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Reflections

A community art show honouring the beauty, vitality and irreplaceable value of our lakes

EXHIBITION May 6 - June 7, 2026 RECEPTION May 14

COME VISIT THE GALLERY AT THE NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE

HOURS: Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sunday 12-4pm
2051 Voght St., Enter beside Kekul Cafe

the Arts Council
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL

2051 Voght St., Merritt, BC | www.nicolavalleyarts.com | curator@nicolavalleyarts.com | 250-378-6515



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PLEIN AIR EVENT "REFLECTIONS"

SATURDAY
MAY 23RD
9:30-3PM

Join us at the Art Gallery parking lot at 9:30am for directions to our secret Nicola Lake location.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket, lunch, water, a portable easel or table, and sun protection.

All art materials provided!

Learn from local artists!

Ages 16+

Free! Register at nicolavalleyarts.com
Info: president@nicolavalleyarts.com



MERRITT MORNING MARKET.COM

MONDAY EDITION - MAY 11, 2026 #4231

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

Please recycle

Bell expects to earn \$2B from AI by 2028

Bell Canada's parent company BCE has announced, that with the recent announcement of a 300mw data centre in rural Saskatchewan, the company now expects to generate around \$2 billion in revenue from its portfolio of AI-powered enterprise solutions by 2028.

Along with the new \$1.7billion Saskatchewan facility, they have 3 other fully contracted data centres: in Kamloops, Merritt that launched in March, and Winnipeg expected to go live later this year. The data centres are central to BCE's plan to create what it has said will be the largest AI compute project in Canada, known as Bell AI Fabric.

"Opportunities are evident, but we understand the risk also concerning the development of a data centre specialized in AI," said BCE Inc. chief executive Mirko Bibic. "Our development will be super responsible, ecologically wise ... We have a clear policy, really strict, that was announced internally, and we'll continue to follow it."

The company's data centre in Merritt "uses a closedloop liquidcooled design that does not draw from municipal water resources," according to Bibic.

Community Coquihalla Hwy 40th anniversary display at the NV Museum Archives

The Nicola Valley Museum & Archives will open a new temporary display about the 40th anniversary of the opening of the Coquihalla. 1675 Tutill Crt, open Tues-Sat 10am-5pm.

Walk with your doc

Connect with local healthcare providers, and enjoy the weather — Wed, May 13 6:30pm at Rotary Park. Light refreshments provided and draws for great prizes. Everyone welcome.

A musical evening with friends

The Community Choir is having a *Musical Evening With Friends* on Thursday, May 14, at 7pm, at Trinity United Church. Everyone welcome.

'Coldwater Stories' community walk

The City of Merritt Flood Mitigation team will host the *Coldwater Stories Community Site Walk* on Friday, May 22, 10am-1pm, starts at the parking lot across from Claybanks RV park.

The day before the walk — Thurs. May 21, 4-8pm at the Civic Centre — those who attend the City of Merritt's Open House will be able to catch the premiere of Episode 1 of *Coldwater Stories*, the new docu-series showcasing the journey of the Coldwater Corridor River Recovery.

Merritt Herald, July 29, 1964

Coquihalla road history

Nature and man of almost bygone generations have created a scenic paradise unsurpassed by any other area of British Columbia, almost at the doorstep of Merritt.

Over half a century ago, pioneers of Canadian Pacific Railways recognized the value of a short route from B.C.'s interior to the Coast and constructed a railway through almost impassable terrain, requiring dozens of bridges, trestles, snowsheds, tunnels and dams and thus opening up a country of rugged grandeur and beauty of towering mountains piercing the clouds, ravines and valley with gigantic waterfalls and hundreds of springs supplying the countless creeks with crys-

Continued, over

Did you hear the one about ominous warnings? You will.

I just opened my electricity bill and water bill at the same time.. I was shocked.

Have you heard of the music group called the Defibrillators? They're a revival band.

To be frank... I'd have to change my name.


My father always used to say "the first rule of theatre is to leave them wanting more."

Fantastic guy, terrible anaesthetist.

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Aries March 21 - April 19</p> <p>This week is less about speed and more about substance. It means taking the pressure off and giving yourself a chance to consider your needs and wants. Make a sensible decision.</p> | <p>Taurus April 20 - May 20</p> <p>This week, something that's felt unclear or uncertain will begin to make sense. Trust your instincts and don't rush your conclusions. Clarity is growing slowly.</p> | <p>Gemini May 21 - June 20</p> <p>Communication becomes clearer, ideas flow more easily, and misunderstandings can be untangled. The solution to something you've been trying to work out becomes straightforward</p> | <p>Cancer June 21 - July 22</p> <p>This week, you're reminded that the future doesn't have to look like the past. A new sense of direction is forming. An idea helps you see where you're going next.</p> |
| <p>Leo July 23 - Aug 22</p> <p>Although a quick fix might look tempting - especially if you (or someone else) want immediate results, a careful rethink is a better option. Take time to repair and refine.</p> | <p>Virgo Aug 23 - Sept 22</p> <p>This week you'll recognize how much progress you've made. News, conversations, or a new perspective help you see that the hardest part is behind you. Give yourself permission to relax.</p> | <p>Libra Sept 23 - Oct 22</p> <p>You have a choice about where to put your energy. By stepping back from involving yourself in a conflict, you'll be able to focus on what improves your life. Some battles are best avoided.</p> | <p>Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 21</p> <p>There is a new chapter in a relationship, partnership, or personal situation. Something surreal is becoming tangible and hopeful. You're not imagining the changes that are happening.</p> |
| <p>Sagittarius Nov 22 - Dec 21</p> <p>This week, you can see the bigger picture and understand why the effort you're making is worthwhile. You haven't lost your freedom - you're about to see the rewards of that choice.</p> | <p>Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19</p> <p>This week is a chance to reset your aim and focus on what matters. Less about pushing harder & more about choosing your goal with care. You'll be clear about what you want.</p> | <p>Aquarius Jan 20 - Feb 18</p> <p>This week, by sharing your hopes and concerns, you'll pave the way for help, reassurance... not to mention positive changes - which appear just when you need them.</p> | <p>Pisces Feb 19 - Mar 20</p> <p>News or conversations help you see how things are progressing, inspiring optimism. Allow yourself to think bigger and you'll access the skills you've accumulated along the way.</p> |

Premier R. B. Bennett Driving Through Opening Day Banner
May 16th 1986



Nicola Valley Museum & Archives

Memberships Available!
Open Tuesday - Saturday
10am-5pm
1675 Tutill Court
(250) 378-4145

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2022 Voght Street Merritt BC

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.

Lilac Festivals in Merritt

The first lilac festival was held in 2004, in mid-May when the lilacs were bursting with colour & fragrance in Merritt. It was an art & music event in a heritage warehouse in the downtown area — a huge success with a Bohemian style. The event appealed to those who love the flowers & enjoy art. Festivals were held each year until 2008, but 'lilac awareness' has continued to be promoted through art posters during lilac time.

The Merritt Lilac Project

The Merritt Lilac Project began in 2005 with Bill Vander Zalm donating well-started 4'-5' lilac trees to the citizens of Merritt. Since that time, more than 5,000 lilacs have been planted in our community, thanks to his generosity. With this gift, the variety of lilac trees is greatly enhanced, extending the blooming season by at least 2 weeks. The bushes are young still, but continue thrive in our climate. They are an investment that will mature in the years to come!



Water Monitoring, Fish and Aquatics
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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 and Spuzzum Community Engagement Coordinator

Communications Assistant

Cook's Ferry Community Engagement Coordinator

Environment and Regulatory Coordinator

Junior n̓e?k̓épmx Coordinator (smu̓ec)

Property Caretaker (Live-In)

Summer Worker - Language Support

Summer Worker - n̓e?k̓épmx Junior Land Guardian (2 Positions Available)

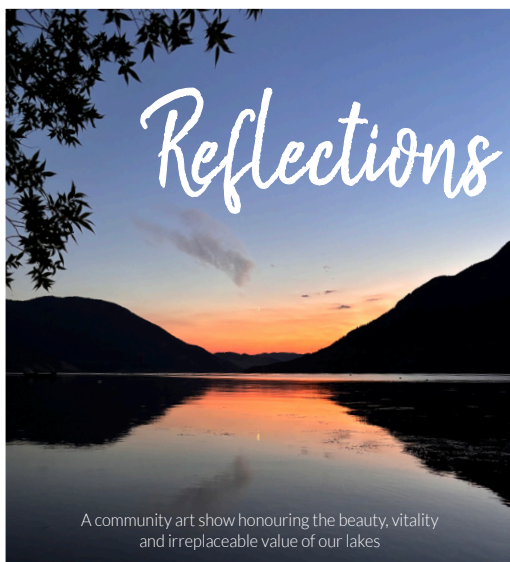
Youth Coordinator

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



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MERRITT MORNING MARKET

MONDAY EDITION — MAY 11, 2026 #4231

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Coq history *continued*

tal clear water.

Today the railway line is history, has been abandoned, the rails have been taken out, but what have remained are the huge wooden bridges, trestles, snowshoes, tunnels and dams.

The story goes, that because of the height and length of the bridges and trestles, the CPR ran its passenger trains by night only, afraid should the passengers find out where they were going, they never would go through the area a second time.

Many miles of the less dangerous railway bed are now being used for a gravel road separating Merritt from Hope by a mere 72 miles.

The road is continuously being improved by private companies. Bridges have been constructed to cross the Coquihalla River, thus making it possible to travel from Merritt to Hope in less than two hours.

It takes over three hours via the Merritt-Princeton or Spences Bridge-Fraser Canyon Highways to reach Hope.

Last year the Merritt Chamber of Commerce organized a successful caravan of over 50 four-wheel drive vehicles through the pass to Hope. This year several groups of Hope and Merritt residents have traveled the short route — in ordinary passenger cars of all makes.

Enthusiasm is great among all who have gone through, about the scenery of the area, and almost everyone feels the existing road could easily be improved at little cost and opened up to the public.

Half a century ago, with only ponies, horses, explosives and labourers available for construction of railway lines and roads, the CPR nevertheless saw the possibilities of the short route, which the provincial Highways Dept, equipped with the most modern road building machinery, apparently still, 50 years later, fails to see.

The same goes for the provincial Dept of Recreation and Conservation which by now, one would think, would have recognized the immense value of the Coquihalla Valley to the tourism trade of British Columbia.

Businessmen of Merritt and its Chamber of Commerce have been trying for a number of years now, to promote the route, but with little success. Maybe one of these days when our provincial Minister of Highways, the Honourable P.A. Gaglardi is in a rush to get to the Lower Mainland, and finds out there is and uses the short route from Kamloops to Vancouver, our efforts will be blessed by some success after all.

Merritt Herald, July 29, 1964



One of the four river crossings the Caravan encountered on the route. This vehicle got stuck temporarily and so did the other odd car. A bridge is presently under construction at this crossing, as we can see on the left.

CLASSIFIED ADS

PERSONAL

TO THE LADY LOOKING FOR YARN at my garage sale on Saturday, I have some Buffalo yarn if she's interested. Phone me @ 250-378-8838

WTD: someone to mow lawn on reg. basis, must have lwn lawnmower 378-7435

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

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

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

LAUNDRY SERVICE IN MERRITT. By appt only. call for appt to have your laundry washed 378-1961

JPV ENTERPRISES: Landscaping - lawn care, pruning, hedging, gardening. Licensed, equipped. On Facebook. 250-280-7077

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,

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FOR SALE - APPLIANCES

PORTABLE washing machine, to use without plumbing, attaches to kitchen sink, brnd nw. \$350. I can deliver to you house. Cecilia 315-0022

WINDOW AC unit. \$50 315-5946

ENERGUIDE freezer, approx 70cf \$50 315-5115

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

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

DEEP FRYER still in box \$25 378-5008

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

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

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

FOR SALE - AUTOMOTIVE

1965 THUNDERBIRD 2-dr, hard top, orig. 89,000 miles, gold paint/camel leather inter., nw brks/tires/exhxt, rebtl carb, best offer over \$30,000 378-642

2005 DODGE RAM hemi 4x4, gd tires, low miles, gd shape \$7000 315-7525

4 SUMMER tires P265-65R17, gd shape \$400. QuickGrip winter tire chains 2G2229, brnd nw \$65. 315-5115

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

SET OF 4 TIRES, gd rims, 245-17 wintners 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 MAG 15" rim & centre caps for Ford Ranger, all gd shape 315-7771

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

FOR SALE - PETS / LIVESTOCK

FREE PUPPY, Red heeler dad, blue heeler mom 778 661 0917

FEMALE kitten, ready to go to gd home 280-4763

PYRANEES/GERMAN Shepherd x Border collie mix puppies Raised outdoors, lots of handling. Will make fantastic family pets and yard alert systems \$300. First shots. Ready to go, call/ text 280-3536.

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, wavy-edged cedar siding) \$150 firm. Large Petmate portable plastic dog kennel \$135. Earl 378-5038

MUSKOVY & Cayuga ducks 378-4476

FOR SALE - MISCELLANEOUS

CARIBOU Legally tagged head mount. \$1500. 378-6787

PLANTS FOR SALE, Tomatoes - Beefsteak, Cherry. Squash- Zucchini, Kobacha, Butternut & Cooking Pumpkin. \$1.50 and up. Goji Berry \$3-5. Limited 280-0779

FREE CAMPING FIREWOOD. Large willow rounds. Needs splitting. Bring a mail. 250 936 9356

ADJUSTABLE electric single hospital Bed \$50. Head, knees and height all variable. 378-7442

WALL MOUNT bathroom sink, white. Goose neck kitchen tap. 2 black wall sconces.(battery operated) 280-0005

WEDDING DRESS size 16. Grad dress size 14 (red). 378-8838

FOR SALE/TRADE: feverfew plants (good for headaches), catnip plants (good for insomnia), tarragon plant, baby clove currant bushes, raspberry canes, Italian prune plum, heritage blue plum, Green-gage plum baby trees, hollyhock for transplanting. 250-378-2410 Leave message.

WINDOWS GALORE, frames, various sizes 378-2832

5-FT RUBBER plant \$40 378-5008

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

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

ANTIQUE dresser on wheels. Antique dressing tbl w/ chair. Like new loveseat 378-0838

3-PC SOFA set 378-4392

SMALL BLACK patio set \$60 280-4763

BUNK bd & mattresses, nw cond/used vry little \$400 315-5115

BRAND NEW 8 inch foam mattress from Wayfair \$200. 280-0005

CREAM-col. leather loveseat & chair \$150 778-834-3148, leparkerk1751@gmail.com

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

FOR SALE - ELECTRONICS/SOFTWARE

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

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

FOR SALE - RECREATIONAL

2008 VICTORY Hammer motorcycle, lw miles, cherry/chrome, big tire in back, beautiful cruiser \$7000. Greg 315-7525

1998 SHADOW Cruiser Pop Top camper, fiberglass roof, f/s, furn., water pump. vry clean \$5300 378-6027

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

2002 ADVENTURER Camper 8' (can close tailgate) f/s, bathroom sink & toilet, hot water tank, furnace. No leaks. Lots of storage. 1,700 lbs \$6000 378-6475

OLDER CAMPER \$3,500. All appliances in working order. 9 ft Columbia River. Text 250-315-7190

2002 26FT. 5TH whl trailer, Corsair Excella, full slide, 2 mounted solar panels, very clean, excellent shape. \$9800obo. 378-6970. Two way hitch negotiable.

CANVAS heavy bag with stand & gloves \$300. Kids' quad, needs some work \$100. Motorbike 2007 CRS 450, needs work \$1500280-4595

NORCO mountain bike. Comes with kickstand and rear carrier \$30. 936-8484

9.9HP & 2HP outboard motor \$150/boath. 5th whl kingpin tripod \$50. Alum. HVY DUTY truck mps \$75. Quad rmps \$75 778-834-3148, leparkerk1751@gmail.com

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

WANTED/WANTED TO BUY

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

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



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April 9th
April 23th
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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



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MERRITT MORNING MARKET

CHECK OUT OUR FEATURE PHOTO EVERY ISSUE, ONLINE



1 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

2 2-BDRM suite, 1-bath, n/p, n/s, 778-639-0244

BDRM 1-bath mobile home for lease, Low Nic. Fncd yrd, cntrl air, gas furn., May 15, pets considered, refs req'd, \$1650 + util. Call/text 604-534-1401

3-BDRM townhse, 2-bth, 1-bdrm suite, avail. immed. 378-4392

WANTED: RENTAL 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

WAREHOUSE/SHOP for lease in Low Nic, 1000 ft² with 500 ft² mezzanine, 12 x 12 overhd rd, radiant heat & bthrm, gated compound. Call /text 604-534-1401

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

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

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

FOR RENT
2-BDRM BSMT STE near Seven-11 378-6899
4-BDRM HOUSE, 2-bath, avail. immed. 378-4392
ROOM FOR RENT in private home. Hydro, internet & parking included. Shared kitchen, bath & laundry. Senior or single working person \$650/month, ref required. 280-0779