

#### THE GREEN WATCH

#### The Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association Newsletter Representing property owners and residents in the Watch and Green Lake Area



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# **SPRING 2016**



Dear Green and Watch Lake residents,

Spring snow melt pushes the 83 Mile Creek and Watch Lake Creek banks as water replenishes Green Lake. Returning song birds flit from property to property checking for food sources. Spring green-up invokes a sense of health and newness about the area. The cool damp night air loses the edge enough with the warmth of the rising sun just enough to enjoy a second cup of Jo out on the deck. Yup! It is a wonderful time of the year about Green and Watch Lakes! By the way, when was ice off this year?



On behalf of the GLARA executive, this message is to share a welcome to returning residents. This is also a message to those residents who wintered over for the gratitude commonly shared for your keeping an eye on things as the lake area hibernated. As we all collect and return to enjoy the values drawing us to Green and Watch Lakes, the health and respect for the values enjoyed become part of the work of GLARA.

Since we last communicated, a research project was commissioned and completed on the environmental studies done to date on our watershed. The GLARA executive will be reviewing this Biological Assessment Report. The report was structured in 2 Parts, the documentation review and Part 2, a field follow up from the Part 1 investigation. GLARA is grateful to the TNRD for contributing grant funding to complete Part 1. However, a funding application to the CRD to complete Part 2 was denied. Other grant sources will be investigated; much of the success of this effort is tied to funding cycles and the timing for application submissions. Part 1 was directed from the Official Community Plan boundaries or, less of the settlement growth in the area and more by the watershed which has in large part directed the pattern for settlement. The biological assessment report indicates the watershed area is in generally good health. Part 2 is created to identify critical management aspects of the watershed to monitor as indicators of the watershed health. As these plans are put into place, be assured the newsletter and website will keep you informed. Your thoughts and comments are always appreciated.

So... back to your morning cup of Jo! Welcome to your spring 2016 newsletter. The hot and dry weather reminds one of the importance of avoiding activities that increase the threat of wild fires. On behalf of your GLARA executive,

Bruce Gilmour, Co-chair Dunham Craig, Co-chair

### **Highways road report**

Dawson construction will be paving highway 97 from Big Bar to the new 4 lane section north of 70 mile this summer. Please obey the signs and the Traffic Control persons.

Work that is planned to be completed within the next year is in the area of 83 Mile Road. Interior Roads will be doing base repairs with overlay patches to finish them once the base repairs are completed. Highways are also looking at options for the severe alligator pavement near the Hwy 97 intersection at 83 mile Road. If you have any concerns or comments related to our road maintenance services contact us at:



#### **100 MILE HOUSE**

P.O. Box 338 220 Exeter Station Rd. 100 Mile House, BC, V0K 2E0

PH: <u>250-395-2117</u> FAX: 250-395-3092

#### **CLINTON**

1414-1422 Government Clinton, BC, V0K 1K0 PH: 250-459-2295 FAX: 250-459-2213

You may also comment to Interior Roads by using the feedback option at  $\underline{\text{www.interiorroads.com}}$ . If the call relates to an emergency, please contact us at  $\underline{\text{1-800-842-4122}}$  (24/7).

### **Line painting**

The following roads in the Green lake and Watch Lake area will be painted in 2016:

North Bonaparte Road, Green lake North Road 83 mile Road and Watch lake Road.

Michelle Schilling, TRAN:EX Michelle.Schilling@gov.bc.ca



# Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop: Of Concern in the Cariboo

The Invasive Species Council of BC invites you to join them for a free one-day Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Workshop on Thursday June 16th in Quesnel, BC.

Below is a **Draft Agenda** for the Species Workshop taking place at the Billy Barker Casino Hotel - Showroom 308 Mclean St. Quesnel. Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am-4:00pm

11:00 am	Welcome and Opening
11:10-11:40	Cariboo's "Most Unwanted" Aquatic Invasive Plants. Denise McLean; Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.
11:00-12:10	Provincial Update on Aquatic Invasive Species TBD; Ministry of Environment
12:10-12:40	Provincial Mussel Defence Program - Demonstration **TO BE CONFIRMED Provincial
	Water craft Inspection Crew
12:40-1:40	Lunch (provided)
1:40-2:10	Regional Management of Invasive Fish Species Russell Bobrowski; Ministry of Forests,
	Lands and Natural Resource Operations
2:10-2:40	Current Research on Invasive Fish Species in BC Brian Heise; Thompson Rivers
	University
2:40-3:10	Taking Action Against AIS TBD; Invasive Species Council of BC
3:10-3:25	Refreshment Break
3:25-3:50	Discussion: Community Resources and Needs, Actions Moving Forward
3:50-4:00	Wrap Up & Next Steps

Please register online at the following link: <a href="https://www.regonline.com/QuesnelAISworkshop">https://www.regonline.com/QuesnelAISworkshop</a>



### **SOUTH GREEN LAKE VFD – GLARA REPORT**

We've had a very busy winter with ongoing inside training. As a department we have completed:

- Exterior Operations Playbook 8 Modules completed with WLNGL and 70 Mile House VFD's
- Hydro/Gas Safety
- Ongoing Meetings with the TNRD
- Attended local government conference in Kamloops 2 members attended
- Live Fire Training in 150 Mile House 2 members attended

With only the lake as our water supply (static) we have enhanced our options of getting more water to



the scene faster. Last fall the fire department purchased a 2002 flatbed one ton pick-up, which we retro-fitted to a hose/pump apparatus (Water Supply #1). This will allow us to deliver more water in a shorter time frame right up to the main road and, in some cases, right to the fire scene. We would like to thank all of our members who helped to retro-fit this apparatus. It exceeds our expectations and is a huge asset for our fire protection area.

Coinciding with the formal Playbook Training, our summer practices will be used for refresher training for our firefighters and initial training for our new recruits. This training includes: S100 Forestry, Driver Training, Pumps and Pumping and First Aid.

With everything stated above, as a Fire Department, we are always busy and are always looking for new members. If you are interested in joining our team, please drop by the fire hall (546 Green Lake South Road) or call Peter McKie at 250-456-6806. Our current firefighter roster stands at 26 members, with Aaron Breggs as our newest member.

We would to take this opportunity to invite everyone to our Annual Bake/Garage Sale. This takes place

on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. The Ladies Auxiliary has been very busy making lots of delicious pies for this event (apple, blueberry, strawberry/rhubarb and cherry). Hope to see you there.



### **South Green Lake Cattle Fence**

This Spring the cattle fencing in "phase two section" of South Green Lake was repaired and cleared of debris and trees that had fallen over the fall and winter months. I would like to thank Bob Bell, Brian Stroud and John Sullivan for helping me with this work.

A special "Thank-you" to Roger Graham for helping us in addition to working many extra hours on his own.

If anyone is out using the trails and you see a problem with the fencing that you are unable to fix, please give me a call.



### **Watch Lake - North Green Lake VFD**

So far, this spring has been a busy time for the Northside Fire Department. New vehicles, more training and the first fire of the year have kept everyone on the department occupied. For small rural fire departments with very limited budgets the purchase of new fire trucks is an impossible dream. Our existing vehicles tend to "age out" rather than wear out and, as they get older, the cost of repairs becomes a constant drain on our budgets. As a result we must search through all of the sources of used fire apparatus for the right combination of age, usage (kilometers travelled and hours on the pumps) and, of course, price.

#### **New Engine**

As it became apparent that our oldest engine had to be replaced the search was on for a replacement. Last December the "perfect" vehicle was found. The combination of age, low usage and price was there, but it was in Ontario. How to get it here was the big problem - to have it delivered by rail or truck would add almost one half again to the total cost. Ultimately, we were able to fly two of our people to Brampton and drive the truck back for one tenth of what it would have cost to have it shipped. Our resident mechanics have gone over the vehicle in detail and it has passed its government inspection.



We are pleased to say it appears to be in better condition than we had expected.

### **Emergency Transportation Vehicle**

When we had several First Responders on our roster we were under the impression that we had all the first aid coverage we needed for our personnel. We have now discovered that WorkSafeBc regulations state the combination of distance from a hospital and the number of personnel on any fire scene require a certified Occupational First Aid Attendant and an ETV (emergency transport vehicle). So, we began



the search for another vehicle to add to the fleet. Years ago we had a couple of old ambulances that were less than reliable and we couldn't give them away. What we needed now was a vehicle that would serve as both a personnel carrier to save running fire vehicles just for transport and an ETV that met the criteria set by WorkSafeBC. The solution was found in an older Suburban that hadn't been used for a few years but, when cleaned up appears to be in excellent shape. When decked-out with radio, emergency lights and logo this vehicle will serve

the department for many years to come. Neither vehicle was ready for the first structure fire of this year. During the evening of March 30 a local resident saw flames rising from a neighbouring property and called 911. Our crews from both halls responded and the first vehicle arrived on scene within eleven minutes to find a structure totally engulfed in flames. It was too late to save the building, but the immediate concern was to contain the fire and to keep it from spreading to nearby buildings and

other properties. Six vehicles and fifteen firefighters were on the scene for three and a half hours. They used all fifteen thousand gallons of readily available water and drew several more tandem loads from the dry hydrant at Access 14 to suppress the fire. Unfortunately, the owner had not paid the annual fire dues on this property and was billed almost \$6,000 for emergency services. With the dry grasslands and forests surrounding our community we sincerely hope this is the last fire for the summer season. Burning restrictions are already in place and it will probably not be long before campfires are also banned. Please encourage your visitors and neighbours to respect the restrictions and keep our community free from the disaster currently being experienced in the north of our province and in Alberta.

#### **Property Access**

We are considering purchasing several padlocks that will be keyed alike and painted red. These locks will be sold to property owners who are absent from the area for long periods of time and leave their properties gated and locked. The new locks could be interlocked with the owners' locks and would provide the fire department with access to the property in the event of a fire. Only the fire department would have the keys to the new locks.





Don't forget to come to our Firehall Garage sale on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> Have a safe Summer!

Roy Allan

### **Green Lake - Watch Lake Fishing Derby**



This year's fishing Derby is Saturday, June 4th and Sunday, June 5th hosted at Watch Lake Lodge campsite, sponsored by the Watch Lake – Green Lake Business Association.

There will be pancake breakfasts both morning, a concession running both days along with a beer garden and the Annual Pig Roast on Saturday Night. Fishing dawn to 9:00 pm on Saturday and dawn

until 2:00 pm on Sunday with prizes and awards shortly thereafter. You don't need to catch a fish to win a prize as there are many draws from the derby entries at random; but, you must be in attendance to claim your prize.

### **Gymkhanas**

Saturday, July 9th and Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>: the Annual Watch Lake – Green Lake Gymkhanas held at the Gymkhana Grounds and sponsored by the Watch Lake – Green Lake Community Association

For more information on the Gymkhanas and the Fishing Derby call the

Watch Lake Lodge: 250-456-7741

### **Ice on Ice off report**

Watch lake iced over November 15/2015 and came off April 12/2016 Green lake iced over November 26/2015 and came off April 8/2016

#### **Be Bear Aware!**



Don't invite a bear to dinner. Store garbage, compost and recycling in a bear resistant enclosure or inside. Secure livestock feed, feed pets and bring leftover food back indoors when they are done. Keep your Barbeque clean after every use. Do not approach a bear. Make noise when walking in the wilderness.

Check out our website <a href="https://wildsafebc.com/black-bear/">https://wildsafebc.com/black-bear/</a>

# **Web Site**

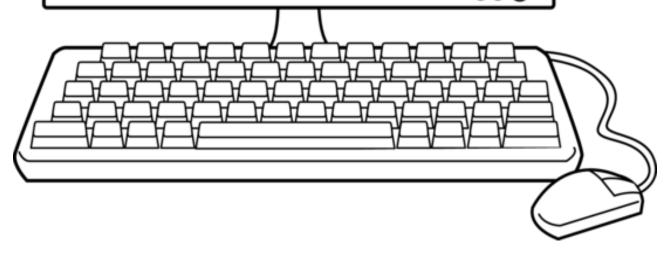
The GLARA website is not getting the number of local hits it did last year.

It is kept up-to-date with Green Lake and Watch Lake information that comes in, but we could use a lot more input of items of interest to the community and we need more photos.

Everyone seems to be taking all sorts of photos with their phones these days - share some of them with the community. Part-time residents who can't be here all year like to know what's going on.

Take a look! www.glara.ca





### Public urged to follow open burning prohibitions





A notice to the public: please follow all open burning prohibitions and to use caution when participating in recreational activities.

Despite the green-up of grasses, the forest floor is still dry. The fire danger rating is "moderate" throughout the Cariboo Fire Centre with some pockets of "high".

Category 2 and Category 3 fires have been prohibited throughout the Cariboo Fire Centre since April 4, 2016. Campfires are allowed, but the public is urged to use caution.

These prohibitions are in place to reduce the number of preventable wildfires. Human-caused fires take valuable resources away from naturally occurring wildfires and other wildfires burning throughout the province.

Before lighting a campfire, you must have a shovel or at least eight litres of water nearby to extinguish the fire. Ensure that your campfire is completely out and the ashes are cold to the touch before leaving the area for any length of time. Anyone riding an all-terrain vehicle or dirt bike should check the condition of the muffler,

stay on dirt paths and avoid tall grasses and weeds. Anyone found in contravention of an open burning prohibition may be issued a violation ticket for \$1,150, required to pay an administrative penalty of \$10,000 or, if convicted in court, fined up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to one year in jail. If the contravention causes or contributes to a wildfire, the person responsible may be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs.

Members of the public have an important role to play in wildfire prevention. The public is urged to help play their part by following open fire prohibitions in their area and by reporting wildfires or illegal open burning.

To report a wildfire, unattended campfire or open burning violation, call 1 800 663-5555 toll free or dial \*5555 on a cellphone.

For up-to-date information on burning restrictions or current wildfire activity, visit: www.bcwildfire.ca or call 1 888 3-FOREST

#### You can follow the latest wildfire news on:

Twitter at: <a href="http://twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo">http://twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo</a> Facebook at: <a href="http://facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo">http://facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo</a>

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

BC Wildfire Service Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

**Emily Epp Fire Information Officer BC Wildfire Service, Cariboo Fire Centre** 

# **Biological Assessment Report of Green Lake**

GLARA has received Ken MacKenzie's Biological Assessment Report of Green Lake. This effort was in two parts, the initial review and Part 2 being the field follow up from the Part 1 investigation. Part 1 was funded by a grant from the TNRD and GLARA (70% & 30%). Part 2 will follow when we get funding. The report is informative in that it provides an outline of the OCP area. It appears the area is in generally good health.

If anyone would like to read the report you can find it on our website under; Biological Assessment 2016: www.glara.ca

#### **Batteries....did you know?**

Something I also learned a few days from the recycling lady at the 70 Mile Dump. I had a bag of batteries to drop off. She happened to look in at what types I had. Found out that the 9 volt batteries are dangerous unless you tape over the terminals on the top. That could be why when you buy them they have a little plastic top over the terminals. If you don't put something over the tops, they can cause a fire.



#### **Submitted by GLARA member**



### 70 Mile "New" Summer Eco Depot hours April.1 – Sept.30



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00 am -	8:00 am -	8:00 am -	closed	closed	8:00 am -	8:00 am-
4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm			4:00 pm	4:00 pm



### Watch Lake Summer hours April.1 – Sept. 30

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00 am –	7:00 am -	closed	8:00am-	8:00 am-	8:00 am-	8:00 am-
4:00 pm	4:00 pm		5:00 pm	5:00 pm	6:00 pm	5:00 pm



### **Lone Butte Summer hours April.1 – Sept. 30**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00 am -	7:00 am –	closed	8:00 am -	8:00 am-	8:00 am -	8:00 am-
6:00 pm	6:00 pm		6:00 pm	6:00 pm	6:00 pm	5:00 pm



### Please be careful when you are driving. Watch out for Livestock and Wildlife!





### **GLARA Membership Renewal Form**

**IMPORTANT!** Before filling out this form, check your envelope vour expiration date is on vour label!

If your label is flagged with **pink** this is a reminder that your membership is **about** to expire. If your label is flagged with **yellow** your membership has **expired** or if you received this form by **email** your expiry date is in the subject line of your email.

Membership fees are \$15 per year or \$40 for 3 years.

(s) applying		lake address		
Lake phone	Cell phone	E-mail address for color email newsletter & notifications		
use only for <u>sma</u>		ot to be used for Newsletters." Cheque enclosed?		
	Lake phone	Lake phone Cell phone use only for small notifications, n		

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING GLARA GLARA email: greenwatchlake@gmail.com

GLARA Website: www.glara.ca

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