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FREE Events

Saturday, Jan. 19th	Sunday, Jan. 20th	Monday, Jan. 21st
Family Movie 2:00 pm Merritt Civic Centre	Superhero Swim 1:00 - 3:00 pm NV Aquatic Centre Dress up as your favourite superhero!	Public Skating 6:15 - 7:15 pm Nicola Valley Memorial Arena Helmets strongly recommended

Book Drive

Bring your new or gently used books to the Cents Home Game, Sunday, January 20th, to any of these FREE events or to the Interior Savings branch. Look for the Bright Red Donation bins

Donate a book to the Bright Red Bookshelves!

LITERACY MERRITT & NICOLA VALLEY
www.literacymerritt.com

Nicola Watershed
Community Round Table
PRESENTS

HEALTHY RIVER SYSTEMS

STORAGE: DAMS & DYKES RIPARIAN REHABILITATION

Guest Presenter
Jeremy Cooke
Hydrologic Engineer

QA
Questions & Answers

MERRITT CIVIC CENTRE
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JANUARY 24, 2019
6:00-8:30PM

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WEEKEND EDITION — JANUARY 18, 2019 #3239

News, opinion, community events since 1996! Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8

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Monica Jack murder trial Guilty of first-degree murder

A jury has found Garry Handlen guilty of the first-degree murder of Monica Jack in 1978.

The verdict was read aloud in BC Supreme Court on Thursday afternoon.

Alisia Adams of the B.C. Prosecution Service said sentencing will commence on Jan. 28 with victim impact statements.

A first-degree murder conviction, she said, means an automatic life sentence for Handlen with no chance of parole for 25 years.

—cbc.ca

Going up against the Indian Act - again

Despite government efforts over the years to fix the situation, Canada's Indian Act still discriminates against Indigenous women when it comes to passing on their status to their descendants, the United Nations Human Rights Committee ruled this week.

The committee found the act violates Canada's international obligations and urged Ottawa to put an end to the differential treatment of an estimated 270,000 women and their descendants.

The complaint came from Sharon McIvor, 70, and her son Jacob Grismer, 47, both of Merritt, B.C., who argued they had not been treated as "real Indians" because of flaws in the Indian Act, which Prime Minister Justin Trudeau this week called a "colonialist relic."

The federal government changed the Indian Act in 1985 in response to complaints and various court decisions in an effort to address the overt gender discrimination. However, McIvor and Grismer argued the changes didn't remedy their situation but instead continued the "existing preference for male Indians and patrilineal descent."

According to their complaint, McIvor can only pass on partial Indian status to her son, who also married a non-Indian, but no status to her grandchildren. Her brother, on the other hand, can pass on full status to his children as well as his grandchildren.

"The committee notes that Sharon McIvor is treated differently from her own brother under the Indian Act," the committee said.

The committee ruled that Canada must remove the discrimination and ensure all First Nations women and their descendants are granted status on the same footing as First Nations men and their descendants.

In response to the ruling, the government called elimination of all sex-based discrimination from the Indian Act a priority, and said it was doing so through Bill S-3. The office of Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister Carolyn Bennett said the government was putting in place an implementation plan for the rest of the bill's measures and for "broader reforms to registration, membership and First Nation citizenship."

"This collaborative process is another step toward ensuring First Nations have self-determination over how they define themselves and their communities," Bennett's office said. Thursday. "Our government will be reporting to Parliament in June on the implementation plan and next steps."

Gift for a Wife Bill meets Doug shopping at the mall and sees he has a small gift wrapped box. "It's my wife's birthday tomorrow." Doug said. "Last week I asked her what she wanted for her birthday." "And???" Bill asked. "Well, she said 'Oh, I don't know just give me something with diamonds in it'." "So what did you get her?" asked Bill. "I bought her a deck of cards!!"

Sure about that? So what if I don't know what "Armageddon" means? It's not the end of the world.

The write stuff: Correct punctuation: the difference between a sentence that's well-written and a sentence that's, well, written.

January is Crime Stoppers month Concerned about crime in your community?

Do you have information but are worried about becoming involved in the file yourself? Did you know that Crime Stoppers is the only way you can provide information to the police without having to provide your name? If you have information that would help the police in Merritt please call Crime Stoppers. When you call 1-800-222-8477 (tips) you are talking to a call center operator in another province who takes your tip and then forwards that to the appropriate agency. They will not ask your name, they will not see your phone number, they only want to know your information. If your tip leads to an arrest you may be eligible for a financial reward. You can remain anonymous but the criminals won't.

The Third Murder

Nicola Valley Film Society presents *The Third Murder* on Monday, Jan 21, 7:30pm at the NVIT Lecture Theatre. As this film is UNRATED must be 18 years to attend. This Japanese film is a complex legal thriller, critically acclaimed and visually engaging which is centered around the murder of a factory president. Tickets are \$5 at the door and memberships for the 2018/19 season of 6 films are \$2.

Community

Community show: call to artists!

Courthouse Arts Gallery organizers are looking for creative ideas for the February Community Show, *Art of Sound: Multimedia*. FMI Jano 250-315-3437 or email nicolavalleyartsgallery@gmail

Book drive at the Cents home game

Help kick off Family Literacy Week at the Jan. 20 Merritt Centennials game by donating new or gently-used books to Literacy Merritt's Bright Red Bookshelves. With over 30 bookshelves in and around the Nicola Valley, the shelves make it convenient for readers to access free books to suit a variety of ages and interests. Check out all the other activities at www.literacymerritt.com

Open house at Love to Dance

An exciting and rhythmic Saturday morning in Merritt! Sat. Jan. 26, in their new location, 1976 Quilchena Ave. Come see the new dance space, have some coffee, watch some classes, get information on dance classes and try new things like participating in the Pound session at 9:30am (only 10 spaces) or Drumming session at 11am (only 15 spaces). Participation is FREE, but registration before Jan. 24 is essential. 378-9898, dance@telus.net

Non-profit organization database

Community Futures Nicola Valley is compiling a database of local non-profit organizations. They are asking for representatives of such groups to get in touch with them, to receive info about a Community Engagement Fair they hope to host this spring. FMI 378-3923.

Drop-in indoor soccer

Thursdays 6:30pm at NVIT gym. FMI Robert 250-315-8079.

—nationalpost.com

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Sunday: 9am-2pm

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ARE YOU PART OF A LOCAL
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN
THE NICOLA VALLEY?



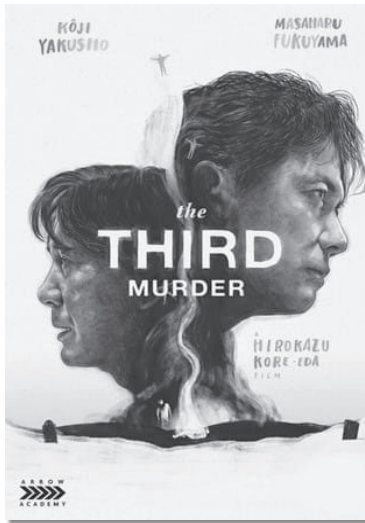
Call us to add your organization to our data base. CFNV would like to host a Non-Profit Community Engagement Fair in March 2019.

Community Futures Nicola Valley
(250) 378-3923



Nicola Valley
FILM SOCIETY presents...

**Monday, January 21, 2018 at
the NVIT Lecture Theater 7pm**



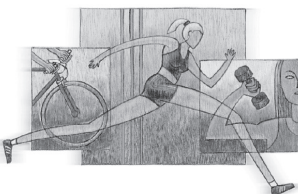
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