



**DEKA LAKE AND DISTRICT  
RATEPAYERS**  
**[www.dekalake-district.ca](http://www.dekalake-district.ca)**  
**[dekalakeanddistrictratepayers@gmail.com](mailto:dekalakeanddistrictratepayers@gmail.com)**



## Presidents Message – Marty M

It has been an interesting year as we are still waiting for spring to arrive. We were swimming in the Lake in early May last year and this year have not dipped our feet into the water to date.

We are still hoping to get a bit more gravel for the Hathaway launch making it a little easier to back down to the lake. Since Covid rules have relaxed a bit, many of our business partners are extremely busy so will get on it as soon as possible. Remember to put your vehicle in 4 wheel drive when pulling out and rake out the holes if you happen to spin out. Don't forget there is a fishing wharf that can be found off the parking lot past the outhouse for everyone to enjoy.

We will be concentrating our efforts on Access 11 at Deka Lake later this year. There is a pathway down to the lake off Womack just before Beazley 1. We will be bringing in more gravel and clean up the area close to the lake to make it a bit more user friendly. Stay tuned. Thank you to CRD for giving us a grant to help with these expenses.

The wharf at Higgins Lake is being well used. There are 2 port potties in this location, one for handicapped only and the second for everyone else. The handicapped washroom has a smaller holding tank so we are asking that you allow those who need the additional space to use it only. New signage will be displayed once it has been done.

There is not allot to be done at the Sulphurous launch and trails other than general maintenance. A few of the residences have agreed to look after the outhouse and lawn maintenance but I know they would appreciate any additional volunteers from the area that have a bit of time to take on the weed eating and raking.

I understand the lakes have all been stocked and that fishing has improved this spring.

We are reminding everyone again this year that the Emergency Access Road at the end of Womack is not to be used as a short cut or for general use to get over to Windy Mountain. It is an emergency road only and will not be maintained by anyone. As we all know, the more a dirt road is used, the rougher it gets. We must as a community ensure that this road is kept in the condition that it can accommodate not only trucks but small cars to escape the area if needed.

Our recycling program at the Fire Hall is still running and is status quo for now. Thank you to everyone who is supporting this program and dropping off their bottles and cans at the fire hall. 100% of the proceeds goes back into the community.

I would like to thank everyone for their feedback on our survey that was sent out back in April. 97% who responded were requesting that we continue to pursue Hall access, while still ensuring that we continue to support our Volunteer Fire Department. We appreciate all of the comments and suggestions and welcome continued feedback on our efforts in all aspects of what we do. Access improvement, suggestions on how we can make our community stronger and building stronger relationships with our local partners.

I continue to be so impressed with the people who use and care for all of our local accesses at all 4 lakes. Taking the time to make even the smallest effort to clean up the lake shore, taking your garbage out, cleaning up some brush and simply sharing space respectfully with others has not been unnoticed. We are a great community with great people and are an admiration to almost every community in the Cariboo.

Gentle reminder to please park in the designated parking spots and not in the roundabouts. Let your friends and family who come to visit know the rules of the road and what they can do to help out.

As our community is growing in great strides we will need more community support, more volunteers, and keeping an eye on each other. Our community depends on working together and taking care of what we have.

If interested in helping us out, adopting an access, taking on a small project or just promoting our district ratepayers, please don't hesitate to give us a call or send us an email.

Marty M  
President

Ladies Auxilliary – Lorna Wiebe/Kerrie LeGrand

The Ladies' Auxiliary has elected a new executive as follows:

President	Kerrie Le Grand
Vice President	Lorna Wiebe
Secretary	Shelley Thierault
Treasurer	Karin Menning

The new Executive would like to thank everyone for their continued support. The executive had a brief meeting to plan a direction for the group. As they will be forming a new group/ association, they plan to do a membership drive over the summer, with a fee of \$5 per family. That way, members of the community will have a say in their new name.

The DLVFD that is responsible for both the Deka Fire Hall and the Sulphurous Fire Hall has indicated they no longer need any further community fundraising activities by the Ladies' Aux and that any items they need will be provided by the CRD.

“As we believe our purpose over the years has been so much more than simply raising money for the fire department, we will need to revise our goals to concentrate on social activities, raising money for burn victims which keeps us connected with the DLVFD, the Hospital through Starry Nights, bursaries and any other suggestions provided by the community that the LA have supported in the past. “

As the DLVFD no longer allows community access to the fire hall property, they will be hosting different events throughout the community at various locations, including the lake accesses. These events may include bake sales and 50/50 draws along with a membership drive.

To remain connected to the DLVFD, the current name will stand, but discussions are in place to update the name to represent the entire community. All previous members who paid their dues by May would be considered paid members of the new group.

Mountain Spruce - Shirley Scott

Save these dates for upcoming events at Mountain Spruce Community Events Center:

**Saturday, June 25** @ 7:00 pm - Games Night

Come out and meet your neighbours, play a game of darts, beanbag toss, cards, or ?? This will be an alcohol-free event, due to liability insurance requirements. Coffee and tea will be provided.

**Friday, July 1** - Canada Day Community Barbeque

- more information will be emailed to the Mountain Spruce Community once details have been finalized.

**Saturday, July 30** - Mountain Spruce Annual Fishing Derby @ Sulphurous and Hathaway Lakes

Come out and join us for our annual Fishing Derby which will include our annual 50/50 Draw and Concession, all in support of Mountain Spruce Society. Tickets will be available at the beginning of July. Lots of great prizes, even if you choose not to fish!

Local FYI-Dianna Forster

“to the best of my belief and knowledge”

It is **Interlakes Community Centre** run by ICC Society, which is the programme department of Roe Lake & District Recreation Commission, which owns the facilities on behalf of every Interlakes resident, and is a registered charity.

The term “Interlakes” had been coined by the then newly-formed **Highway 24/Interlakes Lions Club**, to make sure it invited residents from ALL our lakes including Horse Lake.

ICC was **Roe Lake Hall** until it was rebuilt following the fire and in late '89, then-directors chose to follow the Lions' lead, changing it to “Interlakes Hall.”

At some point, indirectly related to 911 and before 2004, insurance costs went through the roof, almost tripling, such that no community hall could afford it. That was when CRD Area Directors requested a CRD referendum asking taxpayers if they would pay what was a VERY small amount to help their community halls (in our case, only those within Area L) pay for insurance, heat and major expenses like roof, furnace, etc., and it included a maximum amount they could raise. It passed with something like 98% support. (*In 2021, this cost US a mere \$17.*)

- This community (nicknamed "Interlakes") is sparsely-populated and geographically huge-- between GreenLake and 100 Mile House, and stretching from Hwy 97 east to hwy 5.
- RLDRC (originally W.I.) has been in existence since the 50's, facilitated wholly by community members.
- There is no longer any long term debt.
- It was the first-approved "Recreation Commission."
- RLDRC was registered in Victoria in 1977.
- In 1988, the original hall burned down; rebuilt with (?? approx 50% insurance & 50% comm, donations)
- RLDRC's approx. 100-150 volunteers receive no remuneration of any kind.

**HIGGINS LAKE** is named for pioneer Ed Higgins who moved here from the States with his family in 1914 and homesteaded at Roe Lake.

Very knowledgeable in local geography, Higgins led government surveyors on their rounds, and they chose to name this lake after him.

**DEKA LAKE** seems to be named after friendly native, Billy “English” Decker, who roamed this part of the countryside befriending new settlers. His people called him “English” because he was the first one in the family to read and write the language. English Lake is named after him, and he is the only suggested origin for the name of Deka Lake.

**SULPHUROUS LAKE** is named for a large yellow bottom patch visible from the air, which was thought to be sulphur, but is not.

**HATHAWAY LAKE** is named for resident Bill Hathaway who eventually moved to Vancouver Island and, were he still to be alive, would be brushing 112 years old.

**WOMACK ROAD** is named for Charlie and Marg Womack who were early residents of Deka Lake. As related by the late Dave Lackey on their 60th wedding anniversary, the Womacks ran a guide/outfitter business. Over the years, they bought and sold well over 1,000 acres which included the original Deka Lake Resort property, until they sold it to Tom Hurst in 1960. (Hurst went on to develop Deka Subdivision.) Financial survival was such that the Womacks returned to Oregon for perhaps a dozen winters over their 40 years here, to make enough money to come back to Deka Lake the following year. Charlie was responsible for pushing the road through from Deka Lake to Needa Lake; and once had a 10-minute staring match with a grizzly before it turned and walked away. He was also an expert marksman with 75 trophies he had won in five States and five Provinces, and

he once represented Canada in an Olympic shooting event.

Hot July Nights Car & Bike Show being held July 15 to July 17 is shaping up to be a great weekend in 100 Mile House

A spectators draw for a barbeque will be available sponsored by Fortis BC.

**Calendar of events below:**

**Friday, July 15/22**

Golf at the 108 Golf Resort with special rates for Hot July Nights participants!

Contact the Resort to book your tee time or appointment.

Pickleball available both Friday and Saturday – Call Bob at 250 396 7276 or Len at 250 791 5214 if you are interested in getting in a game or two!

Farmers' Market - Located at South Cariboo Rec Centre 10am-3pm.

Meet & Greet at the A & W sponsored by Williams Lake Credit Union from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. with local entertainment.

Rod Run – Sponsored by Napa – Total Parts Express Ltd. leaves the A & W at 6:15 p.m.

Movie Night at the South Cariboo Theatre! Playing American Graffiti!

**Saturday, July 16/22**

Breakfast at South Cariboo Rec Centre prior to the poker run – 100 Mile House Wranglers Junior B team fundraiser!

Craft Fair – 100 Mile House Community Hall

Walking Poker Run located downtown 100 Mile House sponsored by EXP Realty.

Demonstrations and Activities, provided by the 100 Mile House Fire Department, Canim Lake Band, RC Flying Club and much more from local groups all day!

Awards and prize draws at the main stage at the 100 Mile House Community Hall at 3pm.

A special thank you to the Free Press and the South Cariboo Chamber of Commerce as well as all of our sponsors that are assisting in making this show a success.

<https://www.hotjulynights.ca>

Poker Run – \$500 in cash prizes! 10 a.m. start. Leaves from the South Cariboo Rec Centre and ending at the Ironhorse in Lone Butte - sponsored by Canadian Tire.

Remote Control Flying Demonstration from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the 100 Mile House Airport.

Dinner & Dance at 100 Mile House Community Centre. Doors open at 5:00; Dinner at 6:30;

Dancing until 11 p.m. \$30/person. Sponsored by Bree Contracting Ltd.

**Sunday, July 17/22**

Show 'n Shine sponsored by Hagerty on Birch Avenue – Goodie Bags, Dash Plaques & Prizes sponsored by our local business!

Breakfast from 8am to 10am on Birch Avenue.

Fundraiser for the 100 Mile District Hospice Society.

Show n' Shine opens to the public at 10 a.m. and goes until 3 p.m.

50/50 - proceeds going to the 108 Heritage Site Live Music - Mark Allen, Kordaroy, and Trish Chung. Sponsored by Re/Max Realty 100 Mile.

Swap Meet/Trade Show sponsored by Cariboo Storage Solutions from 10 a.m. until 2:45 p.m.

Guess-A-Part sponsored by Sanders Redi-Mix





Boat Launch at Sulphurous has picnic tables, outhouse and walking trail.

Picnic area on Hathaway has 2 tables, fishing dock, outhouse and walking trail.

Check them out and enjoy them for swimming and picnics.

## **REMINDERS**

Please mow your boulevard and roadside grass to help mitigate the possibility of a fire. Sometimes people throw their cigarette butts out the windows of their vehicle and this could catch the roadside grass on fire.

Please ensure that your load for the dump is fully secured so no refuse falls out onto the road.

Please go easy on Womack Rd. from Mathura to Windy Mountain RD. This is primarily an exit road in case we need it for evacuation. This road was built by Forestry, not dept of highways. Keeping the road in good shape is the responsibility of the community and any repairs are done by the community.

## **LORNE DOERKSON, MLA**

After 17 weeks commuting between Cariboo-Chilcotin and Victoria, the spring legislative session ended at the beginning of the month. It was a busy time, full of debates on legislation, question periods, and meetings, but I loved the opportunity to advocate for the needs of the Cariboo directly to government in Victoria.

I am very happy now to be back in the South Cariboo, being able to meet with folks directly and see firsthand the issues in the riding. I hope to visit Deka Lake and area over the break.

With all the negative out there, lets talk about the positive. Tourists are coming back; resorts are reporting good numbers. Cabins are being opened for the season; the boats are out on the lakes.

Thank you

## **CARIBOO GEMS**

Many gems can still be found in the Cariboo. We have decided to profile several of our incredible local artists.

In this newsletter we are featuring 6 of the many artists in the area. We would like to thank them for sharing samples of their art to be published here. Visit their websites and facebook pages and keep an eye open for them at craft fairs and local galleries.

All these things bring us back to the way we used to enjoy summer, the backyard BBQ's, socializing with friends and neighbours. Getting back the Cariboo friendly state of mind.

I hope we continue to enjoy a great summer, mosquitoes, blackflies and all!! I hope you will too!

Take in a community event, say hi to your neighbours old and new. Keep the Cariboo spirit alive.





**DEKALAKE & DISTRICT RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION**  
**Membership form**

**Please Print**

**Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

Only complete information below if amending membership information already on file.

**Lake Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Province:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** Full-time residence \_\_\_\_\_ **Lake:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Receipt?**     No                       Yes

**Membership Fee:** Family \$10.00 Single \$7.00.

We accept e-transfers to [dekalakeanddistrictratepayers@gmail.com](mailto:dekalakeanddistrictratepayers@gmail.com) (no security word is required)  
cash or cheque, drop off or mail to

DL & DRA c/o 7524 Burgess Rd, Lone Butte, BC V0K 1X3  
[dekalake-district.ca](http://dekalake-district.ca)

**Thank you for your community support!**