



FROM DIRT TO PAVEMENT: MADISON PENNEY DOMINATES IN HYTHE



Madison Penney, daughter of Todd and Diana Penney, has been making waves since kicking off her first racing season in May at the dirt track in Taylor, BC. After a rough start—including a blown clutch on opening weekend—she was right under the car the next morning with her dad, helping install a new one. That determination earned her a 3rd and 4th place finish early in the season, even with a few tough hits to the wall.

This past weekend, August 30 & 31, Madison tried her hand at pavement for the first time at Hythe Motor Speedway in Alberta—and she didn't just adapt, she dominated, setting the fastest lap in her class and scoring wins in both finals on Saturday and Sunday.

A huge thanks to Onlt Towing for providing the car and engine that made this all possible. And big appreciation to the team at Dalex Auto and our incredible supporters: Charlie and the crew at TireCraft, Bumper to Bumper, Logo Tech, NAPA, Snap-on, and Avery Heinrichs. Madison's success is a true team effort—and she's just getting started.

IGRA Hometown Proud

PRICES EFFECTIVE Sept 11 - 17

Locally OWNED & OPERATED BY PROUD CANADIANS

Seniors Save 10% Every Thursday!

PRODUCT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
McIntosh or Sunrise Apples 2.84/kg

3.99/lb Pork Back Ribs or Family Size Pork Tenderloin 8.80/kg

3.99/lb

2/\$7 Strudel Fingers, Mini Strudel or Turnovers 4-6 pk, 228-280g

1.29/lb

Hours: 7 Days a Week
7:00 am - 9:00 pm
Phone: 250-774-2791
Address: 4823 50th Ave South

List of Services

- Prescribed Fire
- Ignitions
- Fire Suppression
- Fuel Treatment
- Fire Guard Planning
- FireSmart Assessments
- Danger Tree Services
- Fire Mapping
- Fire Rehabilitation
- Training
- Contract Crews
- Forest Services

Northern Fire WoRx

NFWRx

Dr. Sonja E. R. Leverkus PhD
RPBio RPF PAg EP
Founder and Sr. Fire Lead

Phone:
(250) 321.FIRE / (250) 321.3473
(250) 321.BURN / (250) 321.2876
Email: info@northernfireworx.com
Website: https://northernfireworx.com

CENTURY 21 Energy Realty

Your *trusted* choice in Real Estate

Cathleen Soucie
REALTOR®
250.321.0777
cathleensoucie@gmail.com

SCAN FOR LISTINGS

Fort Nelson **WorkBC** Centre

OPEN HOUSE
Sept. 17, 2025
2PM - 6PM
5008-49th Ave, Fort Nelson

Canada BRITISH COLUMBIA

This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

COME CELEBRATE DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT MONTH

FREE Food!

FREE ride with the Seniors Bus!
Call (250)-500-2597

Spin the Wheel and Win Prizes!

1 & 2 BEDROOM UNITS AVAILABLE

Call or email today to arrange a viewing and get an application!

250 775 0070
bearbrook.gary@gmail.com

BEARBROOK

"Your industrial and residential lease specialists"



SPRUCED by Maggie Squires Cobbett

What's Spruced?

From North Carolina, I'm a southern seed that dropped in the boreal impressed by down-to-earth ways-of-living, Northern Lights, and winter swimming in the Liard Hotsprings. Between arriving mid-1970 and leaving end-of-1990, I worked for Highway lodges, the local pool, BC Parks and managed an outfitter hunting area with partner Ted who trekked by foot, boat, horse, and bush plane the region's rivers, valleys, and mountains. Then in 1990 I left the marriage, headed south with three grade school daughters and a baby to attend university.

While I went to class the kids went to school. When summer rolled around the trio of older sibs went north. The youngest spent a summer with me in Inuvik where I studied arctic lakes and streams. After high school graduations, each daughter, at various ages and places, pursued degrees and training, travel and work, experience and adventure. But my daughters' compass heading was North and eventually each one returned and put down roots in the spruce forest. With all four offspring in the north, 35 years after living somewhere else, in October 2024 I came back.

Despite decades-long absence, folks remember a very pregnant me riding a bicycle in a bikini back in 1979, and I remember being part of a close knit, caring community. Still cycling at 71 but not in a bikini! the 'welcome back' was warm. Yet, so many years later, Fort Nelson does not look like the town that I left. Replaced by a straight stretch of road to the mountains, the Old Alaska Highway is gateway to farms and acreages and handsome homes with broad lawns. Back in town, there's a first-class recreation centre and forest trail that loops across the flat, up the hill and into the Demonstration Forest. On the other hand, there are newer and bigger hotels with fewer vehicles out front, instead of Tompkins and the Muskwa Café there are fast-food restaurants, up and down the main street businesses are closed, on every street there's a home for sale. And I hear concern about the lack of industrial activity and good-paying jobs, youth moving away, and the four-hour drive to the nearest hospital, birth centre, and travel hub. Yet at the reserve, in town, and on farms and ranches along McConachie Creek folks have deep roots.

So here is Spruced, a place for reader's stories about inheritance and identity, belonging and family, hardship and prosperity. I'm spruced because my daughters and spouses and grandsons and granddaughters have deep roots in the northern boreal.

What's got you spruced? To share a story, contact me at squires.maggie@gmail.com.

MUSKWA MUSINGS with Casey Gairdner

Dancing In the Sky: the return of the lights!

As the northern sky darkens and the chill of autumn settles in, our community is once again treated to the ethereal dance of the aurora borealis. While science explains these shimmering curtains of light as solar particles interacting with Earth's atmosphere, for generations, Indigenous peoples have viewed these natural phenomenon through a deeper, more spiritual lens.

To many in the Cree and Dene nations, the Northern Lights are not just a spectacle, they are a bridge between worlds. Cree legends often speak of the lights as the spirits of our ancestors, dancing in the sky. It's said that when you see them, they are a sign that loved ones who have passed on are happy and watching over us. The brilliant display is believed by some cultures to be the spirits communicating, a whisper of comfort and reassurance, not to mention a sight that brings awe to many.

Dene legends also hold this connection to the spirit world, with some traditions viewing the lights as the spirits of animals like the caribou, celebrating their existence in the sky. There's a shared respect for this phenomenon, and a common warning, do not whistle at the lights. It's believed that doing so could provoke the spirits, causing them to descend.

So, the next time you look up and see the sky ablaze with green and purple, take a moment to reflect on these stories. They remind us that we are part of a larger, interconnected web of life, with our ancestors guiding us from the star-lit heavens. It's a powerful and humbling thought, a true blessing of life in the North.

Everyone enjoy the week ahead and be sure to go check out the Street festival this upcoming weekend it is sure to be a good time for everyone!

Until next week,
Casey Gairdner "The Muskwa Muser" - Muskwamuser@gmail.com



**WANT TO WRITE AN ARTICLE? EMAIL US TO GET MORE INFO
NEWSLETTER@FNCLS.COM**

SHIFTING MOSAICS CONSULTING

ECOLOGICAL CONSULTING COMPANY

Dr. Sonja E. R. Leverkus PhD RPBio RPF PAg EP
Founder and Ecosystem Scientist

Phone: 250-321-7069
Email: info@shiftingmosaics.com
Website: https://shiftingmosaics.com

"Conserving biodiversity from the past,
in the present,
for the future."

DALEX AUTO SERVICES LTD

Automotive Services You Can Count On

Address: 4440 50th Avenue North
Fort Nelson, BC V0C 1R0

Hours: Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Phone: (250) 774-6804

\$1 EACH TAX
SMALL PREMIUM ROAST COFFEE
McCafé
EVERY SINGLE DAY.

CFA City Furniture & Appliances Ltd.
We don't sell. We help you buy!

- Furniture • Mattresses
- Electronics • Appliances

Cell Phone From \$0 Down

Bell -iPhone -Samsung
Authorized Dealer
Certified Used Cell Phone From \$99.99

RIGGS SAFETY
EDUCATING THE NORTH

CANADIAN RED CROSS
TRAINING PARTNER

First Aid Kit Services

RIGGSSAFETY.CA 250 321 3267

NON-WILL BASED ESTATE PLANNING

HOW IT HELPS

- Avoid or reduce probate fees and costs.
- Efficiently transfer your assets.
- Maintain privacy of your estate.
- Enhance control and flexibility of distribution of your wealth.

CONTACT US

Mitchell Preuss
250 - 321 - 9373
mpreuss@nirpwb.ca
www.nirpwb.ca

Fort Nelson Hospice Society

Moved
to a New Location

4916 50TH AVE N
UNIT #6 LANDMARK PLAZA
(OLD GREENBAY TAX LOCATION)

*If you have any questions call
Hospice Coordinator
Kristina Rhodenizer
(250)775-1457*

September

IS LITERACY

MONTH

Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society

TRAIL MIX FUN RUN
September 20th, 2025

Start the fall season off right by challenging yourself, co-workers, friends or family to our half marathon, 10K or Terry Fox 5K run/walk!
Kids 1000M or 500M races!

- FREE
- HALF MARATHON-8:45AM
- 10KM RUN-9:30AM
- TERRY FOX 5KM RUN/WALK-9:45AM
- KIDS RUN-11:00AM

DONATIONS TO SUPPORT CANCER RESEARCH ARE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED AT THE RUN, OR YOU CAN DONATE ONLINE!

REGISTER NOW! 250-774-2541 EXT 1
NRRM.PERFECTMIND.COM

THE TERRY FOX FOUNDATION

PLEASE RECYCLE



FEED THE WORMS



PLEASE RECYCLE



FEED THE WORMS

WEEKLY EVENT CALENDAR

Got an Event? Let Us Help Spread the Word – For Free!
Send us your event name, time, and location, and we'll add it to our community calendar at no cost.
Email the details to: newsletter@fncls.com

Alcoholics Anonymous - Mondays, Wednesdays & Saturdays - 8:00PM to 9:00PM
Mondays at the United Church 5108 Sunset Drive,
Wednesdays & Saturdays - **4916 50th Ave North Unit # 6** <*NOTE* LOCATION CHANGE>

Narcotics Anonymous - Fridays - 7:00PM - Fort Nelson Aboriginal Friendship Centre

NRRM Recreation Centre Fall Swim Schedule
Lane Swim - Tuesday & Thursday - 6:30AM to 9:00AM
Family/Lane Swim - Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun - 9:00AM to 1:00PM
Family/Lane Swim - Tuesday & Thursday - 9:00AM to 11:00AM
Accessibility Swim - Tuesday & Thursday - 11:00AM to 1:00PM
Public Swim - Monday to Sunday - 1:00PM to 4:00PM
Evening Swim - Monday to Friday - 4:00PM to 8:00PM

Phoenix Theatre - Closed For Upgrades - August 29 to September 18

Monday, September 8th
Literacy Society "Open House" - 11:00AM to 3:00PM - Literacy Society
Soup and Seniors Social - 11:30AM Soup, 12:30PM Social - Northern Lamplighters Hall
Women of Wellness - 5:00PM to 7:00PM - Friendship Centre
Grief Support Group - 6:30PM - 4916 50th Ave North Unit # 6

Tuesday, September 9th

Wednesday, September 10th
Baby Playgroup Ages 0-2 - 9:00AM to 11:00AM - NR Child Development 5011 Airport Drive
Canasta - 11:00AM - Northern Lamplighters Hall
Tech Support for Seniors - 4:30PM to 5:30PM - City Furniture
International Potluck (Spain/Portugal) - 5:30PM to 7:00PM - Literacy Society

Thursday, September 11th
The Park Social - 10:00AM to 11:30AM - Art Fraser Park
Knitting & Crafts - 3:00PM - Northern Lamplighters Hall

Friday, September 12th
Knit & Crochet: Community Helpers - 1:30PM to 3:30PM - Fort Nelson Public Library
Fun & Games - 1:30PM - Northern Lamplighters Hall
StreetFest - 5:00PM to 12:00AM - 50th Ave S In Front of the Phoenix Theatre

Saturday, September 13th
Fort Nelson Farmers Market - 9:00AM to 3:00PM - Elks Hall
Canasta - 11:00AM - Northern Lamplighters Hall
StreetFest - 11:00AM to 6:00PM - 50th Ave S In Front of the Phoenix Theatre

Sunday, September 14th



NRSS MEALS ON WHEELS MENU \$10.00/MEAL

Call to order 250-774-3193 the day prior

- Tuesday, Sept 9 - **Meatballs, Rice & Veggies**
- Thursday, Sept 11 - **Cold Plate With Salads, Chicken & Ham**

Menu may be subject to change depending on circumstance

STAY BEAR AWARE IN THE NORTHERN ROCKIES

As fall approaches in the Northern Rockies, bear activity increases. Bears enter a period called hyperphagia, where they eat almost constantly to build fat reserves for winter hibernation. This means they're more likely to be active during the day and may venture closer to communities in search of easy food sources.



Whether you live in town, hike on weekends, or camp in the backcountry, it's important to reduce the chances of a bear encounter. Store garbage securely until collection day, remove attractants like fallen fruit, pet food, and unclean BBQs, and keep pets leashed. On trails, travel in groups, make noise, and carry bear spray. When camping, store food and toiletries in bear-proof containers. If you see a bear, stay calm, speak softly, and back away slowly—never run.

Jenn Riggs, Community Coordinator for WildSafeBC Northern Rockies, offers free presentations, and event booths to help people learn how to safely coexist with wildlife. To connect with Jenn, email northernrockies@wildsafebc.com.

To report concerning bear behaviour, call the RAPP line at 1-877-952-7277 or #7277 on the TELUS Mobility Network. For more information, visit bcparks.ca.

Let's all do our part to keep wildlife wild and communities safe—especially during this busy fall season.

Working together to bring Government services to you.

Date: Sept 25, 2025

Time: 11am-1pm

Location: Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society

Service Canada
- Get a Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- Receive a PAC access code to sign up for My Service Canada
- Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP)
- Employment Insurance (EI)
- Pension information for Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS)
- Passport Information
- General Government of Canada information

Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- Tax Slip information (T4, T5007, T4A-Pension, T4A-OAS and more)
- Notice of Assessments (NOAs) and Assistance with CRA correspondence
- Benefits and Credits information: Disability Tax Credit (DTC), Canada Child Benefit (CCB), GST/HST credit, Canada Worker's Benefit (CWB)
- Account updates (address, contact number, direct deposit, etc.)

ID requirements are based on the service offering requested. Please bring a piece of Government issued photo ID.

If you need a SIN, please bring: your birth certificate, certificate of Indian Status and any other forms of federal or provincial identification you may have.

If you are unable to meet with us during this visit, you can request information and assistance through the Outreach Support Centre from 8:30-4:00, Mon-Fri: 1-877-631-2657

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

Ryan Kerr Senior Santa Project

SENIOR'S make sure you are on Santa's list, fill out your form.

Come see us at the Street Festival. Sat., Sept. 13. 11-6 p.m.

TO SPONSOR A SENIOR - call Debbie @ 250-321-3321

Buy 50/50 tickets to support this wonderful project
\$5.00 , draw date Oct. 14th



Rotary
Club of Fort Nelson

Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society

250-850-5616
newsletter@fncls.com

NORTHERN ROCKIES REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY



Opportunities & Notices

Career Opportunities

northernrockies.ca/careers

Job Posting No. 2025.24

Labourer I - Recreation

Closes: Sep 15, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

For current career opportunities visit
www.northernrockies.ca/careers

Bidding Opportunities

northernrockies.ca/bids

ITT-2025-20

Leachate Force Main - Construction Phase 1

Closes: Sep 11 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

For current bidding opportunities visit
www.northernrockies.bidsandtenders.ca

Advisories, Notices & Hearings

northernrockies.ca/notices

Share Shed - Located at the Landfill

Give or take clean, usable items for FREE. Help your community, reduce waste, and save money!



Hours:
Tue-Wed 11:30am-5pm
Thu-Sun 11am-5pm
Closed Mondays



NOTE: This advertisement contains the most current postings as of the newsletter publication date.
Visit www.NorthernRockies.ca



"BEEM There, Done That"
Money tips, local insight, and advice from the credit union that gets it.

Financial Goals for Fall

September's a fresh start. Pay down a debt, boost savings, or finally start that emergency fund.

Need help making it happen? Book a fall planning session with BEEM.

Call 1-877-787-0361 or visit **BEEM Credit Union** (formerly North Peace Savings) here in Fort Nelson.