

Coffee Talk Express



MONDAY JUNE 4, 2018

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Pacific
WILD-CAUGHT COD

We're taking our journey to only use the best ingredients to the high seas. Introducing our new Pacific Wild-Caught Cod Burger and Wrap, made with hand-cut strips of cod, crisp coleslaw and tangy tartar sauce. Sustainably sourced and deliciously made, it's the best of the ocean right here at A&W. So sail on in today, these are only available for a limited time.

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PROVINCE LAUNCHES BC BUS NORTH FOR AFFORDABLE, SAFE TRAVEL IN NORTHERN B.C.

The B.C. government is launching a new, interim long-haul northern bus service to fill the gap Greyhound will leave behind, and help make sure British Columbians living in the north are able to travel safely and affordably from community to community, Premier John Horgan announced.

The new service, called BC Bus North, will begin providing service on June 4, 2018, just days after Greyhound discontinues the majority of its northern bus routes on June 1.

"People in the North rely on transportation for their livelihoods, to access the health and education services they need, and to visit family and friends," said Premier Horgan. "In the face of Greyhound's decision, our job is to make sure northern communities and the people who live there are able to stay connected through safe, reliable and affordable public transportation."

BC Bus North's service will include two round-trips per week, between Prince Rupert and Prince George, Prince George and Valemount, and Prince George to Dawson Creek/Fort St. John. Additionally, BC Bus North will offer one round-trip per week from Fort Nelson to Dawson Creek/Fort St. John.

"BC Bus North will help make sure that people in the North, especially those in rural and remote communities, don't feel stranded and isolated," said Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure. "Once the service is up and running, we're going to take the next step by working with northern communities to find a long-term solution that delivers a sustainable, affordable solution for these communities."

The service will be affordable with one-way fares being either \$35 or \$45, per route, depending on how far people are travelling.

Northern B.C. has unique transportation challenges due to its remote geography and vast distances between communities. Greyhound's move to eliminate service in the North has put people at risk for isolation, such as those without access to personal vehicles, and especially people of low income, Indigenous communities, women, seniors and people with disabilities.

The minister directed BC Transit to work with one of its service operators to provide a base-level service to help fill the gap left by Greyhound. BC Bus North will be operated by Pacific Western Transportation using four highway coaches, equipped with luggage and washroom facilities.

"We're looking forward to delivering a long-haul service for the first time to connect people and communities in northern B.C.," said Erinn Pinkerton, interim president and CEO BC Transit. "Our team has been working hard to find ways to make this interim solution meet the needs of customers in the North."

The Province will fund BC Bus North for 12 months, during which time government will work with local leaders to evaluate the demand for this new service, and develop a long-term transportation solution that works for people in this part of the province.

Learn More: To learn more about BC Bus North, visit: <https://bcbus.ca/>



Far up in the deep blue sky,
Great white clouds are
floating by,
All the world is dressed
in green,
Many happy birds are seen,
Roses bright and sunshine clear
Show that lovely June is here.

F.G. Sanders

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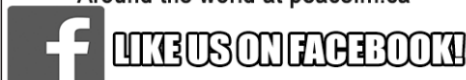
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VEHICLES/PARTS/FARM EQUIP./HEAVY EQUIP.

2007 IHC Tridem truck 350,000km.
2014 Arnies clamp pump tridem.
Graven trailer. 55,000km on trailer.
Call 250-401-1199

Truxedo box cover to fit long box on
Ford, \$225; PCM to fit 2001 Ford
diesel, \$450; Stainless steel brake
hose for 01' F350 4x4, \$100.
Call 250-467-2060

3 winter Yokohama 15" tires and rims.
15 bolt. 1 spare tire and rim on 03'
Cavalier. Lots of tread left. 1 set of 4
mags and tires, lots of tread,
255/60R15, Nokian/core racing mags.
Asking \$600 for all.
Call 250-401-6151 OBO.

2001 Ford F150 4.6l, auto, 4x4 crew
cab short box w/canopy. Needs engine
work. Call 250-788-3900

2013 Sante Fe Sport SE 2.0L turbo.
Leather interior with lots of extras.
74,000 km. \$22,500. Call
250-401-3251

Late 1990s Chevy 4x4, 305 cubic
inches, head gasket issues, parts truck,
\$300 OBO. Call 250-401-1375

2003 Cadillac Escalade ext loaded, 8
passenger, \$9900; 2008 Buick
Enclave SUV, awd, 8 passengers,
130,000 km, \$11,900. Both vehicles
from Vancouver. Call 250-734-2255

1963 Ford Tandem in good cond, runs
good, everything works, body good,
\$5000 firm; 1973 125 Michigan
loader log grapple & bucket, \$7000
firm; Cat 17 A D7 in good cond;
\$8500 firm. Call 250-401-7311

4 17" steel rims, 5 bolt holes, 2 3/4"
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some Dodge vehicles. \$40 for all 4.
Call 250-788-6808

1990 Ford mustang 2.31. In great shape.
Call or text 250-401-1768

Driveway scrapper/grader 12' wide.
Call 250-788-2253

1984 Kenworth 400 cummins 15 spd
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great farm truck, ready to work. \$7000
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Topper for Dodge short box 1/2 ton
truck or 3/4 ton, 2000 or older, good
condition. 3 - 17" chrome rims with
tires, 8 bolt for dodge 3/4 ton. Good
condition. Call 250-242-5888

1984 Chevy S10 w/canopy. Can be
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250-788-2795

1-283 Chevy motor complete but stuck.
1-307 Chevy motor, complete but stuck.
\$100 each. Call 780-864-5067

1995 Grand Marquis, fully loaded, new
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1993 Chevy 2500 4x4, 6.5lt diesel
w/canopy. 225,000 km. Excellent
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2006 Ford Ranger 4x4 w/canopy.
Excellent shape. Asking \$7100.
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1640 John Deer tractor w/front end
loader, 3 point hitch. Comes with 8' disc
and 8' p.t.o. mower and bale forks.
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John deer 310 D extent A hoe, 4 wheel
drive, 2 sizes digging buckets. Excellent
shape. Call 250-262-7032

Acreage tractor (white 1370) 60 horse, 4
wheel drive, new back tires, 3 p hitch
and p.t.o. Almost new hitch disc.
Call 250-219-8392 or 250-262-7032

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Room for rent in Chetwynd, shared
common areas. Utilities included,
internet & cable. Rent month to month
but will do weekly rentals. Call Julie for
more information at 250-401-1985

3 bdrm, 1 bath house in downtown
Chetwynd. Includes utilities, internet,
cable and washer/dryer. Call Julie at
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Fully furnished 2 room suite with own
washer and dryer. Quiet location
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Call 250-788-6842 or 250-788-3853

Rooms for rent 1km above Pine and
Murray River junction about half way
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Very quiet. Starting \$100 a week,
includes power and water. DD is \$200.
Call 250-263-4959

Room for rent. 5212 43 street,
Chetwynd. Call for rates 250-874-0170

3 bdrm house, clean with full basement
and huge yard. Located in Wabi Crescent.
N/S. Please email with your rental info
to rheinhard222@gmail.com

3 bdrm mobile home for rent. Utilities
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Room for rent 5 min out of town. Quiet,
lots of parking, includes shared internet,
bathroom and kitchen. Must be
respectful and clean. \$650/mo. More
information call Teresa 250-788-5042

3 bdrm, 1 bath mobile home located in
Aspen \$1200/mo New roof, skirting,
window, wall in living room. New
kitchen and bath. Master bedroom fits
king size bed, decent yard. Call Rob
250-401-1204 or Lindsey 250-640-9427
for more information.

2 bdrm mobile home. W/D, N/D
allowed, utilities not included.
\$1000/mo. Call 250-788-5202

ComParrot
by Bonnie J. Malcolm

Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?



Solution: 1. Stripe on sandal is missing. 2. Strap on sandal is missing. 3. Pencil appears in pocket. 4. Branch on bush is missing. 5. Mountain peak is colored in. 6. Cactus in background has moved. 7. Leaves on bush have moved. 8. Pattern on lady's pants has moved. 9. Flag pole is taller. 10. Neck on lady's shirt is different. 11. Design on shoe is reversed. 12. Man's vest is different.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Husqvarna drr 900h Rototiller with Honda engine, used very little, \$800. Call 250-788-5494

250 gallon fuel tank with electric pump. Call 250-242-2888

850 cfm mobile compressor. Good condition. 3306 cat ready to work. \$8000 OBO. Call 250-783-5535

Yamaha organ \$550 OBO. 1 lrg electric Takamine guitar with tuner built in, c/w case, strap and guitar floor stand. \$800. OBO. 1 small acoustic Denver guitar w/strap \$250. OBO. Call 250-788-3341

Beautiful desk, like new. \$250 OBO. Call 250-719-6126

12 oil paintings by Judy Carlson. Will accept reasonable offers. Call 250-788-3252

Handgun 9 1/2 barrel, Ruger, single shot, 2 cylinders. Magnum long rifle. Call 250-788-6625

Energy XL-26 speakers, Sony turntable w/usb. Yamaha r-s3000 amp, comes with approx 90 lps. All like new. Asking \$600. Call 250-242-4819

Bowflex Xtreme 2SE weight system, comes with mat, instructional video and poster. Asking \$200 OBO. Call 250-788-2328

5 Tri light table lamps. \$30 ea. Call 250-788-3252

Fresh crop of new hay bales, \$5.00ea. Excellent horse feed, brome, timothy and alfalfa. Call Jed 250-788-9421 or call Jere 250-788-2944

2 tables, 1 lrg with leaf, \$100. 1 small table with 2 chairs, \$50; Table saw, \$60. Call 250-788-8109

Various circuit breakers, enough for a large home. Siemens. Make an offer. Call 250-788-6808

Stihl power saw, 18" bar, like new. Asking \$250 OBO. Call 250-219-1087

Solid wood hutch, glass doors, glass shelving with beautiful wood detailed carving. Purchased in December 2017. Brand new. Asking \$1000. Please call 250-788-8809

Blue planet 15w lamp solar panel for maintaining RV batteries with battery charge controller, so no over charge. Only used for partial summer. \$80. Call 250-788-6509

New gas fireplace, 40 gallon gas hot water tank. Call Kathy 250-788-8110

New and used hanging baskets, 10" to 16" with handles. Pots, 2 1/2" to 19" new in boxes. Miscellaneous dish gardens, ovals, inserts and trays. Call Jere or Linda Franklin 250-788-2944

Browning 270 ab3 comes with leupold 3.5 10x42 Vx3 and sling. \$1000 firm. Call 250-788-5478

Meopta spotting scope, S1-75 angled body with a 20-60x H75 eye piece. Comes with a vortex SS-p tripod, all brand new, still in boxes. Paid just under \$2000 w/tax. Asking \$1500. 250-788-5478

Gerhard Heintzman piano, 40" h x 60" w x 24" deep; \$199; entertainment cabinet, 18" deep x 58" h x 48" w (30" tv space), \$75; desk, 45" w x 24" deep x 30" h; \$25. Call after 7:30pm 250-401-8295

PROVINCE CELEBRATES DAY OF THE HONEY BEE WITH SUPPORT FOR BEE HEALTH RESEARCH

The front lawns of the Parliament Buildings were a-buzz today, as honey bees and other native pollinators were feted for their critical role in B.C.'s sustainable food system.

May 29, 2018, was Day of the Honey Bee. It celebrates bees as crop pollinators and honey producers, and raises awareness around the current plight of bee health within the province, and globally.

Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, was joined by representatives of the BC Honey Producers Association, the Capital Region Beekeepers Association, Feed the Bees, and members from 4-H British Columbia. Popham announced BeeBC, a \$100,000 funding program that supports community-based research on bee health.

"We gather together to celebrate these amazing creatures that do so much for our quality of life here in B.C., whether they're pollinating crops for our agricultural sector or providing B.C. honey to British Columbians," said Popham. "Our government is taking the added step of supporting a growing, thriving B.C. bee community, by funding the BeeBC community research program, to help address concerns around bee health, and develop a larger provincial population of honey bees and native pollinators."

The BeeBC program will provide funding to smaller-scale community-based projects that support the health of B.C.'s bees. Delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation, the fund will provide up to \$100,000 over two years to support small-scale regional or community-based projects to research, explore, field-test and share information about best management practices associated with bee health.

"The beekeeping industry of B.C. appreciates the growth in interest in bees and small-scale beekeeping throughout British Columbia. We express our appreciation to Minister Lana Popham for recognizing the Day of the Honey Bee, and for the support of the Ministry of Agriculture in enabling the BC Honey Producers Association to continue to support and improve the beekeeping industry," said Kerry Clark, president of the BC Honey Producers Association. "Bees are still having a hard time, and with our partners, this funding will be put to good use in projects to research, field-test and share information about best management practices associated with bee health. We will work to support community beekeeping, to meet the needs of so many crops for pollination, and to supply the growing demand for authentic local honey."

The government has increased support for the honey bee industry since summer 2017. Late last year, the Province signed on as a co-sponsor of a study to find solutions to the bee health problems of honeybee colonies involved in pollination, with a contribution of \$25,000 to support that research. Last week, two new inspectors were added to the provincial apiculture team. The new inspectors were appointed to the northwest region of the province, covering the McBride-Prince George-Vanderhoof and Telkwa-Smithers-Terrace regions.

Honey bees play an important part of B.C.'s agriculture sector as pollinators of crops, contributing an estimated \$538 million to the economy in the province. Across Canada, they have an economic contribution estimated at over \$3.2 billion.

Learn More:

To find out more about the BC Honey Producers Association, check out: <http://bchoneyproducers.ca/>

To get more information about Feed the Bees, go to: <http://www.earthwisesociety.bc.ca/>

FOR RENT Shop Bay

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Storage Units

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All swans in
England
belong to
the
queen.



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PROPERTY

3 bdrm 1 bath home in Crown Sub. Fully renovated with new appliances. Lrg back yard. \$247,000. Call 250-401-1425

Partially finished house on 5 acres with cabin. Call 250-788-6625

5301 44A Ave Chetwynd. 4 Bdrm, 2.5 bath. Corner lot on a quiet dead end road close to Mt. Badly trails. Fully renovated upstairs with an open concept kitchen, dining room and living room. Master bdrm includes a 2pc bath, walk in closet. \$310,000. Call 250-788-5982 to view.

Property situated on the city limits of Dawson Creek. 4 bdrm, 2 full baths, open concept kitchen, w/d, dining room, living room with all stainless steel appliances.

Utilities are natural gas, hydro and city sewer. Cistern for water.

Call 250-784-4668 or melling_8@hotmail.com \$379,000. Open to offers.

3 bdrm mobile in Tumbler Ridge. Please call 250-401-1127

3 bdrm, 2 full baths fully furnished basement with own door. Nice area in town, very private. Call 250-788-3577

1979 2 bdrm mobile home & lot in Legion Sub, f/s, w/d/dw, fenced yard with garden plot. Nice rental income. \$89,000. Call 250-788-1830

2658 Clarke Rd mobile home on 5 acres with a few out buildings. Fenced for horses. \$140,000. Leave message, will call back. 250-788-1928

PETS/LIVESTOCK

Standard female Poodle, black with white on chest and chin. Born Jan, 29, 2018. Comes with first shots/Vet check, located in Prince George. Willing to deliver to Chetwynd. Call or text 250-617-7094

Puppies ready for their forever home. Adoption available in mid May. 4 boys, 3 girls. Mom is a Pitbull Mastiff - Dad is a Bear dog. \$250 a pup w/1st shots. Please contact 250-556-4076

4 month old black lab puppy. \$300. Call 520-467-9813

Yellow/green mix Canaries. 2018 hatch. Male \$60, female \$30. Text or call 250-788-6935

Rottweiler pups for sale. Dam is ckc registered, Sire is not registered or the pups. 3 females left, will have first shots and micro-chipped. Asking \$1000 each. Call 250-788-3837 leave message.

LOST & FOUND

Lost: Black scarf, shiny with fringes. Would like it back if found. Was a Christmas gift. Call 250-788-9781

Lost: Orange and white Tabby cat with short ears. Last seen Feb 5. He may be in the Little Prairie area. Call 250-788-9445

Found: small dog in Hasler flats area. Please call 250-788-2890 to identify.

REC VEHICLES

2009 Yamaha Rhino. 700 side by side 2,450km, 330 hrs, winch, extra tires. Good condition. Asking \$7800. Call 250-759-4923

1998 Okanagan 9' Truck Camper. Bath, shower, everything works. Asking \$4500. Call 250-759-4923

1986 16' travel trailer, excellent condition. Call 250-788-3834

2008 Kawasaki 750 4x4, atv good condition. Rubber is great. Asking \$3200. Call 250-242-5888

1984 Honda Goldwind aspenade motorcycle. Comes with mustang saddle seat. New motor 1 yr old. Missing battery cover plate. Rums great. \$2000 firm. Also motorcycle cargo trailer used last year, \$500. Call 250-788-3639. Please leave a message.

2000 GMC 2500 ext cab, short box. 302280 km, runs good, power locks, after market rims. \$2200 OBO. Please call 250-503-6099

38' Travel Supreme MH diesel. Class A. 2004 350 HP cummins, 6 speed Allison transmission, 8000 Onan generator. Sunscreen, 4 slides. Well maintained. Asking \$79,000 OBO. For more information call 250-788-3011

1996 17' Larson boat and trailer. 100 horse outboard. \$1800. If there is no answer please leave message. Call 250-788-1928 or 250-788-1111

2007 Yamaha. 1100 custom. Cw. Removable windshield. Saddle bags. Luggage rack and sissy bar. Asking \$5200. Text 250-719-6126

2003 security trailer, 21' holiday trailer. Pet/kid/smoke free. Very good shape inside and out. GVW 2727kg. \$7000. Call 250-788-3837. Please a leave message.

2009 15 horsepower mercury boat motor. Asking \$1000. Call 250-556-4426

2009 V-storm 1000, 3 hard bags, windshield. Asking \$5200. Call 250-788-3797

WANTED

Wanted: Old 3 point hitch disc from the 50s or 60s. In working condition or not. Please call Bob 250-788-2954

Wanted: 1997 Dodge Dakota inside door panel with power door and window locks or a cheap 1997 Dodge Dakota SLT as parts truck that has driver side inside door panel. Call 250-242-7069

Wanted: Men's size wheelchair in good condition. Call 250-788-2498

Wanted: Looking for an old used washing machine. Please call 250-261-3133

PT babysitter for 7 year old needed. 2 weeks on, 2 weeks off. From 5:20am - 8 am. Call or text 250-556-4184

Wanted: Lawn tractor for reasonable price. Please call 250-788-7809

Wanted: Someone to pull or haul 3 axel pup home from Chetwynd to west Kootneys or Okanagan. Price negotiable. Please email me at kevinsutherland11@icloud.com or call 250-226-7202

Wanted: Urgent! Need a live-in position as soon as possible in exchange mainly for room and board. I can do work as a caregiver, doing housesitting/keeping, cooking, cleaning, yard work, organic gardening. Work environment has to be drug-free, eco-friendly and love children, as I may at later date have a child along with me. I do not work on Saturdays and I don't drive. I am non-smk., non-drk. and kind and reliable in nature, hoping for a long term position. References can be given upon request. Any serious job offers please forward to: jc331@yahoo.ca

Wanted: Tractor tire 14.9x24 or 13.6x24. Call 780-864-5067

Wanted: A babysitter for a two year old boy. 10 days per month, Mon - Fri 3pm to midnight. Occasionally other days and hours as well. Call or text 250-401-7513

Wanted: A motorized wheelchair in good condition. Call 250-719-6142

Wanted: Someone with own mower and weed trimmer to cut grass. Call 250-788-5582

Wanted: 3G Smartphone models to buy. Must be in working condition. Call 250-601-0144

Wanted: Old dryer for free or cheap. Call 250-261-3133

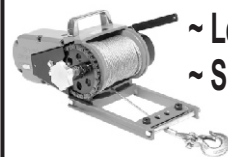
PINE VALLEY SENIORS
HALL RENTAL
For more info & hall rental call Bernice
250-788-2307



In 2015,
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injuries caused by taking
selfies than by shark attacks.

PAT'S SAW & WINCH



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Chetwynd, BC

250-401-1859

Chetwynd Christmas Bureau Society AGM

Wed - June 20, 2018 @ 6:00PM

Faye Aselson Community Room

Chetwynd Public Library

Everyone Welcome!



June 7, 8, 9 / 8am - 6pm

June 10 / 8am - 1pm

At the Chetwynd Rec Centre

**Quick carve,
Auction and awards to follow.**

BUSINESS PRINTING



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CUSTOM STAMPS

- Pre-inked, refillable and fast drying
- Durable and easy to use

Available in **RED, BLACK, BLUE**

Ph: 250-788-3422 Fax: 250-788-3405

Traffic advisory for WAC Bennett Dam Crest Road Hudson's Hope

We will be working on the WAC Bennett Dam crest road in the Hudson's Hope area. To complete this important work, we will need to close the road across the top of the dam for seven weeks.

Where: Hudson's Hope

When: June 8 to July 30, 2018

Time: All hours

If you have any questions about this work, please contact us at 250 561 4858 or bob.gammer@bchydro.com.

BC Hydro
Power smart

5504

HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You must be extremely careful not to let relatives or friends interfere in your personal life. You may find that children are not as accepting as you have been. Control your temper by getting immersed in your work. There is not much you can do to alleviate the problem, but consider putting some extra work into your house. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) You may find it difficult to discuss personal matters with family members. Losses are evident. Some relatives will be extremely perplexing. It's time to reconnect with some of the people you used to know. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Stretch the truth, and you may get blamed for something you didn't do. Take precautions while travelling; you don't have to get anywhere that fast. Do a little extra work at home. Trips, educational pursuits, or projects that could lead to new outlooks should be on your agenda. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Don't allow colleagues to put unreasonable pressure on you. You may be confused emotionally. Disputes on the home front may be hard to avoid. Don't lend or borrow money or belongings. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You can change your living arrangements. Don't be too eager to cut those who have disappointed you from your life. Changes in your domestic scene are evident. Look closely at motives and honesty in your personal encounters. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You should consider submitting some of your written work for publication. Your emotions will be touched off concerning recent encounters with your lover. Take time to make physical improvements that will enhance your appearance. Be aware of any emotional deception. Do not sign legal contracts or documents this week. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You should make special plans for you and your lover. Romantic encounters will develop through group activity. Help an older member with a problem that faces them. Plan your day thoughtfully, but try not to rely on others. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Don't be afraid of opposition; your suggestions are valid. Your time, not your cash, will do a lot more for your relationship. You can take advantage of opportunities if you are quick to make a move. Some situations may be blown out of proportion. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You will easily capture the interest of those you talk to. Relatives may play an important role in your personal life. Get busy putting your place in order. Try to keep your cool; you may be a tad frazzled by all the rushing around. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You will communicate easily and should be able to develop new friendships. You may blow situations out of proportion when dealing with the one you love. Try not to hesitate; act on your initial instincts. Business partnerships should turn out to be quite lucrative. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) In return, the satisfaction you get is enough for you. You need to make your environment a better place, with more comforts and a better entertainment center. Older relatives may be a burden. Stretch the truth, and you may get blamed for something you didn't do. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Minor health problems could result through exhaustion. Exhaustion will lead to minor injury if you don't know when to quit. Stress may cause minor health ailments. A lack of support and negativity have been the main problems. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES

Smokey the Bear is constantly reminding us with billboards and signs throughout the province to prevent wildfires, but the reminder sometimes isn't enough as the threat of wildfires year after year seems to get worse. There are already several wildfires burning throughout the province and it's only the beginning of the hottest season. The worst part is most of them were caused by human negligence.

These last few days of wet weather is a great thing to see. As our area's fire rating climbed throughout the past weeks, and the wind and hot weather made everything become tinder dry, the threat was real. This week we can breathe a sigh of relief as the threat of wildfires in our area has lowered a tiny bit. This does not mean we're out of the woods, any small spark from an atv, ember from a burning cigarette or flash of lightning could change that.

This summer, meteorologists predict a dry hot summer throughout the province, which won't do our forests any favours. The best way to prevent wildfires is to avoid all burning in windy weather, never discard lit cigarettes, or matches. Clear an area around your campfire of all debris in reach of the flames, you could even add a circle of rocks around the perimeter as an extra precaution. While the fire is burning, make sure there is always someone attending it. When putting the campfire out, stir the ashes around after dumping a large amount of water on the fire until the ashes are cool and moist. And always plan ahead for the slight chance of an impromptu evacuation.

Our area just so happens to be filled with deciduous trees which don't burn as easily as pine trees which are coniferous. Our overall wildfire rating in the South Peace region area is significantly lower than say, the Okanagan area, because of this. As we all know from the fires extremely close to home the last few years, this doesn't exclude our area of wildfires, simply lowers the risk by a small fraction.

In some cases fire is good for a forest, but unplanned fires that burn too hot can make it hard for the forest to recover. Trees in some forests can be over 4,000 years old. A forest can recover from a fire but unfortunately, it can take an average forest about 70–100 years to be what it was before the fire happened.

Lastly, if you notice an unattended wildfire be sure to call *5555 to report it.

Kelsey Roberts, reporter Coffee Talk Express



ICBC BENEFITS DOUBLE TO BETTER SUPPORT CRASH VICTIMS

People injured in a traffic crash on or after Jan. 1, 2018, are now eligible for up to \$300,000 from ICBC toward their medical care and recovery, up from a previous maximum of \$150,000.

This improvement will help the 35 British Columbians on average each year who are catastrophically injured in crashes, and face lifetime care expenses that would have exceeded the previous limit. In addition to wage loss and medical appointments, accident benefits can cover extraordinary supports, such as home care, wheelchairs and vehicle upgrades for accessibility.

“This is the first major improvement to ICBC’s accident benefits in more than 25 years, made possible by reining in out-of-control legal and other costs, which will also put ICBC on the road to fiscal sustainability,” said Attorney General David Eby. “We’re shifting the focus to a care-focused insurance system — one that makes taking care of people injured in a crash the top priority, with more money for the treatments and support they need to get better, and firm control on legal and autobody repair costs.”

“The doubling of benefits to \$300,000 means those facing severe injuries will be able to live with dignity,” said Lorraine Tran, who was catastrophically injured in a collision with a moose. “When I was injured, I knew the \$150,000 wasn’t going to last. A wheelchair, a suitable van and a bed are just basic, initial necessities.”

“Disability Alliance BC (DABC) has been advocating for improvements to accident benefits for 12 years,” said Jane Dyson, DABC executive director. “The doubling of the overall allowance for medical care and recovery is a significant improvement, and we welcome these long overdue changes, which will mean that people who are catastrophically injured in motor vehicle accidents have better supports available to help them rebuild their lives. We are very happy to know that the regulations governing this important change have been completed.” Additional improvements are planned for April 1, 2019.

Quick Facts:

The previous limit of \$150,000 for medical care and recovery expenses was set in 1991.

Accident benefits are available to anyone injured in a crash, regardless of who is at fault.

Effective April 1, 2019, when cost-saving reforms around the resolutions of minor injury claims come into force, additional improvements to ICBC accident benefits will include:

Wage loss payments for customers injured and unable to work will increase to \$740 per week from \$300 — up 147%.

Benefits to help with household tasks like cooking, cleaning and grocery shopping will increase to \$280 per week from \$145 — up 93%. The funeral cost benefit will increase 200%, to \$7,500 from \$2,500.

Death benefits, which include payments to surviving family members, will rise to \$30,000 from \$18,000.

These changes, along with a limit on payouts for pain and suffering for minor injuries and use of the Civil Resolution Tribunal, will enable not just these benefit improvements, but are also expected to reduce ICBC’s claim costs by more than \$1 billion per year. These changes help address the massive growth in injury costs in B.C., which rose by 80% between 2009 and 2016, to \$2.7 billion from \$1.5 billion.



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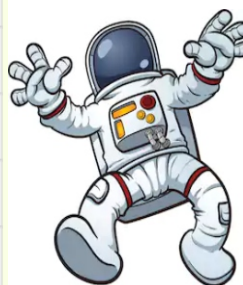
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