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LIVING THE DREAM
Photography by **MIKE ANFIELD**

COME VISIT THE GALLERY AT THE NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE

SHOW: March 11 - April 4, 2026
RECEPTION: March 12, 4-7pm

the Arts Council
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

2051 Voght St., Merritt, BC

No Fixed Address: The White Cart Memorial

Film Screening & Panel Discussion

a powerful and intimate documentary that sheds light on a deeply overlooked aspect of the homelessness crisis: people's grief following the death of someone they care about.

Date: Tuesday, March 31st
Time: 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Location: NVIT, 4155 Belshaw St, Merritt, BC- Lecture Theatre

Sign up by scanning the QR code or visit the Front Desk at the NVIT who can assist you with registration. Seats are limited, be sure to grab your spot early. Tickets are FREE.

SALES - MARCH 28

1 2545 Kinvig St, Lower Nicola, SAT 9-2pm. Yard sale, lots of good stuff, bikes, etc

2 Merritt Seniors Centre, 1675 Tutill Ct., SAT 10am-3pm. Craft sale

MERRITT MORNING MARKET

WEEKEND EDITION - MARCH 27, 2026 #4214
News, opinion, community events since 1996! Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8
Tel: (250) 378-5717 Fax: (250) 378-2025 Email: market@uniserve.com

No fourth cannabis store for Merritt

City Council unanimously voted down the request by Ontario-based One Plant, for a positive letter in support of their plan to open a retail cannabis store in the Railyard Mall.

A public hearing was held during this week's council meeting, out-of-towner proponents attended via Zoom, with many locals in attendance IRL, speaking against the application.

Council received 543 letters, and a petition against a positive recommendation. And the consensus of Council was that the cannabis market is already saturated with 3 outlets, they prefer to support local businesses, and there is a grave concern for the youth of Merritt to more exposure & access to cannabis.

AI data centre opens in coming weeks

The Bell AI Fabric facility, under construction since last May near the Min. of Forests building on Airport Rd., is expected to come online in the coming weeks, the next step in Bell AI Fabric's data centre supercluster — 2 in Kamloops last year, potentially 1 on Upper Nicola land, and more in Kamloops to open later this year.

"The Merritt data centre is specifically engineered to handle AI's most intense computational demands. Powered by BUZZ HPC's specialized high-density, liquid-cooled infrastructure and accelerated GPU compute, the facility provides the design, implementation and scaling expertise required for complex AI workloads, including inference and training", said a Bell press release.

The AI 'factory' will have high-performance computing capacity, fibre network, massive server hardware and software, cloud capabilities and integration with partners and customers — who will be businesses, researchers and public institutions like healthcare and defence. This requires huge amounts of safe, stable and affordable electricity. In the case of Merritt, the gross capacity of 6.5 megawatts will be served by clean, hydroelectric power from BCHydro. There's an option for additional power if it becomes available.

They describe the facility as a "sovereign, private and secure Canadian facility." They say it will allow "Canadian innovators to access massive compute power while adhering to strict data residency standards with a comprehensive, made-in-Canada AI solution."

TNRD approves budget & tax rate

The TNRD Board of Directors adopted the 2026 budget & capital plan, confirming tax rates for the fiscal year.

The tax requisition of \$30.3 million is an increase of \$1.5 million compared to 2025, but the tax increase/decrease will depend on specific areas & regional growth. Taxes will fund approx. half of the \$60.6 million overall operating budget. The capital budget for 2026 totals \$9.5 million, including \$7.9 million in carry-forward costs from projects underway in 2025, and \$1.6 million in newly budgeted projects. FMI tnr.ca/budget2026

Community Service at Murray Church

Sunday, March 29th at 10:30am. All are welcome!

'No Fixed Address: white cart memorial'

NV Shelter and Support Society presents a film screening & panel discussion on Tues, Mar 31, 5:30-8:30pm at the NVIT Lecture Theatre. Tickets are free, seats are limited, sign up online or at the front desk at NVIT. (See ad below)

TNRD FireSmart Program

The TNRD FireSmart™ homeowner rebate program is now available for his year. Property owners in Electoral Areas will be eligible for a rebate of up to 50% to a maximum of \$1000 for doing fire mitigation work within 30m of their home. The program is available on a first-come, first-serve basis Apr1-Sept 30, open for TNRD Electoral Area properties only. FMI www.tnr.ca/services/firesmart/

Easter Eggstravaganza

Come celebrate Easter on Saturday, April 4, 10am-12noon, in Central Park this year. Egg hunt, bouncy castle, arts and crafts, a magic show and a balloon artist. Bring family, friends, neighbours, and BYO egg hunting baskets. All activities — the easter egg hunt, balloon artist, bouncy castle, and magic show— are free.

TNRD areas M&N OCP

Public consultation for the Area M&N's Official Community Plan will continue through the spring, and residents are encouraged to review the draft and provide comments. Early April, a new video will be released highlighting key OCP changes. Access the draft: www.tnr.ca/planning-development/planning/official-community-plans-electoral-areas-m-and-n-official-community-plan-2024/

Call for submissions for May community art show - Reflection

Artists are invited to participate in Reflection, a collaborative art show to honour the beauty, vitality, and irreplaceable value of our lakes—and to elevate awareness of the urgent need to protect them for future generations. To contribute artwork, visit www.nicolavalleyarts.com/Application. Artwork must be dropped off at the NVCAC Gallery Apr 29-May 2.

RCMP Musical Ride tickets

NV Rodeo Association will host the Musical Ride on Wed. Aug 26 at the Rodeo Grounds. Tickets will be available online at www.nicolavalleyrodeo.com beginning May 1, 2026, and at the gate on August 26 — Adults \$15, children ages 6-15 \$10, Children under 6 free.

Ballet Kelowna's "Cikilax"m: Controlled Burn"

Ballet Kelowna presents the world premiere of *Cikilax*™: *Controlled Burn*, co-produced by the National Arts Centre's National Creation Fund. The two-act narrative contemporary ballet will be on stage at the Kelowna Community Theatre May 1 & 2, featuring choreography from Ballet Kelowna Associate Artist Cameron Sink's Fraser-Monroe, original score by award-winning Cree composer and cellist Cris Derksen, digital projections from Euro/Omushkego Cree artist Andy Moro, and costumes by Navajo/Cherokee designer Asa Benally. For tickets and info, visit balletkelowna.ca

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Buttons & Bolts Fashion Windows

2074 Quilchena - phone 378-9477
MM Mirror March 27, 1996

Its time to look after the details in your life. Until the end of March Get your scissors sharpened for only \$2.50 a pair!!

Drop off your sewing machine for a clean and service at your convenience as well.

FABRICS-NOTIONS-YARNS-CRAFT SUPPLIES

BAILLIE HOUSE FLEA MARKET

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or email market@uniserve.com

Nicola Lodge No. 53
now meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month

For information: 236-313-3473
nicola53.1909@gmail.com

the Arts Council
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

2051 Voght St., Merritt, BC
www.nicolavalleyarts.com

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Wildlife Monitoring, Terrestrial Services
Environmental Planning
Environmental Reporting

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2025 Granite Ave., Merritt

Citwx Nlaka'pamux Assembly

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

- CNA - Cook's Ferry Community Engagement Coordinator
 - CNA - Employment & Training Coordinator - Driving Instructor
 - CNA - Engagement Specialist
 - CNA - Human Resources Support Clerk
 - CNA - Youth Coordinator
- Interested applicants are encouraged to submit their cover letter and resume to:
Citwx 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



MERRITT MORNING MARKET

FRIDAY EDITION — MARCH 27, 2026 #4214
Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8 T: (250) 378-5717 F: (250) 378-2025 E: market@uniserve.com

PERSONAL

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO HELP MOVE STUFF TO DUMP. Have truck & man-power? 378-2047

POTTERY BY DIANE. One of a kind hand crafted pottery on sale at Creative Co., starting Mar 2. Some commissions possible email diane.wandler@yahoo.ca Next firing en of May, so send me your special ideas. What would u like me to make? Meet the potter Thurs Mar 5, 12, 19 & Sat Mar 28

GOING AWAY ON HOLIDAYS? Nd someone to care for your home or sm 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 & care 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.

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

SCRAP FOR CASH. I'll come to you. Batteries, brass copper, aluminum, stainless, wire. Call or msg 604-618-8710, or themiddleman@telus.net Fast service, TC PAINTING, licensed, insured. Returning to work, taking small jobs for now. Or if more time, we can discuss. Tina 604-767-4866

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

LIST YOUR JOB. List your employment opportunity here, no charge. 250-378-5717, market@uniserve.com

FOR SALE - APPLIANCES

ELECTRIC stove/range, glass top, convection oven, black \$325. Kenmore refrigerator, wrks gd \$125 378-1680

DEEP FRYER still in box \$25 378-5008

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

FOR SALE - AUTOMOTIVE

SET OF 15" tires, 205/70R15, very gd shape \$100 315-8087

FOR SALE - RECREATIONAL

ALUM. boat loader for pick-up. works good \$400obo 315-7119

SAUER 3000 Carl Gustaf 6.5x55 with 6-24x50 scope. Very nice condition, silky smooth, very accurate \$800 hlangeloo46@gmail.com

MUECCI pool cue w/ case, bmd nw. value \$800+, sell \$600 hlangeloo46@gmail.com

SHAKESPEAR Wonderrol. 606 electric outboard motor with 12v battery and battery box \$75 378-6787

WINCHESTER 3" mag Mdl 12 shotgun, rarely used/lk nw \$850. Earl 378-5038

FOR SALE - TOOLS/EQUIPMENT

2 METAL GATES, 6'9 by 4' high, No hardware \$200. 936-8982

220 VOLT construction heaters, built in thermostat, 2 avail. \$50 each 378-8802

SNOW blwr, elect., wrks grt \$60 315-5946

EARLY 1950s tractor/front end loader, offers 378-7124

DELTA 2hp cabinet saw \$800 378-6260

DELTA 10" table saw with roll around kit, like new condition \$450. 378-6787

WANTED/WANTED TO BUY

WANTED: RENTAL May 1. Artisan/Gardener (Retiree) & well mannered Bdr Collie ISO tidy, smoke free, peaceable, long term cabin/trailer/suite in or near Merritt. Refs avail. Roslyn skylark island@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR FREE fixer upper bikes and power wheels. Don't take to dump bring them to me. 936-8982

JIGSAW PUZZLES, 550pcs 378-5546

I PAY CASH for broken or no longer used gold & silver jewellery, coins etc. Also looking for old lighters & hunting or pckt knives. Call/txt Helena 778 538 9063

RECORDS, hockey cards, hunting knives, Johnny Cash memorabilia. Tom 778-288-4095

FOR SALE HOUSE/PROPERTY

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

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

FOR RENT

WAREHOUSE/SHOP for lease in Low Nic, 1000 ft.² with 500 ft.² mezzanine, 12 x 12 overhd dr, radiant heat & bthrm, gated compound. Call /text 604-534-1401

1-BDRM STE, avail. immed. 378-4392

SANDPIPER 2-bdrm, April 1, plus util. Dom 378-7502

ROOM for rent in private home, hydro, internet & parking incl. Shared kitchen, bath & laundry. Senior or single working person \$650/mo, refs req'd. 280-0779

CABIN for rent, avail. April 15, approx. 800 ft.² Rural private setting, 20 mins west of Merritt. Woodstove and electric heat \$1100 + util. N/S, pets considered. Call/text 604-534-1401

ROOM & BOARD. Lrg furnished bdrm, quiet neighbhrd, off street prkng avail. Grt cook. ktchn & laundry priv. Dog on site. \$750, refs req'd. 315-9803

4-BDRM hse, 2-bath, immed 378-4392

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

RM FOR RNT Low. Nic. Shared accom. Hydro/internet incl. \$750. Senior or wrkng female only. Dam. deposit & refs req'd. 280-0779

5-FT RUBBER plant \$40 378-5008

HEAD mount cougar rug, offr. 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, diananorgaard63@gmail.com

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

GRANNY'S House Quilting & Retreat has sewing notions from Pat's Patches 378-3734

FOR SALE - FURNITURE

VINTAGE Half Canopy single bed. frame \$75 378-6787

DOUBLE BED with box spring, frame, stands and set of sheets, gd condition just no room \$125obo. 4 bar stools, like new \$125 all 4 obo. Pedestal sink \$40. Rocking chair \$40. 2 swivel rocking chairs, light rose in colour, very nice looking \$375obo. 378-7333

SOLID WOOD kitchen tbl, 2 leaves, 6 chairs \$85 378-1835

WOOD table w/ 6 chairs, 2 leafs, exc shape \$300obo. Other furniture: dressers, china cabinet, etc. etc. 280-0543

FOR SALE - ELECTRONICS/SOFTWARE

4 - TV'S 48", 41", and 2 32-inch. Phone for price 378-7333

LG soundbar, never used \$80 378-5008

SIRIUS RADIO w/ access., nw cond \$100 378-9169

MERRITT MORNING MARKET

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LIVING THE DREAM

Photography by MIKE ANFIELD



COME VISIT THE GALLERY AT THE NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE

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the Arts Council
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

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1-877-523-7823 ext 623
rita.keskinen@travelbestbets.com

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The Lilac Conspiracy

The Lilac Conspiracy was formed in 2003, in Merritt. The group, primarily resident artists, designers, educators & publishers, wanted to increase the awareness of the heritage lilac bushes which are abundant in the Nicola Valley. These were brought west by settlers, and planted when Europeans first came to the valley, from the mid-1800s to 1911 when Merritt was incorporated as a city. The heritage lilacs consist primarily of the common lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*), dark purple, and double white varieties.

Over the years, the Lilac Conspiracy has provided lilac slips from heritage plants, by donation, as an incentive to propagate them & continue the old stocks in the community.

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May 21st
June 4th

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Art Therapy in Merritt

Art Therapy sessions are now being offered by Jennifer Chemago at The Nicola Valley Arts Centre

Jennifer is a certified Art Therapist With The Vancouver Art Therapy Institute

For Further Information Please visit www.arttherapywithjennifer.com or email Jennifer at jchemagoarttherapy@gmail.com

ART THERAPY WITH JENNIFER

MERRITT MORNING MARKET

CHECK OUT OUR FEATURE PHOTO EVERY ISSUE, ONLINE