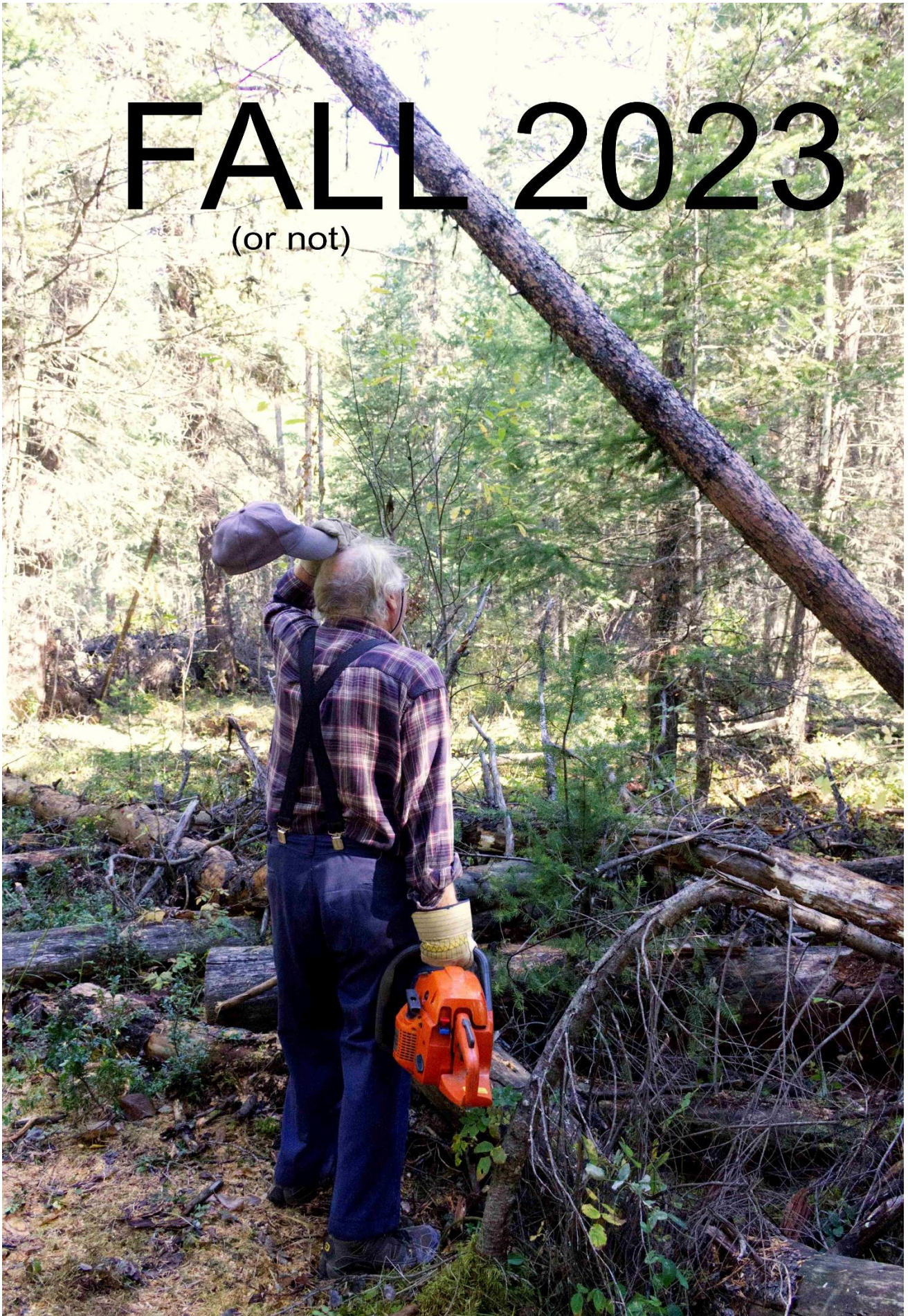


# FALL 2023

(or not)



## Presidents Message

It has been a wonderful summer, weather a bit cooler but overall just perfect.

We are working on enhancing and upgrading our social media. Chris is working hard with our new webmaster on a new website so it is more user friendly. We have a new face book page, and created a notice board on the Mahood/Horse Lake Advertising Board.

We have taken on a few more projects this year that has turned to be very successful. August Long Weekend we held our first Fishing Derby at Deka Lake followed by the Ratepayers AGM and a community barbeque held at one of our local residents. It was very well received.

A pancake breakfast was held at the Hot July Nights Car and Bike Show in order to raise funds to maintain and keep up with our AED program.

We are continuing to maintain all of our accesses, cost of gravel averages \$500.00 a load plus the cost of spreading it. We are still working on completing Access 11 on Womack. A larger project than expected, but will hopefully be finished up next year.

All of our accesses were well used this year, showing more of our off water residents and visitors taking advantage of our hard work. Just a reminder that the swimmers must give the people who are launching their boats the right away.

Our channel buoys continually need maintenance and upgrading. We are slowly changing all of the clamps etc to stainless steel which is initially expensive but saves money in the end. The buoys themselves are increasing in price so it is important that we try and take care of them when entering and exiting the channel. The Deka channel buoys should be out the week after Thanksgiving weekend and will be reinstalled just before the May Long weekend. The 2 missing buoys will be replaced in the spring.

Our funds will also be allocated in building new picnic tables over the next 2 years. There is currently 24 tables with 15 requiring immediate attention. They are currently located at Hathaway, Sulphurous, Higgins Access 1 and 3, Deka at Access 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12.

The outhouses are located at Sulphurous and Hathaway and Port a potties on Deka 6, 7, 8, 12. The cost of having them pumped averages \$1200.00 a year. This does not include maintenance and bathroom supplies.

Our biggest win this year as it has been in the past is our continued community and volunteer support. We have at least 80 volunteers who help with the maintenance of our accesses, garbage pick up, general maintenance, fundraising and much more. We are always looking for extra help, so if interested in being part of our board, or taking on a small project, please contact us.

This is our community and it is up to us to continue making sure it is the best community in the South Cariboo.

Please support the businesses advertising in our newsletter and community board. They are one of the reasons we are able to continue maintaining our work within the community.

Be safe this winter. Look after your neighbours.

## ***Deka Lake & District Ratepayers Assoc. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Fishing Derby 2023***

The Derby was the first of many to come put on and organized by members of the DL&DRA executive and volunteers which was a ***smashing success!***

With only 6 weeks from inception to organize the Derby, the organizing committee kicked it onto high gear and is to be commended for all their hard work in planning.

Volunteers baked and supplied the many FREE delicious muffins and treats that were available in the morning at Access 6 Weight in station along with Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate supplied and donated to DLDR by Ken Kineshanko which we are very grateful, thank you Ken and bakers 😊

Thank you so much to the community for making this successful.

**484 Adult Derby tickets** were sold and **52 children tickets** for a **total of 536 tickets** sold.

Fishing is a great opportunity for people to participate in an outdoor activity either alone, with friends and families and enjoy beautiful Deka Lake. It is roughly estimated

approximately 100 boats were out fishing derby day.

The following Fish Species were weighed in:

Adult Categories	
SPECIES	No. Caught
Rainbow	9
Laker	26
Kokanee	52

Children Categories	
SPECIES	No. Caught
Rainbow	4
Laker	10
Kokanee	9

DL&DRA Held their Annual General Meeting at 3pm same day, with elections of new officers.

Following the DL&DRA AGM Derby fish prizes, 50/50 draw and (Door / Raffle) Prizes were awarded.

Complimentary BBQ was supplied to the community at 5pm with approximately 500 meals served. BIG thank you to Jane Mahovlich and team for preparing and cooking; the food was delicious and enjoyed by everyone.

The DL&DRA Executive and Volunteers look forward to the 2024 Deka Lake fishing derby keep the community posted as the event draws near.

**\*\*\* Follow or Facebook Group – Deka Lake & District Ratepayers Association \*\*\***

**Deka Lake & District Ratepayers 1st Annual Fishing Derby 2023 - Winners List**

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS!

~THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED MAKING THIS SUCH A FUN AND AMAZING EVENT; A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS, SPONSORS AND THE DL&DRA EXECUTIVE FOR PUTTING ON SUCH A WONDERFUL EVENT.

WE ANTICIPATE SEEING YOU ALL NEXT YEAR 😊

Photos will be updated as they come in.

**CHILDREN'S CATEGORY- Winners**

**RAINBOW ~ 4 caught**

Ryder Vernon 1.12

Aleena Kwiatkowski. 1.1

Heather Peltz. 1.1

**LAKER ~ 10 caught**

Ryder Vernon. 4.13

Alexander Rithauer. 2.8

Tommy Macloud. 2.4

**KOKANEE ~ 9 caught**

Liam Reitter. 2.7

Jayda McKay. 2.4

Ryder Kernel. 1.9

Kayden Bury. 1.9

## **ADULT CATEGORY- Winners**

### **RAINBOW ~ 9 caught**

Sheri Wiseman. 2.2

Lexi Russell. 2.1

Brigiette McArthur. 1.7

### **LAKER ~ 26 caught**

Dan Stoelwinder. 14.7

Erik Kernel. 8.7

Reg Kunger. 6.8

### **KOKANEE ~ 52**

Mike Pittenger. 2.12

Ryan McKay. 2.10

Dan Stoelwinder. 2.10

Gary Gaudit. 2.10

Jay Kloster. 2.10

Kelly Maginnis. 2.10

## **Deka Lake \$ District AGM**

Our AGM was held on August 6, 2023. Here are some of the highlights: We are still able to use our temporary recycling facility. Lorna reminded everyone of the recycling bins at the mail boxes on Beazley, Blain and Higgins.

### **AED's**

We were under the impression that calling 911 would make these unit locations known. This may not be the case. We need to find another way of accessing them should they be needed.

The website is being completely redone so that we are able to keep it current ourselves. This is being done by ABC Weblink. So far there will be a page showcasing our work in the community. This will include all the lake accesses and launches, recycling etc. All the photos taken by community members are able to be moved over. The business page (advertisers) is being completely redone. The ads will be larger and links to webpages and emails will be more prominent.

Arlene K gave an update on our facebook group page. As of Aug 6, we have 85 members. The page is primarily for community updates and not general conversations.

### **\*\*\* Follow or Facebook Group – Deka Lake & District Ratepayers Association \*\*\***

Shannon S. and Sandy J. have decided to leave the board and continue their work in the community. We thanked them for their service.

Ken Kineshanko accepted nomination and was elected to the executive.

## **RECYCLING**

Recycling is the most labour intensive volunteer activity here at Deka and it's carried out 12 months of the year. About 12 volunteers are involved. Every other week daily trips are made to the dump to pick up refundable recycling and taken to our sorting facility. Every day, our recycling bins are emptied. From there 3 or 4 dedicated ladies sort and bag everything. Then volunteers take the bags into town. But it pays off. From July 1, 2022 until June 30, 2023, recycling brought in over \$10,000.

But this was an incredible Summer. From July 1 until Sept.15, recycling earned over \$6,000 for the community. In spite of the Government telling us that drinking is not healthy, recycling is more profitable than ever. We thank you all for the sacrifices you're making to support our wonderful community!

But the money disappears just as quickly. It costs about \$1200 a year to pump out the portapotties. We may add 1 or 2 portapotties this year. We already have 1, but they cost about \$1100.

Access 11 is taking more work than we anticipated. We estimate another 6 loads of

gravel at about \$500 per load, not including labour to spread it.

15 of 24 picnic tables will have to be replaced this year. Materials will cost about \$3500.

## Sign Board

The sign board at the bottom of Mahood is currently being added on to. This will let us move some of the signs that are hidden during the Winter snow and allow us to accommodate more advertisers.

The materials were generously donated by Steve Brown at Interlakes Rona and the job was made easier by Jack Ashworth of Moving Mountains and his auger.

## Mountain Spruce

Fall is here, but it seems like summer is trying to stick around as the weather has been great! The Mountain Spruce Community Events Centre and the park have been busy all summer long. We had Crib Nights every other Friday night, reminder it will be starting at 7pm for the winter months, on October 13. Crib has had great turnouts from players from all the different lakes in the area and have been a lot of fun. Jam Nights are every third Saturday of each month, the next one is Saturday, October 21 at 7pm. **CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!** Bring your instruments, your voices and jam with neighbours, friends and other musicians from around the Cariboo. This is always a fun evening and everyone is welcome, even if you want to just come and listen. Ladies Nights are on the 2nd Thursday of each month. The next one is on Thursday, October 12 at 6:30pm for the "Mystery Box Team Cooking Challenge!" You can email [mtnspruce@gmail.com](mailto:mtnspruce@gmail.com) or message Shannon at 604-617-7863 to reserve your spot. Hope to see all you ladies out for a fun night of cooking! We have Yoga Tuesdays that happens every Tuesday at the hall at 10am, class fee is \$15. Everyone is welcome. Other events that happened this summer were a Wine & Paint Night, Canada Day BBQ, Meteor Shower Watch, Wine & Belly Dancing Night and the Terry Fox Run/Walk. We also had four workshops this summer. The Foraging in the Park, Macrame Bracelets, Pottery and a

Thanksgiving Centrepiece Workshop. You can keep up to date with events and activities happening at the hall and the park on the Mountain Spruce Community Centre Society Facebook Group.

It is a beautiful time of year to take a walk through the Mountain Spruce Community Park at the corner of Mahood Lake Road & Burgess (6335 Mahood Lake Road). The park has a couple of amazing trails, a viewing platform overlooking Heron Lake, a picnic area, beautiful fauna, birds, wildlife and in the winter bring your snowshoes as it is just as beautiful. The park is there for all to enjoy, so check it out and don't forget your camera and binoculars. You are sure to see a heron or two, ducks, deer and if you are lucky, maybe even the otters.

This summer's Sulphurous & Hathaway Fishing Derby was a huge success and a big thanks goes out to everyone for all their hard work in putting this derby in motion and making it happen. Thanks to everyone who came out to fish and to enjoy the day, I do believe this was our best derby yet!

Thank you everyone for all your donated bottle & can returnables at the Mountain Spruce Park drop off. This program has been a huge success, so stay thirsty my friends. Funds from this program help to pay for things such as the new flooring, paint, lighting and sound baffles at the Mountain Spruce Hall at 7571 Pettyjohn Road & for park improvements and maintenance. Come by for an event or activity and check out the hall, it is looking great!

The Mountain Spruce Community Centre Society members' Christmas Dinner will be on Saturday, December 9 this year. If you are thinking about attending, please let us know by email at [mtnspruce@gmail.com](mailto:mtnspruce@gmail.com) or on the Facebook poll before October 9 as we are trying to decide whether we need one or two dinners as we have so many new members :)

Thanks again to the MSCCS directors and volunteers for all they do year round. Also, the support of our members and the community is greatly appreciated and they make this little

slice of heaven we live in so wonderful. Enjoy fall everyone, it is the beautiful **time of year between heat stroke and frost bite!**

## **Lorne Doerkson**

It seems I just wrote my Spring /Summer report and here we are full into fall. It was great to visit your community over the past year and speaking with so many of you about the issues in our riding.

As I get ready to start another legislative session, the list of priorities for our riding grows longer each day. I have spoken to the government over the summer months on our crumbling health system, our road infrastructure, cost of living and of course fire management.

All these issues seem to be growing with no positive plan from the government. I, along with my BC United colleagues, will push for action to help support the people trying to live life everyday.

I hope that we can all take a moment to just look around and appreciate the beauty of fall. It is magic. Winter will soon be here, so get those winter tires out, change the washer fluid and pull out the down coats.

As always, Beverly in my 100 Mile office will do her best to assist you and can always pass along any information you need me to know.

Office hours

Monday to Friday 9-3 250-395-3916

[Beverly.marks@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Beverly.marks@leg.bc.ca)

Take care, Lorne