



## NELSON DISTRICT ROD & GUN CLUB

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**Mailing Address:** PO Box 16, Nelson, BC V1L 5P7  
**Indoor Range & Clubhouse:** 801 Railway St, Nelson BC  
**Outdoor Range:** 124 Porto Rico Rd (off of Hwy 6), Nelson BC  
**Website:** [www.nrgcbc.ca](http://www.nrgcbc.ca)  
**Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/NelsonDistrictRodAndGunClub/?ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/NelsonDistrictRodAndGunClub/?ref=br_rs)

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### Newsletter March 2021

#### Update on PAL/RPAL/CORE courses:

After careful review and consultations with Service BC and IHA we are going ahead with the rescheduled PAL/RPAL/CORE courses (see February Newsletter) in accordance with the latest Provincial Health Officer, Gathering and Events Order, dated February 10, 2021.

A COVID-19 Pandemic Safety Plan for PAL/RPAL/CORE courses, dated February 20, 2021, has been forwarded to all registered students and is posted on our website:

<https://www.nrgcbc.ca/hallrental/covid-19-plan-mickey-mcewen-memorial-hall/>

Following is the status of the courses as of February 20:

March 6 PAL - full (12 seats)

March 7 PAL- full (12 seats)

March 27 PAL – a few vacancies, some reserved for RPAL (24 seats)

May 8 PAL - 8 vacancies (12 seats)

June 6 PAL - 11 vacancies (12 seats)

March 28 RPAL - 8 vacancies (24 seats)

April 17/18 CORE – full (24 seats)

June 12/13 CORE - 16 vacancies (24 seats)

PAL is a prerequisite for RPAL. If you want both PAL and CORE courses, it is recommended that PAL be taken first. The first CORE course should allow students to get their hunter numbers in time for Limited Entry Hunting (LEH) draws for this fall. The June CORE will be in time for students to get a hunting licence and tags for the fall General Open Season but will miss the LEH draw deadline for fall 2021.

### Questions?

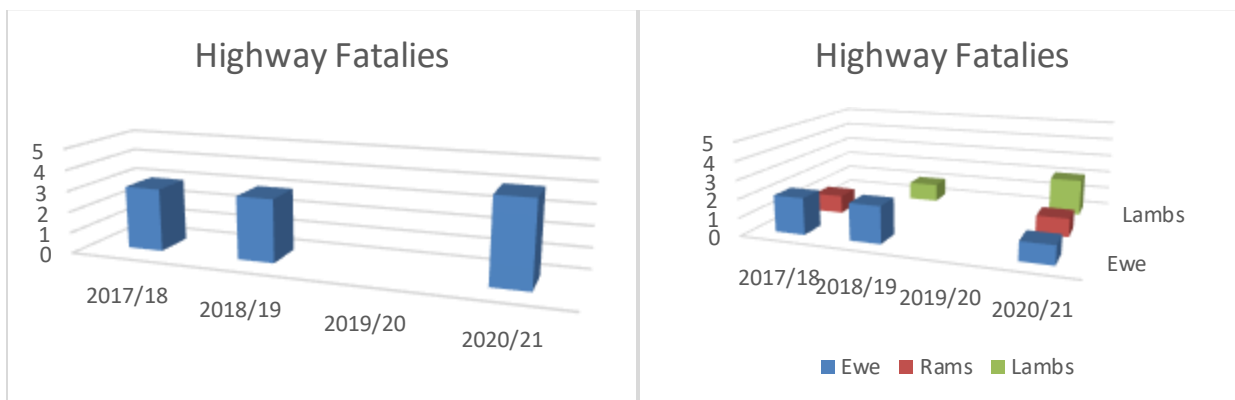
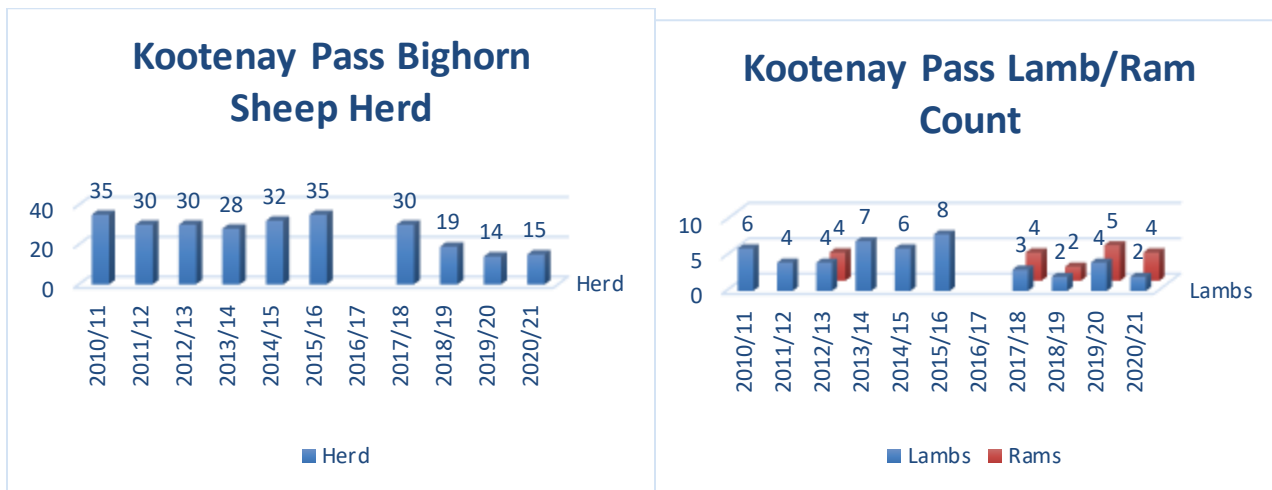
If you have questions, or if you know someone interested in taking any courses, feel free to contact me, Alan Bond @ 250-352-2289.

# Letter to the Editor:

Nicole Bond, February 20, 2021.

The Nelson District Rod and Gun Club has been involved with the sheep feeding program since 1984. There is a growing concern amongst club members about the declining numbers of sheep at the feeding site.

The last few years have painted a troubling picture, as depicted in the following charts, of the significant decline in herd population. The highest recorded number of sheep that I could find was 43 in 2006. The highest number of rams was 6 photographed in October 2019, but there were only 4 recorded during that feeding season (one collared ram was a known non traffic fatality). Highway fatalities have been a concern since construction of the highway which prompted the start of the sheep feeding program. It would appear there are at least two highway fatalities per year... if this trend continues, the herd will be eradicated



The current signs are 2 km on either side of the feeding site. Considering the recent highway fatalities, they appear to not be adequate. At a minimum there should be flashing signage when wildlife are near the highway.

In the East Kootenays there is an effort in the Township of Radium to create a wildlife overpass to secure safe passage for the bighorn sheep herd that lives there. I would love to see an overpass constructed for our herd.

I will be bringing this up with Brittny Anderson, MLA, for Nelson-Creston and (hopefully) Katrine Conroy, MLA for Kootenay West and Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development.

If anyone wants to help with the problem of highway fatalities and potential solutions or has additional information on herd numbers, please send me an email at [nicolebond88@gmail.com](mailto:nicolebond88@gmail.com) or leave a message with my dad, Alan Bond, at 250 352-2289.

Additional Reading if you are interested:

<https://www.cranbrooktownsman.com/news/mla-clovechok-continues-to-work-on-reducing-mortality-rate-of-big-horn-sheep-in-radium/>

<https://www.canadiangeographic.ca/article/banffs-famed-wildlife-overpasses-turn-20-world-looks-canada-conservation-inspiration>

<https://wildsight.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Golden-Rocky-Mountain-Bighorn-Sheep-Project-Report-Aug-2020-1.pdf>

## Salmo Elementary Kindergarten Students Visit Sheep Feeding Station:



Photo Credit: Howie Grant, February 17, 2021. Future Conservationists.

## Cottonwood Falls Freezes:



After feeding the sheep on Feb 13/2021, I stopped by Cottonwood Falls to snap a picture of the frozen falls which apparently hasn't frozen for at least 25 years.



Two days later, the ice was colored blue. Harmless, or an unnecessary act that spoils the beauty of nature?

## History:



### Local Rod and Gun Club Leases the Old Hatchery.

That was the headline from the Nelson Daily News March 19, 1970.

City Council granted the club a five-year lease. In a letter to city council, the club planned on spending \$4500 to fix the old building.

City Council noted that the building may have to be moved because of the new highway link which

passed near the building. Our club agreed to move the building to another site, but hoped "the building could be left in its present picturesque location".

Below is the newspaper clipping. I have summarized it above as it may be difficult to read. Thank you, **Marvin Paisner**, for this very interesting look at our club's history.

# Local Rod and Gun Club Leases the Old Hatchery

*March 1970*

The Nelson Rod and Gun club Monday night was given a five year lease to the old Fish Hatchery building for use as a club meeting centre.

City council granted the club a five-year lease at a nominal charge of \$1 a year, providing the building was also available for other clubs to use.

The Rod and Gun club, in a letter to city council, said it planned to spend about \$4,500 on fixing the old building.

City council noted that the building may have to be moved

No timetable was set for the meetings.

A possible crackdown on noisy brakes on large trucks may arise from city council's Monday night meeting.

Council received a letter from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities advising that noise from exhaust retarder brakes was a problem in many communities.

The executive of the UBCM advised councils to instruct their police forces to enforce division

be waived in order to let the guides carry out the project.

"Maybe they'll teach some of our citizens a thing or two," Mayor Louis Maglio said.

City council granted \$50 to L. V. Rogers Bomberettes girls' basketball team to defray the cost of a trip to New Westminster to compete in the provincial championships.

Howie Ridge, the coach of the team, said in a letter to council that the team had raised most of the expense money, but a cof-

City Council noted that the building may have to be moved because of the new highway link which passes near the building in Cootonwood Park.

However, the club said it was willing to have the building moved to another site and would make no objection.

The club said it would use the building as an indoor shooting range, which would be open to other organizations, as a club for meetings, and as a hall for dances and other events.

The building would be completely rewired and remodelled on the outside and the grounds would be cleared and cleaned.

"We hope that it (the building) could be left in its present picturesque location," the club said.

The lease is being drawn up by the city's legal advisor.

Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> marked the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nelson's hydro-electric power plant on Cottownwood Creek. It was the first hydro-electric generating facility in BC. Below is a picture of two artifacts from the 1896 plant, a pulley wheel and a generator. **Touchstones Museum, Nelson Public Works Dept.** and the **Nelson Izushi Friendship Society** worked together to move the artifacts back to their original location. They can be viewed on the west side of the creek near the falls and close to the Club's entrance to the indoor ranges. The Izu-shi Friendship Society is seeking photos of the 1896 Cottonwood Creek light plant station.



## Notice to members who have not yet renewed:

*Richard Green*

Your membership is for the calendar year, January 1 to December 31.

Club members will have third-party liability insurance for their club and outdoor activities and for their ORVs and boats (a liability certificate will accompany your membership card).


If you have not renewed your membership by January 1st, then you will not be entitled to use our ranges or other club facilities; and you will not have liability insurance for your boat or ORVs, until you do send in your renewal application.

After this (March) edition you will not receive the club newsletter until you renew.

Don't procrastinate any longer - go to the club website at [nrgcbc.ca](http://nrgcbc.ca) and search for memberships, and for the membership application form.

**Member Request:** Please return the membership application to the last page in the newsletter.

The above request was brought forward at the Board of Directors Zoom Meeting on Feb 2, 2021. The rationale for removing the membership from the newsletter is two-fold. 1.) Some members would incorrectly submit "The Early Incentive Membership Form" past the expiration date for the reduced fee. 2.) The Club has a number of members who receive the newsletter by mail. Printing and mailing the extra page each month is a cost concern. The membership form is found on the website at [nrgcbc.ca](http://nrgcbc.ca). If you prefer, members can contact Erin Franklin, membership director at [membership@nrgcbc.ca](mailto:membership@nrgcbc.ca) and Erin can email you the form.

 <p>Download from Dreamstime.com 48762008 Artem / Dreamstime.com</p>	<p><b>HERITAGE MATCH .303 FOR SALE</b></p> <p>No. 3 Mk 1 "Sporterized" .303 rifle with standard military open sights. Ideal for the Heritage March Competition or as a back up hunting rifle. \$300 O.B.O.</p> <p>Contact Howie @ 250 551-1077</p>
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**Archery:** Thank you to Mount Sentinel student, **Chicayla Thompson**, for volunteering to update our 3D Shoot poster. Planning is underway! We have an online form ready to roll out, thanks to **Bill Reid**. We will be keeping a close eye on the Public Health Officer's recommendations.

NELSON ROD AND GUN CLUB PRESENTS:

# 3D ARCHERY SHOOT

**JUNE 5TH AND 6TH**  
 8:30-4 PM      8-2:30 PM

FUN ACTIVITIES + PRIZES

WEAR SOMETHING PLAID FOR AN  
 EXTRA CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE

CONTACT WES SMITH FOR MORE INFO @  
 (250)-304-7521 OR WES.SMITH@SHAW.CA

ALL SKILL LEVELS AND AGES WELCOME

MOVING TARGETS  
 2-20 TARGET LOOPS

~RAIN OR SHINE~

DRY CAMPING AVAILABLE  
 W/ OVERFLOW IN YMIR

**LOCATION**  
 124 PORTO RICO RD  
 OFF HWY 6  
 BETWEEN NELSON AND YMIR

	FAMILY	YOUTH	ADULT
WEEKEND RATE	\$70	\$25	\$40
DAY RATE	\$45	\$15	\$20

# INTERNATIONAL ♀ WOMEN'S DAY ♀

International Women's Day, March 8, is a day to celebrate the achievements of women. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize some of the amazing women members of the Nelson Rod and Gun Club. The club has a history of dedicated women such as **Gerry Vilet** and **Joani Trickett** but most recently, I would like to acknowledge, **Frances Brown's** contributions as a treasurer, and coordinator of bylaws, constitution, policies, and Edward Jones Acct. You could see Frances at the Annual Banquet and Fishing Forever volunteering. We have a committed group of women in the **Ladies' Target Shooting group** who meet regularly. **Anita Bowers** has been the coordinator of this activity for women. Thank you to **Erin Franklin** for stepping up and volunteering to take on the big and important job of being our membership coordinator. Thank you to **Sandra Russell** for all the volunteering you do in helping to organize the 3D Archery Shoot. **Sharon Woloshen** is a new member who stepped up to be an archery indoor range officer. Thank you. Our women members are active in their pursuits of outdoor sports. We featured **Ella Hurst's** hunting experience in a past newsletter. One woman who exemplifies an example of our club's amazing accomplishments in outdoor pursuits is, **Heather Grant**.



“After attending Becoming an Outdoor Woman (BOW) and a lot of patience and coaching by my husband, Howard, I finally got my first deer last November. Happy to be able to help fill the freezer.”

- Heather Grant

The BOW is a program for women through BCWF.



## Counter-Campaign Launched:

*Submitted by Jonatan Proctor*

Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia  
#101-30799 Simpson Road  
Abbotsford, BC V2T 6X4  
Phone: 1-604 690-9555

February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

Dear Conservation Leader,

We are seeking the support of your organization as we face yet another threat here in British Columbia. As hunters, we are under a constant barrage of hate, misinformation and continue to lose social license at an alarming rate - but you can make that change to stop this.

We are in a fight and need to speak loudly and counteract the untruths we face as hunters, conservationists, and consumptive users of our backcountry in British Columbia. Unfortunately, social pressures are being used to try to pull the regulations lever to close regulated hunting.

Thinly veiled under the guise of conservation, a concerted attack is now in place once again - specifically named are black bears, cougars, wolves, elk, and bighorn sheep. They came for the grizzly bear hunt, and we lost it due to social pressures. We need to take a stand now, or we will forever lose what we hold special. We know there is so much more to the hunt than at face value - and we are asking you to support us in our cause. We know this is the tip of the iceberg, with the end goal being the complete elimination of hunting. This is not about some wildlife - it is about all wildlife.

The WSSBC is launching a grassroots campaign to engage our political officials like never before, and we need the support of every single person that supports hunting. In British Columbia, we have 110,000+ voices as hunters, and if each one of us brings in just one more voice, we increase exponentially. With our Worldwide reach, into the millions. We have driven change before, and we can do it again.

If this is something you believe in, we would appreciate a letter of support addressed to The Premier of British Columbia stating you are behind our movement and that you stand for science-based management. For your reference, we have included the letter the Wild Sheep Society of BC is sending to our government. I kindly ask that should you provide a letter, you send it directly to us, as our intent is to deliver the letters collectively to the Premier's office.

We would welcome you sharing this message to your membership as this movement will impact all hunters across the Globe. If able, please direct your members to [www.wildsheepsociety.com/actnow](http://www.wildsheepsociety.com/actnow) where we have specific instructions for your members to participate. We have also included a one-page document with additional details meant for distribution to your membership.

Yours in Conservation,

p.p. Past President Signature  
Dave Heitsman, *President, Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia*



Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia

*Wild Sheep Forever*

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Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia  
#101-30799 Simpson Road  
Abbotsford, BC V2T 6X4  
Phone: 1-604 690-9555

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Honorable Premier,

If we told you that you could make a difference to ensure sound wildlife populations, and not only stabilize, but increase them, would you do it? Now more than ever, our fish, wildlife and habitat need action and to be managed by the best available science available to our biologists.

The Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia is a one-thousand-member organization, who are vitally concerned that once again our wildlife has become a pawn in the electoral cycle. We continue to watch the constant barrage of hate towards us and continue to lose social license at an alarming rate due to misinformation and spin-doctoring by organizations whose only goal is to end hunting.

Government and non-government wildlife experts continually tell us that changes to hunting regulations alone, do not significantly impact trends in wildlife populations. Scientific and cultural knowledge are the most effective management tools.

We are speaking loudly against the untruths we face as hunters, conservationists, and consumptive users of our backcountry in British Columbia. No hunter wants to see the extinction of a species, which is most often the point these campaign attacks continually push. We are the first to sound an alarm if there are issues. Volunteer ran and funded organizations like ours donate and contribute tens of thousands of hours, and hundreds of thousands of dollars a year towards wildlife and habitat.

Your government has continued to back science-based wolf management regarding mountain caribou, and it has shown incredible strides in their recovery. We urge you to take the same approach to all wildlife in British Columbia, and to leave these decisions to the biologists and wildlife managers.

We know this latest attack is the tip of the iceberg with the end goal being the complete elimination of hunting. This is not about some wildlife- it is about all wildlife and the wild spaces we share.

Honorable Premier, the mantra of a hunter is to 'leave the backcountry a little better than you found it'. By managing wildlife by science, you can stand side by side and begin to put the Beautiful back in Beautiful British Columbia. Stand with us as we do this, together.

This is a legacy we can all be proud of.

Yours in Conservation,

p.p. Past President Signature

# Nelson District Rod & Gun Club



## Ongoing Events:

Events could change depending on recommendations by the PHO.

**Indoor Archery:**  
Refer to "Shared Calendar" for dates and times.



**Social Gaming:**  
Sunday 4-9pm  
Thursday 5-10pm



**Ladies' Target Shooting:**  
Thursday at 6:00pm  
Contact: Anita Bowers



Board of Directors  
6:30pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 	3	4  	5	6
7 	8 	9	10	11  	12	13
14   	15	16	17	18  	19	20 
21 	22	23	24	25  	26	27
28 	29	30	31	 		

Ladies' Target Shooting: [ladiestargetshooting.nrgc@gmail.com](mailto:ladiestargetshooting.nrgc@gmail.com)

Indoor Gun Range: <http://www.nrgcbc.ca/indoorange/>

Indoor Archery Range:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=ZWw2Y3JuZWxsZTA0dnJraGYwdnE0MnQ0NThAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXluZ29vZ2xILmNvbQ>

# Who Can Help?

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<b>EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>PRESIDENT</b> <b>Howie Grant</b> 250-551-1077 <a href="mailto:hhgrant@telus.net">hhgrant@telus.net</a>	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> <b>Richard Green</b> 250-352-5609 <a href="mailto:scaler4@telus.net">scaler4@telus.net</a>	<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b> <b>Wally Kampen</b> 250-354-4349 <a href="mailto:wally.k@shaw.ca">wally.k@shaw.ca</a>	<b>TREASURER</b> <b>Yolanda Manalo-Stewart</b> Contact: Richard Green
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<b>DIRECTORS</b>	Marvin Paisner <b>Cottonwood Creek Indoor Firearm Range</b> 250-229-5710 <a href="mailto:paisners@shaw.ca">paisners@shaw.ca</a>	Glen Mcken <b>Fishing Forever/Cook</b> 250-505-5006	Howie Grant <b>Police Liason/Bighorn Sheep Volunteer Co.</b> 250-551-1077 <a href="mailto:hhgrant@telus.net">hhgrant@telus.net</a>	Melissa Townsend 250-551-8207 <a href="mailto:mtownsend811@gmail.com">mtownsend811@gmail.com</a>
	Wally Kampen <b>Conservation: Environment/Fish &amp; Wildlife/Website/Hall Maintenance/Edward Jones Acct.</b> 250-354-4349 <a href="mailto:wally.k@shaw.ca">wally.k@shaw.ca</a>	Richard Green <b>Fishing Forever/Key Master/Corresponden ce/ Edward Jones</b> 250-352-5609 <a href="mailto:scaler4@telus.net">scaler4@telus.net</a>	Alan Bond <b>Nelson Italian Cdn. Society/Hall Rental/Club Historian/Edward Jones Acct.</b> 250-352-2289 <a href="mailto:hallrental@nrgcbc.ca">hallrental@nrgcbc.ca</a>	Andrew Woodward <b>Project Mapleseed</b> 250-551-5050 <a href="mailto:nelsonmapleseed@pm.me">nelsonmapleseed@pm.me</a>
	Brian Beaudoin <b>Trap Range/Ladies Shooting</b> 250-551-4549 <a href="mailto:brian.kootrac@gmail.com">brian.kootrac@gmail.com</a>	Naz King <b>Outdoor Range</b> 250-354-3335 <a href="mailto:nazyking@gmail.com">nazyking@gmail.com</a>	Warren Russell <b>Outdoor Archery</b> 250-551-7562 <a href="mailto:warren@WSRussell.ca">warren@WSRussell.ca</a>	

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## COORDINATORS

Anita Bowers	<b>Ladies' Shooting</b>	250-354-2998	<a href="mailto:ladiestargetshooting.nrgc@gmail.com">ladiestargetshooting.nrgc@gmail.com</a>
Erin Franklin	<b>Membership</b>	250-551-7414	<a href="mailto:membership@nrgcbc.ca">membership@nrgcbc.ca</a>
Annette Smith	<b>Newsletter/3D Archery Shoot Communication</b>	250-505-2912	<a href="mailto:newsletter@nrgcbc.ca">newsletter@nrgcbc.ca</a>
Wes Smith	<b>Indoor Archery/3D Archery Shoot</b>	250-304-7521	<a href="mailto:wes.smith@shaw.ca">wes.smith@shaw.ca</a>
Alan Thompson	<b>Cottonwood Creek</b>	250-505-5376	<a href="mailto:alant2@telus.net">alant2@telus.net</a>
Al Walker	<b>Security</b>	250-352-9752	<a href="mailto:arwalker@telus.net">arwalker@telus.net</a>
Jim Brown	<b>Trap</b>	250-608-9332	<a href="mailto:Jrb2740@yahoo.com">Jrb2740@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Vacant</b>	<b>Gun Show</b>		
Calvin Hacking	<b>Social Gaming</b>		<a href="mailto:calvin.hacking@gmail.com">calvin.hacking@gmail.com</a>
Derek Ludwar	<b>Recording Secretary</b>	250-505-4433	<a href="mailto:derekudwar@gmail.com">derekudwar@gmail.com</a>
Frances Brown	<b>Bylaws/Constitution/Policies Edward Jones Acct.</b>		