some way, though right now there’s little the authorities can do about it. They can demand Mega hand over content, but all they’ll get is a bunch of encrypted data they don’t have the key for.

Visit https://mega.co.nz to check it out. The interface is somewhat clumsy and it doesn’t seem to work well with all the web browsers yet so Chrome is recommended. There’s also no mobile access yet, but Mega says it’s coming. If you’re signing up so you can get infringing material, it’s also unsearable, so you’ll have to seek out others that can send you links and keys for the materials you’re looking for — something that’s inconvenient by today’s standards, but is the main reason Mega might work where Dropbox doesn’t.

My own recommendation is to be cautious. When Megaupload was taken down a lot of programmers that were using the platform collaboratively lost all their work, while others lost other legitimate materials — a fraction of a per cent of the total data, but legitimate all the same. Use Mega if you must but back everything up — laws change, loopholes close and Mega may not be long for this world.

PCS NOT GOING ANYWHERE

I have a tablet. I have a smartphone. They’re interchangeable. But in terms of actual productivity, I’ll stick with my PC.

Over the years we’ve heard dire things about the PC market, and how many people are opting for tablets and other alternatives these days — and the commercials really do make it seem like tablet is a productive thing to own, when my experience is that they’re ok for games and entertainment and not particularly great for anything else. Tablets are not going to replace PCs any time soon.

Deloitte Canada recently released a study last week on how Canadians are using the technology they own and they confirmed as much — people spend the majority of their time using personal computers both at work and at home, even for low-impact activities like surfing the web. In other words, the time we spend with our gadgets can generally be summed up in minutes per day, while we use our computers about 70 per cent of the time.

While the results of the study may seem obvious, the key message is to look at your priorities. It’s better to spend your budget on a tool that you’ll use a lot — a powerful PC with a big screen, capable of running games vs. an expensive gadget that can do a few things well.

2. Local flavour Wine tasters enjoy the fine wines and micro brews as part of the Winetastic trade tasting at the Telus Winter Classic last weekend. Photo by Joern Rohde/Joernrohde.com. 

3. Winter Classic An acrobat hangs in the air at the Telus Technicolour Dream Gala part of the Whistler Classic last weekend. The 20th installation of the event raised over a quarter of a million dollars for the Whistler Blackcomb Foundation. Photo by Coast Mountain Photography. 

4. Winter fun Team Birkenstoked celebrates a win at the fifth annual Gates Lake Skinny Tournament in Pemberton on Saturday. Photo submitted. 

5. Social scene The Whistler Social Netball League plays a game at Myrtle Philip Community School. The newly formed league gets together every Wednesday for games. Photo by Kate Whitley.

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Blackalicious to hit Whistler, head back to the studio

VETERAN HIP HOP DUO SAYS THEY WILL OFFER SAMPLES FROM AN ALBUM NEARLY A DECADE IN THE MAKING

by Alyssa Noel
arts@piquenewsmagazine.com

Eight years have passed since California hip hop duo Blackalicious released an album. For perspective when they put out The Craft, their fourth full length, back in 2005, George W. Bush was still the American president, no one fretted over Instagram followers and flip phones were still a legitimate way to communicate.

In other words, a lot has happened. But for rapper Gift of Gab (a.k.a. Tim Parker) and DJ/producer Chief Xcel (Xavier Mosley) inspiration for their pioneering brand of conscious hip hop has remained the same.

“Our music has always been honest,” Gab says over the phone days before heading to B.C. for a small string of concerts. “We’ve still been working, just spreading out doing other things,” he says, referring to his solo projects and Xcel’s work as a producer. “We’ve always been Blackalicious. It’s just taken (time) to come back to the foundation.”

That foundation dates back to the late 80s when the pair first met in high school. Reuniting years later around 1992 in Davis, California, where Xcel was a student at the University of California they began to work on music. In 1994, they released their debut EP Melodica, which they re-released last summer — and made available digitally for the first time which they plan to work on another 20 then narrow down to a 16-song tracklist. There are a few working titles, but Gab is remaining tight-lipped.

“We’ve still been working, just spreading out doing other things,” he says, referring to his solo projects and Xcel’s work as a producer. “We’ve always been Blackalicious. It’s just taken (time) to come back to the foundation.”

That foundation dates back to the late 80s when the pair first met in high school. Reuniting years later around 1992 in Davis, California, where Xcel was a student at the University of California they began to work on music. In 1994, they released their debut EP Melodica, which they re-released last summer — and made available digitally for the first time — to celebrate 20 years making music together.

“We just wanted to re-introduce some new fans to what we did 20 years ago,” Gab says. “That was the beginning of the movement, so to speak...it’s a blessing that we can still tour and put music out and people still come to our shows and we still have a strong fanbase and we’re still passionate about it.”

They’ve also continued to notice new, young faces in the crowds at shows throughout the years. “People come up to us and say, ‘My big brother got me into you when I was eight,” Gab says.

At the forefront of positive, alternative hip hop in the ‘90s, he adds that it’s been both strange and fulfilling to see their influence on acts that have come since. “We were students of Public Enemy, A Tribe Called Quest, De La Soul,” he says.

“In that era we were students — we’re students of it all even now — but in the era we came from, I think I’ve always wanted to be an MC who had something to say. That reflects who I am as a person. Not to say I’m a perfect person or soul because I don’t think anybody is, but I think our music has always reflected that we see the world a certain way and we want to contribute.”

His advice to newcomers in the industry after two decades of experience? “I would say believe in what you do,” he adds. “Get around other people who have the same mind (frame) as you and work hard. If you’re an artist, create. Don’t say you’re an artist, be an artist.”

Although social media and interacting directly with fans has become a bigger part of releasing records since their last time around, the need to tour relentlessly has not changed. To that end, the pair will hit up a few select cities in B.C. — including Whistler — and California before bunkering down in an Oakland studio to work on the record. Look forward to a sample of new tracks at the gigs, Gab says.

“We say it at every show, ‘New Blackalicious coming this summer,’” he says. “People are ready. I’m ready.”

The pair have performed in Whistler before and left with some distinct memories. Gab elaborates: “What I remember about Whistler is great people, but very high altitude and a lot of snow.”
Whistler WinterPRIDE highlights homegrown DJs

LOCAL DJS, A FASHION SHOW AND THE ANNUAL SNOWBALL MARK THIS YEAR’S FESTIVITIES

By Alyssa Noel

If Whistler WinterPRIDE Week’s massive roster of DJs seems packed with familiar names that’s because it is — on purpose.

Entering into its 21st year, the event has long calculated that visitors largely travel from outside the Vancouver area and Sea to Sky corridor. As a result, organizers want to offer a strong sample of local talent to visitors.

“We’re pretty international,” says Dean Nelson, CEO and executive producer at Alpenglow Productions, which organizes the annual ski week. “Over 25 per cent of our guests come from overseas, places like the U.K., Australia, Europe. The biggest market is the U.S. (with) 40 per cent… Since so many are coming from abroad it gives them an opportunity to hear some of our local talent, which is really important.”

Whistler’s own DJ Foxxy Moron and DJ Kori K will spin at après ski parties, along with sets by Mixmaster Fab, Peacefrog and whole host of others from Vancouver throughout the festivities Feb. 3 – 10.

For the Snowball, Pride Week’s finale event Feb. 9, organizers are bringing in Paul Goodyear, a DJ from San Francisco by way of Sydney who combines Latin music, disco and tech house for his headlining sets. “The lighting and sound system we’re getting this year are going to be phenomenal,” Nelson says of the party. “They transport that ballroom into super disco and tech house for his headlining sets.”

“The show is slated for Feb. 7, with performances by Chad Michaels, who won RuPaul’s Drag Race; All Stars, actress/model/dancer Iona Whipp and an appearance by celebrity judge and actor Charlie David (Dante’s Cove).”

Much of the other entertainment is the same as past years, in part because of funding restrictions, Nelson adds. Organizers were hoping to get a piece of the Resort Municipality of Whistler’s Festivals, Events and Animation funds, but had to pare back plans when it didn’t come through. “It was disappointing for sure, but the municipality is investing in an economic impact study. So that’s a positive thing that came out of it,” he adds.

As for the rest of the long list of DJs, Nelson says organizers conduct some hard-hitting research in the months leading up to their event. “There’s a bit of a consultation process we use with some of our community,” he says. “We ask for some ideas for who should be shortlisted.

We go to a lot of different events around the world, watch different DJs and how they respond to the crowd and how the crowd responds to the DJs. We get a good sense of if it’s going to be a good fit for the festival. Happy, uplifting (music) is very important for us.”

Another big entertainment event this year is the return of the fashion show, which organizers abandoned in 2009 after realizing it was labour intensive and too expensive to host. “Looking at our guest comments, a lot of people requested the fashion show,” Nelson says. “We thought we would tie in the show with the Mr. Gay Canada finale. They’ll be working the catwalk… We take a loss on it, but it’s something we wanted to do for the community and it’s a great way to showcase the Mr. Gay Canada delegates.”

The show is slated for Feb. 7, with performances by Chad Michaels, who won RuPaul’s Drag Race; All Stars, actress/model/dancer Iona Whipp and an appearance by celebrity judge and actor Charlie David (Dante’s Cove).

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Still, he’s hopeful they will receive a municipal boost in years to come. Ticket sales for this year’s events have been encouraging. “Looking at the trend of advance ticket sales, it’s tracking very strong,” he says. “The hotels are going to be very busy.”

WHISTLER WINTERPRIDE — ON PURPOSE

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RICHARD SAMUELS
Come get your dose of the dirtiest, local rock Whistler has to offer.

JEKYLL & HYDE
Catch Colin Bullock’s set!

Twang performs Feb. 7.

Live music from Big Mountain Rhythm on Jan. 31. Brother

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located on the Village Stroll in the Crystal Lodge

RICHARDS CELTIC
Rucks, Great Lake’s one of the most far-reaching vocal range and innovative acoustic guitar style, and Ian Cameron, who pounds on the drums, electric guitar and mandolin. They cover a huge range of material, including unique versions of rock classics, pop and folk favorites and traditional Celtic and country.

Dub Line Gate Old Irish Pub

9:30 & 10 pm

Pemberton/Squamish

BLACKWATER
Catch Blackwater MC’s set!

9 pm

The Pemberton Hotel (Pemberton)

PLAYFRIDAYS
With Rickenbacker and DJ Turtle. Start the weekend off right with all the hits and anthems to keep the dance floor pumping from 9-2 am.

Tommy Africa’s

9 pm

Moe Joe’s, the Lovenest, and online at Clubzone.com.

Professional exotic female entertainers, Jagermeister shooter specials, dance floor packs of hip hop, Reggae, reggae, dance, electro, dubstep, DnB, club anthems, and mash-ups. Send an email for guestlist requests and group bookings. Don’t get left out in the cold - get there early!

PAYDAY FRIDAYS
You’ve worked hard all week, it’s time to cut loose! DJ Praiz and JynxArmy are in the booth. Their flexa throw down a dance-floor packing mix of hip hop, Regga, reggae, house, electro, dubstep, Chill, club anthems, and mash-ups. Send an email for guestlist requests and group bookings. Don’t get left out in the cold - get there early!

DJ Praiz

9 pm

Moe Joe’s

FRI. FEB. 01

Dynamic Dolphin

ié get moving to the Dynamic Dolphin with exclusive rock anthems, dubstep and dubstep

$10 cover! Right on the dancefloor.

9 pm

Maxx Fish

For Great Value

Come for the Value
WATCH THREE GUEST BARTENDERS FROM ALL OVER WHISTLER COMPETE TO CREATE THE BEST MARTINI IN TOWN!

MARTINI NIGHT
MON. FEB 4TH AT 8PM
3 MARTINIS FOR $15*

* SPECIAL RUNS ALL DAY, COMPETITION STARTS AT 8

DJ KORI K STARTS AT 8
WATCH THREE GUEST BARTENDERS FROM ALL OVER WHISTLER COMPETE TO CREATE THE BEST MARTINI IN TOWN!
Nightlife
BARS, CLUBS & PUBS

Open @7am everyday
Get Your Java Fix Here
Now serving
Cappuccinos, Espressos and Lattes!
50¢ of every take out coffee sold donated to WAG

SUN. FEB 03

LIVE MUSIC

DAVE MORRIS
Catch Dave Morris’ set!
Mallard Lounge
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm-midnight

KOKANEE AFTERBURN PRESENTS THE HAIRFARMERS
Voted Whistler’s best band for over a decade, the infamous local duo of Guitar Doug and Grateful Greg (a.k.a. The Hairfarmers) bring the house down with their huge list of cover classics, the latest hits, and some originals too at the GLC starting at 3:30 for après ski at 6:15 pm, following the Fire & Ice show, they jump back on stage and keep the party rocking! Get in early and enter the draw to win a Whistler Heliski trip thanks to Glacier Fresh Kikakons.
Garibaldi Lck Co. (GLC)
8:15 pm

TAKEOUT AVAILABLE

Now serving
Cappuccinos, Espressos and Lattes!
50¢ of every take out coffee sold donated to WAG

INCREDIBLE TAKOUT SPECIALS

STEAK: 1 FOR 1
SEAFOOD: 1 FOR 1
SUSHI: 1 FOR 1

Now serving
Cappuccinos, Espressos and Lattes!
50¢ of every take out coffee sold donated to WAG

90K SUNDAYS
Superbowl Party this Sunday! DJ RPM and Endz. Now open until 2 am! At Maxx the weekend doesn’t end. DJ RPM brings the freshest in mash-ups, electro, Top 40 and house.
Maxx Fish
1 am

THE SUNDAY COMPANY
It’s Whistler’s busiest weekly club night. Fidel Cashflow spins a seamless, high energy mix of house, electro, dubstep, and mash-ups. Open Aisy is setting things off. Glue is the dark necklaces, bracelets, and face paint party. Open Aisy up every week. Get here early to beat the line!
Maxx Fish
8 pm

MON. FEB 04

LIVE MUSIC

DAVE MORRIS
Catch Dave Morris’ set!
Mallard Lounge
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm-midnight

ROCKS DELUXE
Rucks Deluxe features Chad Oliver’s amazing vocal range and innovative acoustic guitar style, and Ian Cameron who shines on fiddle, electric guitar and mandolin. They cover a huge range of material, including unique versions of rock classics, pop and all kinds of traditional Celtic and country.
Dubh Linn Gate Old Irish Pub
8:30 & 9 pm

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LEGENDARY LOCALS NIGHT
Our Legendary “Make It Snow Tour” is full on this weekend. Show up early to be a chance to win the brand new Salomon ski giveaway.
Longhorn Saloon
9 pm

SALOMON COMMUNITY NIGHT WITH DJ DOKA
DJ Doka bringing you the best tunes including funky beats and hip hop. Always a great time and always good music! Round 2 of this monthly amateur ski/snowboard movie competition continues with a pair of Salomon Rocker skis to be won!
Crystal Lounge
9 pm

IN THE MIX
It’s the Mix’s hippest night alright, with a rotating cast of DJs spinning in a cozy martini bar. This week’s DJ: Tim Livingstone.
The Mix by Ric’s
9 pm

BIG PUB QUIZ
Six rounds of trivia starting at 8 pm hosted by MC Adam. Free to enter. Maximum 6 per team. Prizes to be won.
Longhorn Saloon
8 pm

RUCKUS DELUXE
Ruckus Deluxe features Chad Oliver’s amazing vocal range and innovative acoustic guitar style, and Ian Cameron who shreds on fiddle, electric guitar and mandolin. They cover a huge range of material, including unique versions of rock classics, pop and all kinds of traditional Celtic and country.
Dubh Linn Gate Old Irish Pub
3:30 & 8 pm

THE HAIRFARMERS
Voted Whistler’s best band for over a decade, the infamous local duo of Guitar Doug and Grateful Greg (a.k.a. The Hairfarmers) bring the house down with their huge list of cover classics, the latest hits, and some originals too at Tapley’s at 9:30 pm. Come party with the locals!
Tapley’s Pub
9:30 pm

The Mix
IT’S THE MIX’S HIPPIEST NIGHT ALRIGHT, WITH A ROTATING CAST OF DJs SPINNING IN A COZY MARTINI BAR. THIS WEEK’S DJ: TIM LIVINGSTONE.

THE SUNDAY COMPANY
It’s Whistler’s busiest weekly club night. Fidel Cashflow spins a seamless, high energy mix of house, electro, dubstep, and mash-ups. Open Aisy is setting things off. Glue is the dark necklaces, bracelets, and face paint party. Open Aisy up every week. Get here early to beat the line!
Maxx Fish
8 pm

B/G/L/B QUIZ
Six rounds of trivia starting at 8 pm hosted by MC Adam. Free to enter. Maximum 6 per team. Prizes to be won.
Longhorn Saloon
9 pm

LEGENDARY LOCALS NIGHT
Our Legendary “Make It Snow Tour” is full on this weekend. Show up early to be a chance to win the brand new Salomon ski giveaway.
Longhorn Saloon
9 pm

SOUTHSIDE DINER
Open @7 am everyday
Now serving
Cappuccinos, Espressos and Lattes!
50¢ of every take out coffee sold donated to WAG
604.966.0668
Like us on Facebook
TUES. FEB. 05
Live Music

DAE MORS
Catch Dave Mors’ set!
Mallard Lounge
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm-midnight

KARAOKE TUESDAYS
I Will Survive won’t sing itself, so come over to Whistler’s longest-running karaoke night and belt out all your favourite hits. Arrive early to avoid disappointment.
Crystal Lounge
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm-midnight

LOS Fuegos
Catch a set by this six-piece ska/reggae/punk Vancouver band.
The Savoy Bagel Lounge & Dance Club
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm-midnight

REID JAMIESON
Catch Reid Jamieson’s set!
The Savage Beagle Lounge & Dance Club
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm-midnight

WED. FEB. 06
Live Music

BLACKSJM
It’s back for the winter. Black’s jam night hosted by Kostaman and Sean Rose. Come sing some songs and take in a night of music.
Black’s Pub & Restaurant
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm

LIVE AIRS WITH J ON H U R I E R
Catch Jon Shrier’s set!
The Savoy Bagel Lounge & Dance Club
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm

REDJ AMISON
Catch Rod Jimerson’s set!
Mallard Lounge
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm-midnight

THE HAIRFARMERS
Voted Whistler’s best band for over a decade, the infamous local duo of Guitar Doug and Grateful Greg (aka The Hairfarmers) bring the house down with their huge list of cover classics, the latest hits, and some originals too at Dusty’s.
Dusty’s Bar and Grill
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm

Clubs/DJs

TUESDAY NIGHT FRAT PARTY
This is not your ordinary club night! The folks are out of town, so we’re throwing a high school house party! Red plastic cups, ping pong, embarrassing photographs...all that fun stuff. DJs Scotty Mac and Eavel are in the booth spinning straight up party jams all night long! No cover.
Moe Joe’s
3:30-5:30 & 9 pm
**Event:**

**Green Drinks**

*Barring the birthday and music of Bob Marley. Featured guests: Rasta Realize (Kingston, JA), Salvice Power Music, Mbuyiselo “Munkie” Ncapayi (master drummer), Drum Cafe, BC. Live-drum circle for everyone! With DJs: DJ Phroth (Whistler, BC) and DJ Scoze Pemberton, BC.*

**Event Details:**

- **Date:** January 31, 2013
- **Time:** 7:30 to 9:30 pm
- **Location:** The Savage Beagle Lounge & Dance Club

**Green Drinks is a social networking event for anybody who has an open mind and interested in discussing about the state of the environment. It’s a chance to meet regularly to chat, debate, socialize and connect with others in Whistler who are passionate about environmental and sustainability issues. At the event, participants enjoy free Granville Island beer and appies with one pint to.

**Clubs/DJs**

1. **BlackLox Sound Freesins Soln Sistm Wednesdays**
   - Celebrating the birthday and music of Bob Marley. Featured guests: Rasta Realize (Kingston, JA), Salvice Power Music, Mbuyiselo “Munkie” Ncapayi (master drummer), Drum Cafe, BC. Live-drum circle for everyone! With DJs: DJ Phroth (Whistler, BC) and DJ Scoze Pemberton, BC.
   - **Location:** The Savage Beagle Lounge & Dance Club
   - **Time:** 7:30 to 9:30 pm

2. **Clubs/DJs**
   - **BlackLox Sound Freesins Soln Sistm Wednesdays**
     - **Location:** The Savage Beagle Lounge & Dance Club
     - **Time:** 7:30 to 9:30 pm
   - **Green Drinks**
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In the past Fakti Bliss wrote a remarkable status update on her Facebook page. Here’s an edited excerpt: “In the past few weeks, I have been in the midst of a creative and uninhibited burst of productivity. I have been writing, painting, and exploring new ideas. I have also been spending time with my family and friends, enjoying their company and the joy they bring. I feel my fate in what I do, and I am passionate about it. I would like to share this experience with you, and I hope it inspires you to pursue your own dreams and passions.”

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** I feel my fate in what I cannot fear,” said Theodore Roethke in his poem “The Waiting.” “I invite you to try out that perspective, Aries. In other words, learn more about your destiny by doing what makes you feel free. Read in the direction of adventures that clear your mind of its clutter and mobilize your gutsy brilliance. Put your trust in dreams that inspire you to Wesleyan University.**

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21):** It’s the First Annual Blemish Appreciation Week — for Geminis only. One of the best ways to observe this holiday is to not just tolerate the flaws and foibles of other people, but to also understand them and forgive them. Another excellent way to observe this holiday is to do the same for your own flaws and foibles. Applaud them for the interesting trouble they’ve caused and the amusing lessons they’ve taught. I may be joking a little about this, but I’m mostly serious. Be creative and uninhibited as you have fun with the human imperfections that normally drive you crazy.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** When I turn my psychic vision in your direction, I see scenes of heavy rain and rising water, maybe even a flood. I’m pretty sure this has a metaphorical rather than literal significance. It probably means you will be inundated with more feelings than you really need to know, and they might even give you shiny new playthings. Open your mind and heart to the unexpected blessings.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** ‘I feel my fate in what I cannot fear’ said Aldous Huxley. If that’s true, Taurus, you should renew your passion for and commitment to all the supernatural aspects of the stories told in the New Testament. So he created his own version of the Bible, using only those parts he agreed with. How would be an excellent time for you to be inspired by Jefferson’s approach, Scorpio. Is there a set of ideas that appeals to you in some ways but not in others? Tailor it to your own special needs. Make it your own. Become a sect of one.

**SCORPIUS (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** “I feel my fate in what I cannot fear,” said Aldous Huxley. If that’s true, Capricorn, it’s important that you not act like a normal human in the next few weeks. Taking things for granted would be a laziness you can’t afford to indulge. In fact, I think you should renew your passion for and commitment to all your familiar pleasures and fundamental supports. Are you fully aware of the everyday miracles that allow you to thrive? Express your appreciation for the sources that nourish you so reliably.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** “I feel my fate in what I cannot fear,” said Aldous Huxley. If that’s true, Capricorn, it’s important that you not act like a normal human in the next few weeks. Taking things for granted would be a laziness you can’t afford to indulge. In fact, I think you should renew your passion for and commitment to all your familiar pleasures and fundamental supports. Are you fully aware of the everyday miracles that allow you to thrive? Express your appreciation for the sources that nourish you so reliably.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** “I feel my fate in what I cannot fear,” said Aldous Huxley. If that’s true, Capricorn, it’s important that you not act like a normal human in the next few weeks. Taking things for granted would be a laziness you can’t afford to indulge. In fact, I think you should renew your passion for and commitment to all your familiar pleasures and fundamental supports. Are you fully aware of the everyday miracles that allow you to thrive? Express your appreciation for the sources that nourish you so reliably.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** “I feel my fate in what I cannot fear,” said Aldous Huxley. If that’s true, Capricorn, it’s important that you not act like a normal human in the next few weeks. Taking things for granted would be a laziness you can’t afford to indulge. In fact, I think you should renew your passion for and commitment to all your familiar pleasures and fundamental supports. Are you fully aware of the everyday miracles that allow you to thrive? Express your appreciation for the sources that nourish you so reliably.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** “I feel my fate in what I cannot fear,” said Aldous Huxley. If that’s true, Capricorn, it’s important that you not act like a normal human in the next few weeks. Taking things for granted would be a laziness you can’t afford to indulge. In fact, I think you should renew your passion for and commitment to all your familiar pleasures and fundamental supports. Are you fully aware of the everyday miracles that allow you to thrive? Express your appreciation for the sources that nourish you so reliably.

In addition to this column, Rob Brezsny creates EXPANDED AUDIO HOROSCOPES in-depth weekly forecasts designed to inspire and uplift you. To buy access, phone 1-888-499-4425. Once you’ve chosen the Block of Time you like, call 1-888-682-8777 to hear Rob’s forecasts. And be sure to visit his Web site at www.freewillastrology.com.
WINTERPRIDE FESTIVAL
Don’t miss one of the biggest and best gay ski weeks in the world: Whistler’s WinterPRIDE. The celebration features a full slate of events including snowmobiling adventures, wine tastings, a pool party, snowball dance, fantastic skiing and snowboarding and everything in-between.

Events + Festivals

FEB. 3-10

Welcome Figure Installation
The Squamish and Ulkatcho Nations invite everyone to participate in a community celebration to honour the installation of an ancient red cedar welcome figure. Free.

Friday, Feb 1

44th Luge World Championships
Canada’s top luge athletes host the 44th World Championships in Whistler. Get dressed in red and white, and come to the Whistler Sliding Centre to cheer Canada’s athletes to victory.

Peaks to Valley Race
Mixed teams of four race from the Whistler Sliding Centre to the foot of Lorimer Road at the Valley Trail School Sales locations.

Saturday, Feb 2

Day Two
44th Luge World Championships
Whistler Sliding Centre | 3pm

SUNDAY, Feb 3

Terence Jack is a local Vancouver artist playing a mix of blues, folk, blue-grass, and soul. His solo show will showcase originals and covers on his acoustic guitar, electric guitar, harmonica and a washboard. Lagniappe.

Laura Harris Solo Exhibition
Laura’s work is incredibly textured, energetic, expressive, romantic, and powerful, and so is she when you speak with her. She is a signature artist at the gallery. Free.

Made in Whistler Winter Market
This is the ultimate market for one-of-a-kind items made by local artisans. Jewelry, pottery, woodwork, baked goods, fashion and food will be available along with other items.

Squamish Winter Market
Enjoy the warmth of community spirit at the the Winter Market in Squamish where everything is made, baked and grown.

WinterPRIDE Welcome Reception
The official welcome party: It’s Social Sunday! $15

Pique in your pants
m.piquenewsmagazine.com/pique

804-962-7743
fattonyspizza.com

Howe Sound Brewing

Superbowl XLVII

Pre-game viewing starts noon in the Brewpub
Kick-off: 3:30 PM
Win prizes while enjoying in house food & drink specials!

Good beer lives here!

37801 Cleveland Ave.,
Downtown Squamish
604.982.2603 • info@howesound.com • howesound.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>COMMUNITY</td>
<td>COMMUNITY KITCHENS</td>
<td>Tracy Higgs will show participants how to incorporate beans into meals and snacks in ways you never expected. 604.932.0313.</td>
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<td>6:30 pm Whistler Community Services</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COMMUNITY</td>
<td>COMMUNITY PARENTING EDUCATION SERIES</td>
<td>An overview to Simplicity Parenting and how simplifying the home environment can help build connection, reduce stress and anxiety, and increase harmony in the family. Free. 604.898.3267.</td>
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<td>7:30 pm Cedar Valley Waldorf School, Squamish</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GAMES</td>
<td>GAMES NIGHT</td>
<td>Play an old favourite or learn a new game. Win great prizes! Feel free to bring your own game to play. No registration required. Free. First Monday of every month, 7 pm Whistler Public Library.</td>
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<td>2:45-4:45 pm Spring Creek Community School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT</td>
<td>LAYERS OPENING RECEPTION</td>
<td>Check out the works of Artists Nasser Ghaderi, Sarah Northcott and Bedrick James at the opening of the next art exhibit at Millennium Place. Free. 5:30-6:30 pm Scofa Creek Gallery.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>9-10 am Cheakamus Lake Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>COMMUNITY</td>
<td>TOTAL TRAINING TUESDAYS</td>
<td>Come by and workout with a pro to be ready to tackle the slopes all winter. Free. 7 pm and 7 pm Helly Hansen Westin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WHISTLER</td>
<td>WHISTLER DEBATES</td>
<td>This evening will feature a panel of high-profile and prestigious members of BC’s LGBTQ community debating the following statement: “Whistler believes... the Gay Pride movement is no longer relevant.” This debate is for people 19 and older. 7 pm Whistler Museum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COMMUNITY</td>
<td>55+ WEEKLY SNOWSHOE WALK</td>
<td>Meet in the parking lot at the intersection of Highway 99 and Cheakamus Lake Road. Bring your own snowshoes. Free. 604.902.0865. 9-10 am Cheakamus Lake Road.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT</td>
<td>MR. GAY CANADA</td>
<td>At the fifth annual competition judges will score the delegates to determine which man will best represent Canada at the Mr. Gay World Competition in Antwerp, Belgium during the WorldOutgames. $36. 8-10 pm Whistler Conference Centre.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 pm Spring Creek Community School</td>
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<td>7-10 pm Cheakamus Lake Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>COMMUNITY</td>
<td>SPRING CREEK OPEN GYM</td>
<td>Large play space for children up to six years of age to run off some steam. Drop in. No booking required. Suggested entry donation of $2. 2:45-4:45 pm Spring Creek Community School.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT</td>
<td>NORDIC TOONIE NIGHT</td>
<td>A 400-plate gala dinner and fundraiser for the Freestyle Club featuring silent and live auctions with heli-ski packages, trips and more. $45 adults</td>
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<td>8-10 pm Whistler Conference Centre</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>9-10 am Skier’s Plaza</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>COMMUNITY</td>
<td>55+ WEEKLY SNOWSHOE WALK</td>
<td>Meet in the parking lot at the intersection of Highway 99 and Cheakamus Lake Road. Bring your own snowshoes. Free. 604.902.0865. 9-10 am Cheakamus Lake Road.</td>
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<td>6:30 pm Spring Creek Community School</td>
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<td>9-10 am Whistler Conference Centre</td>
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<td>10-11 am Whistler Conference Centre</td>
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</tbody>
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**For all your tire needs call Whistler Tire Co.**

**7 days a week 604.962.8900**

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**PIQUENEWSMAGAZINE.COM**

For more information on featured events.

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**PIQUENEWSMAGAZINE.COM**

For more information on featured events.

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**PIQUENEWSMAGAZINE.COM**

For more information on featured events.

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**PIQUENEWSMAGAZINE.COM**

For more information on featured events.
**ADULT SERVICES**

**ADULTS ONLY**

Radiant starlight beauty. Young, sexy, tall, big, large breasts & long dark hair. Feel the heat when she’s running hot, like a match to a flame. 1-604-902-1253

Tight & pristine, slim, athletic, busty, young, s/w/f, European blonde. Living on a dream, she’ll teach you desire. Clean, classy & discreet, great attitude, well above average in looks. 24hrs. 1-604-916-4938

**ALWAYS HIRING**

STAGS! STAGS! STAGS! ESQUIERES, STRIPPER, TOPLESS BLACKJACK DEALERS AND SEXY SKI INSTRUCTORS! MAKE ANY PARTY AMAZING!

604-938-6456 For the Time of Your Life!

www.rosyisinwhistler.com

---

**ADULT SERVICES**

**ADULTS ONLY**

Ice cream and cotton candy
On my succulent pouty lips...
Tell me a story,
tuck me in?
I’ve been a very good girl.

Offered at your location/ flexible hours
Call to book an appointment:
604-902-0699

---

**ACCOMMODATION**

**LONG-TERM RENTALS**

**PIQUE**

ACCOMMODATION LISTINGS, DEFINED:

Long Term Rentals
Monthly rental accommodation that is available to local renters for a minimum of 12 months.

Short Term Rentals
Monthly or seasonal rental accommodation that is available to local renters for less than 12 months, or where the rental price varies throughout the year.

---

**TAMARISK**

SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Your home while you’re away! Rent your home while you travel or vacation! Rent your condo while you travel or vacation!

---

**Accommodation**

**LONG-TERM RENTALS**

**BAYSHORES**

Unfurnished 1bd+foh, lots of light, ample pkg, on site laundry, with fireplace. Avail 1April for 12mths. Renting for $1300/mth. For more info contact oliver@mountaincountry.ca Ref 2185M

---

**LONG TERM RENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

Property Owners seeking Annual or Seasonal Rental Income from screened Tenants, please contact one of our five below-listed Rental Agents to discuss revenue & services.

LICENSED RENTAL AGENTS:

Wendy Tabrett 604-698-0272
Mike Garcia 604-966-8944
Simon Westwood 604-967-1105
Forrest Chittick 604-902-7178
Duane Kecher 604-932-7849

VIEW OUR AVAILABLE RENTAL LISTINGS AT:

www.whistlerproperty.com
**MASSAGE**

**Massages**
- Acupuncture
- Shiatsu
- Thai Massage
- Acupressure
- Herbal Cures

**WINTER PRIDE WEEK MASSAGE SPECIALS**
- 60 min massage $55 (save $10)
- 90 min massage $90 (save $15)

**Massages**
- Thai Massage
- Tui Na Massage

**NEW CLIENT SPECIAL!**
- 60-min massage $55 (save $10)

**MASSAGE THERAPY**

- Deep Tissue Relaxation
- Aromatherapy

**MARTIAL ARTS**
- Yoga & Pilates
- Jivamukti Open
- Jivamukti Beginner Vinyasa
- Jivamukti Spiritual Warrior
- Restorative Rehab Yoga
- Jivamukti Spiritual Warrior
- Jivamukti Spirtual Warrior

**SCHEDULE**

- Monday
  - 10:00am: Hatha Yoga
  - 12:00pm: Power Pilates

- Tuesday
  - 10:00am: Hatha Yoga
  - 12:00pm: Power Pilates

- Wednesday
  - 10:00am: Hatha Yoga
  - 12:00pm: Power Pilates

- Thursday
  - 10:00am: Hatha Yoga
  - 12:00pm: Power Pilates

- Friday
  - 10:00am: Hatha Yoga
  - 12:00pm: Power Pilates

- Saturday
  - 10:00am: Hatha Yoga
  - 12:00pm: Power Pilates

- Sunday
  - 10:00am: Hatha Yoga
  - 12:00pm: Power Pilates

**VALENTINES DAY**

- 2HR Unlimited Yoga $55

**AFFILIATED JIVAMUKTI CENTER**

- 4th Degree Back Pain
- Kukulkan Certificated
- World Class Mind\& Body
- Bronze Medal Pan Am Champion
- World Hall Of Fame Inducted

**NEW LOCATION - Myrtle Phillip School**

**Improving Relationships**

- Helping clients create meaningful change.
- Professional seminars for parents.
- Communication techniques.

**NEW CLIENT SPECIAL!**

- 60-minute sessions with kids, couples, or families.

**BOOK YOUR MASSAGE**

- www.terminalenergywhistler.com
- 604-905-0771

**REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPIST**

- Helene Binet (RMT)
- Brianna Berry (RMT)
- Local Discounts Available

**IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS**

- Helping clients create meaningful change.
- Professional seminars for parents.
- Communication techniques.

**NEW CLIENT SPECIAL!**

- 60-minute sessions with kids, couples, or families.

**BOOK YOUR MASSAGE**

- www.terminalenergywhistler.com
- 604-905-0771
Whistler Chorus Rehearsals — Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm at Whistler Secondary School Music Room. www.whisterchorus.org

Pemberton Arts Council — Connect with other artists, writers, artisans, musicians & help make Pemberton a vibrant arts community. Visit www.pembertonarts council.com or 604-452-0123


Sea to Sky Singers — invites new & former members to join us for an exciting new term, the spring & fall terms culminate with a concert. Choir meets Tues, 7-9pm at 1930 Diamond Rd (St. John’s Church). Veronica seaskyang@gmail.com or 604-892-7819 www.seaskyang.net

Yoga & Pilates

Package: 5 classes — $50; 10 classes — $99

$40 A MONTH

Gym Memberships as low as $40 A MONTH

50% OFF ALL BOTTLES OF TANNING LOTION

TRY OUR CIRCUIT CLASS Every Tuesday & Thursday mornings at 8:45am

Unlimited Tanning

it’s hot, hot again at NeoWhistler!

Join us for a YHot class this week!

Located at 2021 Karen Cres. In the Whistler Creek Lodge! 604-932-1984 FREE PARKING!

Yoga at HI-Whistler!

New Yoga Schedule at HI-Whistler! See our facebook page for more information. Yoga at HI Whistler

Mountain Bike

Whistler Beavers, Cubs, & Scouts

Outdoor & adventure programs for boys & girls, Beaver (K-2), Cub (3-5), Scout (6-10), Brownies (Gr K,1,2,3) Guides (Gr 4,5,6,7). Annual membership. Call 604-932-0113 or visit www.bsc.org

www.piqueenews.com | January 31, 2013 | 87
First Aid & Survival


Names: Rob Oliver #66
Perry Stone #2066
Kavun Mickelson #1319
Laura Jones Brown #5022

Date: January 29, 2013

Pay by: February 14, 2013

Pursuant to terms and remedies defined in the Storage Rental Agreement between the above-named individuals and A-One U-Lock (2010) Ltd. (A1), A1 has deemed the agreement as terminated, and property within the locker as abandoned. The named accounts have been in arrears for more than sixty (60) days thus terminating the storage rental agreement and deeming its contents abandoned.

The individuals account balance is to be paid by cash, certified cheque or credit card on or before February 14, 2013. Failure to do so will result in the contents (property in the locker being offered for sale or recycled to recover all costs and expenses associated to this Abandonment and Termination.

5-1399 Alpha Lane Rd. Whistler. BC V0N 1B1
Tel: 604-932-1948 Fax: 604-932-1946

Lost & Found

Found a snowboard last week on my way to high school in Whistler. Call to identify 604.932.5766

LOST & FOUND

Found:

Snowboard on 13Jan in Daylodge. Call to give description. 604.938.3823

Lost black Burton’s ski goggles sat. 16th either at alpine meadows busstop or in bus #1 leaving this stop at 2:55pm and goin to town. 604.966.7245. Thank you.

Lost a ski in the powder? We’ll find it.

[Contact information]

Special Olympics - Join the Special Olympics BC – Whistler Valley program as an athlete, coach or volunteer. Welcoming individuals with/without disabilities from Whistler, Pemberton & Mt. Currie. Rachel Borer: 604-737-3125 rborer@specialolympics.bc.ca

Volunteer Opportunities at WCSS Re-Use-It Center - Looking for enthusiastic committed volunteers. Pls email resumes to reusewhitneys@hotmail.com or contact the store 604-932-1121 for an interview. Store credit offered as benefit to volunteering.

Have you heard the Thunder on the Track - Would you like to Volunteer with us? Bobsled, Luge & Skeleton events at Whistler’s own World Famous Olympic Sliding Centre. Pls send resume to lkl@whistlerbasketballacmes.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Pemberton Community Centre
7:15am Tuesday mornings in Village North.

Brush up on your conversational English teaching style. $40/hr or $50/1.5 hrs. rach.steed@gmail.com

MATH & SOCIAL STUDIES TUTOR

Friendly Tutor with Master’s Degree & 12 yrs experience. Works with students of all abilities, incl. learning disabilities. Unique, individualized teaching style. $40/hr or $50/1.5 hrs. C.C. Payment Required*

SPECIAL OFFERS

5% discount when you mention this add.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sea to Sky Language School

Sea to Sky International Language School is hiring a F/T permanent

Business Development Officer

Based in Whistler, BC you will be responsible for managing marketing programs to grow the Japanese and south east Asian markets. A business degree, fluency in English, work experience in Japanese and Asian target markets are required. $60,000 per annum.

Apply to jobs@ssils.com or fax to 604.962.8822. No phone calls or drop-ins.
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH WORKER (IESP)
Looking for a part-time Youth Worker in the Mount Currie area. Email resume to info@plea.bc.ca

FARM FIELD LABOURER. Weeding, irrigating, harvesting & processing fruits & vegetables. More than one season of agricultural experience required. Looking for hardworking individuals able to work in all types of outdoor conditions. Min 40hrs/week over a min of 6days/week, $10.25/hr. Job duration is 52weeks March-Oct. Email resumes to info@northarmfarm.com or mail to North Arm Farm, PO Box 165, Pemberton, BC, V0N 2L0.

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Plumber/Gas Fitter wanted for busy service & renovation side of the business. Must be upbeat, creative & be completely fluent in written and spoken English. Effective February 5, 2013. Duties include: reservations, customer service, cleaning, processing flowers, opening & closing the store, working with a team, wedding, funeral, corporate & party work. Experience in marketing & wedding, funeral, corporate & party work. Computer skills & experience working with reservations systems an asset. Remuneration based on experience. Please send resume to spearhead.plumbing@gmail.com. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

FLORAL DESIGNER. Billie’s Flower House in Downtown Squamish BC has an opening for a full-time permanent floral designer. Minimum 1 year floral design experience & floral training required. Must be upbeat, creative & be completely computer literate. Job duties incl; customer service, floral design, H & communications, cleaning, processing flowers, opening & closing the store, working with a team, wedding, funeral, corporate & party work. Experience or knowledge in marketing an asset. Wages based on experience. $12- $16 per hour. Please send an email to ksw011@gmail.com Only applicant with required experience will be contacted.

Project Manager
The Sea to Sky corridor’s TOP CIVIL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY is currently looking for:
F/T & P/T Line Cooks
Minimum 2 Years Experience
P/T Server & Hosts
apply in Person after 5pm or email resume to threebelow@hotmail.com

Three Below Restaurant
100-4295 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4
Located in the Village & Theatre

Effective February 5, 2013
CLASSIFIED WORD AD
DEADLINE EXTENDED
TO MIDNIGHT ON TUESDAY FOR ONLINE BOOKINGS
BOOKINGS BY PHONE AND EMAIL ARE AVAILABLE UNTIL 6PM ON TUESDAY
604.938.0202 • office@piquenewsmagazine.com

PIQUE MINI MAGAZINE
classifieds.piquenewsmagazine.com

Don’t forget to scoop the poop!
It’s not fun to step in, or to see around town. Help keep Whistler clean and pick up after your dog.

www.whistlerwag.com

WAG
WHISTLER ANIMAL WELSH

FUNDAMENTALS OF WINE
In Whistler
LEVEL 1- INTRODUCTION TO WINE
Starting Tuesday, Feb. 19th
There is an accredited “Professional Wine Course” that is a prerequisite for the Sommelier Diploma. Everyone welcome!

To apply or for more info:
Call West Coast Food and Wine 604 932 8639

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Whistler’s 5th News Source

Join our Club

CLUB INTRAWEST WHISTLER, North America’s premier Vacation club, is seeking energetic team players to fill the following position on our Whistler team:

Housekeepers

Our Team Members enjoy a culture of recognition and rewards including competitive wages, flexible benefits packages and development opportunities.

Please apply at: www.clubintrawest.com/careers

Inspiring careers and play

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CLASSIFIED AD

COAST RANGE HELISKING
WHISTLER-PEMBERTON

Part-time Driver
The ideal candidate lives in Whistler, has excellent people skills, and has a working knowledge of the Whistler resort. Applicants must have an unrestricted class 4 Driver’s license with a clean driving abstract. Basic Computer skills and experience working with reservations systems an asset.

Please send resumes in confidence to info@coastrangehelisking.com

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for interview will be contacted.

www.whistlerexcavations.com
The Sea to Sky corridor’s TOP CIVIL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

We are currently offering an exciting opportunity for a PROJECT MANAGER to join our team

The successful candidate will possess a degree or diploma in Civil Engineering or a related discipline with a minimum of 5 years experience, and a proven track record of successful projects.

You possess sound technical knowledge of current civil construction practices and procedures. You are a leader in professional and construction environments. You are familiar with construction surveys, estimating, and crew management. You must be fluent in written and spoken English.

If you are looking for a challenge, and possess the required qualifications, please forward your resume and cover letter in confidence to info@whistlerexcavations.com.

Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

www.whistlerwag.com

Don’t forget to scoop the poop!
It’s not fun to step in, or to see around town. Help keep Whistler clean and pick up after your dog.

www.whistlerwag.com

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Our Team Members enjoy a culture of recognition and rewards including competitive wages, flexible benefits packages and development opportunities.

Please apply at: www.clubintrawest.com/careers

Inspiring careers and play
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

P/T PRODUCE
- Evening and Weekends required -

To join our team, we are looking for the best people who are prepared to go that extra mile. We offer competitive wages based on experience and excellent benefits (depending on eligibility). If you feel you can make a positive contribution, then bring in your resume to: Kirsten at the Pemberton Valley Supermarket.

Fax: 604.894.1107 Email: kirsten@pembertonsupermarket.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Coast Blackcomb Suites at Whistler

We are currently recruiting for the following positions:

Front Office Manager

If you are a committed, hardworking, fun loving and dynamic individual who is ready to join a great team of people and is prepared to help take the Coast Blackcomb Suites at Whistler into the future through demonstrated and effective Business, Operational, People & Culture and Guest & Community Leadership then this is the place for you!

The Coast Blackcomb Suites at Whistler is currently seeking a Front Office Manager to lead the Front Office and Breakfast departments.

We offer a variety of benefits, including competitive wages & benefits, employee discounts, training & development, career advancement opportunities and more!

Please submit your resume with cover letter, in confidence, to:

The General Manager
The Coast Blackcomb Suites at Whistler
Email: camillek@coastblackcombsuites.com

OHR Springs Management Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

OHR Springs Management Ltd. would like to thank all interested applicants however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Grow your career with Coast!

NOW HIRING

TLH Heliskiing Ltd./Tyax Wilderness Resort and Spa is a dynamic organization that prides itself on offering an exceptional wilderness experience to a wide range of international clientele. Located in the breathtaking Chilcotin mountain range, we offer unique employment opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts eager to share their passion for adventure with our guests.

Applicants must be willing to relocate to our remote lodge and value the benefits of living and working with a close-knit team. We thank all who apply but only those short-listed will be contacted.

Now hiring:

careers@tyax.com
tlhheliskiing.com

MASSAGE THERAPISTS
HOUSE KEEPERS
FOOD SERVERS/BAR TENDERS
(4½ star experience required)
RECEPTIONIST

Apply in confidence via email stating the position as listed in the job ad.
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WHITEHORSE GENERAL HOSPITAL has the following openings:

Technical Analyst – Information Services:
Competition #2013-016 – Regular Full Time

Information Systems Management Analyst – Information Services:
Competition #2013-015 – Regular Full Time

Microbiology Charge Technician – Laboratory:
Competition #2012-239 – Regular Full Time

Quality Assurance Technician – Laboratory:
Competition #2012-238 – Regular Full Time

Manager, Pharmacy
Competition #2011-244 – Regular Full Time

Visit our website at www.yukonhospitals.ca for more information on these and other job opportunities. Please send your resume/application quoting the appropriate competition number to:

Human Resources Department
5 Hospital Road Whitehorse, YT Y1A 3H7
Email: wghjobs@wgh.yk.ca

Yukon Hospital Corporation is committed to employment equity. We thank all those who apply and advise that only those candidates selected for further consideration will be contacted.

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

IT’S NEVER
JUST ANOTHER DAY.

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler is currently seeking enthusiastic team players for the following roles:

› FOOD AND BEVERAGE DIRECTOR
› WILDFLOWER OUTLET MANAGER
› FAIRMONT GOLD MANAGER
› HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER, TRAINING

Please apply at www.fairmontcareers.com

Local Recycling Company is hiring a Manager!!

Reporting to the director of operations. You will demonstrate that you are able to work independently and lead a team. Specifically you are responsible 24/7.

• Minimum 3 years in management or a supervisor role
• Background in material handling, logistics, or manufacturing
• Good Communication skills are essential
• Full benefits and performance incentives

Please submit resume and wage expectations to jason@regionalrecycling.ca

![Holiday Inn]

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
Temporary Full Time (Maternity Leave, 1 year contract)

Looking for highly organized individual with good communication skills:

+ Knowledge of basic bookkeeping and accounting principles required
+ Knowledge of Microsoft Office required, experience with Yardi and Opera are assets
+ Related experience in a hotel environment an asset

Please submit cover letter and resume to gjpringle@whistlerhi.com

We thank all applicants for their interest however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

4295 Blackcomb Way | Whistler | BC | V0N 1B4

At Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, every day is as unique as our properties. Nothing is routine. Each sunrise brings endless possibilities to create memories for our guests. It offers an exciting opportunity to build a career with North America’s largest luxury hotel company. Discover how extraordinary a Fairmont day can be.

![The Fairmont Chateau Whistler]

ServeUs Tip
Take the time to ask your guests if their experience is the best it can be. This genuine care and attention is guaranteed to knock their socks off!

Alex provides five star customer service by truly ensuring his guests are having an outstanding experience. He regularly checks in with them and goes the extra mile to create memorable moments.

ServeUs Challenge
The Whistler Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize Alex Moxon of The Adventure Group for delivering amazing guest service!

LEARN MORE ONLINE AT
classifieds.piquenewsmagazine.com

by 6:30pm Tuesday
there's no better way to buy and sell than Pique's new online marketplace.

**PUZZLES**

**ACROSS**

1. Silents' Theda --
2. It multiplies by dividing
3. On time
4. Onetime telecom giant
5. Good brandy
6. 50
7. Dwarf, --
8. Craven or Unseld
9. Smoulder
10. -- Alamos
11. Go downhill fast
12. Onco.
13. Party in Britain
14. Neptune's -- Bator
15. early astronomer
16. Big rodeo town
17. Lady
18. Echo
19. Woman
20. Tyler
21. Slugger Moises --
22. 70
23. Mongolia's --
24. Aramis' friend
25. 21
26. Autohydrozone
27. "Hail mary"
28. Last Weeks' Answers
29. Baskets
30. -- --
31. Lady
32. Where walls meet
33. #42
34. Greeley
35. --
36. 53
37. --
38. Kind of agent
39. "It was -- -- mistake!"
40. Armande du Plessis
41. To reach, as a goal
42. Nanny from abroad
43. Anagram for nail
44. Female
45. Andean capital
46. 44
47. Imitate
48. Beethoven's --
49. Overcharge
50. -- --
51. Lady
52. Whole
53. On European woodcarver
54. 48
55. Golden age of music
56. 54
57. Tall
58. 30
59. Coined --
60. 17
61. Inventory wd.

**DOWN**

1. M. M. --
2. -- --
3. --
4. Armande du Plessis
5. --
6. -- --
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**su do ku**

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no numbers repeating.

That's all there is to it.

There's no math involved.

The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else.

You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Level of difficulty: MEDIUM

7 6 1 2 4
8 6 2 4 6 9
1 3 9 8 7
7 5 3 2 9 4
2 9 7 4 5
The Wonder Reels...
the extended version

Sometimes I wonder whether people who have never been here believe me when I tell them what this place is like. Who can blame them?

by G.D. Maxwell
max@piqueennewsmagazine.com

I live in a town of about 10,000 people that, on a holiday weekend during the winter or a festive weekend during the summer, may swell to somewhere around 50,000. That's because quite a few other people like to come here to play, get away from wherever they live, or just hang out in the mountains.

So, what's there to do here? Well, in summer, we have five lakes in the valley, all within walking or biking distance, all swimmable... more or less. As long as you're not smitten with big, powerful ski boats or personal watercraft, you can do all the lake things you can think of on them.

You can walk any direction and before long, you'll come to a hiking/biking trail that will connect with another trail, then another trail and pretty soon you'll be caught in a spiderweb of trails you can spend most of your life exploring. Most will head up a mountain since we're surrounded by mountains. Bonus though, most are downhill coming back.

If elevation gain isn't your thing, you can walk or bike or skate a paved trail from one end of the valley to the other. Have I mentioned that everything I've talked about so far doesn't cost a penny, which, by the way, will cease to exist in another week? Nickel for your thoughts?

Of course, if you want to spend money, you can do that... easily! There are some wonderfully infuriating golf courses, two mountains full of highly developed ways to amuse, thrill and, if you're not careful, hurt yourself. There are patios galore, sometimes even in the sun, great places to eat and drink and watch the parade of humanity wander aimlessly by. There are galleries to raise your brow and street entertainment, notwithstanding there aren't really any streets to speak of.

The town's populated with generally well-educated under-achievers. So few people move here to climb the corporate ladder even those who do call themselves the exceptions that prove the rule. Most people work enough to get by and given a choice of making more money or having more free time, will take the free time, thank you.

Before I ever came here to ski, I wondered if I was up to the challenge. Turns out I wasn't, but that's another story. And ever since I moved here, I've been awestruck by the wonder of this town, these mountains, this lifestyle.

So it came as no surprise to me that Whistler Blackcomb — affectionately referred to as the MotherCorp — finally hit on selling the wonder of it all this year. Yes, this is the Wonder Year.

We have been amused by the Wonder Reels, a serialized Ode to the wonder of it all, Your Wonders, reminiscences of visitors’ wonderful time in Wonderland, available sometimes on the MotherCorp's website. And, perhaps best of all, The Wonder Routes.

Perhaps borrowing a page from Kevin Hodder and Brian Finestone's fine guidebooks to skiing Whistler and Blackcomb, the MotherCorp has strung together a self-guided sequence of peaks and runs to inspire awe, strike wonder and leave otherwise lost visitors found, as in dumbfounded.

There are six Wonder Routes, some in the alpine, some mid-mountain. Every single one of them is worth the time it takes to figure out where they are and where they go on a trail map often described as an exercise in sensory overload. But uncharacteristically — uncharacteristically for a marketing strategy — they don't go far enough. I mean, this is a really good idea and I feel it's incumbent on us, okay, incumbent on me, to exploit it to its fullest potential. So I will.

Route 7: Wonder What the F@&k I'm Doing Here Route.

Route 7 has been called a side trip of Route 1, the Top of the World Route. You can experience Route 7 at the top of Whistler Bowl, the entrances to the Honeshers at Harmony, the Coulier and top of Spanky's on Blackcomb, and any number of other locations on both mountains where you will find skiers and boarders in woefully over their heads. The route is marked by people clogging those entrances wondering, well, what the f@&k they're doing there. Do not try to hurry them along and do not be put off by the unusual sounds emanating from them, part knocking knees, part whimpering. Just go around.

Route 8: Wonder Where I Am Route.

Route 8 takes into consideration virtually every one of the 8,300+ acres on both mountains and is most frequently experienced during periods of weather marked by what we like to call variable visibility and what pilots like to call whiteout. Basic laws of physics are suspended on Route 8, up is difficult to tell from down but here's a hint: down is where you land when you inevitably lose perspective and fall. Gravity still works, it just seems weird.

Route 9: Wonder Where This Goes Route.

Route 9 has nothing to do with visibility or anything to do with boundary ropes. Oh, those tracks in that fresh snow look soooo inviting. Hey, those guys must have known where they were going. What could go wrong? I won't tell you where Route 9 goes because if you're dumb enough to take it, you don't really care. I will suggest you be kind to whoever rescues you and make a generous contribution to their efforts. You won't be the last to travel Route 9.

Route 10: Wonder Why We Didn't Put the Kids in Ski School Route.

Route 10 is frequented exclusively by those visiting the resort on family trips. Route 10 is frequented by the foolishly thrifty, those who fail to plan ahead and those who still believe The Waltons was about a real family. You can see them all over both mountains pretending they're having fun and mustering every ounce of strength to keep from throttling their offspring. Trust me, you do not want to be on Route 10.

Route 11: Wonder Why It Looks So Easy in the Movies Route.

Generally, but not exclusively followed by males, age 16-27, Route 11 begins at the top of any exposed feature on the mountains and involves air time, a GoPro, a friend filming from a downslope angle and is often preceded by the phrase, "Are you watching?" Regardless of where it begins, Route 11 frequently ends at the Whistler Health Care Centre. The good news is, you can watch the parts you missed on Youtube.

There are maybe half a dozen other Wonder Routes I could share with you but this is both a start and probably enough to get me in hot water so if you want to find out what the others are, stop by Dusty's and I'll share more of the wonder of it all with you.
Great to see you out.
Open late during WinterPride.

From mountain top to valley bottom we have everything that you need, and a couple things that you’ll want.
**NEW PRICE**

**306 - 4090 Whistler Way**

**$119,900**

Prime Location near Whistler Village, this 3 bedroom quarter share unit at Montebello comes fully furnished with a private hot tub. A short walk to shopping and the ski lift, this unit is excellent for vacation use. This share contains Christmas week 2012. HST has been paid!

**- In Whistler’s finest neighbourhood this 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bathroom townhome offers a well designed floor plan which includes large bedrooms, large kitchen, loads of storage and a double garage. This home has been recently renovated and offers custom tidy units as well as hardwood floors, granite kitchen counters and much more.**

Ted Morden 604.938.3606

**D - 4732 Settebello Drive**

**$179,900**

Perfect sized townhouse for someone seeking functional layout with great light at a great price. This 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom property offers lots of storage, beautiful updated kitchen, tasteful accents and flooring, lovely master bedroom with ensuite bathroom, good sized laundry room and a nice sundeck overlooking treed greenspace.

Lisa Korthals 604.905.8708

**45 - 1450 Vine Road**

**$289,000**

Perfect sized townhouse for someone seeking functional layout with great light at a great price. This 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom property offers lots of storage, beautiful updated kitchen, tasteful accents and flooring, lovely master bedroom with ensuite bathroom, good sized laundry room and a nice sundeck overlooking treed greenspace.

Maurice Povoden 604.905.8755

**214 - 4360 Lorimer Road**

**$218,000**

Fully equipped studio on north side of Whistler's Market Square with sunny mountain views from the sundeck. This spacious unit includes full complement of appliances, including fireplace, common hot tub, front desk control, and central location with easy access to all Village amenities.

Patrick Saintsbury 604.935.9114

**3133 Tyrol Crescent**

**$859,000**

Cozy Whistler home located in Alta Vista, a very desirable location, quiet cul-de-sac within walking distance of Alta Lake, the Valley Trail and Whistler Village. This beautifully upgraded cabin offers 3 bedrooms, family room, 3 1/2 bathrooms, and a new private south facing deck overlooking a beautifully landscaped lot.

Mariana Sparovec 604.932.8676

**9271 Emerald Drive**

**$899,000**

Spacious 4 bedroom log home nestled in the trees on a huge lot. This well built home is perfect for entertaining with its expansive living areas or hunkering down with your family for the large fireplace. The uncommonly large flag stones thru out the main floor are heated. Lower floor is flexible for a 3 bedroom or studio suite or recreation room.

Sherry Baker 604.932.1315

**6203 Eagle Drive**

**$1,595,000**

Located in the sought after Whistler Cay Heights, this beautiful 4 bedroom and 3 1/2 bath home offers a large open plan living, ing area with beamed fir cathedral ceiling, west-facing windows which provide attractive views of the lake, mountain & the golf course are breathtaking. True luxury throughout.

Michael Nauss 604.932.9586

**36 - 6444 Blackcomb Way**

**$1,099,000**

Recently renovated townhouse in one of Whistler’s premier properties, Blackcomb Greens. Located directly on The Chateau Golf Club it’s home is as sun filled as one could want. Enjoy views of the lake, mountain & the golf course are breathtaking. True luxury throughout.

Rick Reid 604.905.0788

**NEW LISTING**

**306 - 4090 Whistler Way**

**$119,900**

Prime Location near Whistler Village, this 3 bedroom quarter share unit at Montebello comes fully furnished with a private hot tub. A short walk to shopping and the ski lift, this unit is excellent for vacation use. This share contains Christmas week 2012. HST has been paid!

**3133 Tyrol Crescent**

**$859,000**

Cozy Whistler home located in Alta Vista, a very desirable location, quiet cul-de-sac within walking distance of Alta Lake, the Valley Trail and Whistler Village. This nicely upgraded cabin offers 3 bedrooms, family room, 3.5 bathrooms, and a new private south facing deck overlooking a beautifully landscaped lot.

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