

# INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE – November 28, 2022

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|-----|--|---|
| 1.  | K. Leinweber, Shuswap Cycling Club – Letter dated November 10, 2022 - Request for Use of South Canoe Facilities – 2023 Salty Dog Enduro  | R |
| 2.  | K. Leinweber, Owner/Race Director, Lewiston Ultra Events – Letter dated November 10, 2022 – Request for use of Little Mountain Park and Field House Parking Lot – BC Backyard Ultra, April 28, 2023                | R |
| 3.  | K. Leinweber, Owner/Race Director, Lewiston Ultra Events – Letter dated November 10, 2022 – Request for use of Klahani Park and Facilities – 2023 Shuswap Ultra, June 23 & 24, 2023                                | R |
| 4.  | S. Milne, Club President, Salmon Arm Snowblazers – Letter dated November 22, 2022 - Request for Letter of Support - BC Recreational Snowmobile Program, BC Snowmobile Infrastructure Fund                          | R |
| 5.  | S. Lawson – Email dated November 20, 2022 – Elks Park  | N |
| 6.  | B. Weicker, President, Shuswap Lifeboat Society – Letter dated October 31, 2022 – Thank you for COVID Restart Grant  | N |
| 7.  | P. Rantucci, Deputy Assessor, Thompson Okanagan Region, BC Assessment – Email dated November 8, 2022 – Congratulations and General Information   |   |
| 8.  | Interior Health – Information Bulletin dated November 17, 2022 – There’s Still Time to Get Influenza Vaccine   | N |
| 9.  | Interior Health – News Release dated November 22, 2022 – New Care Model Connects People Across Region to Opioid Use Disorder Treatment   | N |
| 10. | Interior Health – Take Steps to Test for Radon Today   | N |
| 11. | Shuswap Watershed Council – Letter dated November 15, 2022 – New Measures and More Resources Needed to Prevent an Invasion of Zebra or Quagga Mussels in British Columbia  | N |
| 12. | M. Will, Executive Director, Homelessness Policy and Partnerships Branch, Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing – Email dated November 21, 2022 – Staff Level Meeting Follow-Up Letter | N |

N = No Action Required  
A = Action Requested

S = Staff has Responded  
R = Response Required



**SHUSWAP  
CYCLING CLUB**  
www.shuswapbike.com

November 10, 2022

On behalf of Salty Dog Enduro, I am forwarding request to Mayor & Council of Salmon Arm for City Council Approval for the 2023 Salty Dog Enduro hosted by the Shuswap Cycling Club.

The Salty Dog Enduro has been hosted in community for two decades, with the exception of 2020 & 2021 due to the pandemic. The event has been an enormous success for community, tourism, small businesses, riders, volunteers, etc & is a staple event for the Shuswap area.

The Salty Dog Enduro encourages full family participation and will be hosted May 12-14, 2023 with the Pedal & Pint on Friday, May 12, package pick up and Salty Streetfest on Saturday, May 13 and the Enduro, U15, Junior and Salty Pup events on Sunday, May 14.

The Salty Dog will follow current, at time of event, Provincial COVID-19 Regulations/Restrictions.

We have maintained consistent and positive communication with Salty Dog Enduro stakeholders & are waiting to receive updated letter of support from Shuswap Tourism, Shuswap Trail Alliance, Salmon Arm Economic Development, Salmon Arm Chamber of Commerce. I will forward letter(s) of support once received. Shuswap Volunteer Search & Rescue is also in support of the 2023 event.

The Salty Dog Enduro is hoping to have a similar set up at Klahani Park (porta potties, tents, speakers, flagging, waste management, etc) with minimal logistic updates to support sustainability and safety of all participants, volunteers, etc. The Sunday festivities will also host a community BBQ and beer garden to support during/post event connection and celebration.

The Ministry of Transportation (MOT) will be contacted in the new year for use of the gravel pit as this allows more than enough room for event parking without displacing area residents and other users of the park. The area and trails are open to public users and event signage will be posted two (2) weeks prior to the event for awareness and safety of weekend riders/public users.

Event set up begins Friday, May 12 with signage, barricades and pylon set up/placed for event day. In previous years, we have held bike demos and are hoping for the same on Saturday, May 13. On Sunday, May 14, riders, volunteers, etc would begin arriving at 7am and majority of people will be cleared by 5/6pm. The road from Klahani Park (10<sup>th</sup> Ave) to the entrance at South Canoe will be closed to vehicle traffic from 9:45am-10:10am to allow all Enduro riders to safely pass and access the trail system.

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Shuswap Cycling Society  
PO Box 643 Stn Main  
Salmon Arm BC V1E 4N7

[shuswapbike@gmail.com](mailto:shuswapbike@gmail.com)



**SHUSWAP  
CYCLING CLUB**  
[www.shuswapbike.com](http://www.shuswapbike.com)

Salty Dog Enduro is requesting use of the South Canoe washroom facilities, possible power for the duration of the event and will ensure the area is clean and free of garbage before we leave the area. We will also request key for the South Canoe gate, 'no parking' signs, barricades, pylons & stop/yield signs and will look at taking down a portion of the newly installed wooden fence to allow rider pass onto the approved course – the portion of fence would be put back in place immediately after the event.

Insurance will be maintained for 2023 and confirmation documents will be forwarded prior to the event.

The Salty Dog Enduro gives back to community, Shuswap Trail Alliance, Larch Hills Nordic & the Rugby Club.

Please let us know if further information is required.

Sincerely,

Kara Leinweber

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Shuswap Cycling Society  
PO Box 643 Stn Main  
Salmon Arm BC V1E 4N7

[shuswapbike@gmail.com](mailto:shuswapbike@gmail.com)



November 10, 2022

To: Mayor & Council of Salmon Arm/City Council Approval

RE: 2023 BC BACKYARD ULTRA, hosted under Lewiston Ultra Events

I am forwarding Letter of Request to Mayor & Council of Salmon Arm for City Council Approval for the BC BACKYARD ULTRA, April 28, 2023, hosted under Lewiston Ultra Events.

Lewiston Ultra Events hosted an incredibly successful inaugural BC Backyard Ultra in 2022. The event brought community together and our winner, Ihor Verry, completed the most laps at a Canadian Backyard event and went on to win the Backyard Canadian Championship. His performance at BC Backyard Ultra and the Canadian Championship granted him a spot to compete in Worlds – beyond amazing!

I am requesting to host the second annual BC Backyard Ultra on Friday, April 28 with the potential to go through the weekend. The event will give back to community, Shuswap Trail Alliance and support tourism in the shoulder season. The event would host 100-120 runners and would be staged (start/finish) at Little Mountain Park and the Field House parking lot. We would ensure parking spaces are available for public users & Little Mountain Park would remain open to the public during the event.

I understand there is potential for the soccer fields to be in use and I am hoping we can share space. I understand it is a busy time but maybe it is an option to use half the field for the weekend. I am hoping to communicate with Chad Forman (Soccer Management) to engage a plan that works for all users. I suggest BC Backyard Ultra use the lower parking lot (near the childcare business) and leave the upper main lot vacant for soccer (there is also additional parking across the street at the high school, which is free on the weekends). BC Backyard Ultra would be staged in the upper smaller lot and vehicle access and soccer use would be closed, in this area only. We are requesting use of the grassy area on the far end of the field and entrance off the smaller upper lot for staging. I would consider bringing 8-10ft fencing to create an area for racer tents and check in that maintains a parameter separate from soccer, if needed.

A portion of the BC Backyard Ultra daytime route runs through private property. Lewiston Ultra Events has maintained communication with the landowner and does not foresee issue with using the existing private connector and will have signed agreement in place, prior to the event.

Two weeks prior to BC Backyard Ultra, I will post signage at each entrance notifying users of the event and include a sample of the trail marking they can expect to see on the gorgeous trail system. I also plan to go door to door again and hand deliver an event description letter and introduce myself to those living around Little Mountain Park. It is very important to Lewiston Ultra Events that we engage with community and have the support to host these events annually in a shared backyard.

The BC Backyard Ultra is an approved Backyard Event, by series owner & Godfather in the trail running world, Lazarus Lake (also owner/host of Barkley Marathon, Barkley Fall Classic, Big's Backyard Ultra & Run Across Tennessee).





## THE BACKYARD FORMAT

- The BC Backyard Ultra is an approved **SILVER TICKET** race with the winner qualifying At-Large entrants and claiming a spot on the Canadian National Team for Big Dog's Backyard Ultra World Championship
- The Backyard approved format is a 4.167-mile [6.71 km] loop within the Little Mountain Park trail system that will begin on the hour, every hour.
- The last runner must complete one additional loop, a victory loop, to be named the winner. All other runners DNF [Did Not Finish]. The winner will be given the opportunity to join 14 other runners on the Canadian National Team and compete in the World Championships.
- This BC Backyard Ultra is an event for **everyone**. Some runners will complete a few laps and set a new personal record while others will try for the last runner standing.

## THE BACKYARD SCHEDULE/SET UP

- The BC Backyard Ultra would start at 8am on Friday, April 28, 2023. There is potential for the event to run for 72 hours but 40-50 hours is what I would expect (I have secured an elite field from across Canada as I am hoping to get at least 40 hours/40 laps out of the event and continue to make a mark for the BC Backyard Ultra and Salmon Arm in the Backyard series)
- Set up for the BC Backyard is minimal and the request for volunteers is also minimal. We would have a few tents, additional lighting, portable firepits, porta potties, etc
- Racers are to be self sufficient. We would ask to use the back part of the soccer field so that racers may bring their own pop up tent (they share) and have their own staging/rest area. I would expect to have approx. 20-30 tents set up and confirm that this would not be on the field/playing area and would be on the grassy area near the fence and as far behind the net as possible
- I am hoping to use the overflow lot for BC Backyard Ultra parking. The event will be busy at the start for the first 6-8 hours and then will quiet down. It will get busy again as the field goes to the final 5 runners; people will come back out to support and be part of the event
- We are hoping to work with the City of Salmon Arm to ensure sprinklers are turned off, usage of pylons & power, no parking signs as well as access to the washrooms/showers at the Field House
- The event will comply with noise bylaw
- The course will be marked with stakes & flagging tape that will be removed immediately after the event
- 2-3 porta potties and most likely a handwashing station will be including in the start/finish line staging area
- All garbage/waste generated by the event will be removed; Lewiston Ultra Events is a sustainable event and does not produce much waste







- City of Salmon Arm Emergency Services will be notified of the event. We will have First Aid volunteers on site and are approximately 3KM from the Shuswap Lake general hospital
- Lewiston Ultra Events will respect and work with those at the Field House as well as soccer management and other users of the facility and park
- The BC Backyard Ultra will comply with current, at time of event, Provincial COVID-19 restrictions/guidelines for outdoor events

I believe I have maintained consistent and positive communication with Lewiston Ultra Event stakeholders; we are waiting to receive an updated letter of support from Shuswap Tourism, Shuswap Trail Alliance, Salmon Arm Economic Development, Salmon Arm Chamber of Commerce for the event and will forward, once received.

To learn more of Lazarus Lake & the Backyard format, <https://backyardultra.com/>

Insurance will be maintained for 2023 and confirmation documents will be forwarded prior to the event.

Please let me know if further information is required.

In community,

Kara Leinweber, Owner/Race Director  
BC Backyard Ultra/Moose Mountain Trail Races/Shuswap Ultra  
c/o Lewiston Ultra Events  
[www.lewistonultraevents.com](http://www.lewistonultraevents.com)  
IG @lewistonultraevents  
FB @Lewiston Ultra Events  
Twitter @LewistonUltra  
587.899.7125



November 10, 2022

To: Mayor & Council of Salmon Arm/City Council Approval

RE: 2023 Shuswap Ultra, hosted under Lewiston Ultra Events

I am forwarding Letter of Request to Mayor & Council of Salmon Arm for City Council Approval for the 2023 SHUSWAP ULTRA, hosted under Lewiston Ultra Events.

The Shuswap Ultra has been hosted in community since 2018 (with the exception of 2020 (cancelled) & 2021 (virtual format)), and has been a great success for community, run collectives, tourism, small businesses, runners, volunteers, etc.

The Shuswap Ultra is hoping to trial a June event date in 2023 and introduce a 120KM distance and a two person relay as well as bring back the 60KM option. The 2023 Shuswap Ultra is also hoping to reverse and bring the finish line back to Klahani Park. I believe the revitalized grassy area, updated play park, dog park and entrance will host an incredible finish line area.

Lewiston Ultra Events will continue to secure the MOT lot (gravel area) above Klahani for event parking and ensure parking is available for public users & emergency access over the weekend. I believe we can share the space but would request there are no baseball/softball bookings for the weekend – Shuswap Ultra racers come into the finish line between the pickle ball fields and the baseball diamonds and with the music, cowbell, etc, we would not be able to hear yells to watch for balls, etc. There will also be small children and a lot of activity. We will continue to ensure Shuswap Ultra racers, volunteers, families, crew, etc do not access the ball diamonds and will have access blocked off for the weekend.

The Shuswap Ultra will continue to be hosted over two days:

- Friday, June 23, 2023, 120KM racers will start at Klahani Park at 5pm & run through the night
- Saturday, June 24, 2023, 60KM and relay racers will start at Mara Hills Golf Resort and finish at Klahani Park; all racers would be off course by 8pm
- Lewiston Ultra Events will clear the area within an hour after the last racer is in
- Flagging would be removed following the last racer and/or cut off time.

The event is testing a June event date due to low volunteer and racer turn out, competing September events in the area, volunteer burn out, highway closures, businesses closed for the season, campsites closed for the season, etc. I believe the June date will be successful and will continue to support tourism as well as draw international racers with the new 120KM distance option. I also believe the traverse clean up, supported by Shuswap Trail Alliance and Lewiston Ultra Events volunteers/friends/family, will encourage more users of the traverse over the summers months and engage more options for Provincial funding, supported by volunteer hours, etc.

The Shuswap Ultra will give back to local community/charity as well as continue to give back to Shuswap Trail Alliance & Shuswap Volunteer Search and Rescue.

The Shuswap Ultra will follow current, at time of event, Provincial COVID-19 Regulations/Restrictions.







I have maintained consistent and positive communication with all Shuswap Ultra stakeholders & Shuswap Tourism, Shuswap Trail Alliance, Salmon Arm Economic Development, Salmon Arm Chamber of Commerce, Sicamous Chamber of Commerce Downtown Salmon Arm & Larch Hills Nordic Society is preparing letter of support for the 2023 event; I will forward once received.

The Shuswap Ultra holds tenure permit from Front Counter BC & Ministry of Environment and annual permit from Ministry of Transportation, Rec Sites & Trails, Forest Lands & Natural Resources, etc.

Shuswap Volunteer Search & Rescue, Luke Gubbels/Gord Bose, etc, are aware and support the June 2023 event.

I am hoping to have a similar set up at Klahani which would include porta potties, race arch, speakers, fire pits, etc and am hoping to include local businesses such as food trucks(s), vendors, etc.

I will approach the Ministry of Transportation in the new year for use of the gravel pit as this allows more than enough room without displacing area residents and other users of the park. Racers, volunteers, etc would begin arriving at the park for 12pm on Friday, June 23, we would be in the area through the night/next day and cleared of the area by 8pm on Saturday, June 24.

I will ensure the area is left as found, if not better. All race garbage will be removed when we clear the area; Lewiston Ultra Events is a sustainable event and we expect minimal waste.

Shuswap Ultra will operate under existing noise bylaw and will not be requesting exemption. Even though we will be onsite through the night at Klahani Park, noise and lights will be minimal and within guidelines.

I will be requesting use of the Klahani Park washrooms, power and lighting for the duration of the event. I will also request 'No Parking; signs, pylons, and key for SC gate (emergency access only) and the white building at Klahani Park.

Insurance will be maintained for 2023 and confirmation documents will be forwarded prior to the event.

It is an absolute honour to host this event in the Shuswap; Please let me know if further information is required.

In community,

Kara Leinweber, Owner/Race Director  
BC Backyard Ultra/Moose Mountain Trail Races/Shuswap Ultra  
c/o Lewiston Ultra Events  
[www.lewistonultraevents.com](http://www.lewistonultraevents.com)  
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Twitter @LewistonUltra  
587.899.7125







November 22, 2022  
 The District of Salmon Arm and Council  
 Box 40  
 500 2 Ave NE  
 Salmon Arm BC V1E 4N2

**Re: Letter of Support**

To Mayor Harrison and Members of Council,

The Salmon Arm Snowblazers Snowmobile Club is seeking a **'Letter of Support'** from the City of Salmon Arm that will assist the Club in accessing funds from the BC Recreational Snowmobile Program, BC Snowmobile Infrastructure Fund.

The SAS Club in conjunction with Shuswap Tourism play a significant role in working to promote the Salmon Arm area as a popular and unique winter destination area. The goal of the Club is to expand our sledding industry and winter tourism market to help develop Salmon Arm and outlying areas in becoming popular year-round destination communities.

To help accomplish this goal, the club has committed to purchase a Snow Cat to service the snowmobile trails properly and safely on Fly Hills in the winter months. The SAS Club is dedicated to providing a snowmobile experience unlike the other local snowmobile areas. We cater to families, beginner to advanced riders, terrain that is casual yet challenging in places but not extreme, **ALL** trails are well signed, avalanche risk is low, main trail from parking lot to chalet groomed, other trails groomed if snow is not too deep, community-based volunteers, all within 15 minutes of Salmon Arm. The high volume of snow Fly Hills experiences is a challenge. The tractor (1992 Ford 7740) the Club owns is not always able to keep trails open and groomed. The tractor is at the point where the cost of maintaining it has become exceedingly stressful on our limited budget and volunteer time.

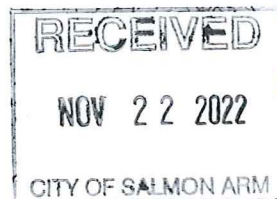
The Club currently has an Annual Fund Raiser, Moon Light Poker Run, 4 local corporate sponsors, membership sales and trail collecting on weekends that afford the Club to operate. The funds required to purchase a Snow Cat is approximately \$80,000. The current tractor could be sold for approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000. The Club is seeking \$60,000 from the BC Snowmobile Infrastructure Fund.

A **'Letter of Support'** from the City of Salmon Arm would help the Club tremendously in our bid to receive access to these necessary funds.

The funding application is time sensitive and needs to be sent by November 30, 2022. Receiving a support letter from the City of Salmon Arm before that date is essential.

We appreciate your consideration with this request for a **'Letter of Support'** and hope to receive a reply shortly. Should you require further information please feel free to contact the Salmon Arm Snowblazers Snowmobile Club at 250-803-8322 or email us at [salmonarmsnowblazers@gmail.com](mailto:salmonarmsnowblazers@gmail.com)

Warm regards,  
 Sandy Milne – Club President Salmon Arm Snowblazers



*ap  
 Faxed  
 1:32pm  
 Rec'd.*

**Rhonda West**

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**From:** Erin Jackson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2022 5:19 PM  
**To:** Rhonda West; Sue Wood  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Online Form Submittal: Mayor and Council

Correspondence please!

**From:** noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2022 7:35 AM  
**To:** Alan Harrison <aharrison@salmonarm.ca>; David Gonella <dgonella@salmonarm.ca>; Debbie Cannon <dcannon@salmonarm.ca>; Kevin Flynn <kflynn@salmonarm.ca>; Louise Wallace-Richmond <lwallacerichmond@salmonarm.ca>; Sylvia Lindgren <slindgren@salmonarm.ca>; Tim Lavery <tlavery@salmonarm.ca>; Erin Jackson <ejackson@salmonarm.ca>  
**Subject:** [External] Online Form Submittal: Mayor and Council

## Mayor and Council

First Name Sian  
 Last Name Lawson  
 Address: [REDACTED] SE  
 Return email address: [REDACTED]  
 Subject: Elks Park  
 Body Hi,

I recently read an article in the Salmon Arm observer about Elks Park Budget Request. I just wanted to share a few things that occurred over the ball season this year that were highly disappointing.

1. Our kids were not allowed to use the washrooms at Elks Park we had two gross outhouses that we were only allowed to use.

2. They had locks on the water taps behind the dugout so no one could use the water. If kids ran out of water, they had to bring, from home they could not fill up their water bottles.

3. We were not allowed to use the parking lot. We had to park in the field area where kids were running around playing. It was not safe.



4. Siblings were not allowed to play on the park, even when the campsite was not full, little children were kicked off the playground. This resulted in the kids having to play in the forest and parking area.

5. When we showed up in the spring the fields were very unkept. About 60 people spent 8 hours weeding the infields.

I used to play baseball at Elks as a child and I am very disappointed in what has happened there.

Thanks you,

Sian Lawson

Would you like a response:

No

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*Written and email correspondence addressed to Mayor and Council may become public documents once received by the City. Correspondence addressed to Mayor and Council is routinely published within the Correspondence Section of Regular Council Agendas.*

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**ROYAL CANADIAN MARINE  
SEARCH & RESCUE**  
*Saving Lives on the Water*  
Station 106 • Shuswap

**Shuswap Lifeboat Society**  
Box 661 Sicamous, B.C. V0E 2V0  
*Business Entity of Station 106*

October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

City of Salmon Arm  
Box 40,  
Salmon Arm, BC  
V1E 4N2

Dear Mayor and Council -

### **2021 Covid Safe Restart Grant in Aid Program**

The Covid-19 Pandemic deeply impacted many non-profit organizations providing community services that many citizens count on. For some, there remains a lingering effect to recover from.

In August 2021, the City provided grant funding in the amount of \$2374 to Station 106 Shuswap, and our Society, to assist with more Personal Protective Equipment and on-line operating costs, as a result of Covid-19. This funding, the second of such provided by the City to our organization, was greatly appreciated, as was the deferral of a final report until our October 2022 Year End.

The funding was used to purchase two additional years of Zoom account, valid to October 2023, which permitted non face-to-face meetings, and eight additional quick change Covid coveralls. As well, we purchased a rechargeable handheld disinfectant sprayer to speed up vessel cleansing. When BC Emergency Health Services paramedics are on board, our vessels are ambulances on the water, and Covid-19 triggered intensified disinfection protocols. The unit facilitates a detailed sanitizing, meeting provincial ambulance standards, and vessels are very quickly back in service.

08-20-2021	City of Salmon Arm Covid - 19 ReStart Funding Received	<b>\$2,374.00</b>
10-14-2021	Doherty CC / ZOOM Account for October 2021 - October 2022	-\$672.00
11-17-2021	Diana's Monogramming - PPE Covid Coveralls	-\$758.01
09-15-2022	Wasylenki CC / PAX Handheld Electrostatic Disinfectant Sprayer	-\$784.61
10-11-2022	Doherty CC / ZOOM Account for October 2022 - October 2023t	-\$468.57
	<b>Excess Paid by Shuswap Lifeboat Society Operating Funds</b>	<b>\$309.19</b>
<b>Balance</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>

We are very thankful to the City of Salmon Arm for the help provided to all non-profit groups, as we know volunteer efforts do contribute to stronger, healthier, and more resilient communities.

It allowed our Station, and Society, to better manage the pressures of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Yours truly,

*Bruce Weicker*

Bruce Weicker, President  
Shuswap Lifeboat Society

**"Saving Lives on the Water"**



**Rhonda West**

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**From:** Barb Puddifant  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 12:58 PM  
**To:** Rhonda West  
**Subject:** FW: Congratulations in the 2022 Local Government General Elections

**From:** Customer Connections BCA:EX <connect@bcassessment.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 11:46 AM  
**To:** Barb Puddifant <bpuddifant@salmonarm.ca>  
**Subject:** [External] Congratulations in the 2022 Local Government General Elections

Dear Mayor Alan Harrison and Councillors,

On behalf of BC Assessment, I want to offer my congratulations regarding your recent success in the 2022 local government general elections. My name is Patricia Rantucci and I am the regional liaison for your community.

BC Assessment is the Crown corporation responsible for producing independent and equitable annual property assessments and trusted assessment information. The products and services that we offer support development of strong and vibrant communities in British Columbia.

All British Columbia property owners will receive their annual property assessment notices in early January 2023. You can visit [bcassessment.ca](https://bcassessment.ca) on January 3 to access a variety of 2023 assessment information including searching and comparing 2023 property assessments as well as regional news releases with detailed assessment value changes by community and other market movement trends.

In addition, please visit our Local Government webpage anytime to access self-serve products and services available to support you at: <https://info.bcasessment.ca/services-products/government/local-government/> Our Local Government Department strives to serve local governments with continuous improvement to ensure our products and services effectively meet your needs. You can contact our Local Government Department at [localgovernment@bcassessment.ca](mailto:localgovernment@bcassessment.ca).

Congratulations once again, and we welcome opportunities to grow the relationship between BC Assessment and your Council. We look forward to connecting with you at upcoming local government conferences and we are available to present to your Council upon request to share more details about our mandate and specific market activity within your community.

Sincerely,

Patricia Rantucci  
Deputy Assessor, Thompson Okanagan Region  
[patricia.rantucci@bcassessment.ca](mailto:patricia.rantucci@bcassessment.ca)  
1-866-valueBC (825-8322) x 19239



## INFO BULLETIN

**For Immediate Release | Nov. 17, 2022**

# There's still time to get your influenza vaccine

**IH WIDE** – Public health officials with Interior Health (IH) remind everyone there is still time to get your influenza vaccine (flu shot) and those six months and older are eligible.

It's easier than ever to get immunity for your community. Influenza vaccinations are free for everyone in B.C. six months of age or older, to best protect themselves, their loved ones, their communities and the health-care system this fall and winter.

"With a surge of respiratory illness in fall and winter, we encourage everyone to get an influenza vaccine for protection, especially while more people are socializing or traveling," says Dr. Fatemeh Sabet, an Interior Health medical health officer.

Families can book an appointment through the [Get Vaccinated system](#). Families with a child under 12 only need to book one appointment in a 6 month to 11 year clinic, and the whole family can get their COVID and influenza vaccines at the same time. Immunization appointments for people 12 and older are available at select community pharmacies and IH clinics, and are booked through the Get Vaccinated system. It's safe to get your COVID-19 booster at the same time as getting your influenza vaccination.

Although booking through the Get Vaccinated system is the most efficient way to access an influenza vaccine, limited walk-ins at some pharmacies continue to be available. Alternatively, you can phone the provincial call centre (toll-free) at 1-833-838-2323. If no appointments are available when you book, try again later or expand your search area; new appointments are added daily.

Getting immunized helps protect you and those around you by reducing the spread of influenza. Influenza can cause serious illness requiring hospitalization, which places additional demand on the health-care system that is still also seeing impacts from COVID-19.

Influenza vaccines are safe and effective. They have undergone rigorous review before getting approved by Health Canada.

In addition to getting vaccinated against influenza, frequent handwashing, respecting personal space, cough etiquette and staying home when sick continue to be important methods to limit the spread of germs.

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We recognize and acknowledge that we are collectively gathered on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the seven Interior Region First Nations. This region is also home to 15 Chartered Métis Communities. It is with humility that we continue to strengthen our relationships with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples across the Interior.

**MEDIA, FOR INFORMATION:**

PHONE 1.844.469.7077 EMAIL [media@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:media@interiorhealth.ca)







## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release | Nov. 22, 2022**

# New care model connects people across region to opioid use disorder treatment

**CRANBROOK** – As the toxic drug crisis continues, Interior Health in collaboration with local prescribers has implemented a new model to help connect people in the East Kootenay region who have opioid use disorder with opioid agonist treatments (OAT), such as methadone and Suboxone.

“When people bravely reach out for help, we want supports to meet them,” said Sheila Malcolmson, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. “This innovative approach will help more people in the East Kootenays access life-saving treatment, as government continues to build a system of mental health and addictions care across the province.”

A new centralized East Kootenay-wide OAT clinic has been launched in order to maximize OAT prescribing resources in the region. The clinic provides clients with access to an OAT prescriber on any weekday at their local Mental Health and Substance Use (MHSU) centre, using an innovative blend of in-person and virtual appointments.

The service is available in five East Kootenay communities: Cranbrook; Creston; Invermere; Golden; and Sparwood.

The clinic is comprised of physicians, nurse prescribers and a centralized medical office assistant.

“The provision of OAT medication, and with substance use treatment generally, has unique challenges. By leveraging technology and through working together we continue to remove barriers to treatment. I’d like to thank the prescribers who have stepped up to participate in this program, while encouraging others to do so as well,” said Interior Health president and CEO Susan Brown.

This new model is a unique approach to address several challenges presented by the geography of the region. It also provides more options for clients whose prescriptions run out, who may otherwise rely on illicit opioids.

Call the new OAT intake office at 250-420-2210.

Earlier this year, Interior Health [announced a project](#) to connect people with opioid use disorder with Suboxone in hospital emergency departments.

To learn more about OAT medications in the treatment of opioid use disorder visit [interiorhealth.ca](https://interiorhealth.ca).

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We recognize and acknowledge that we are collectively gathered on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the seven Interior Region First Nations. This region is also home to 15 Chartered Métis Communities. It is with humility that we continue to strengthen our relationships with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples across the Interior.

**MEDIA, FOR INFORMATION:**

PHONE 1.844.469.7077 EMAIL [media@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:media@interiorhealth.ca)



**Quotes****David**

"Personally it has given me my life back. It was taken away when I had my accident, and again when I became addicted to the pain meds I needed. OAT therapy has taken away the cravings and desire for any other meds because I am now on the right med at the right dose. I am not stigmatized by the physician and we have built a good relationship. Virtual visits have been helpful. I am able to have a physician who does not live in my own community and get the care I need."

**Lisa**

"I would like to share what the OAT program has done for me. For many years under a doctor's care I was on Oxycodone and needed to come off. I was in the hospital for three weeks and it was the worst thing I ever went through. The Nurse Prescribers at the OAT program were vital in my recovery as I have stayed clean for a year now and don't know what I would have done without them. They are so caring and invested in my recovery that I feel I can share anything with them and they have done everything in their power to suggest support, listen and encourage. I know they are probably overworked, but they never turn their backs. They are wonderful at what they do, and without them, I may have given up and relapsed. Instead, I am very proud to say I have a year in recovery. I could never repay what they have done for me, and in today's world someone who sincerely cares is rare. I would recommend this program to anyone and feel blessed to have this resource."

**Jaime**

"I've been coming to the OAT clinic almost a year now and it has helped me change my life. The Nurse Prescribers there are easy to talk to, understanding and non-judgemental. With their help and knowledge of what medications would help my withdrawals, they helped find the right program. I am on the Sublocade (buprenorphine) program, and with it I was able to get my life back to normal rather than depending on something everyday just to get me through. I'm able to spend time with my kids and not have to worry about appointments every day. I definitely would not have been able to beat my drug habit if there was no clinic like this to go to. Thank you sooo much."

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For Immediate Release | Nov. 23, 2022

## Take steps to test for radon today

**IH WIDE** - Exposure to radon gas is a preventable health risk. The only way to know the level of radon gas in your indoor environment is to test for it. We encourage residents living, working and playing in the B.C. Interior region to test for radon in your homes, places of work and indoor leisure environments.

### What is radon?

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas without colour or odour. It comes from the ground, and it often enters and stays in buildings with low ventilation. Radon exposure is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking.

The [BC Centre for Disease Control](#) estimates higher radon levels in parts of the Interior region. This could potentially mean higher indoor concentrations and increased health risks. This is concerning because of the large amount of time Canadians spend indoors. Buildings generally have higher concentrations of radon gas in their lower levels (basements, ground-level main floors).

Smoking and inhaling tobacco smoke increases the cancer-causing risk of radon gas exposure. According to Health Canada, those exposed to tobacco smoke and high concentrations of radon are eight times more likely to develop lung cancer than non-smokers.

### What you can do

The good news is that exposure to radon gas can be mitigated. Testing is easy and there are ways to greatly reduce radon levels if they are found to be high. Radon mitigation systems can be installed in any building. Certified radon professionals can reduce levels by over 90 per cent; [a certified professional](#) or skillful handy person following Health Canada guidance can generally complete the work within a day.

Lowering the concentration of radon in buildings and decreasing exposure over your lifetime will decrease the harmful effects linked with this gas.

Regardless of ownership of the building, anyone can test their indoor air. If high concentrations of radon are found after testing, carrying out long-term radon mitigation strategies is something generally done by the building owner.

### Learn more

Find out more information about radon and your health at [www.interiorhealth.ca/radon](http://www.interiorhealth.ca/radon), learn more at [HealthLinkBC](#), and [visit the BC Lung Foundation](#) to order your three-month test kit during the cold season.

Municipalities can also support radon reduction efforts by developing [policies and plans](#) around radon testing and reduction.

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#### MEDIA, FOR INFORMATION:

PHONE 1.844.469.7077 EMAIL [media@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:media@interiorhealth.ca)





c/o Fraser Basin Council  
 200A – 1383 McGill Road  
 Kamloops, BC V2C 6K7  
 250.314.9660  
[www.shuswapwater.ca](http://www.shuswapwater.ca)



Hon. Josie Osborne  
 BC Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship  
 Room 310 Parliament Buildings  
 Victoria, BC. V8V 1X4  
 Sent by e-mail to LWRS.Minister@gov.bc.ca

15 November 2022

**Re: New measures and more resources needed to prevent an invasion of Zebra or Quagga Mussels in British Columbia**

Dear Minister Osborne,

I am writing on behalf of the Shuswap Watershed Council as a follow up to our meeting at the UBCM Convention in September. Thank you again for taking the time to meet with me, and for listening to our concerns about the risk and consequences of invasive mussels arriving in British Columbia. I would like to re-iterate our top four calls-to-action for your Ministry to better protect the Shuswap – and all of BC – from invasive mussels.

As you know, the Shuswap watershed is at high risk of an invasion of Zebra and Quagga Mussels (ZQM, i.e., *Dreissenidae* sp.) due to boat traffic into the watershed. The primary vector for invasive mussels is watercraft. The Shuswap is a top destination for boaters, and that greatly increases the chance that infested watercraft will arrive in our waters. Fortunately, early detection monitoring has indicated that the Shuswap is still invasive-mussel free. This is due, in part, to the preventative work by the Province and regional organizations such as the Shuswap Watershed Council, and others. However, every year infested watercraft arrive at our provincial borders<sup>1</sup>. The threat of invasive mussels will never subside, and more action by the Province is needed to curb this significant threat to our water security.

We are calling for greater resourcing for the province's Invasive Mussel Defence Program (IMDP). While it could take just a single watercraft from out-of-province infested with invasive mussels launching into BC waters, it is of utmost importance that the IMDP be expanded such that all routes into BC from Alberta and the USA have a watercraft inspection and decontamination station. The IMDP is the first line of defense to protect BC's waters, but in 2022 there were only six permanent stations and two roving stations set up around the provincial border<sup>2</sup>. This presents a significant gap in the defense, as travellers with watercraft can enter BC via unchecked routes or outside of inspection station operating hours.

<sup>1</sup> The IMDP Summer Status Report (dated August 22, 2022) reported that 10 watercraft entering BC were confirmed to have adult invasive mussels.

<sup>2</sup> Since 2020, the watercraft inspection and decontamination stations have declined significantly; in 2019 and 2020, the IMDP had a peak level of 12 inspection stations.



Secondly, we urge the Province to introduce 'pull-the-plug' legislation, which would require all watercraft to have their drain plugs removed prior to travelling on BC roads. We understand that the Province is already considering this, as part of updates to the *Wildlife Act*.

Thirdly, the Provincial ZQM Early Detection and Rapid Response Plan for British Columbia (published February 2015) should be reviewed and updated. New methods for eradicating ZQM from waterbodies should be researched and considered for use in BC. Additionally, we believe there would be great value in carrying out a mock response exercise on a BC lake, including rehearsing the process of quarantining watercraft as a key containment measure.

Lastly, we urge you to advocate for new containment measures in Manitoba and Ontario which already have ZQM infestations. The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans needs to take strong action and fully enact the *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulation*. Our prevention efforts in the west must be met with robust containment measures in eastern and central Canada. Watercraft should not be able to leave watersheds known to have ZQM infestations without being inspected, decontaminated, and issued a quarantine period if necessary.

We have previously shared our concerns, and these calls-to-action, with the Minister of Environment's office, and with your federal counterparts, on several occasions. Furthermore, we are not alone in our concerns: several other organizations in BC including the Shuswap Waterfront Owners Association, Okanagan Basin Water Board, and regional invasive species societies share these concerns and priorities for action. Unfortunately, we have not been satisfied with the responses we have received from provincial and federal offices to-date.

Considering all that is at risk in the Shuswap, and the projected on-going costs and lost revenue associated with an infestation of Zebra or Quagga Mussels in BC – which is conservatively estimated to be \$42 million<sup>3</sup> annually to BC tax-payers in the Okanagan alone – we call upon your Ministry to provide more resources and implement new measures to protect BC waters from invasive Zebra & Quagga Mussels.

Sincerely,

Jay Simpson  
Chair, Shuswap Watershed Council  
Director, Columbia Shuswap Regional District Area 'F' North Shuswap  
250 517-9578 | [jsimpson@csrd.bc.ca](mailto:jsimpson@csrd.bc.ca)

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<sup>3</sup> Source: Limiting the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species into the Okanagan. Larratt Aquatic Consulting. 2013. Available online [https://www.obwb.ca/fileadmin/docs/2013\\_obwb\\_ais\\_report.pdf](https://www.obwb.ca/fileadmin/docs/2013_obwb_ais_report.pdf). See Section 5.2.



CC:

- Hon. George Heyman, Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
- Shuswap MLA: Greg Kylo
- North Okanagan – Shuswap MP and Associate Shadow Minister for Fisheries, Oceans and the Coast Guard: Mel Arnold
- Provincial Critic for Land, Water and Resource Stewardship: Lorne Doerkson
- Columbia Shuswap Regional District Chair: Kevin Flynn
- Regional District of North Okanagan Chair: Kevin Acton
- Shuswap Mayors: Alan Harrison (Salmon Arm), Colleen Anderson (Sicamous), David Lepsoe (Chase)
- Okanagan Basin Water Board Chair: Sue McKortoff
- Shuswap Waterfront Owners Association





## About the Shuswap Watershed Council

The Shuswap Watershed Council (SWC) was established in 2014 as a watershed-based partnership of several organizations with an interest in or responsibility for protecting water quality. There are up to 22 members that represent three regional districts, two municipalities, the Secwepemc Nation, three provincial government agencies, and Shuswap communities. The SWC is a collaborative, non-regulatory group that focuses on strategic initiatives to protect, maintain, and enhance water quality and promote safe recreation in the Shuswap. The SWC works alongside organizations that have regulatory roles in managing the Shuswap watershed, complementing their work and carefully avoiding duplication.

**Rhonda West**

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**From:** Rhonda West  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2022 8:46 AM  
**To:** Rhonda West  
**Subject:** FW: UBCM 2022 - Staff Level Meeting | Follow-Up Letter to City of Salmon Arm

**From:** Office of Homelessness Coordination OHCS:EX <[OfficeofHomelessnessCoordination@gov.bc.ca](mailto:OfficeofHomelessnessCoordination@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2022 3:45 PM  
**To:** Barb Puddifant <[bpuddifant@salmonarm.ca](mailto:bpuddifant@salmonarm.ca)>  
**Cc:** 'tbaker@bchousing.org' <[tbaker@bchousing.org](mailto:tbaker@bchousing.org)>  
**Subject:** [External] UBCM 2022 - Staff Level Meeting | Follow-Up Letter to City of Salmon Arm



November 21, 2022

The City of Salmon Arm  
Email: [cityhall@salmonarm.ca](mailto:cityhall@salmonarm.ca)

Dear City of Salmon Arm:

Thank you for meeting with Tyler Baker, Dale McMann, and myself during this year's Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention process. I am pleased that we had the chance to connect.

I encourage you to continue working with Tyler Baker, BC Housing's Regional Development Director for the Interior Region, to explore opportunities for the development of alternative shelter options in your community such as extreme weather shelters, co-location of services, and modular housing options. Tyler can be reached at: [tbaker@bchousing.org](mailto:tbaker@bchousing.org).

Thank you, again, to your delegation for the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meghan Will".

Meghan Will  
Executive Director  
Homelessness Policy and Partnerships Branch  
Ministry of Attorney General and  
Minister Responsible for Housing