

The Elkford Focus

Free
Pass along
to a friend

info@elkfordlibrary.org

July/August 2023
Volume 17 Issue 6



Wild at Art for Wildcat Days!



What does "Wild at Art" mean to you? Whether it's wild animals, wild flowers or wilderness, bold colours, wild scenarios or abstract nature, the Elkford Arts Council wants to see it! This year we are hosting our second-annual art show in conjunction with Wildcat Days, where art of all kinds in the theme of "Wild at Art" will be on display for the public to enjoy.



Free Wi-Fi at the library. Select **Public Library - Guest**, password **#Reading101!** (include the exclamation mark).



Chris Buckley

ValleyPro Mechanical
Heating · Cooling · GasFitting

valleypromech@gmail.com
Ph: 1 (250) 433 6090
PO Box 1137
Elkford, BC, V0B 1H0



403-315-0840

RE/MAX
Elk Valley Realty
Independently Owned and Operated
Justin Hughson
Sales Representative



7-814 Michel Road
Elkford, BC V0B 1H0
Bus: (250) 425-7711
Fax: (250) 425-7714
justin@sparwoodrealestate.ca
www.sparwoodrealestate.ca

Mountain Electric Ltd.
250-433-1707

residential - commercial - industrial

Jason Heyboer, FSR electrician
jason.mountainelectric@yahoo.ca
Box 1278 Elkford, BC V0B 1H0

Elkford Public Library



Contact us at the library:
250-865-2912

Send us an email:
info@elkfordlibrary.org

Website:
<http://elkford.bclibrary.ca>

Find us on Facebook:
Elkford Public Library

Hours:
Tuesday and Wednesday 10:30 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday and Friday 11:30 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm



Elkford | 814 Michel Road | 250-865-2261

Home | Auto | Business | Life | Travel | Financial Services

Our goal is to cultivate a Focus on Elkford and we welcome your submissions of events, announcements, classifieds, ideas and opinions to info@elkfordlibrary.org or bring your legible copy to the library. The Elkford Focus, Board and staff of the library do not promote the opinions expressed. We reserve the right to edit or refuse to print submissions due to legality, length, religious or political reasons, good taste, or discriminating beliefs. The Focus is published on the web and may be accessed and searched by anyone. We are not responsible for any unauthorized use of submitted information. Copyright of all material remains with the author.

We wish to thank those who distribute the Elkford Focus:

ATCO
Chauncey Ridge Food Mart
Elkford Conference Centre
Elkford Mini-Mart/Fas Gas
Esso
Elkford Motor Inn & Restaurant
Kapps Pizza Place
Kootenay Market
BC Elkford Liquor Store



LinkedIn Learning

Check out LinkedIn Learning to upgrade or learn professional skills in a variety of categories.

Courses are free with your library card! Go to the library website and navigate from our menu.



CRYSTAL TENNANT
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

RE/MAX ELK VALLEY REALTY
Independently Owned and Operated

7 - 814 Michel Road
Elkford, BC V0B 1H0

100%
R

250-910-9625
crystal@sparwoodrealestate.ca
www.elkfordrealtor.ca



COLOUR INFUSION
BRANDING • CONSULTING • DESIGN

Norja Vanderelst
BRAND & DESIGN NINJA
Visit us at colourinfusion.ca

Get through the digital clutter!

Learn something new!
All you need is a library card.
Questions: info@elkfordlibrary.org



GALE COURSES
Online courses for academic learning and professional/personal enrichment. No cost, we've got you covered!

	Introduction to Interior Design Explore a career in interior design as you learn how to transform any room into a beautiful and functional space. Learn More	Enroll Now
Course: 24 hours	Start Date: Sep 16 Oct 14 Nov 11 Dec 09	
	Grammar Refresher Develop your English grammar skills and take your writing and speaking to the next level of excellence in this course. Learn More	Enroll Now
Course: 24 hours	Start Date: Sep 16 Oct 14 Nov 11 Dec 09	
	Drawing for the Absolute Beginner Gain a solid foundation in drawing and become the artist you've always dreamed you could be! Learn More	Enroll Now
Course: 24 hours	Start Date: Sep 16 Oct 14 Nov 11 Dec 09	



RE/MAX
Elk Valley Realty
Independently Owned and Operated

#7 814 Michel Road, Elkford, BC V0B 1H0

Cell: 250-433-6151
stephanie@sparwoodrealestate.ca

Stephanie Knier
Sales Representative

DREAM WITH YOUR EYES OPEN!

R MLE



ROYAL LEPAGE
East Kootenay Realty
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED
120 Spruce Ave., PO Box 1856
Sparwood, BC V0B 2G0

Paula J. Smith
Sales Representative

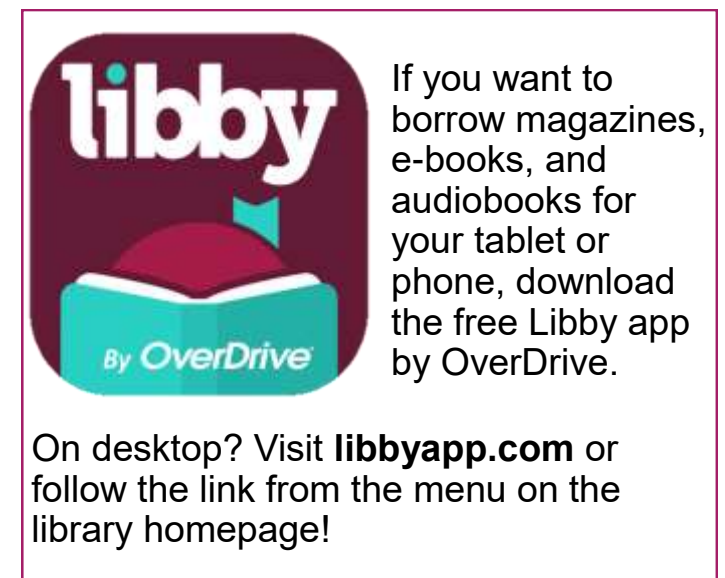
Toll Free: 1 (866) 425-3690
Res: (250) 865-7506
Elkford Specialist 26 Cherokee Drive Elkford BC
Fax: (250) 865-7798
paula@elkfordrealestate.net • www.elkfordrealestate.net



Look no further for the perfect cut, perm, colour...

Fair Eloquence
1362 Needles Crescent
250-865-7119

Faye has been serving the hair concerns for the great people of Elkford since January 1980
Super Family Hair Care
Active Member of Elkford Chamber of Commerce Community Futures East Kootenay



libby
By OverDrive

If you want to borrow magazines, e-books, and audiobooks for your tablet or phone, download the free Libby app by OverDrive.

On desktop? Visit libbyapp.com or follow the link from the menu on the library homepage!

ESS Elite Senior Camping Trip: Strength, Determination, and Childlike Wonder



It was a small but mighty group of teens from Elkford Secondary Senior PE class that made an epic camping trip in early June. For some this was their first camping trip where they had to rely on themselves and be the one supporting others. We started by first harvesting our salad from our PE Nutra Tower and headed to Fernie Provincial Park. Once we arrived, students quickly set up camp, and then made their way into the woods for a short 5.5 km hike into the local wilderness. Once back at camp, students settled in. Making dinner safely, setting up slack lines, and a dip in a nearby creek. Eventually, they dug into their smores, sharing stories, giggling, laughing until midnight and sleeping through a night of pouring rain.

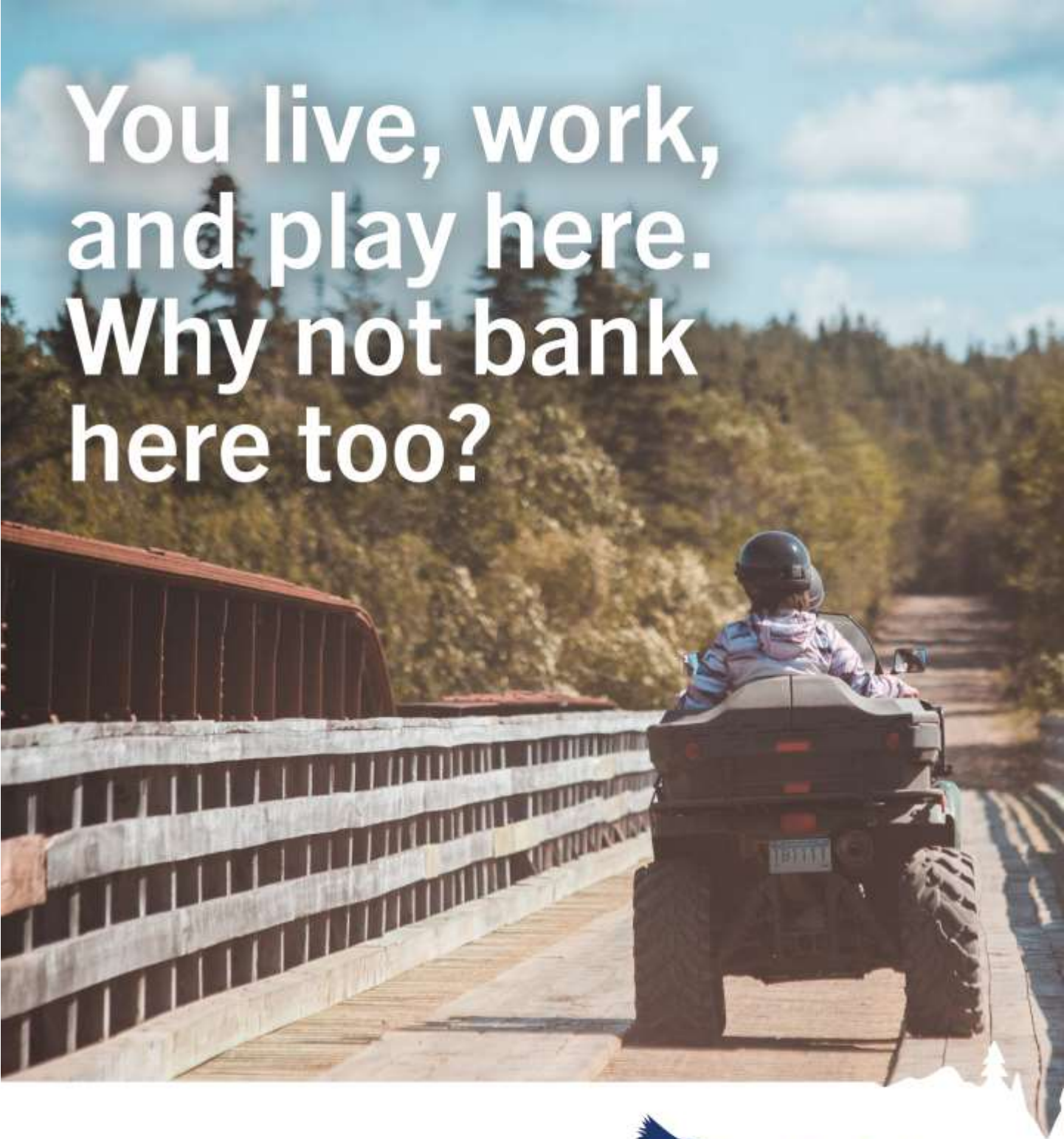
The day of the “COLOSSAL HIKE” started with students making their own bacon, pancakes and monstrous breakfast sandwiches. With bellies full, the group set out to summit Castle Mountain. It was a hike that was over 10 km, huge elevation change, and relentless incline over difficult terrain. Yet, it had breathtaking views, a monstrous rock cliff, and the students felt a true sense of accomplishment once reaching the summit. Students had to dig deep to motivate themselves as well as support others who were struggling.

This was a small group of students, with a lot of strength, grit, and determination. It was pleasure taking them into the mountains, where they relied on themselves and supported one another. Seeing them play in the creeks and balance on the slack line was like seeing them play and have fun with childlike wonder.

Thanks to all the students for all of their hustle and parents that supported this adventure. Thank you to the Lions Club and the Elkford United Steel Workers for supporting the transportation costs and camping fees for such an epic adventure.

- submitted by Mr. Gulyas





You live, work,
and play here.
Why not bank
here too?

Bank like you live here.



www.StellerVista.com



Proudly Canadian

At Teck, we are proud to be at the forefront of Canada's mining innovation, sustainability and evolution. Most of all, we're proud to call Canada our home.

**With glowing hearts, we wish you a
Happy Canada Day.**

Learn more about Teck at
www.teck.com

Teck

Elkford Snowmobile Association

Sponsor spotlight. A couple of meetings ago we made the decision to purchase a shelter for the groomer. Without even being approached RMR stepped up. They reached out and paid for the shelter. Thank you to Len and his team for making such an impactful donation to our club.



- submitted by Steve Woods

Local Active Living and Community Building: Thank You Elk Valley

A big thank you to the communities in the Elk Valley. Elkford Secondary's PE program has been out in the valley exploring the Elk Lakes, picking chicken eggs, climbing Castle Mountain and skiing/snowboarding in Fernie as well as rock climbing in Cranbrook. Students have also been exploring active living activities in their own community, everything from skating and curling to hiking, cross-country skiing, stewardship projects, and survival activities. The program has also been expanding out of the conventional gym activities and into active living programming that is specific to the East Kootenays. Physical education specific to the region is hoped to support a life of active living and community building in the valley and beyond.

This PE program can only be done with local and community support. Everything from rock climbing at Arq Climbing Gym in Cranbrook, skiing and snowboarding at Fernie Alpine Resort and trying a local public gym at Rockhard Fitness in Elkford. These community businesses have all given considerable discounted school rates to make neighboring adventures affordable. Within the school's residing community, the Elkford District (skating/curling/baseball), and Elkford Nordic Society have all allowed students onto their facilities and trails at no cost, further entrenching a sense of affordability and inclusivity for all students in the program. There have also been holistic opportunities for stewardship within the community; the Elkford Trails Alliance, Elkford Nordic Society and the Wapiti ski hill have allowed students to build/maintain trails, stain/paint cabins and clearing brush, truly allowing students an opportunity to connect and build their community. There have also been other very supportive and generous local groups that have contributed, such as the Elkford Lions Club, the Elkford United Steel Workers, and the Parent Advisory Council. All helping financially for transportation and fees for the many activities that we do. We have also been graciously supported by the Elkford Project Society, Columbia Basin Trust, Elkford Nordic Society and Sparwood Thrift Store, who have contributed financially to the programs' cross-country skis and access to camping equipment.

Thank you to the communities and organizations that have allowed the Elkford Secondary PE program to grow and their support in local, life long, active living activities and community building. Thank you to the students for their resilience and willingness to try. Finally, thank you to the parents that make sure their students are ready for the many adventure's students have succeeded in. Great hustle everyone!



- submitted by Mr. Gulyas

Mayor's Musings

Written by the Mayor of Elkford, Steve Fairbairn

Welcome to summer, Elkford! I hope that this one goes down in history as one of your favourite summers with family and friends, and that all your adventures are better than what you thought they would be.

Speeding in Town

One long-standing resident complaint is the number of traffic violations in town, which is being addressed by the local Elk Valley RCMP detachment. Folks may have noticed some RCMP cruisers around town lately. Parked. Occupied. Let's hope that the officers will find Elkfordians to be respectful of the speed limits in and around Elkford. Yes, I know: "but, they're never there when..." that is a reality of life everywhere.

Blast From the Past

More quotes from the November 1981 edition of *The Carbon Copy* (the news magazine of Fording Coal Limited):

"The Village Council is presently reviewing a proposal for a 70-unit full-service motor hotel from a group with experience in operating hotel facilities. The hotel would feature a swimming pool, coffee shop, dining room, poolside lounge, tavern and banquet/meeting facilities . . . sidewalks around the centre will be covered where possible . . . it will all be linked by a pathway called the Devonian Walkway across Boivin Creek . . . the Village of Elkford has approved the purchase of four lots in the town centre. Lots have been sold to McGowen Holdings from West Vancouver to develop two buildings on three lots. Both buildings will be two storeys and contain retail/office/banking space . . . [a] lot has been sold to Karl Maartman Limited from Elkford to build a two-storey office/retail complex."

The more things change...

Sewer Lagoon Smells

Regarding sewer lagoon smells, here is what I gleaned from my conversations with a knowledgeable person:

The reasoning for the additional odour at this time of year is the lagoon doing its annual *flop* when temperatures cause the temperature in sewer to change in gradation from top to bottom. Whenever there is heat or a few sunny days this will also cause additional odour.

Yes, uneven flows can contribute to odour issues, however, all the trucked-in waste only makes up approximately 0.5 per cent of our flow volume. Yes, our work on a new lagoon cell—which is currently underway—will have a long-term positive impact on the health of our lagoon system.

The review of the lagoon system will result in changes that should address at least some of the seasonal odour issues going forward: removing clay in the base of cell 5, aerator repair/replacement (the existing system was turned off for many years and now that we are using it again, it is showing its age) and an improved trucked-liquid waste receiving station. The new cell being constructed will help us perform maintenance in the future, and it also give us a much greater margin of volume to prevent the need for waste discharge into the Elk River.

Grand Opening of Elkford's Childcare Centre

Yeehaw! The child care portion of the new Elkford Childcare Centre and Community Hub had its grand opening, and what a nice facility it is! Hats off to all who had a role and to the various major funders of this project.



Sun through the smoke over No Name Mountain August 2018.
Photos by Steve Fairbairn



Fire damage in 2018 west end of Crossing Creek.

Wildfire Season

I'm going to leave you with another reminder that it is fire season. Please honour and follow the fire bans: this is for the benefit of all things great and small.

We've had a few "close calls" over the years. Let's review some of them, shall we?

From the fire high up on the ridge north of the Crossing Creek drainage (anyone remember going to the Look Out to watch it in the evening? Better than the submarine races, eh?), the two fires in 2018 over in the Bull River drainage (we could see the glow and the billowing smoke, and we all had ash fall on our vehicles), the smouldering lighting strike on the ridge, just north of the Weigert Creek forestry road, facing Highway 43 (in a location that was not accessible for fire fighting) to, finally, the fire last summer northwest of Sparwood (that one wasn't a direct threat to us, except for the high risk of smoke leading to the closure of Highway 43). The fire danger in Elkford is not an academic exercise, it is a real and present danger that we all have a role in managing. Get your evacuation kits ready to go now, not later!

There are many great online resources out there; but in case you missed them in my last couple of *Mayor's Musings*, here are the ones I recommend:

The Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK) website: <https://www.rdek.bc.ca/departments/protectiveservices/emergencyinfo/prepare/>

The District of Elkford website: www.elkford.ca/evacuation_plan

FireSmart website: <https://firesmartcanada.ca/homeowners/protect-your-home/>

Bookmark these, read them, put them in your phone. Above all, stay safe and enjoy your summer!

Until next time,

Mayor Steve

Something Fun at the Pool

In an exciting build-up to the highly anticipated Elkford Sprint Triathlon, the Elkford Aquatic Center recently concluded its ten-week program aimed at enhancing swimming strokes and boosting endurance led by the talented instructors, Rebecca Robinson and Kenzie Karwandy. This program saw impressive progress as ten swimmers dedicated themselves to weekly fitness skills, endurance drills, and timed swims.

The participants displayed tremendous commitment and determination throughout the program, pushing themselves to new heights in the pursuit of their goals. Under the expert guidance of Rebecca and Kenzie, the swimmers honed their techniques and witnessed significant improvements in their swimming abilities. The program not only fostered physical growth but also instilled a sense of teamwork among the participants.

As the program reached its conclusion, the swimmers were rewarded with a well-deserved fun day, creating lasting memories. Group challenges and games were organized, adding an element of joy

and excitement to the proceedings. To top it off, the participants were treated to delightful indulgences in the hot tub, a perfect way to unwind and celebrate their achievements.

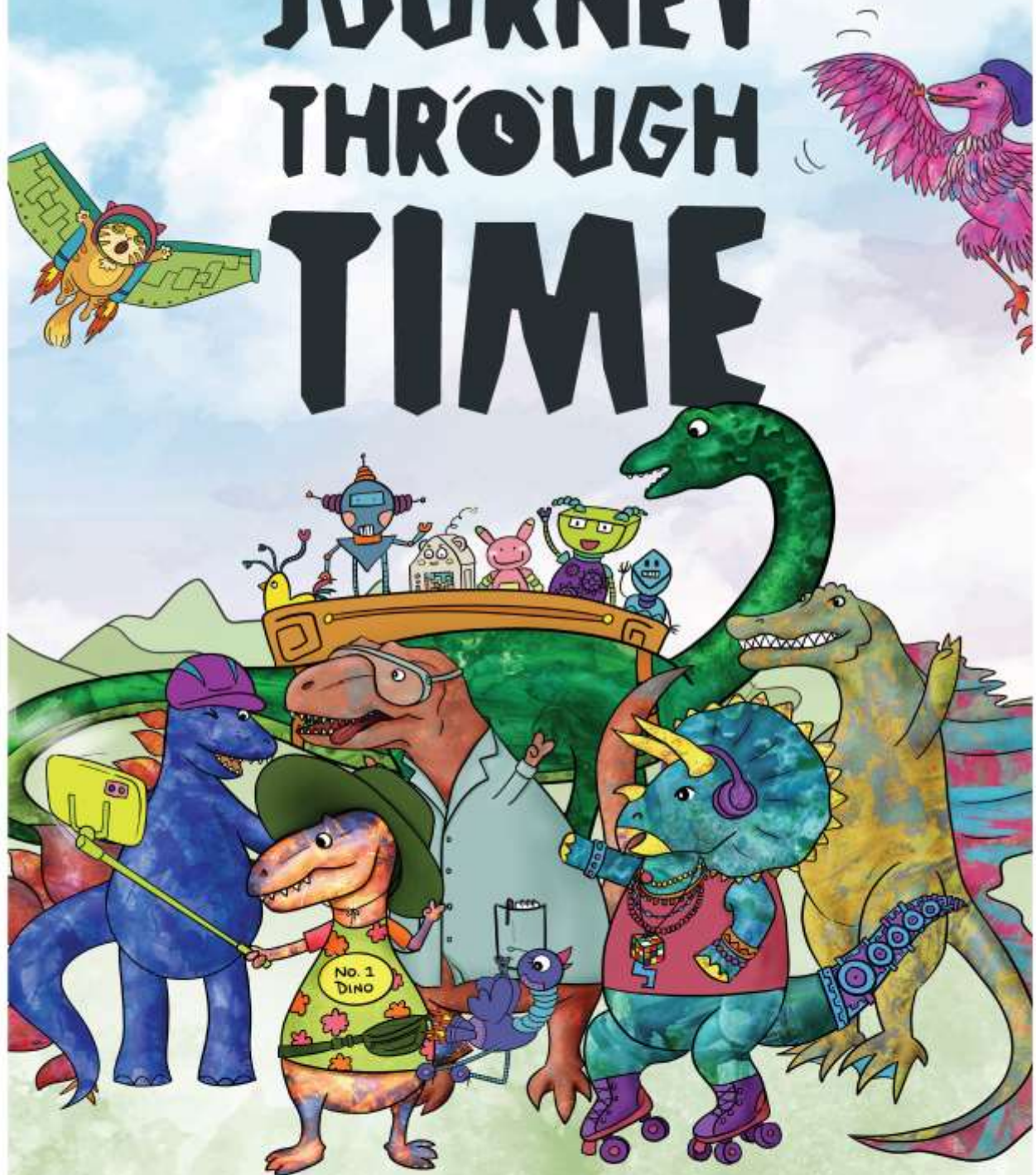
With the summer season approaching, Elkford Aquatic Center is thrilled to announce more exhilarating lessons and activities in the coming months. Whether you're a seasoned swimmer or looking to dive into the world of aquatic fitness, there's something for everyone. Visit the District of Elkford website (www.elkford.ca) to explore the full summer lessons schedule and find all the information you need to register.

The Elkford Aquatic Center eagerly awaits the arrival of enthusiastic individuals ready to embrace the joys of swimming and discover the boundless fun it offers. Join us and become a part of our vibrant aquatic community. We look forward to welcoming you to our facility!



BC SUMMER READING CLUB 2023

JOURNEY THROUGH TIME



**Travel through time at your local
public library this summer!**

Sponsored by the British Columbia Library Association and your local public library with the generous assistance of Public Libraries Branch, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, and CUPE BC.

BC SRC welcomes all children and their families' participation and seeks to provide an accessible and fully inclusive program. Illustrations by Jeni Chen. Design by Lauren Achtem © 2023.



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

CUPE BC

Journey Through Time

BC Summer Reading Club 2023
at the Elkford Public Library

Fun activities for children aged 5-12
July 11 to 13 and 18 to 21.

10 am to 12 pm ages 5 to 8
1 pm to 3 pm ages 9 to 12



All ages pizza party 11:30 am to 1:30 pm
on the 21st.



Check out the online reading tracker and activities, too! More information about the province wide program and registration can be found at bcsrc.ca

Register now, space is limited!

Register at the library for our in-person program, register online for online activities only.

Random Thoughts from Father David

Of St. Bernard's Catholic Church

After seven years in the Elk Valley I am now packing up all my stuff ready for my move to Vancouver Island. I hate moving, and I can well understand why it is considered to be the third most stressful life



event that most people experience. I don't enjoy the practical task of packing. I am sad because of the emotional stress of leaving so many people to whom I have been so close, and I really don't relish the task of starting all over again in a new place.

Yet three times before I have worked in a community for an extended time and then had to move on, and each time – *while very much missing those I have left behind* – I have loved my next assignment and quickly discovered a new place I was happy to call home. So I trust that this fourth

move will be the same. I am apprehensive about the damp climate that comes from living surrounded by ocean, but there again before moving to the Elk Valley I feared the idea of winters in the mountains, and I found some good sides of that.

As I say, I hate moving and I am not choosing to leave, but as a priest it is what we have to do. So please don't tell me that I can't go and I have to stay, because that will make the experience of leaving even harder, but wish me well.



SUMMIT OSTEOPATHY



Osteopathic Manual
Therapy Services

Helping you live
PAIN FREE

Book your initial
assessment and
treatment today!

807-355-1223

amandamoriosteopathy@gmail.com

<https://amandamoritherapy.janeapp.com>

Elkford and Fernie, BC

Elkford Minor Ball 2023 Season



On behalf of Elkford Minor ball we would like to thank everyone for supporting us this year. Many thanks to the coaches and parent volunteers for making the year a success. It always proves to be a challenge getting everyone in the pictures.

A very special thanks to our umpires that are always there to step in if available. Frank Trozzo, Kevin King, and Deven Stadnyk were key to us this season.

A special thanks to Mr. King for the donation of their family umpires equipment in honour of Mrs. King. Brent and Linda were long-time umpires in the Lethbridge area and son Kevin is carrying on the tradition here in Elkford. We hope to see everyone next year!

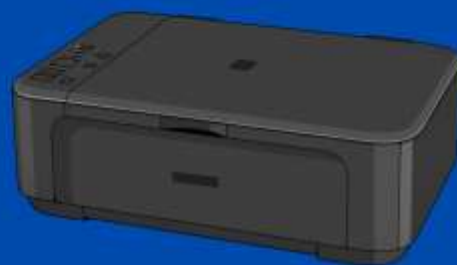
- submitted by Terry Vandale



Elkford Public Library

The New Photo Printer is Here!

@ the Elkford Public Library



Print Prices

4" x 6"	\$ 0.75
5" x 7"	\$ 1.00
8" x 10"	\$ 2.00
8.5" x 11"	\$ 3.00



Thank you to the Community Foundation of the Kootenay Rockies (CFKR) for funding this photo printer.

Wildcat Days Book Sale

IN THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM BESIDE THE LIBRARY



July 1st
12:30 to 4:30 pm

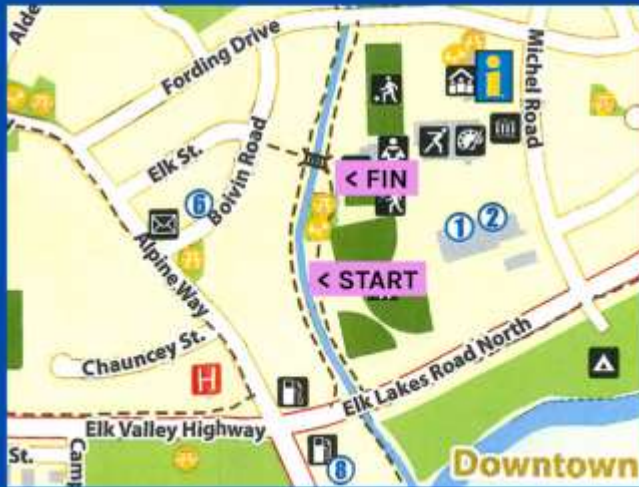
BY DONATION
CASH ONLY



Story Walks

Along Boivin Creek, Behind the Devonian Playground

New stories every two weeks until mid-September.



Please let us know if you've read the story so we can continue to offer them.



Take 'n' Make Crafts

Come in and get yours today.



New craft every 2 weeks
in the spring and summer.

Manga Club

July 6th & August 3rd
at 6:30 pm at the library.



Read something new
before each meeting
and talk about it
with fellow manga fans!

FREE CHILDREN'S BOOKS



ON THE CART
INSIDE THE LIBRARY WINDOW

Physical Education: Teens Experiencing Stewardship and Community Building

On May 26th, Elkford Secondary School PE students headed out for a day on a working adventure. Mr. Gulyas' and Mr. McAlister's grade 8/9 students were given pickaxes, axes, shovels, drills, hammers, and handsaws. They then headed up into Elkford's mountains to support the Elkford Trail Alliance (ETA) in maintaining a portion of Elkford's Trans Canada Trail. This large group of students were broken up into three teams. One group was in charge of clearing the trails of winter falls and spring overgrowth. One group was building a "squeeze gate" (to stop ATV and motorized traffic). The last group was tasked with building trenches to divert water from eroding the trail itself. Students hiked 8.5 km, worked on trails and had an epic lunch in *their* mountains.

This was a day for all the volunteers on site, where they saw students work with an intrinsic motivation to do something good for their community. Many kids had either said, "I have been here before with my family," "I have ridden this before," or "I want to come back and try this section on my bike." Students were connected to the land, to their community and it was evident that it was more than just digging dirt. This connection and determination to help lead to the biggest problem of the day. The planned work projects were not big enough and students completed their task in half the time. Volunteers like Craig Mackinnon, had to scramble and find other sections of trail to improve. Students took what they learned from the initial project and worked even more efficiently and then helped with the decision making. This was all so awesome to see, there was teamwork, communication, positive vibes, and a fundamental willingness to work.



Over the years the PE program at Elkford Secondary School has been going out supporting different active living groups in the community, from the Elkford Nordic Society (staining and painting their cabins) to Wapiti Ski Hill (cutting and clearing brush from the hill). Once a year we try to have students give back and help their community and experience what it means to be a part of a community by supporting local active living groups and societies through stewardship and community building. A big thank you to Collin Standish, Elkford Trails Alliance President, for providing the opportunity to help with this initiative. Collin made sure there was a project, tools for all students, he organized the lunch and provided hats for all the volunteers (ETA's Sponsors: TransCanada trail - Trail Care, Columbia sports wear, Kootenay Market for lunch, District of Elkford and RMR Radiators for tooling). A big thank you to the Elkford Lions Club and the Elkford United Steel Workers for supporting the transportation costs for such local adventures. Great hustle everyone!

- submitted by Mr. Gulyas





Kids Community Calendar Summer Dates July and August 2023

For children ages 0-6 with siblings welcome

Summer Park Play Dates

Tuesdays from 10-12 @ Devonian Park

Summer Reading Club at the Library (Ages 5-8 and 9-12)



Registration is required for Summer Reading Club activities at the library – register for this program at the library. In addition to our in-person program at the library, BC Summer Reading Club has an online reading tracker and online activities at bcsrcc.ca. The in-person and online programs need to be registered for separately – please ask us if you have any questions!

Summer Reading Club activities at the library run July 11th-13th, 18th-21st!

Activities for kids aged 5-8 from 10 am to 12 pm, activities for kids aged 9 – 12 from 1 to 3 pm. All ages pizza party on the 21st.

Elkford Aquatic Centre Swim Schedule

-find the updated summer schedule at www.elkford.ca

For More information on any groups or how to get involved please email:
elkfordecad@gmail.com or check out Elkford Early Years on Facebook!

Elkford Early Years Committee is an assembly of individuals and interested groups working together to address the importance of the first 6 years of a child's life. Meetings are the 2nd Monday of each month from 6:00pm at the Elkford Community Conference Centre. Contact: elkfordced@gmail.com or www.elkfordearlyyears.com



RMES PAC is a council open to all parents and/or guardians of students of Rocky Mountain Elementary School. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month from 6-8pm. Contact: RMES PAC Chair ~ rmpac@yahoo.ca Phone: 250-865-4341



Morning Out is a free drop-in program for children 0-6 and their parents / caregivers. Located at the Rec Centre Banquet Hall. Contact: elkfordced@gmail.com



Baby and Me Group
A weekly program for caregivers and parents to experience and share rhymes, songs, stories and baby topic discussions. For children 2 and under. Located in the hall above the arena. Contact: elkfordced@gmail.com



Elkford Healthy Start is a free drop-in program for parents and children 0-5yrs. Everyone welcome and parent participation is required! Located at the Rec Centre Banquet Hall. Contact: elkfordced@gmail.com



Elkford Leisure Service Department

Contact: recreation@elkford.ca
Phone: 250-865-4010
Visit www.elkford.ca or call for more program information.

To register for programs, please stop by the Elkford Community Conference Centre, Monday - Saturday from 9:00am - 5:00pm. All programs are on a first come first serve basis. They accept cash, debit, Visa MasterCard and cheque. To avoid disappointment, please register early. Low registrations one week prior to the class start date could result in the class being cancelled.



Elkford Aquatic Centre

Phone: 250-865-4012
Swimming Lessons are created based on interest. Please leave your name, phone number and level you wish to take with the pool. Visit the web site for the complete public swim schedule ~ www.elkford.ca



Elkford Play School

750 Fording Drive
Contact: Kim Bauer ~ ewf@telus.net
Phone: 250-434-1863 EWTF: 250-865-2031



COVID Screening
If you are experiencing COVID symptoms and would like a rapid test they are available for free at the Elkford IBA Pharmacy or at the Elkford Medical Clinic. Please call 250-865-2215 to pick yours up.



If you would like your COVID-19 Vaccination call to register! 1-833-828-2323

RESOURCE NUMBERS:

Elkford Medical Clinic	250-865-2215
Elkford Health Care Centre	250-865-2247
Public Health Nurse Elkford	1-800-644-6144 or
BCNurseline 24hrs	1-250-425-2064
Spar.	1-866-215-4700
Mental Health	1-800-661-0329 or
Addiction Services	1-250-425-4564
	1-800-644-6144 or
	1-250-423-4423
Ministry of Human Resources	1-866-866-0800
Ministry for Children & Family Development	1-800-667-5623
BCAA Car Seat Information	1-877-247-5551
CCRR	1-800-661-2445
East Kootenay Crisis Line	1-800-667-8407
East Kootenay Friends of Children	1-866-564-2217
Elk Valley Safe Homes	250-946-6004
Elk Valley Victim Assistance	250-425-0499 or
	250-423-7500
Elkford Women's Task Force	250-865-2031
Infant Development Program	1-877-999-2543
Elk Valley Preschool Speech-Language Program	250-430-7026
Family Support Institute	1-800-441-5403
Fernie Counselling	250-423-2608
PEACE	250-433-6353
Sexual Abuse Intervention	250-423-5311
CB Family Resource Society	250-430-1136
Women's Resource Centre	250-423-4687
Child and Youth Mental Health Outreach	250-423-0817

EKkids.ca is a website that was created as a resource for parents and children in the East Kootenays. The links take you to our community pages where you'll find information about the Early Childhood Development (ECD) teams for each community, along with resources, ways to get involved, and a community calendar which tells you what is going on in that community on a given day.

Coming Events

District of Elkford Wildcat Days are June 30th until July 2nd. Visit www.elkford.ca/wildcatdays for more information.

Canada Day July 1st.

Elkford Public Library Annual Book Sale as part of Wildcat Days on July 1st from 12:30 to 4:30 pm in the multipurpose room beside the library.

Summer Reading Club: Journey Through Time

July 11th to 13th and July 18th to 20th. Wrap up pizza party on the 21st. Register at the library for our in-person program. See pages 10 and 11 for details.

Manga Club for youth and teens July 6th and August 3rd at 6:30 pm at the library.

New Story Walk at Boivin Creek, behind the Devonian Playground July 10th & 24th and August 7th & 21st.

New Take 'n' Make Craft for kids available at the library July 11th & 25th, August 8th & 22nd.



Share your pictures of Elkford events in the Focus

We'd love to see photos and news about sports teams, school events, happenings or celebrations on these pages.

Email to
info@elkfordlibrary.org

Or call us at 250-865-2912



Did we mention that classified ads are free?
Short descriptive ads,
no more than 50 words.

If you wish to add a picture, then we charge you our regular ad rates (see below).

Advertising Rates per month effective January 1, 2017

	<u>Black & White</u>	<u>Colour</u>
Business Card	\$ 7.00	\$12.00
Quarter Page	\$15.00	\$30.00
Half Page	\$20.00	\$45.00
Full Page	\$25.00	\$80.00

Not Quite Classified Ads

Elkford Trails Alliance

Join us for weekday evening short hikes and mountain bike rides beginning later in May. Follow us on FB or IG for meeting places and times. www.elkfordtrails.com/eta
ETA is also looking for a secretary and trail maintenance lead, contact us if you are interested!

Elkford Food Bank

If you need assistance from the Food Bank, or you know somebody who does, please call **250-910-7088** and leave a message along with a return number. Your call will be returned at the earliest opportunity.

Elkford Search and Rescue

Practices held first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at 222 Alpine Way. Everyone welcome to attend.
Please contact elkfordsearchandrescue@gmail.com for current information.

Elkford Lions Club

Come join us - everyone welcome. Contact us at elkfordlions@gmail.com for current information.

Sketching in the Wild

Art camps for ages 8-12 this Summer in Elkford!
July 17th to 21st & Aug 14th to 18th (9 am - 4 pm) More info:
www.katherinerussell.ca

Any Lengths Group AA meetings

For current information contact Betty-Ann S.
250-433-6510. elkfordtrailsalliance@outlook.com

Thank you for saving resources!
Pass this paper on for
more people to enjoy!

Elk Valley Hospice

250-423-4453 Ext. 309

Elk Valley Safe Homes

Women's Shelter & Helpline
250-946-6004

Elkford Women's Task Force

250-865-2031

Kids Count Too

Kids Counselling
250-433-6353

Elk Valley Critical Incident Response Team

Critical Incident Emergency Contact
250-423-4226

**Deadline for submissions for the next issue of the
Elkford Focus is the 20th of each month.**

**Please email your classified ads to
info@elkfordlibrary.org and put classified ads
in the subject line. If you are sending us a coming
event, please put coming event in the subject line.**

elkford

Wild at heart.

2023 Property Tax & Utility Deadline

2023 Property Tax Notices and **2023 Residential Utility Notices** were mailed out at the end of May.

To avoid a 10 per cent penalty, all payments must be received by the tax deadline on **July 4, 2023**. *If your financial institution makes your property tax payment, you must still pay your annual Utilities Notice (water, sewer and solid waste) before July 4, 2023.* Unpaid utilities are also subject to a 10 per cent penalty.

A reminder that eligible homeowners across B.C. can no longer apply for their home owner grant through their local municipal office, but instead must apply directly to the Province of British Columbia. Eligibility requirements remain the same. To avoid penalties and interest, you **MUST** apply before the tax due date on **July 4, 2023**.

To apply for your home owner grant, or if you have questions or concerns about the home owner grant, please visit www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant or call **1.888.355.2700** to speak with a live agent.



Watering Restrictions

With plenty of residents wanting to water their lawns and gardens, Elkford has bylaws in place to help preserve and protect our water supply throughout the drier months.

To ensure capacity of Elkford's reservoirs in the event of a fire emergency (and adequate water for all throughout the summer) watering between **April 1 and September 30** is to take place on odd or even numbered days, **corresponding with your address**, and within the hours of **4 to 10 a.m.** and **8 to 11 p.m.** only.

District Office Closed July 3 for Canada Day

The District of Elkford Municipal Office will be closed on **Monday, July 3** in lieu of the **Canada Day** statutory holiday. We will reopen on **Tuesday, July 4** and look forward to seeing you then!



This is your official invite to join us this Canada Day long weekend (June 30 to July 2) for Elkford's wildest event of the summer: Wildcat Days! Visit www.elkford.ca/wildcatdays for the official map + event guide or pick one up at the event itself.

Questions? Contact Community & Facility Services directly at **250.865.4010**, recreation@elkford.ca or **750 Fording Drive**.

Upcoming Council & Committee Meetings

- July 10 at 6 p.m.
- July 24 at 6 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place in Council Chambers at 744 Fording Drive. Electronic attendance is also welcome. Visit <http://zoom.us/join> and enter the meeting ID: **250 865 4000**, then click join and wait for the host to let you into the meeting.

2023 Annual Pool Maintenance Shutdown



From **July 17 to August 7**, the Elkford Aquatic Centre will be closed to complete our annual scheduled maintenance shutdown so that we can provide you with the safest, cleanest and most enjoyable swimming experience possible.

We appreciate your patience and look forward to welcoming you back to the Aquatic Centre on **August 8**.

Questions? Contact the Aquatic Centre directly at **250.865.4012** or pool@elkford.ca.

Aquatic Centre Updates



Wondering what's new at the pool? Our Aquatic Centre staff has been working hard to offer great new programs for the community. During the lead-up to the Elkford Triathlon—a highly anticipated annual event, with the swimming leg of the race being held at the pool—the Elkford Aquatic Centre recently successfully launched a 10-week program aimed at enhancing swimming strokes and boosting endurance for interested swimmers and triathletes alike: **Stroke Improvement**.

Led by two of the Elkford Aquatic Centre's qualified and knowledgeable instructors, Rebecca Robinson and Kenzie Karwandy, this exciting new program saw impressive progress for 10 swimmers who dedicated themselves to improving weekly fitness skills, performing endurance drills and doing timed swims in preparation to swim in the Elkford Triathlon.

Missed the boat on this one but wanting to work on your swimming skills? Whether you're a seasoned swimmer or hoping to make your first dive into the world of aquatic fitness, the Aquatic Centre offers something for everyone! After our Annual Pool Maintenance Shutdown is completed in August, you can look forward to more swim lessons and activities being announced on our website!

Stay in the loop by visiting www.elkford.ca/programs and www.elkford.ca/pool, where you can explore our full lineup of aquatic programming, view the latest pool schedules and learn more about registration. Our friendly staff look forward to welcoming you to our facility!

We're Open 24/7/365 at www.elkford.ca!

From pool schedules to public notices to council agendas—and everything else in between—our website is your 24/7/365 one-stop shop for all things Elkford!