

The Elkford Focus

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to a friend

info@elkfordlibrary.org

November 2024
Volume 18 Issue 9



Elkford Public Library

Northern Lights Sensation



Photo submitted by Cindy Munn

Early October's night skies stirred up quite a buzz throughout the community with a dazzling display of the northern lights.

Continued on page 9.

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Questions: info@elkfordlibrary.org

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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:

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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



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Sunlight is an essential ingredient for a healthy lifestyle, but many of us don't get the amount of daylight we need to experience its benefits. HappyLight[®] Luxe LED light therapy lamp mimics sunlight using full spectrum light to enhance mood, energy, sleep, and focus.

Want to try it out? Borrow a lamp from the Elkford Public Library!



BCLIQUOR

814 Michel Rd
Elkford, BC V0B 1H0
250-865-2466

Check Out our New Hours in Elkford!

Monday	10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday	10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday	10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday	10:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

DISCOVER
TOGETHER



Elkford Search and Rescue's Fall Recruiting Drive

Elkford Search and Rescue (Elkford SAR to our friends) is launching a recruiting drive in November.

We are a dedicated, professional volunteer team, trained to the high standards set by the Province of BC, prepared to promptly respond to critical incidents. We respond to calls for assistance from the ambulance service (if a person is injured but at a remote location), and from the RCMP in the case of lost persons.

You might be a good fit for Elkford SAR if some or all of these things appeal to you:

You want to learn backcountry skills or you already have backcountry experience.

You want to be a part of a fun-loving team.

You like the idea of spending all night in the woods providing first aid to an injured person while you wait for a helicopter.

You are not interested in getting out in the bush, but have a knack for administration, bookkeeping, communication, or information technology. (There's always a group supporting the teams in the field.)

You want to help people in need.

Our new members will go through a training process that covers search methods, tracking, map reading, and wilderness survival. Training will be two or three times a month, in the evenings, spread out over about a year. We know that many Elkford residents work shifts, so the training schedule will be designed to work around everybody's shift schedule.

It won't take the full year to start getting involved. Once the first few stages of training have been completed, our new members will be invited to join the rest of the team in regular practices and on call-outs.

Look for us at Moonlight Madness on November 22nd, where you can talk to some of our members and learn more about us. Or you can send us an email at recruiting@elkfordsar.org.

- submitted by Kevin Atherton



elkford
Wild at heart.

WWW.ELKFORD.CA

Mayor's Musings

WRITTEN BY
Steve Fairbairn
Mayor for the District of Elkford

Well, this autumn season continues to be one of excitement and thrills around every corner! And, what a wonderful fall it has been!

First, I am excited to share that the District of Elkford has a new Chief Administrative Officer, and I'd like to introduce him! Welcome to Jeff McConnell, a big fan of Bruce Springsteen and a bigger fan of the Elk Valley and more specifically—of Elkford! Jeff is currently the Director of Corporate Administration with the City of Fernie, and originally hails from Manitoba where he spent time as a managing partner in a law firm. Jeff's call to local government came to him while serving several years as an elected official—both Councillor and Mayor—for his hometown of Virden. He also served as a Director for the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (Manitoba's version of our UBCM) and has sat as a Director with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

About six years ago, Jeff found his way to the Elk Valley as the Director of Corporate Administration with the City of Fernie and is now making the move to join us in Elkford in his dream job of Chief Administrative Officer! An innovative thinker, Jeff is a thoughtful, empowering leader who has decades of experience to draw on and a desire to cultivate a workplace of trust, top performance and creativity. We look forward to working with him starting at the beginning of November!

In other staffing news, I bittersweetly share with you the news of the departure of Jeremy Johnston, our Director of Planning and Development Services. While I am excited for him as he moves on to an exciting new chapter, we are certainly sad to see such a great team member go.

It would take a very long time to list the scope of changes that Jeremy has helped drive for Elkford—the overhauling and modernization of development-related bylaws, the Official Community Plan rewrite, the Trails Master Plan and of course the Downtown Revitalization Plan, which has led to the major housing development that has been awarded through the BC Builds program. These are just a few of the projects that Jeremy steered, sculpted and kiln-fired for us during his time here.

Director Johnston has left a legacy of growth and development in the District of Elkford. I thank him for his skills and dedication to us, and I wish him every success in his new chapter. I feel truly lucky to have experienced his work, his style and his leadership over the last few years. On other fronts, before Mother Nature treated us with snow, we got the paving around the Childcare Centre and the old tennis courts done, as well as pothole patching around town. Calling

all pickleball players (and the aspiring ones, too): look forward to pickleball markings in the tennis courts in the spring!

In preparation for the fluffy white stuff, please don't forget about the winter parking rules. No on-street parking between the hours of 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. from November 1 to March 31. This allows our awesome Public Works crew the space they need to do their job! Snow removal is top notch in Elkford, and we want to keep it that way, so we ask you to do your part so we can do ours!

Winter tires on, winter boots fitted, toques on the shelf, winter jackets hung, snow shovels at the ready, snowblowers fueled up and tested, on your marks, get set...and...happy November, everyone!

Until next time...

Mayor Steve

Elkford Project Society Annual General Meeting

The Elkford Project Society Annual General Meeting will be held Thursday, November 21st at the Elkford Secondary School Library at 6:30 pm.

If you are interested in what we do we would love to see you there!

Some of the local clubs we have helped out in the past such as the Elkford Ski Hill, Elkford Cross Country Club, Elk Valley Minor Hockey, Elkford Figure Skating Club, Elkford Minor Ball Club, Elkford Soccer Club, Rocky Mountain Elementary School, Elkford Secondary School, Mountain Meadows Golf Club as well as many, many others.

All welcome!

- submitted by Terry Vandale



Paint Night



The Elkford Public Library's Paint Night was an enjoyable and relaxing event where participants, under the guidance of an instructor, explored different techniques and expressed themselves through painting sunflowers.



(Left to Right) Maggie Milas, Alison Seward, Courtney Seeger, Sharon Villemaire, Kelli Matthews, Lisa Klix, Cindy Li, Stephanie Kozier, and Leanne Ayres.



LEST WE FORGET

We will remember—today, tomorrow and always.

The TuneSmiths: Warm-up to Winter Free Community Concert

- Saturday, November 2
- Doors open: 6 p.m.
- Music from 7 to 9 p.m.
- Community Conference Centre:
750 Fording Drive
- Admission: free
- Cash concession



Everyone welcome! A night of fun and entertainment with Douglas Francis Mitchell, a Cranbrook singer/songwriter, and Wally Smith, a Wycliffe multi-instrumentalist who claims he can squeeze a tune out of a chicken. They are the 'TuneSmiths'.

Mitchell has written over 125 songs on guitar and banjo, including songs for the Council of Canadians, the Ktunaxa Nation and BiketoworkBC. His songs have aired on CBC Toronto, Regina, Kelowna and Victoria. He has shared his musical perspectives with audiences from Nashville to Newfoundland, San Antonio to Tofino. His fourth album, 'Kickin' Round the Kootenays' was released in the fall of 2022.

Wally Smith, a player of many instruments, feels the urge to make music flow no matter the genre—from Scottish small pipes to various drums, tin whistles, button accordion, mandolin, guitar and the most egregious instrument of all—the banjo.

Bleeder Valves: ON

A friendly reminder to all residents to turn **ON** the bleeder valves in your residences from **October 31 to May 1**. This important bylaw is in place to prevent your pipes from freezing and cracking in colder temperatures. Questions? Contact Public Works at **250.865.4025** or **publicworks@elkford.ca**.



Closed for Remembrance Day

District of Elkford facilities will be closed on **Monday, November 11** to observe Remembrance Day, a federal statutory holiday. We look forward to seeing you again on **Tuesday, November 12**.

A Reminder From the Elkford Fire Department

Did you know that the majority of fire fatalities occur in one and two-storey residential family homes? According to the BC Office of the Fire Commissioner, 75 per cent occur in the winter months—all in time of darkness, when address identification is most difficult.

The Elkford Fire Department asks you to take a moment to assess your home for outside address identification. In the event of an emergency, will your home's address be visible to emergency first responders? Is your address clearly marked? Will it be covered in snow or hidden in the darkness? If it is inadequate or in need of repair, please take the time to repair or improve it. It could save your life!

November Council Meetings

- **November 12 Regular Council 6 p.m.**
- **November 28 Regular Council 6 p.m.**

Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place in Council Chambers at 744 Fording Drive.

For regular council meetings, electronic attendance is 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.

Winter Parking Bylaw

Don't forget the winter parking bylaw! From **November 1 to March 31**, on-street parking is prohibited between the hours of **6 a.m. to 4 p.m.** to allow for optimal snow removal. Questions? Contact Bylaw Enforcement at **250.865.4024** or **bylaw@elkford.ca**.

Remembrance Day Poppy & Wreath Campaign

In partnership with the Royal Canadian Legion, the District of Elkford is facilitating the annual Poppy and Wreath Campaign. All funds collected in this campaign are forwarded directly to the Royal Canadian Legion.

To donate or purchase a wreath or cross to lay at the Cenotaph in Elkford on November 11, contact Community and Facility Services at **250.865.4010** or by email at **events@elkford.ca**



2024 Remembrance Day Ceremony

On **Monday, November 11**, you are invited to attend Elkford's Remembrance Day ceremony in honour of those who have fought for our freedom. All are welcome to attend.

- **DATE:** Monday, November 11, 2024
- **TIME:** 10:45 a.m. (ceremony start time)
- **LOCATION:** Outside at the Cenotaph, located between the District Office and the Community Conference Centre.

Those who are unable to attend may pay their respects by observing two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. to honour, thank and remember the fallen. You may also attend the National Remembrance Day Ceremony by tuning in to the Royal Canadian Legion's live broadcast.

Questions? Contact Community & Facility Services directly at **250.865.4010** or **events@elkford.ca**.

PHOTO: "Lakeside" by Judy Zimmer

Continued from front page.

Here are some stunning photos of different perspectives of the northern lights which were captured in the last month around the Elk Valley and beyond by some of our community members. Thank you to all who submitted a photo!



Photo submitted by Mikayla Welsh.



Photo submitted by Colleen Welter-Gavey.



Photo submitted by Jennifer Welsh.



Photo submitted by Jennifer Welsh.



Photo submitted by Relda Unrau Akkerman.



Photo submitted by Jennifer Welsh.

Elkford Public Library

Millennial & Gen X Board Game Night

JOIN US FOR A CASUAL NIGHT OF TABLETOP GAMING!

**November 29th
6:30 to 8:30 pm**



CATAN
CARCASSONNE
TICKET TO RIDE
PANDEMIC
SPIRIT ISLAND
7 WONDERS
AND MORE

LEGO Day at the Library



**November 1st & 22nd
2 to 4 pm**

Please note that supervision is not provided; adults are responsible for supervising their children.



YOGA Fundraiser

**Beginner November 8th
All-Levels November 18th
6:30 to 7:30 pm**

Bring your yoga mat to the library for a beginner-friendly vinyasa flow class! Pay what you can to support the library.

Family Board Game Day

Use our games or bring your own.

November 23rd, 1 to 3 pm

This event is for all ages. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.





Writing Club

**November 14th
6:30 to 8 pm**

Come join us for a casual fun night of writing prompts, exercises, share your work and get feedback.

Tales for Tots



November 7th & 14th

**Join us for a parent & tot story time from
10:30 to 11 am Thursday mornings!**



TECH FRIDAYS AT THE LIBRARY

Need tech help?
Bring your device and your questions!

**November 1st, 15th, & 29th
from 12 to 4 pm**

PHOTO CONTEST AWARDS



**November 6th
6:30 pm
at the library**

COME OUT AND SEE IF YOU WON!

Book Club

**November 7th
at 6:30 pm**



Next Book
Looking for Jane
by Heather Marshall



See our events calendar at

<http://elkford.bc.libraries.coop/calendar/>

for details about events and programs.

Elkford
Chamber of Commerce

Elkford MOONLIGHT MADNESS MARKET

November 22, 2024
Doors open: 4:00-8:00pm



Elkford Community
Conference Center

JOIN US FOR A FESTIVE HOLIDAY MARKET! SHOP UNIQUE GIFTS FROM VENDORS & ARTISANS, ENJOY DINNER, AND MEET SANTA. FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



KID'S COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2024



PROGRAMS, EVENTS AND INFORMATION FOR KIDS AGES 0-12

All programs, meetings, and events are subject to change. Please contact the individuals on the back for confirmation of times and details.

Elkford Community Resource Numbers

- POLICE 911
- AMBULANCE 911
- BCNurseLine 1-866-215-4700
- POISON CONTROL 911 or 1-800-461-9911
- RMES 250-865-4625
- Recreation Centre 250-865-4010
- Aquatic Centre 250-865-4012
- Public Library 250-865-2912

Playgroups

All located in the Alliance Church unless otherwise specified on calendar.

- Mondays:** Little Wapitis 10-12
- Tuesdays:** Elkford Strolls 9:15-10
- Wednesdays:** Parent/Tot Funtimes 9:30-11:30
- Fridays:** Baby Laplines (2 and under) 10-11:30
- Saturdays:** Healthy Start 10-12

If you would like the Kid's Calendar emailed to you or you have any information you would like included or updated in this calendar please contact: Kenzie Karwandy at kenzie.bau.21@gmail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 No School RMES Baby Lapline—10-11:30 Legos @ Library 2-4	2 Healthy Start 10-11:30 Free Concert @ Teck Hall front Doors Open Public Skating 6:30-8:30
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends Public Skating 4-6	4 Little Wapitis 10-12	5 Elkford Strolls 9:15-10	6 Parent Tot Funtime 9:30-11:30	7 Tales For Tots 10:30-11	8 Baby Lapline 10-11:30	9 Healthy Start 10-11:30 Public Skating 6:30-8:30
10 Public Skating 4-6	11 No School RMES Remembrance Day Ceremony @ DOE 11am	12 Elkford Strolls 9:15-10	13 Parent Tot Funtime 9:30-11:30	14 Tales For Tots 10:30-11	15 Baby Lapline 10-11:30 Legos @ the Library 2-4	16 Healthy Start Lego Day w/ the Library 10-11:30 Public Skating 6:30-8:30
17 Public Skating 4-6	18 Play In The K @ RMES 9:30-11:15	19 Elkford Strolls 9:15-10	20 Parent Tot Funtime 9:30-11:30	21	22 No School RMES Baby Lapline 10:00-11:30 Legos @ Library 2-4	23 Healthy Start 10-11:30
24 Public Skating 4-6	25 Little Wapitis—Dental Hygiene Visit	26 Elkford Strolls 9:15-10	27 Parent Tot Funtime 9:30-11:30	28	29 Baby Lapline 10-11:30	30 Healthy Start 10-11:30 Public Skating 6:30-8:30

Sponsors and Partners:



TURN OVER FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION





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 1st Monday of each month starting at noon at the Alliance Church (1803 Alpine Dr). Anyone is welcome to attend.
 Contact: elkfordecd@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 ~ rmespac24@gmail.com



Little Wapitis is a free drop-in program for children 0-6 and their parents / caregivers.
 Located at the Alliance Church (1803 Alpine Dr)
 Contact: elkfordecd@gmail.com



Elkford Strolls is a new stroller/walking group. There will be multiple different routes and meet up points so be sure to watch for emails and posts for location updates. Parents can get out, be active, and connect during their walks.
 Contact: elkfordecd@gmail.com



Baby Laptimes is a weekly program for caregivers and parents to experience and share rhymes, songs, stories and baby topic discussions. For children 2 and under.
 Located at the Alliance Church (1803 Alpine Dr)
 Contact: elkfordecd@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: elkfordecd@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 Playschool

750 Fording Drive
 Contact: Kim Bauer ~ ewf@telus.net
 Phone: 250-433-1863 EWTf; 250-865-2031

RESOURCE NUMBERS:

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

Art Camp on NI Fridays

November 1st & 22nd. Register at katherinerussell.ca

Tech Fridays November 1st, 15th, & 29th from 12 to 4 pm at the library.

Fernie Ghostriders Hockey Home Games November 2nd, 8th, 23rd & 30th from 7 to 9:30 pm at the Fernie Memorial Arena.

Yoga Fundraiser at the library November 8th & 18th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Bring your mat and pay what you can to support the library.

Fernie Ski & Board Film Fest celebrates the upcoming winter season and will be live at the Knox on 2nd on Saturday, November 9th.

Remembrance Day November 11th.

Writing Club November 14th at 6:30 pm at the library.

Glass Mosaic Workshop (Adults)

November 15th & 22nd. Register at elkfordarts.ca

Moonlight Madness November 22nd at the Elkford Community Conference Center from 4 to 8 pm.

Family Board Game Day at the library, November 23rd from 1 to 3 pm.

Elkford Public Library Regular Board Meeting

November 26th at 6:30 pm in the library. All are welcome.

Millennial & Gen X Board Game Night November 29th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the library.

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

Interested in trail building? Meet at the ETA seacan every Monday at 6 pm to work on the new Boivin Loop trail. All welcome.

Tuesday evening group hikes & Wednesday evening mountain bike rides continue until the snow flies. Follow us on FB or IG for meeting locations.

Passport and ID Photos

Call Katherine at 250-665-8005. katherinerussell.ca

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 Lions Club

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

Any Lengths Group AA meetings

For current information contact Betty-Ann S. 250-433-6510



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

Elk Valley Hospice
250-423-4453 Ext. 309

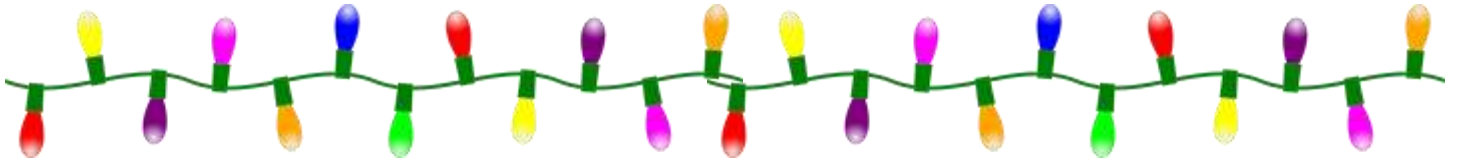
Elk Valley Safe Homes
Women's Shelter & Helpline
250-946-6004

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.



Season's Greetings

It's time to submit your Season's Greetings for the December issue of the Elkford Focus.

We are offering colour 2" x 3 1/2" Season's Greetings for \$12.00 each.

Get your order in early. Limited space is available. Drop this form off at the library with your payment, or mail to:

**Elkford Focus
c/o Elkford Public Library
Box 280
Elkford, BC
V0B 1H0**

The deadline for Christmas Greetings is November 20th.

For more information, contact us at **250-865-2912** or at **info@elkfordlibrary.org**

Other greeting sizes are available at regular advertising rates.

Name/Business: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Which Greeting would you like?

___ Season's Greetings

___ Merry Christmas

___ Happy Holidays

___ Your own greeting: _____

If you would like your logo included, please send a digital copy to **info@elkfordlibrary.org**.
Make cheques payable to Elkford Public Library.

