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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Tuesday January 27th - Interior Savings  
Community Room 6pm**

**Everyone Welcome**

Join us for our 2026 Soccer Season. We are looking for new members to volunteer, various positions include: Board of Directors, Head & Assistant Coaches, Division Reps, Referees, and Registrar.

For more information email us: [info@merrityouthsoccer.com](mailto:info@merrityouthsoccer.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/MerrittYouthSoccer>  
<http://merrityouthsoccer.com/>



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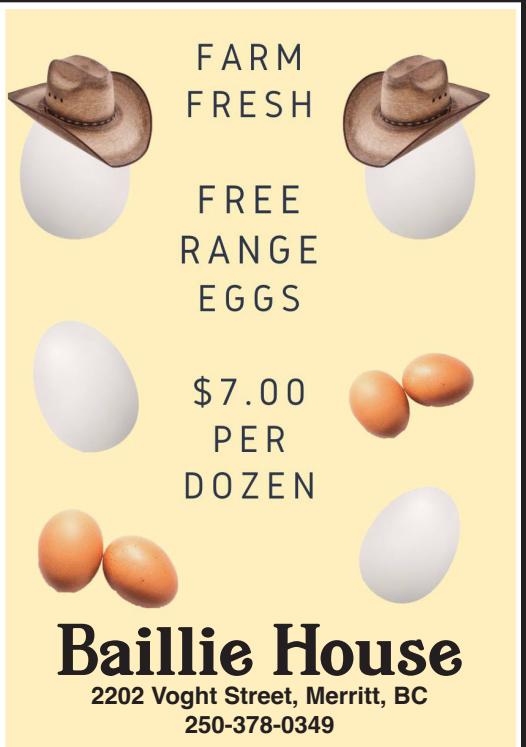
## SPACE FOR YOUR AD

TEL 250 378-5717

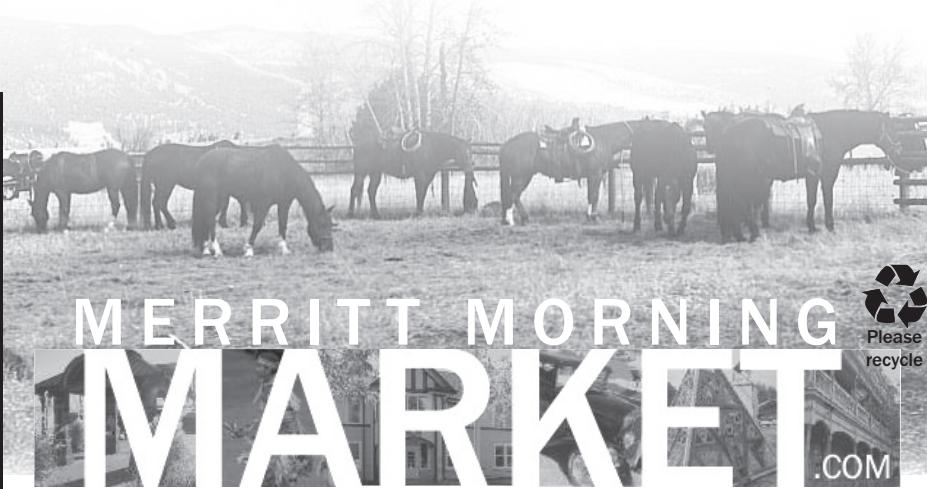
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MERRITTMORNINGMARKET.COM

**FARM FRESH**  
FREE RANGE EGGS  
\$ 7.00 PER DOZEN



**Baillie House**  
2202 Voght Street, Merritt, BC  
250-378-0349



**MERRITT MORNING MARKET** .COM

MONDAY EDITION - JANUARY 19, 2026 #4186

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

Tel: (250) 378-5717 Fax: (250) 378-2025 Email: [market@uniserve.com](mailto:market@uniserve.com)



## globalnews.ca/ Blown tires, damaged vehicles from potholes on Coq

Drivers travelling the Coquihalla Highway say massive potholes are causing costly damage, leaving some motorists stranded and frustrated.

Mario Gedicke said that over two separate trips, he says he struck large potholes that destroyed three tires. The most recent incident left him stuck in the dark with no cell service and an unexpected hotel stay in Hope. "All in all, I'm probably in it for about \$1,800," Gedicke said.

He says there were no signs alerting drivers to the danger. "There was nothing indicating that there were potholes there. I hit it hard, it went flat and I had to call 911."

Other motorists report similar experiences along the stretch of Hwy 5 between Othello and Hope.

Kevin Widmann says his vehicle was seriously damaged after hitting a pothole just outside Hope. "There was a huge pothole in the right lane. We hit it, our car went boom and bounced, and our tire actually came completely off," Widmann said.

The Ministry of Transportation says heavy rainfall in December caused rapid deterioration of road surfaces on highways 1, 3 and 5 near the junction east of Hope. The ministry says repair work is planned for next week.

"Potholes form because of the freeze-and-thaw conditions. Drivers are reminded to drive according to conditions and be aware of changing conditions, including potholes," said the Ministry.

Some drivers, however, say the damage has been there for far too long. "The potholes have been there for weeks. Tire blowouts are dangerous," said Marcus Halliday. "More needed to be done sooner."

While pylons now mark some of the worst potholes, drivers are being urged to slow down and leave extra space between vehicles. "In these road conditions, you've got to slow down and give your distance so you don't hit the same pothole the car in front of you hits."

Source: [globalnews.ca/news/11617424/blown-tires-damaged-vehicles-potholes-coquihalla/](http://globalnews.ca/news/11617424/blown-tires-damaged-vehicles-potholes-coquihalla/)

## Community

### SD58 'Potential School Closure' mtgs

Potential School Closure meetings continue: MSS/CLC/Diamond Vale/Bench & Nicola-Canford Jan 19 6pm @ MSS Multi-Purpose Rm, Lower Nicola, Nooaitch and Shackan Bands Jan 28 5pm @ Rocky Pines Community Ctre. Upper Nicola Band Jan 29 5pm @ N' kwala School Gym. Coldwater Indian Band Feb 2 5pm @ Coldwater School Gym. FMI [www.nssd.ca/school-closure-process](http://www.nssd.ca/school-closure-process)

### Budget open house

The City of Merritt will host an Open House on Thurs, Jan 29, in the afternoon 12noon-2pm (presentation at 12:30pm) and in the evening 6-8pm (presentation at 6:30pm). Learn about the proposed changes to the municipal budget for the coming 5 years — get informed, ask questions, and provide feedback on how public funds are allocated to services and projects that impact the community.

### Family Literacy Week: Unplug & play

Family Literacy Week is January 24-31 and focuses on raising awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in literacy-related activities as a family. It's also a great opportunity to take a break from devices and enjoy many health benefits, which inspired the Beem Credit Union *Unplug and Play* Family Literacy Week.

It starts with the Jan 24 & 25 Merritt Centennials home games sponsored by Beem Credit Union and Literacy Merritt & Nicola Valley Society. Bring a book to donate to the Bright Red Bookshelves Book Drive. More favourites: *Come Read With Me* at the elementary schools; *Explore Art Literacy* at the art gallery; the *Community Playground* at the NVIT gym; and *Active Stories* at the dance studio. Many of these and other literacy links and resources will be posted online. For more details, visit [literacymerritt.com](http://literacymerritt.com) or [facebook.com/LMNVS](http://facebook.com/LMNVS).

### Tobogganing Races

This is the 2nd year for this family friendly event — Feb. 7th, 2026. Registration Forms can be found the Merritt Library & Breathebikes MerrittBC or register online @ eventbrite. (\$12 per entry). Early registration includes free lunch. FMI, text Cecilia 250-315-0022 or email [gcdyck@hotmail.com](mailto:gcdyck@hotmail.com)

**Do you want a brief explanation** of what an acorn is? In a nutshell, it's an oak tree.

**A Mexican magician** said, "I will disappear on the count of three! Uno...dos..."

And he disappeared without a trace.

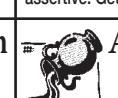
**I wrote a book** about reverse psychology... Please don't read it

**Yesterday I changed a lightbulb**, walked into a pub and crossed a road...

My whole life has become a joke!

**A skunk, a deer and a duck** went out to dinner and when it came time to pay, the skunk didn't have a cent and the deer didn't have a buck. So they put it on the duck's bill.

## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE.

	<b>Aries</b> March 21 - April 19		<b>Taurus</b> April 20 - May 20		<b>Gemini</b> May 21 - June 20		<b>Cancer</b> June 21 - July 22
Take as relaxed an approach as possible. Then, you'll be in the right frame of mind to take advantage of the abundance of energy that's around. Whatever you need will come to you.		This week, surprising information is heading your way. Keep your ears and eyes open and hold it close to your chest. You'll intuitively know when to act on it.		Be your most sensitive self this week and you'll find you'll be in transformational mode. By staying as non-reactive as possible, you'll access solutions with unexpected ease.		the success you've been working towards is within reach. You've still got work to do, but any obstacles are small enough for you to find easy workarounds.	
	<b>Leo</b> July 23 - Aug 22		<b>Virgo</b> Aug 23 - Sept 22		<b>Libra</b> Sept 23 - Oct 22		<b>Scorpio</b> Oct 23 - Nov 21
This week is full of energy, and if you keep an open-mind, you'll realize that things aren't anywhere near as difficult as you think. But you might need to need to be able to adapt & change.		This week, take time to assess your current situation to see which direction it's moving in — better? or worse? You'll see that you have reasons to celebrate.		This week, you'll have reasons to smile. The attention you attract (when you least expect it) will boost your confidence so that you're more decisive and assertive. Get ready to glow.		You're waiting for something to happen and are tired of being patient. This week, the sense of anticipation will grow. Even if things don't fall into place, you'll start to feel excited.	
	<b>Sagittarius</b> Nov 22 - Dec 21		<b>Capricorn</b> Dec 22 - Jan 19		<b>Aquarius</b> Jan 20 - Feb 18		<b>Pisces</b> Feb 19 - Mar 20
This week, you'll realize you don't have to travel far to reach new horizons. You'll find a sense of inner freedom. And there's nothing that can stop you from feeling positive.		You find it hard not to take your responsibilities seriously. But this week, there are adventures that you need to embrace. They promise excitement and fun.		This week, if there's one thing for certain, it's that you can expect to be surprised. At the start of your birthday season, if you let yourself be carried away by magic, you'll go far.		This week, your mind will be whirling & moments of forgetfulness are inevitable. But they're minor compared to the insights coming your way. Focus on the best of those.	

## Black's PHARMACY

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*Serving the community for over 50 years.*

2037 Quilchena Avenue, Merritt BC 250-378-2155



NICOLA VALLEY & DISTRICT  
METIS SOCIETY

**AGM & ELECTIONS**  
**JANUARY 24, 2026**  
**11AM**

**Conayt Friendship Center**  
Purple door in alley

## DESERT DIVAS & DONS MEDI SPA

### JANUARY JUMPSTART

It's "on us" for NEW clients

Complimentary Observe 520X skin analysis plus a Dermalux MD light therapy session (Blue, Red, and NIR)

**TOTAL VALUE \$200.**

*No purchase required.  
Limited January slots.  
ONE PER PERSON*

**BOOK NOW 250-936-9200**

[www.desertdivasanddonsspa.com](http://www.desertdivasanddonsspa.com)

Terms: new clients only; must complete in January; not combinable with other promos. Glow with science.

**What to expect:** - A personalized, data-driven skin overview from Observe 520X to reveal any underlying skin issues. - A relaxing medical Dermalux MD light therapy session to support skin vitality and healing - A simple,

transparent path to any future treatments with clear pricing (no obligation)

**Existing clients:** Book any skin treatment and receive a Dermalux MD LED treatment "on us". Value \$125

250-936-9200 • [www.desertdivasanddonsspa.com](http://www.desertdivasanddonsspa.com)  
1751 Granite Ave., Merritt ~ by appointment only

**Love to Sing? Join the Community Choir!**



*Start your New Year on a high note!*

The Community Choir is officially welcoming new and returning members for our upcoming spring season. Whether you're a seasoned vocalist or haven't sung since high school, there is a place for you in our circle. No formal auditions are required — just a love for music and community!

**Monday, January 19, at 7:00 PM**

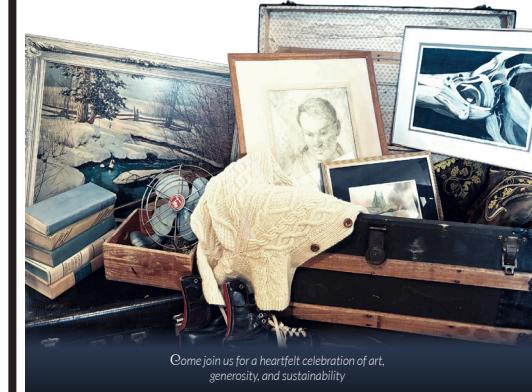
**Trinity United Church, 1899 Quilchena Ave.**

**Spring session dues are \$35**

For more information, contact Glenda [gotten1@telus.net]

## Rediscovered Treasures

Exhibition Jan 7-31, 2026  
Bidding opens January 9



Come join us for a heartfelt celebration of art, generosity, and sustainability!

Every piece in this collection has been donated by members of our community — each one carrying a story, a memory, and now, a chance for a fresh start!

COME VISIT THE GALLERY AT THE NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE

HOURS: Mon-Sat 10am-5pm  
Sunday 12-4pm  
2051 VOUGHT ST., ENTER BEHIND KEKULI CAFE

**the Arts Council**  
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

2051 Voght St., Merritt, BC | [www.nicolavalleyarts.com](http://www.nicolavalleyarts.com) | [councilnicolavalleyarts.com](http://councilnicolavalleyarts.com) | 250-378-6535

**TNRD** | **Merritt**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL | BRITISH COLUMBIA



Water Monitoring, Fish and Aquatics  
Wildlife Monitoring, Terrestrial Services  
Environmental Planning  
Environmental Reporting  
Tel: (250) 378-1864  
2025 Granite Ave., Merritt



We are pleased to announce that we have more job opportunities to join the Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly. Please visit our website to view the following job postings available:

**Boston Bar Community Engagement Coordinator**  
**Community Lead - Special Projects**  
**Employment and Training Assistant**  
**Employment and Training Coordinator**  
Junior Kitchen keykix  
nēkēpmx Land Guardian (Canyon - Multiple Positions Available)  
nēkēpmx Land Guardian (Valley - Multiple Positions Available)

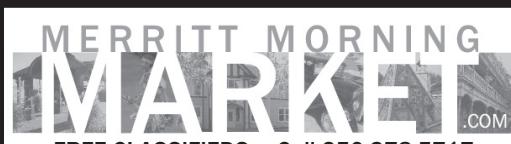
Interested applicants are encouraged to submit their cover letter and resume to:

Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly  
Email: HR@cna-trust.ca

In-Person: 2025 Granite Ave, Merritt, BC

We offer competitive wages, benefits, pension, internal training, and professional development to support the right candidate. We believe in initiative, respect and community values. If you have some of these qualities and believe you would be of value to our organization, then we want to hear from you!

Follow the link: [https://employment.cna-trust.ca/job-postings\\_join\\_our\\_team.htm](https://employment.cna-trust.ca/job-postings_join_our_team.htm)



FREE CLASSIFIEDS — Call 250-378-5717

or email [market@uniserve.com](mailto:market@uniserve.com)



**TUESDAYS 1:30-3:30 PM**

Beginning January 6<sup>th</sup>

**At The Nicola Valley Community Arts Centre**

Join us for some fun & creative art-making with

Jennifer & Mischelle!

**Jennifer has a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a Major in Visual Arts & a Minor in Psychology. She also has a diploma in Art Therapy & is a certified Art Therapist. Jennifer will be on hand to provide guidance for those who wish.**



**Connect and Play with the MERRITT PICKLEBALL CLUB!**  
Open play for all skill levels and a perfect way to stay active and make new friends.

Call John (604)841-8911 • Gian (250)315-3376

for more info or [merrittpickleballclub@gmail.com](mailto:merrittpickleballclub@gmail.com)

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**MERRITT MORNING MARKET**  
MONDAY EDITION — JANUARY 19, 2026 #4186

Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8 T: (250) 378-5717 F: (250) 378-2025 E: [market@uniserve.com](mailto:market@uniserve.com)

**SALES**

**CRAFT MARKET & BAKE SALE**  
Shulus Hall Feb 7 10am-5pm. Raffle & door prizes, local artisans, handmade products, concession

**PERSONAL**

**LOST:** Chain w/ medallion 315-7771  
**FOUND CAT:** Appeared at Sunshine Valley address: Shorthair tortoiseshell young female cat. 378-6540

**DISABLED PERSON NEEDS OCCASIONAL HELP** for odd jobs around the house (house cleaning, shovelling, etc). You should be strong, thinking and energetic with a good outlook on life. Please text 250-378-7938

**GOING AWAY ON HOLIDAYS?** Nd someone to care for your home or sml farm? call Bill, reliable, honest 315-3621

**LOST:** keychain with change purse. Navy blue arrowhead beadwork w/ lanyard, Ford key & PO key, ID in change purse (status card & card card), between Post office & Black's on Nov 24. Please, just need ID back. 525-0406

**NA MEETINGS** are held each Tues & Thurs 7pm at the United Church, 1899 Quilchena Ave.

**MISSING:** 2 sets of 2 silver matching keys & 1 single key w/ blank photo tag attached. Call/text Gilbert 250-828-0582

**DO YOU PLAY VIOLIN?** Join our string ensemble group. Practice Wednesdays evenings. Text Cecilia 315-0022

**ALANON** (for friends & families of alcoholics) every Monday @ 6pm Trinity United Church Hall

**ELKS EVENTS:** Every Wednesday Bingo, doors open 11am, ends 3pm. Every Friday Nite Bingo, doors open 4pm, ends 10pm. 1701 Coldwater Ave.

**AA MEETINGS** Wed., Fri., Sat. At 7pm, Mon. Noon at Trinity United Church, 1899 Quilchena Ave.

**SERVICES**

**NEED CORPORATE** planning, business wealth account, collateral loans, key person insurance, etc 778-630-0323

**DOG GROOMING** (All Sizes). I have a few openings for new clients, located off Iron Mountain Road... please text or leave a message 604-220-7353

**TC PAINTING**, licensed, insured. Returning to work, taking small jobs for now. Or if more time, we can discuss. Tina 604-767-4866

**NEED HELP AT HOME?** I offer professional, flexible, reliable, friendly, and dependable cleaning and caregiving services. Please call or text: 250-879-5383

**JOE, THE COMPUTER GUY.** Repairs, upgrades, on-site service 604-377-0274

**SHELLY'S BANNOCK & Catering** & other goodies 936-8368

**SCRAP FOR CASH.** I'll come to you. Batteries, brass copper, aluminum, stainless, wire, Call or msg 604-618-8710, or the middleman@shaw.ca Fast service,

**CERTIFIED TREE FALLER**, w/ wd chipper, sml truck & trailer, will do residential, fruit trees, etc. 378-6431

**EAGER, RELIABLE** man w/ 4x4 truck & trailer, avail. Dump runs, deliveries, plywood, sand, gravel, appl., housewares Greg 315-7525, (250)320-2054 Fast, courteous service

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**LIST YOUR JOB.** List your employment opportunity here, no charge. 250-378-5717, [market@uniserve.com](mailto:market@uniserve.com)

**FOR SALE - APPLIANCES**

**MICROWAVE** new 1200W family size Panasonic Genius \$150 378-5394

**FRIGIDAIR** stove, 2 yrs old \$250obo. Vitara fridge, 10 mos. old \$400obo. Amana washer & dryer, 4 yrs old \$300/pr obo 280-0543

**FREEZER**, smaller approx. 2'x4'. Calvin 778-586-8362

**COUNTERTOP** dishwasher, hardly used, 3 yrs old \$300 250-289-4759

**FREE:** 4-bmtr prop. range (604)312-1954

A/C \$100. Calvin 778-586-8362

**MICROWAVE** \$30 378-0838

**ARCTIC AIR** a/c 5000btu 18.5wx-15.5dx12'h \$25. Kenmore a/c 12,000btu 18wx15dx22 \$100. **Wshrdryer** \$300/pr. Elect. fireplace w/ remote \$100. Gas stove, dbl oven, Americana \$150. Inglis fridge \$75 315-0415

**FOR SALE - AUTOMOTIVE**

1991 FORD F150 4x4 378-7124

**4 MICHELIN A/T tires** 275-65-R18, tires were take offs, lk nw \$400 280-0769

**95 CHEVROLET** Crew Cab Pickup Truck \$1500obo 315-0011 Aspen Grove

**SET OF 4 TIRES**, good rims, 245-17 winters for Ford \$400. Calvin 778-586-8362

**ALUM.** dry box combination tonneau cover for full size pickup truck with 6 ft. box. \$450obo. 315-2080

**4 SALIUN** tires 205/55/R16 M+S, used for 5 months \$225 378-2226 after 5pm

**PARTING OUT:** 2010 Ford F150, Lots of good stuff, Various prices or take truck for \$700 Text 250-936-8982

**TIRES:** Five 185/65R15 snowflake. Two 215/65 17" wnter snowflake M&S. Two 215/55R17 winter snowflake. Four 195/65 16" snowflake. Four 185/65R15 winter studded, brnd nw. Rick 936-8885

**2005 DODGE** 1500 4x4 SLT, auto, quad cab, 4 tires w/ snowflake last yr, gd glass, vry gd cond, vry reliable, lots work done, 220,000km, \$8000obo. Greg 315-7525

**FOR SALE - PETS / LIVESTOCK**

**TWO BEAUTIFUL** large Angel Fish \$15/pair. 936-9912

**6-8 PIGEONS** with a good metal roost for them, to give away. 378-4947

**30-GAL.** fish tank, LED lights, 2-in-1 filter pump, bubble pump, gravel, ornaments, fish net, hand-held cleaner for glass \$250 315-3981

**6 FT HINGED** plastic dog ramp (astro turf lined for traction) \$95. Large well built **dog house** (insulated, aluminum roof, wavey-edged cedar siding) \$150 fm. Large Petmate portable plastic **dog kennel** \$135. Earl 378-5038

**MUSKOVY** & Cayuga ducks 378-4476

**2 MALE** kittens to grt homes 250-682-2012

**PITBULL** puppies born Feb 28, ready now. Andrew 778-538-3682

**FREE:** Lonesome ringneck male dove w/ outdr cage. Hawk got mate 378-3496

**FOR SALE - MISCELLANEOUS**

**C-PAP** machine \$200 315-2257

**HEAD** mount cougar rug, offrs. 378-5038

4 cork boards, 4'x6', exc cond. 280-0543

**PR LADIES** Hunter boots, madder purple, sz 7, gd cond \$50. 378-1843 aft 5pm

**100s PAPERBACK** books to give away free, for whoever will come to get them 315-9803, diananorgard63@gmail.com

**FREE FIREWOOD:** willow not the best firewood, fine once dry, about 1/2 to 2/3 of a cord, 1475 Cleasby St help yourself.

**FREE** 4 burner propane range w/ irge-oven. Free wht dbl porcelain **kitchen** sink. Free wht **bthrm sink** -4". Kane Valley Area but can drop off 604-312-1954

**WINDOWS**, aluminum frames, various sizes. Plywood 3/4" tongue & groove. Regular plywood, 1/2" Aldo 378-2832

**UNPASTEURIZED** raw honey: \$40 for 8 cups, \$20 for 4 cups, \$10 for 2 cups, \$5 for 1 cup. 378-4947

**OLD PRE-1980S** boys type toys 250-808-3579, totallytuned@iCloud.com

**FOR SALE HOUSE/PROPERTY**

**FOR SALE BY OWNER** building lot in Collettville (1420 Pine); +12,000 square feet, +9,600 sq. ft. "buildable," \$80,999. FMI [michaelsasges@proton.me](mailto:michaelsasges@proton.me) 604-916-9289

**12X60 MBL HOME**, must be moved All offers considered. Mess./text 315-7803

**FOR RENT**

**4-BDRM** house, 2-bth, immmed. 378-4392

**3-BDRM** house, 1-bth, detach. gar., lg fncd bck yrd, avail. immmed. 378-7416

**1-BDRM** \$900 per month 378-4201

**FOUR 1-BDRM**, \$950/mo, kitchenettes for winter. Coin Laundry, Free wifi, free parking, satellite TV, smart TV, free water/hydro/gas/pest control/hi-spd internet

Movies & sports channel! 778-639-0323

**FIVE 1-BDRM**, \$1200/mo., kitchenettes for winter. "Coin Laundry, Free wifi/parking, sat. TV, smart TV, free water/hydro/gas/pest control/hi-spd internet, Movies & sports channel! 778-639-0323

**1-BDRM** \$900 per month 378-4201

**FOUR 1-BDRM**, \$950/mo, kitchenettes for winter. Coin Laundry, Free wifi, free parking, satellite TV, smart TV, free water/hydro/gas/pest control/hi-spd internet, Movies & sports channel! 778-639-0323

**3-BDRM** townhouse, 1.5 bths, immmed. \$1800 280-5020

**2-BDRM** ste, 1-bth, n/p, n/s, 778-639-0244

**RM FOR RNT** Low. Nic. Shared ac-comm. Hydro/internet incl. \$750. Senior or wrkng female only. Dam. deposit & refs req'd