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TICKLE TRUNK
NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE MERRITT BC
JUNE 24 - JULY 18, 2026

AN EXHIBITION FEATURING ARTWORK BY JANELLE GAGE AND KARIANNE KROEKER

COME VISIT THE GALLERY AT THE NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE

the Arts Council
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

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

MERRITT MORNING MARKET.COM

UN DAY IN SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF TORTURE - JUNE 26, 2026 #4250
News, opinion, community events since 1996! Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8
Tel: (250) 378-5717 Fax: (250) 378-2025 Email: market@uniserve.com

UN DAY IN SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF TORTURE - JUNE 26, 2026 #4250
News, opinion, community events since 1996! Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8
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New podcast for rural BC tourism

The Tourism Industry Association of British Columbia (TIABC) and EH Canada Travel are proud to announce the launch of *EH BC's of Rural Tourism* — a new podcast dedicated to the people, businesses, organizations, and communities shaping the future of tourism in rural British Columbia.

Hosted by tourism advocates, industry veterans — and nearly 'longtime' Merritt residents — Greg and Colin Girard (they are a.k.a. Brothers of Tourism), the podcast will shine a spotlight on the opportunities, challenges, successes, and innovations happening beyond the major urban centres. Real conversations. Real challenges. Real opportunities. And probably a few laughs along the way.

The inaugural broadcast airs live on July 1, 2026, at 10:00am PDT, offering listeners an inside look at the future of rural tourism, emerging trends, and how communities can work together to build stronger visitor economies.

The podcast will be streamed live through the EH Canada Travel and TIABC Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube channels, making it accessible to tourism professionals and community leaders across British Columbia & beyond.

Bell explains its 'AI Fabric' project for Upper Nicola

The Upper Nicola Band has posted Bell's explanation of the proposed AI data centre on Band land — to address the questions & rumours about the industry and individual developments.

"Bell intends to develop a state-of-the-art AI data facility at Upper Nicola. We understand that housing advanced tech infrastructure in the B.C. Interior brings important questions from the community. Our commitment is to operate this facility responsibly, ensuring it aligns with the values, economy, and unique environment of the region. We created this page as a clear, factual resource to share exactly how this facility will be designed and run with Upper Nicola residents in mind."

Of particular interest *Cont'd, over*

9 months isn't really that long... But it feels like a maternity.

Seventy percent of the earth's surface is covered in water and none of it is carbonated. That's proof that the earth is flat.

I got home from work and my girlfriend wasn't there... I looked around and realized none of her stuff was there either... then, right in the middle of the TV screen I saw she left a note - It said, "This isn't working. Goodbye." But, when I picked up the remote, the TV turned on and was working just fine... really had me worried for a minute there.

Man: Judge, 60% of my parking tickets are bogus! Judge: Repeat infractions?
Man: Fine. 3/5 of my parking tickets are bogus!

- SALES - JUNE 27 & 28**
- 3363 Boyd Road, SAT 8am-1pm. Household, kids clothes & toys, collectibles - sports, comics etc..
 - 2676 Coutlee Ave., SAT 8am
 - 2351 Langley St., SAT 9am-3 pm
 - 2301 Langley St., SAT 9am-3 pm

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

Counselling for Merritt residents

The Canadian Mental Health Association – Kamloops, in partnership with the Canadian Red Cross, is helping connect Merritt residents with qualified counsellors for support related to the 2021 floods. Up to 5 counselling sessions are available at no cost to eligible clients. Sessions must be completed before September 30, 2026.

The program is for Residents Seeking Support if you are experiencing: Grief or loss, Anxiety or depression, Stress related to displacement, recovery, or rebuilding, Relationship or family difficulties, Ongoing emotional impacts from the floods.

This service is not intended for people who require psychiatric treatment, crisis intervention, or addiction treatment.

FMI kamloops.cmha.bc.ca/our-services/merritt/ There are 2 counsellors to choose from, who will provide a no obligation consultation. You would then decide if you would like to continue for up to 5 additional sessions at no cost. You will need ID showing your residence in Merritt.

Community Grand depart of the BC Epic 1000

The grand depart is this Saturday, June 27, 7am on Quilchena Ave. in front of Breathe Bikes, and spectators are welcome to come out and help send the riders off. The BC Epic is a 1066km, 11 600m elevation traverse across South Central BC starting in Merritt and ending in Fernie, mostly along the Trans Canada Trail. The route is about 80% off road on mostly old decommissioned railgrades. The current fastest recorded time is 2 days and 3 hours. You can learn more at: www.bcep1000.com/ and track the participants at: trackleaders.com/bcep1000

Merritt & District Hospice Society

The Merritt & District Hospice Society will be available at the Merritt Library on Thurs mornings 10am-12noon for the month of June. Come in, say hello, and borrow a book from our hospice library, learn about living with loss sessions, ask questions about services and support, find out how to volunteer. FMI 250-280-1701, merrithospice@shaw.ca

Cont'd, over

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Cash, Cheque or e-transfer

Call: 250 378 7846 - Betty
250 315 9085 - Rusty
Etransfer: bettydoberstein@gmail.com

Delivery tentatively July 10-12, 2026

Pick up at Ska Lu La Workshop

Lilac Conspiracy

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 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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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!

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Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly

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

Cook's Ferry Community Engagement Coordinator

Executive Assistant (Interim Coverage)

Gardener

Junior nte?képmx Coordinator (smuteč)

Language Vitality Support

nte?képmx Data Management Specialist

Property Caretaker (Live-In)

Summer Worker - General Clerk

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



MERRITT MORNING MARKET

FRIDAY EDITION — JUNE 26, 2026 #4250
Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8 T: (250) 378-5717 F: (250) 378-2025 E: market@uniserve.com

Upper Nicola Centre cont'd

to Upper Nicola band members: How Bell's AI centres handle water, noise and power.

Water & sharing heat: Bell's proposed Upper Nicola data centre will operate with an advanced closed-loop liquid cooling system, meaning water is not consumed as part of our facility operations.

Unlike older or water-intensive cooling designs, this facility will not rely on evaporative cooling towers, open water systems, or a continuous municipal water supply for cooling.

A quiet neighbour: acoustic performance will be prioritized through careful site planning, engineering, equipment selection, and building design. This facility is not designed with large open-air fan walls or evaporative cooling towers.

Recycling energy for local agriculture: they plan to implement a community heat exchange program to reuse the surplus thermal energy captured by the cooling system for future community infrastructure and industrial needs, including agrotech (greenhouses).

Roads, traffic and infrastructure: All project-specific road, access, and service upgrades around the site will be fully funded by Bell, not local taxpayers. Any future expansion activity will be guided by a detailed traffic management plan coordinated with the Upper Nicola Band to protect local traffic flow.

FMI businessmarkets.bell.ca/upper-nicola-info

Community continued

Canada Day celebrations

Wednesday July 1, the City of Merritt will host Canada Day celebrations in Rotary Park, 11am-3pm. Breakfast starts the day at the Civic Centre hosted by the Merritt Basque Society 10, 7:30-10:30am. Lunch Rotary Park: \$5 12-2pm. There will be human foosball, zorball, tropical bounce & slide, face painting & balloon artists, free photo booth, cookies & donuts fundraiser for Girl Guides, snow cones soccer fundraiser, concession, Love to Dance Academy performance, bike decoration, Art in Motion event trailer, and BreatheBikes. At 12:00 pm (noon) the singing of *O Canada* & flag raising, with a greeting from the Mayor. Live music with *Jackson Hollow* at the Rotary Park Bandshell 11am-3pm, and food trucks. There will be limited parking at Rotary Park parking lot, Bike Valet will be onsite.

Music in the Square & Park 2026

Every Thursday 6-8pm, free live music at Spirit Square or the bandshell in Rotary Park. Spirit Square: Jul 2 *Rule 857*, Jul 9 *Cal Volpe*, July 16 *JS Garcia Band*, Jul 23 *Ross Christopher Fairbairn*, Aug 20 *ZONNIS*. Rotary Park: Aug 6 *The Out Seer*, Aug 13 *Merritt Music Students*, Aug 27 *Outlaws and Lace*.

Skalula blueberry fundraiser

Fresh blueberries, 10-lb box for \$40. Must pre order & prepay by July 4, Delivery is tentatively July 10-12, pick up at Ska Lu La Workshop. Cash, Cheque or e-transfer. Call Betty 250 378-7846, or Rusty 250 315-9085. Etransfers to bettydoberstein@gmail.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

PERSONAL

NEED INDIVIDUAL with truck & dolly to remove fridge, wood, etc for dump run. carolbignell9@gmail.com

WTD: someone to mow lawn on reg. basis, must have lawn mower 378-7435
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: Wed afternoon doors open 10:30am, games start 12noon Sunday afternoon/evening doors open 12pm, games start 2pm, 1701 Coldwater Ave.

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

SERVICES

NEED GD. HARD-WRKNG person? I'm available. Reas. rates, disc for seniors. Lawn maint., clean-up, labour jobs, paint, etc. Calvin 778-586-8362

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

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

CERTIFIED TREE FELLER, 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

FOR SALE - APPLIANCES

PANASONIC MPR-311DH/PA pharmaceutical refrigerator, gd wrkng cond \$5000, serious inq. only 778-930-0036
UPRIGHT freezer \$50 378-0838

DIRT DEVIL vacuum, RCA apartment size microwave- \$25 each. 280-0779
ICE MAKING machine table top red in colour \$50. 936-8717

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

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 bo 280-0543

MICROWAVE

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

FOR SALE - AUTOMOTIVE

2002 GMC Sierra 4X4 Pickup. New: shocks, battery, Clean vehicle, only 2nd owner. \$3500 OBO 378-0032

2005 FORD F150 4x4 crew cab w/ canopy 5.4 V8 Triton 173000km good condition \$7500obo Gary 280-0105

FOUR 17" tires w/ rims & hubcaps \$200obo 378-0838

2015 CHEV diesel flat deck 3500 crew cab, fuel tank, 4x4 \$12,000 378-5406

1965 THUNDERBIRD 2-dr, hard top, orig. 89,000 miles, gold paint/camel leather inter., nw brks/tires/exhnt, rebtl carb, best offer over \$30,000 378-6421

4 15-IN summer tires on rims + 1 older studded tire fit Pontiac Vibe hatchback \$150 936-9123

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

FOR SALE - PETS / LIVESTOCK

FEMALE kitten, to gd home 280-4763

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

FOR SALE - MISCELLANEOUS

SINGER treadle sewing machine, gd cond \$100obo. Bombay entertainment/tv stand \$50. 378-0838

2 CORDS dried fir firewood, seasoned, split 315-0097

JUKEBOX + records, free. John 378-6138

FREE: lava landscape rock, must organize transport. Ray 378-9169

FREE: bbq, glass picnic table 378-0838

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 maul. 250 936 9356

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

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.

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

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

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

FOR SALE - FURNITURE

ANTIQU dressing table \$100 378-0838

3-PC SOFA set 378-4392

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

SMALL BLACK patio set \$60 280-4763

ANT. dresser on whls. Antique dressing tbl w/ chair. Like new loveseat 378-0838

FROSTED oak end table one drawer \$30. FREE light oak cabinet just needs glass for doors and shelves. 936-8717

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

FOR SALE - ELECTRONICS/SOFTWARE

TV ON STAND \$50 378-0838

GARMIN ETRAX 22X GPS + acc. Lk nw, used twice \$250obo. Gary 280-0105

32" SMART tv w/ remote 280-4763

LEXMARK colour laser printer, brnd nw cond, lightly used for 1.5 yrs. Network & air print \$160obo 280-4239

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

FOR SALE - RECREATIONAL

AVION trailer, rare - forerunner of the Airstream, completely gutted, needs TLC outside, but good tires - windows good \$3,500.00 takes it - under value - moving wyndburr@outlook.com

AIRSTREAM 1975, Everything works - windows good, door etc. Needs new awning, has a few dents on the roof, 24 feet. Priced below value at \$8,000 takes it. wyndburr@outlook.com

22 FT. Macgregor sailboat drop keel, sails, rigging, trlr \$1200 604-928-2517

2005 CITATION 5th-wheel 25-ft travel trailer, raised for clearance, gd cond, 1 slide \$5000 378-5460

1970 NORDIC 399 Skidoo, not running but compl. & regist'd \$550 378-6421

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

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

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

2002 26FT. 5TH w/ 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 \$1500 280-4595

FOR SALE - TOOLS/EQUIPMENT

HUSQ. lawn trlr & seeder, \$75 315-5115

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

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

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

WANTED/WANTED TO BUY

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

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WATERING RESTRICTIONS

LEVEL	LAWNS	VEGETABLE GARDENS TREES & SHRUBS	WASHING & POWERWASHING	POOLS (SPAS & BULK WATER)
0	LAWN WATERING ANYTIME	GARDEN SPRINKLERS ANYTIME	WASHING ANYTIME	FILLING ANYTIME
1	LAWN WATERING 3 TIMES PER WEEK	GARDEN SPRINKLERS 3 TIMES PER WEEK	WASHING ANYTIME	FILLING ANYTIME
2	LAWN WATERING 3 TIMES PER WEEK	GARDEN SPRINKLERS 3 TIMES PER WEEK	WASHING ANYTIME	TOP UP ONLY
3	LAWN WATERING 2 TIMES PER WEEK	GARDEN SPRINKLERS 2 TIMES PER WEEK	WASHING ANYTIME	TOP UP ONLY
4	LAWN WATERING 1 TIME PER WEEK	GARDEN SPRINKLERS 1 TIME PER WEEK	WASHING ANYTIME	NOT PERMITTED
5	LAWN WATERING NOT PERMITTED	GARDEN SPRINKLERS NOT PERMITTED	WASHING ANYTIME	NOT PERMITTED

NOTE: Hours in brackets and levels from 1 through 5 apply according to the month.

Check it out: www.merritt.ca/watering

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MERRITT MORNING MARKET

CHECK OUT OUR FEATURE PHOTO EVERY ISSUE, ONLINE

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

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

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 michael.sages@proton.me 604-916-9289

FOR RENT

NO UTILITY BILLS | EVERYTHING INCLUDED. Bachelor Suites \$1,099/mo. Furnished \$1,475 One Monthly Payment. No Surprise Bills. ✓ Utilities ✓ WiFi ✓ Cable ✓ 50+ Senior Discount. Call/Text 604.657.3366

1-BDRM STE, fully furnished, avail. July 1 378-6899

2-BDRM bsmt suite, avail. end of July 378-4392

LOOKING FOR A ROOM, to be a roommate, will pay my way. Barb 280-3917

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

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

4-BDRM 3-bth ranch home in rural quiet setting, 25 mins west of Merritt, Propane and wood stove heat, July 1. Looking for reliable Long tenants, References required \$2600 + utilities Call/ text 604-534-1401

ROOM for rent, 1 room, sep. bth, util incl \$700, on Hwy 8 315-0109

TICKLE TRUNK
NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE MERRITT BC
JUNE 24 - JULY 18, 2026

AN EXHIBITION FEATURING ARTWORK BY JANELLE GAGE AND KARIANNE KROEGER

COME VISIT THE GALLERY AT THE NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE

the Arts Council
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

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

Nicola Valley Farmers Market

Saturdays: May 10th - Oct 12th
9:30am to 1:00pm
2250 Voght St., Merritt