

DEKA LAKE AND DISTRICT RATEPAYERS

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Mountain Spruce Community Park

Shirley Scott

On September 3, 2001, the Mountain Spruce Community Center Society (MSCCS) entered into its first crown leasehold agreement for the area known as Mountain Spruce Community Park and has continued to renew this lease as required. This 11 acre parcel is just south of the Burgess/Higgins Lake Interchange. The park is bordered on the west by Mahood Lake Road and on the east by Deka Creek. Thanks to funding from the CRD, a great amount of work has taken place within the park during the past few months, making the trails accessible to all. There is a perimeter trail through the park that is approximately 1.6 km long. There is also a new trail that cuts that loop in half, for those that would enjoy a shorter walk. Along the perimeter trail, the viewing platform overlooking Heron Lake and the surrounding wetlands has also been refurbished and allows visitors the potential to see abundant wildlife from this lookout. A new wheelchair accessible outhouse has been provided by CRD, as well as benches along the way, to sit and enjoy nature at its best



As it is necessary to maintain these trails to be accessible for all, no motorized vehicles or horses are permitted in the park. Thank you for your cooperation with this. You may have noticed, at the entrance to the park on Mahood Lake Road, our collection bin for refundable bottles and cans. We also have two sheds on the property used in conjunction with the recyclables. The work done in the park as well as the work involving the sorting and returning of the bottles and cans is done solely by volunteers. The proceeds of the recycling program are used for Mountain Spruce projects such as the upkeep of the park as well as the Mountain Spruce Community Events Centre.

Hathaway Lake

A new fishing dock has been installed at Hathaway. It's a great addition to the Rec Site at the north end. (where the fish are) Walk down the trail past the out house. Fly fishing might be a little tricky with the trees, if you're like me, but spin casting should work fine.



Farther north, at the end of the lake, the boat launch has been completed. Over the winter the ramp will settle and be ready for Spring. There is also a picnic table.



Emergency Road

The emergency road, extension of Womack, is

more or less finished. It may need more gravel in

the Spring. This is an emergency road only, extending Womack down to Windy Mt Rd. It is not meant to be used by vehicles as a short cut. It was not built by ministry of highways and will not be maintained by them. It was built by Forestry as another emergency exit from the subdivision, as part of their forest fire mitigation program. The road will not be maintained by them. In fact, it won't be looked after by anyone. The road was built because it's cheaper than evacuating people by helicopters.

Currently there are vehicles using this road. Please use it gently. People depend on this road to get firewood. If the road starts to suffer from use, it will have to be gated, allowing only ATV's to use it.



Camp Deka-What a paradise!

Stephen Rowell

Camp Deka was started in 1961 by Lorne and May Brown of Vancouver, BC. My two older brothers attended the camp as well. Philip, the oldest, started in 1961 as one of the first campers. My brother John started a few years later. My time at Camp was from 1970 (age 9) to 1976. The camp ran until 1976. Unfortunately, Lorne passed away in January 1976 and May gave it shot running it on her own with dedicated staff, but it proved to be too much.

A session ran for two weeks, although you could stay for 4 weeks which I did do on a couple of occasions. The camp at that time was for boys and there were 6 cabin/tent groups of 8 boys to a group for a total of 48 campers. The tents were canvas walled units on wooden platforms. 4 boys per tent and 8 per cabin in bunk beds.

In the early years we arrived at Lone Butte by train and then into the camp by bus. But the train soon gave into Greyhound leaving from Vancouver and we would arrive in 100 Mile House in the later afternoon. The station was across from the Tasty Freeze and we would eagerly await to see who had the courage and stomach to try a Grasshopper milkshake. After a trip to the Tasty Freeze we would load up on a school bus and head to camp. The camp was on the north end of the lake and for two weeks we would see no one. If a daytrip or an outtrip (1-3 nights) took us down through the narrows we would see cabins for the first time and realize we were not the only inhabitants on the lake. But for most of the time in July or August we rarely saw anyone on the big lake.

A day in the life of a camper looked like this;

Morning bell for breakfast

Cabin/tent clean-up and inspection

Activity #1

Activity #2

Lunch

Quiet time or bums on bunks

Activity #3

Free time

Dinner

Games or campfire

Activities included canoeing, campcraft, horseback riding, swimming and craft shop.

In most of the activities there were challenge levels to push yourself to be better. Many people I have talked to over the years would say it was like Junior

Outward Bound. The challenge levels prepared you for going on 2, 3 or even 4 night out trips by canoe or hiking.

I remember going on many of these trips. They were a highlight for me. In the next installment ill talk about some of those very memorable moments.

SCOTT ANDREWS NDP CANDIDATE

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A Victoria resident has been acclaimed as the BC NDP candidate for the Cariboo-Chilcotin in the Oct. 24 provincial election.

The BC NDP formally announced Scott Andrews, 36, as the region's candidate on Tuesday, Sept. 29.

Andrews said he has spent time in the Cariboo since he was a baby.

In the 70s his grandfather was working for BC Tel and leased some property between 70 Mile House and 100 Mile House and his parents spend a third to half of the year in the South Cariboo.

"I've spent time there every summer and worked a few summers up there during my late years of high school and early years of university," Andrews said. "I know 100 Mile House and Lone Butte very well and have some life long friends in Lone Butte."

He said he thinks the region would be a great place to raise a family.

"It's a region that has piqued my interest for my whole life."

In the near future he plans to tour the riding and said he's excited, if he gets elected, to represent the entire Cariboo-Chilcotin.

"I'm looking forward to connecting with voters across this region to hear how the BC NDP can continue to support them."

He has been working the last couple of years for the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture in Victoria. Most recently he was working in multiculturalism, helping the minister during the pandemic .

"It ended up being a very busy file because unfortunately there were quite a few incidents of racism and hate, particularly targeting the Asian community so I worked closely with the minister to help implement our Resilience B.C. Anti-Racism Network."

Please support the Deka Lake & District Ratepayers Refundable Recycling Program

Drop off all of your refundable recycling in one of the 3 bins provided at the Deka Lake Fire Hall. This program supports our community, pays for current and future projects, pays for maintaining your lake accesses, outhouses, picnic tables, spill kits and supports the Deka Lake & District Fire Department.

Andrews ran federally for the NDP in Vancouver-Quadra in 2015.

Message From Donna Barnett

It has been my honor and privilege to have worked with all of you over the past many years. Your hard work and dedication to improving the quality of life for so many is amazing

I want to introduce you to a fine young man who I have been mentoring to take my place , to work with you and deliver your message to Victoria.

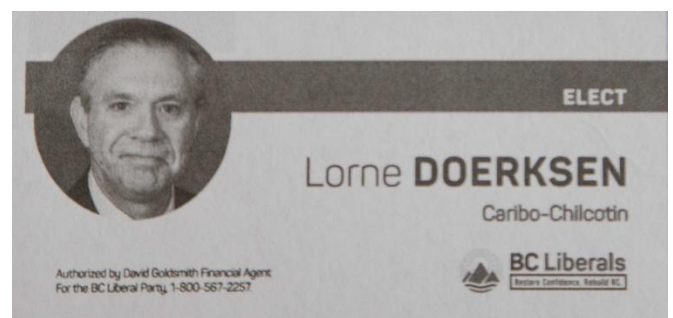
Lorne Doerkson is a 52-year-old self-employed businessman from Williams Lake. Lorne worked in 100 Mile years ago and has spent time here with his family.

He has been on many community volunteer organizations , supporting youth, seniors; a member of Rotary , Williams Lake Stampede Association and others. Lorne is committed to the Cariboo Chilcotin and will be maintaining an office in 100 Mile.

On the 24th of October, please help me elect Lorne Doerkson , who I know cares about people and community first.

Donna Barnett

"I am thrilled to be the BC Liberal Candidate for the Cariboo Chilcotin. I look forward to working with you, and I will be available through an office which I will maintain in 100 Mile House. Travelling and working in the Cariboo Chilcotin for the last 20 years , I understand the concerns of the people. I hope to serve you, and will have an open door policy."



Together we can make a difference.



