

Coffee Talk Express



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The Lasser Legacy: Raising Healthy Nutritious, Enviromentally- Friendly Cattle

Charlie Lasser's plan was to retire at 100. Just three weeks short of his 89th birthday, he's been considering extending that to 110—there's so much to learn and so much knowledge to share when it comes to raising cattle, and he's just not quite finished. Farming is part of Charlie's DNA. Coming from a long line of Swiss ranchers, he finished up with school in grade nine and bought his first work horse when he was 14. "I never went to school long enough to learn that there are things you can't do," says Charlie. Running a team of horses by the time he was a young teen, he earned money mowing, ploughing, raking, and hauling hay to make the next investments towards having his own land to farm.



Over the past 70 plus years of farming, Charlie has had his share of side hustles in local politics and public service. "You have to get out there and help people, that's what life is all about," says Charlie. From the longest-serving mayor of Chetwynd (22 years), to founding or serving on numerous boards and councils, including BC Hydro, Northern Lights College, Lower Mainland Municipal Association, the University of British Columbia, the Chetwynd Communications Society, and even the local thrift store, it seems he's done a little of everything. But his true calling and passion has always been farming, and it was important that anyone he dated understood that.

When he met his life partner Edith, she not only understood Charlie's draw to the land, but came from a ranching background herself, and knew just as much about cattle as he did. Together, they made a great team—too busy farming and surviving to argue: "We used to laugh, we could never remember when we had an argument. It was hard work starting out, and we had to work together to survive."

Edith passed in 2016, after 62 years and three days of marriage, and it is clear that she is dearly missed. After many years working at the family dairy in Pitt Meadows, Charlie and Edith brought Lasser Ranch in Chetwynd in 1971, and moved the family up in 1974.

continued on page 8

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MISCELLANEOUS

Hay for Sale. 90 good quality round bales. approx 1200lbs each, always shedded. need sold. price is negotiable. Call 250-401-8647

Angle cutting saw 3 end stand. 2 years old hardly used & 15 Drill Press Call 250-242-5888

Firewood for Sale \$150.00 pick-up load.
Call 1-250-556-4642

Homelite track snowblower, 25" 8 hp fabric cab \$350 obo
250-788-2181

1200 watt amplifier, and a wall mounted tv, 250-874-0170

Hay for sale approx 1200lbs round bales, \$40 - \$70 depending on quality. Located 80 km from Chetwynd Jackfish lake rd. text or call 250-262-9092

22 cal. cement/steel pin gun comes with case, supplies \$125.00 obo, 303 British rifle \$300.00 obo
250-261-0804

Storage unit full of household items. Couch, washer, dryer, armoire etc. come make an offer. 250-556-4087

Black and Decker electric weed eater. Works well, \$25.00 obo call 250-788-3011

2 car dollies, 1 almost new, 1 reese hitch with ball for sway bar and height adj. 2 equalizing bars. Call 250-701-2716

Yamaha 2800 EFI generator inverter \$500.00, 5.5 hp Honda motor \$150.00 Call 778-964-0209

Olsen yard sale and estate sale Aug 15,16 from 10-5 in pine wood trailer park.

New laminate, leather top chair and rocker \$150 each
226-388-9277

Universal Fitness free @ Little Prairie Haven, come pick it up.

1200W- Amplifier, Accordion Musical, Super Cycle Mountain Bike Call 250-874-0170

For Sale, complete head rig sawmill, c/w 2 saws PTO driven, needs new wood. Asking \$900
Please call 250-788-9229

71-1" brass ball valves: \$12.00 each. 19-2"x1" Stainless Steel bushings 13.00 each. Call 306-661-0211

Raspberries for sale, you pick or we pick.
Call 250-788-6600

Fall Jokes

What did the tree say to autumn? leaf me alone.

What did one autumn leaf say to another? I'm falling for you.

Why did summer catch autumn? Because autumn is fall.

Why do the Boston Red Sox fans love autumn? Because watching the leaves fall reminds them of the (Yankees).

How do you fix a broken pumpkin? With a pumpkin patch



**Big Brother Paddy
Love lil sis Dhana**

Calling Local Artists



Tansi Friendship Centre Society is looking for local artists who create Indigenous themed artwork that we can showcase or consign at Tansi. Please phone us at 250-788-2996 to put your name down for submissions. Limited space available, and priority will be given to TFCS members, and artists living in Chetwynd & Moberly Lake areas.

Leaf It Alone

As I watched the rain pouring into the drain I reflected on just how perverse

Was the Summer we had, with the weather so bad,

And the future can only get worse.

Now that Autumn is here, bringing with it some fear

Since the drains are blocked up with leaves

Which are crimson and yellow, so pretty, so mellow,

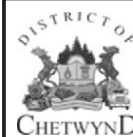
And they're also blocking the eaves.

As the weather gets colder, the leaves get older,

Black and dirty, and now..here's the thing!

The council won't clear it and therefore I fear it

Will leaf us at risk till the Spring.



Purchasing Notice

The District of Chetwynd intends to add rip rap, remove sediment, ad armour and work to restore several areas that were damaged during the flood occurrence on July 1-4, 2020.

Knowledge or previous experience with creek restoration or repairs an asset

Please contact the District of Chetwynd, Parks Department for more information or if you can provide quotes or material for the above

Call 250-401-4100 or email d-chet@gochetwynd.com

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VEHICLES/PARTS/FARM EQUIP/HEAVY EQUIPMENT

16' Load End Trailer, electric motor. Atop Boc for 1/2, or 36/4 ton, fits 1998-2002. 8x12'trailer w/tilt deck. Call 250-242-5888

2010 Mercedes GL350AWD SUV. Diesel V6, automatic, 7 passengers, leather loaded. 1000km per tank, \$80.00 to fill asking \$14,900. Call 250-734-2255

1975 Ford (approx 5 ton) farm dump truck with grain box + interchangeable flat deck \$2,900
16.5 ft Arctic gravel truck box with high lift tailgate + hoist. Very good shape \$14,000. 3 ambulances f350 4x4s. 2 Sundowner first aid units 250-788-3868

Tires, 2 Michelin pilot 225/45r/18 @80%.
Call 250-401-8940

2005 Chevy Trail Blazer, rear wheel drive, low km, well maintained, new tires. \$5900.00. 250-556-4068

2950 John Deer MFD and 260 loader with bale grapple, 60kw John Deer 3 phase genset, 1000 gal fiberglass water tank, 300 gal fuel tank with stand and other farm items. Call 780-618-6411

2015 Mitsubishi Mirage, low kms, heated seats, 5 speed manual, warranty \$6900.00 obo. call 250-556-4068

2033 Cadillac Escalada ESV, all wheel drive, leather, new brakes, rotors, and pads. New transmission. runs great asking \$7500.00 obo call 250-710-1515

4 Matrix Multi Mile summer tires 215/60 R16 on Buick rims. 80% tread. \$250.00 OBO call 250-788-2181

2015 Expedition max limited, 272000km, exc condition, no issues, heated and cooled leather seats, call 250-788-5158

4 Goodyear LT 275 /65 R18 tires for sale 600\$, 250-467-2060

Under hood fuel filter 6.7L Dodge \$50.00 obo, EFI live programmer came off 6.7L Dodge, can be set for any diesel \$300.00 obo, turbo for 2014 Dodge \$1000.00 obo, Resse drop in 5th wheel hitch for Dodge \$1000.00 obo, 5 tires 235/80/110 ply 1 duratrac, 2 general, 2 firestone \$150.00, Hub caps for 2014 Dodge Ram dully 1 front, 2 rear \$50.00 each, Marine Manifolds and risers with gaskets for V8 Chevy \$250.00 obo, Yamaha 700 triple mountain max snowmobile. call for price 250-261-0804

2006 Western Star logging truck, Tri drive MXS Cat deleted to single turbo, 18 speed trans, 46,000 pound 4:30 ratio diff with locks, rear sleeper, ready for work. 2001 Superior hayrack log trailer with 4 packages, 3 are exte 9'6 bunks, comes with wrappers, and chins \$6500.00 for both 250-788-5163

5-17 inch steel rims for sale for 94 Chevy 3/4 ton pickup, 4-16 inch winter tires, 1 1997 Ford 1/2 ton supercab v8 5 speed 4x4. call 250-401-7215

Tim Hortons

Breezy Beans Ltd. o/a Tim Hortons is currently looking for **Food Counter Attendants**, at our Chetwynd BC location, 4809 51 St Ave

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Contact Joe at:

250-788-5392 or

joe@harroffbros.ca

"Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale." — Lauren DeStefano

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Chetwynd District Minor Hockey Association

looking for
Coaches & Assistants
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for 2020-2021 season

Applications can be found at
www.CDMHA.com
in 'download' section
or contact Kris Desjarlais
@ 250.788.5736
with any questions

DOKIE Wind

Dokie General Partnership is pleased to announce the availability of four \$1000 scholarships for Chetwynd students. The scholarships are intended for post-secondary students (max. age 24 years old), with preference given to recent high school graduates. The four scholarships will be awarded based on the applicant's completion of an essay and satisfaction of other criteria. For an application package, please email Claudia Demech cdemech@innnergex.com. The deadline for all submitted applications is midnight on 1st September 2020

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PROPERTY

Land for Sale ECR Pondy to Chennai Rd. Contact owner directly (0)944-286-5661

3 bdrm 2 bath unfinished house- sunken living room, large kitchen, on 5 acres. 1 bdrm liveable cabin also on property, call 250 788-6625

3 Bdrm Mobile for Sale \$17,500 Call 250-601-0094

3 Bedroom Mobile Home for Sale Asking \$15000.00 Please call 250-874-0655

1988 3 bedroom modular home with 2 serviced lots in Tumbler Ridge. Good location. \$99,000 open to partial trades 250-401-1127

3 bed room mobile for sale \$17,500 Call 250-874-0655

4.8 treed lot for sale, approx. 2km from town, in Westall Sub. Natural gas and power to the edge of property. has a 50 +/- untested well with water. Call 780-538-9685

5 bedroom 4 bathroom, detached garage, spacious deck, solarium, \$349,900 250-401-3425

LOST & FOUND

Found: One Touch diabetes test. found near thrift store, claim at the Pencil Box

Lost: by Azouetta Lake, White board with fish hooks. call 250-262-8199

WANTED

Quiet professional looking for a place to rent on a 2 year contract. Call 250-713-3480

Looking for a Double or Queen Bed, and used jewelry, prefer size 5, diamond. Call 250-401-7422

Wanted in Chetwynd, Housekeeper to look after house, lawn & Collect Rents Room, Board & Pay provided. Call 250-788-2482

Looking for a 2-3 bedroom apartment close to CSS at a reasonable price by the end of August call 587-777-7866

Wanting to rent 2-3 bedroom house near Moberly lake. Family of 4 relocating from Ontario call 250-556-4700 or 204-599-2934

FOR RENT

Furnished room in Pinewood Trailer Park. Shared Common area, utilities and WIFI (first month included) \$500.00. Call Julie 250.401.1985

For Rent. House at Moberly Lake, 3 Bed, 2 Bath. Close to Golf Course. All inclusive, hardwood floors. On 5 Acres. 5 Appliances, includes TV Programing & WIFI. SD Required. Available August 1. Call 250-788-6339

Small Basic Cabin for Rent. \$400 a month includes power. 20 minutes East of town, must be clean and quiet. Text 604-343-9201 to inquire

Trailer for Rent in town. Fully Furnished, 3 bedroom, pad & utilities included No cable or internet. \$2250 Rent plus \$1100 Deposit. 778-675-1604

Furnished 3 bedroom self-contained house with some amenities please call 250-788-3123

R.V. parking, sewer, power, water. quite and a few minutes from town. 250-788-5905

For rent, 3 bedroom modular home in Tumbler Ridge on 2 lots comes with fridge, stove, gas and wood heating, pet friendly, \$900 a month plus utilities, Call 250-401-1127

Room for rent, Tumbler Ridge, all linens, T.V cable provided, shared bathroom, kitchen and laundry, rec room. Call 250-242-5888



Fall Puns

Hello, gourd-geous.
Fall down once, stand up twice.
Am I oakay? Of course, I'm pine.
I only have pies for you.
Hay there!

May the forest be with you.

Spice, spice, baby.
I'm acorn-y person.
Do you have anything to fall back on?
Fall is amazing.
Spicetacular!
Don't even chai.



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PETS/LIVESTOCK

For Sale 2 Ewes Born last year, mixed breed, mostly Arcott, shorn June 18 asking \$175. 3 Wether Goats, healthy & friendly. Good for meat, brush clearing or companions \$80 each. call 250-556-4209

For sale to good homes 7 neutered/spayed and chipped cats, all registered to BC pet registry. would like them to go in pairs. 250-874-8352

For Sale 17 currently laying, Barred Rock Layng hens, Asking \$10 Each.
Call or text 250-401-7181

REC VEHICLES

38' Toyhauler, Sleeps 8, Queen electric bunks in garage, with TV/DVD Combo. Pullout sofa, Full Bath, walk around maser bedroom. New Tires last year, new water pump, Onan generator and ATV Fueling Station. Asking \$31,000 Call 250-788-5158

1987 Tundra skidoo 280cc long track works well / runs well \$3000
700cc Summit skidoo, great shape approx 2003 \$2,900 call 250-788-3868

2003 Argo 8 wheeler roll bars, top windshield, very low hours, \$6,500 call 250-788-3868

Arctic Cat Jaguar Z1 1153cc skidoo 4 stroke with reverse-short track, asking \$2500 obo new drive belt and new book on machine. call 250-401-7215 Brand new tandem axel quad trailer \$2400 obo 250-401-1210

2013 Yamaha Striker 1200 cruiser. very low km beautiful shape \$11,000 obo call 250-787-0320

2012 30' Zinger 5th Wheel, Mint condition, stored under roof, leather furniture, hid-a-bed, lots of storage. was \$20 000, now \$18,200 obo call 250-788-5040

1998 Triple E Topaz 5th Wheel Trailer, Touring Edition. Has Slide out & Air. 27.5' long asking \$10 000 Call 250-788-2131



The aurora borealis is more likely to occur this time of year

Hungry for more mystical, colorful phenomenon? Turn your eyes North to the aurora borealis. Also known as the Northern Lights, these geomagnetic storms occur when charged solar particles squeeze through our atmosphere's defenses and collide with gaseous particles in Earth's sky. Thanks to longer, clearer nights, this free light show occurs twice as often during fall and winter months.

Buzzzzz
into fall 

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**I would tell
you my
autumn joke
but you
probably
wouldn't fall
for it**



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Night Auditor

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or email GMChetwynd@lakeviewhotel.com



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Public Notice for Amendment to Council Procedure Bylaw No. 799/G/2004

District of Chetwynd Council will consider adoption of Council Procedure Amendment Bylaw No. 1119, 2020 at its August 17th meeting. The proposed bylaw amendment will enable meetings of Council or committees to be conducted electronically, if so required. A copy of Council Procedure Amendment Bylaw No. 1119, 2020 is available for viewing at www.gochetwynd.com.

For further information, call Deanne Way, Deputy Director of Corporate Administration at 250-401-4105, or email comments to DWay@gochetwynd.com by 4:00pm on Monday, August 17, 2020.

LOAD RESTRICTIONS 2020



The District of Chetwynd wishes to notify the public that the following load restrictions will be in effect immediately.

•
100% Legal Axle Loading is permitted:

North Access Road (business area)
South Access Road (business area)
Nicholson Road
Industrial Park



Monarch butterflies peace out

Monarch butterflies, meanwhile, make autumn a migratory season, flying South from America to the relative warmth of Mexico and parts of California. Traveling at speeds of between 12 and 25 miles per hour (that's just shy of Usain Bolt's average 27.8 mph footspeed), they are the only insect that migrates up to 2,500 miles for nicer weather.



Chetwynd Forest Industries, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd. Public Review and Comment of: Forest Operating Plan

Notice is hereby given that Chetwynd Forest Industries, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd. will make available for public review our proposed Forest Operating Plan for harvest operations within the Dawson Creek Timber Supply Area.

The West Fraser Plan will be available for public review and comment at the Chetwynd Office of West Fraser Mills Ltd. (3598 West Fraser Road, Chetwynd, BC) from July 31, 2020 to September 29, 2020 during regular office hours. Contact Sean West, RFT at 250-788-4418 for assistance with the review.

Please ensure comments are received by September 29, 2020. Written comments should be addressed to Sean West, Chetwynd Forest Industries, P.O. Box 330, Chetwynd BC, V0C 1J0 or sean.west@westfraser.com



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Students, parents need concrete back-to-school plans soon

By Mike Bernier, MLA Peace River South



Back to school is top of mind with almost everyone I have spoken to in the past few weeks. Almost every parent I hear from wants the new normal this fall to include a safe return to the classroom for kids. They are citing two main reasons to get schools up and running with all the protocols needed in place to keep students, teachers, and families safe.

First and foremost, it's about making sure students are in a structured learning environment. Parents have done incredible work through the pandemic to ensure learning continues. But it's a mere replacement for the classroom. This generation is already behind due to COVID-19, and more time without formal and structured instruction will cost them in the long run.

Second, a safe return to the classroom is key to getting to the new normal for parents and communities. Families found their way through the COVID-19 crisis in the spring by bringing a lot of flexibility to the challenges. They adjusted schedules. With many businesses shut down, they could be home with their kids. But many people are back on the job and a lot of that flexibility is gone. Not to mention there are a great many families who can't afford to not work.

We can accomplish both goals – open schools and an open economy – if the right plan is in place. What parents, students, and educators are craving is concrete information – details on how the school day will work, details on masks and other safety protocols for students and teachers, and details on access to distance learning for those youths who cannot return to the class for now.

Sadly, none of this has been delivered by the province. Parents have no idea of how classrooms will look. There's little time to prepare. It's been left to School Districts who are working out detailed plans. The government even made it worse this week by delaying the return to school until at least the week of Sept. 8 - with no concrete date set for parents. In Peace River South district its best to keep an eye on the district website at www.sd59.bc.ca for and exact date when it is known.

While parents have the option to look at distance learning, most programs are already full and remain unconnected to local schools, not to mention, that this Government just finished cutting funding to this program at the same time it is needed more than ever. The provincial government has done nothing, and parents and students are left with a hodgepodge that risks leaving students behind. They deserve a better plan and better, concrete options well before now. They have been let down.

As a former Minister of Education, I have met impressive young people in schools all over the Province. I know that when they head back into classrooms, we can count on them to do the right thing, whatever is worked out.

Parents can have a conversation about all the things they can do at school to keep safe and healthy – maintain social distance, wash hands, wear a mask, don't share food or drinks. Our K-12 students can help teach a lesson to everyone on how to live in this new normal.

If you have any ideas or questions, please contact me through my office at mike.bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca, through my Facebook page at MikeBernierBC, at (250) 782-3430, or 1 (855) 582-3430.

continued from front page

Charlie is known as one of the early pioneers of the organic industry in BC. “When I was young, everything was organic, that’s how we farmed,” he says. When commercial fertilizers came to market in the ‘50s, he sprayed once on their farm in Pitt Meadows, and didn’t like it. He’s been setting the standard for organic cattle ranching ever since.

“The land and earth is like a bank account, when you build it up, it will produce and you can live off the interest,” says Charlie. “If you use fertilizer, your land becomes a drug addict, it has to have that commercial fertilizer or it will not grow.” According to Charlie, it might take a bit more time at first to build up your land, but the returns are fantastic. Fellow organic pioneer in the fruit industry and good friend Linda Edwards knows Charlie as someone always eager to try something new. “He made money as a cattle farmer, and more importantly, he had a good time doing it,” says Linda.

Of course, farming has changed a lot since Charlie’s ancestors ran cattle in the 1400s, and even since Lasser Range was established back in 1971. Antibiotics were discovered, a game changer for the dairy industry. Horses, once relied upon to round-up cattle, have been replaced by smaller and more numerous pastures in a practice and a grazing style now known as management-intensive grazing. And finally, amongst organic, grass-fed, and animal welfare certifications to name a few, it seems that Charlie might be on a mission to grow what he suspects will be the world’s most environmentally-friendly and nutritious cattle with his latest new feed ingredient. Call it a hunch.

Actually, it’s more than a hunch. Dr. John Church and his team at Thompson Rivers University discovered that organic grass-fed can supply an extra 30-40 mg of healthy omega-3 fatty acids per serving than conventional or ‘natural’ grain-finished beef.¹ In this study, over 160 sources of beef were sampled from grocery stores on Vancouver Island, and one sample stood out from the rest when it came to healthy omega-3 fatty acids. The source of that beef? You guessed it: bred and raised on Lasser ranch. But there’s more to the story. These cattle had been grass-finished at Edgar Smith’s Beaver Meadows Farm near Comox, BC. Upon further investigation, Dr. Church found that there was another interesting component of the nutrient rich beef: storm cast seaweed. Now, in collaboration with farmers like Charlie and Edgar, they are digging deeper into the nutritional differences of meat from cattle fed seaweed from an early age.

Feeding seaweed to cattle may not only lead to beef that is more nutritious, but also better for the planet. Cow burps and flatulence are well known for adding methane, a greenhouse gas that traps considerably more heat than carbon dioxide, to the atmosphere. While the number of cows on the planet is a contentious topic these days, reducing the methane production in individual cows might be a step in the right direction.

Not all seaweed is created equal. It turns out that certain strains can reduce methane output by up to 60% in live animals. And that’s not all. According to Charlie, who has started feeding Smith’s seaweed to a select group of weaned calves on his ranch, not only are methane levels reduced, but the calves getting seaweed snacks appear to be putting on more weight than their gassy siblings.

Dr. Church and his team at TRU are working on a detailed microbial community analysis of the rumen to demonstrate that the seaweed product is able to shift activity away from methanogenic bacterial species found in the digestive tract, towards those that benefit from excess hydrogen, resulting not only in reduced methane, but an increase in production. This could confirm Charlie’s observations that adding seaweed to the diet results not only in a reduction in methane but also, an increase in beef production. But is the market ready for a low carbon footprint ‘Sea Beef’?

Feeding seaweed to cattle is not new. Coastal ranchers in places like Japan and Scotland have historically fed seaweed to their livestock. Conveniently, Charlie’s cows appear to be big fans of the variety of invasive red seaweed, *Mazzaella japonica*, harvested and baled by Edgar. “Once they get used to that seaweed, boy they go for it,” says Charlie. Other species studied down in California are not quite so palatable and require grinding and mixing with molasses to convince the cows to eat. *Mazzaella japonica* shows a lot of potential, but Charlie says “there’s a whole plethora of other seaweeds” that Dr. Church and his team are eager to try.

While we’re just now adjusting to what the global Sars-CoV-2 pandemic means for our food system, farming strategies that tackle climate change and food security have always been important to Charlie. “I want people to remember that we worked the land, and took care of the land, we didn’t abuse it,” says Charlie. “With this virus, everything that happened before will be changing, our whole way of life will be changing. As a result, you’re going to see more people concerned about organics, and more people concerned about where their food comes from and how it is raised.” By the time you read this, he may have already celebrated his 89th birthday. On that day, and the days to follow, you’ll find him out checking on the cattle, experimenting, and learning—willing and eager to pass his lifetime of knowledge on to the next generation.

Jolene Swain farms at WoodGrain Farm, a wilderness farmstead in the Kispiox Valley north of Hazelton in the unceded lands of the Gitxsan First Nation. Here she has spent the last five seasons growing organic vegetables for two local farmers’ markets and an increasing array of seed crops available through the B.C. Eco Seed Co-op, as well as helping get the hay in for the milk cow and small flock of sheep. Jolene works off-farm as an organic verification officer and consultant, and is the Central & Northern BC Land Matcher for the B.C. Land Matching Program delivered by Young Agrarians.

. Article Written by Jolene Swain

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