

The Elkford Focus

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December 2024 / January 2025
Volume 18 Issue 10



ESS Celtics Volleyball



Photos by Chris Hurley.

Continued on page 10.

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Course 24 hours Start Date: Sep 16 | Oct 14 | Nov 11 | Dec 09

[Enroll Now](#)

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Elkford Public Library



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Send us an email:
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<http://elkford.bclibrary.ca>

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 Elkford Public Library

Hours:
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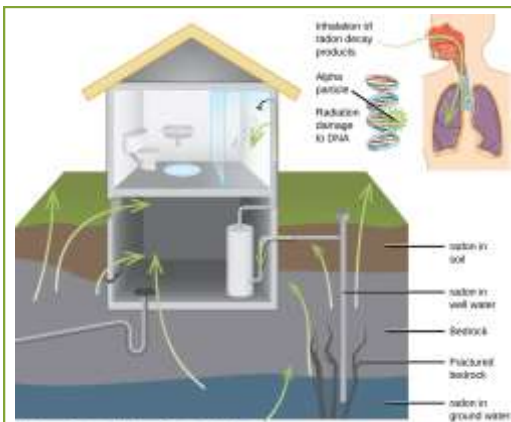
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Borrow a Radon Detection Kit from the Library

Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in Canada and is responsible for as many as 16% of lung cancer deaths.

We have one Corentium Home model radon detector which is about the size of a mobile phone, and has a digital display which produces readings in about an hour. The device needs at least 7 days for highest accuracy. You can borrow it for up to 28 days. The Radon Detection Library Lending Program is provided free through support from Health Canada, the BC Lung Association, Simon Fraser University, and Airthings.



Holiday Greetings



Elkford Trails Alliance

On September 21st, the Elkford Trails Alliance hosted their first ever poker derby on the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle network. Over 30 participants took to the trails to run, hike, or bike with friends and family for an opportunity to win great prizes. Funds raised will go towards the ETA's recently approved project to add over 8 km of non-motorized trails, utilizing old trails, skid and logging roads where possible, in the lower Boivin valley. These trails will allow additional access for biking, hiking, and snowshoeing.



The ETA would like to thank all the participants and volunteers for making the event enjoyable. Also, we would like to thank our sponsors, Legacy Ford, EVR, KAPPS, Westridge Roc Komatsu, Tathlina's Pottery, Wonderland Clinical Esthetics, Fernie Roasting Co, Kootenay Market, Elkford IDA, Sue Wagner Pottery, Elkford Search and Rescue, and Noteworthy Coffee for their donations of supplies and prizes.



Follow us on Facebook to see upcoming events. We hope to see you on the trails!

- submitted by Travis Wilson



elkford
Wild at heart.

WWW.ELKFORD.CA

Mayor's Musings

WRITTEN BY
Steve Fairbairn
Mayor for the District of Elkford

'Tis The Season

This edition of my Musings will include an early Christmas wish—one of white, soft, fluffy powder snow to ski on, moderate early winter temperatures, safer highways, family gatherings and joyous festivals and soirees!

We are Forging Forward...New CAO, Projects, Advocacy and More!

Our new CAO—Jeff McConnell—is adjusting well to the amazing community that Elkford is, as well as getting to work with the friendly hard-working staff of the District of Elkford. I have been enjoying our time together as he settles into his new role and into our community!

The DoE (okay, grammatically speaking, it isn't 'the DoE', but the organization's humans) are still searching for a Director of Planning and Development Services to fill the empty seat left by the former Director. As with so many other situations and businesses, recruitment for qualified humans is a challenge. Don't fret—we will persevere!

On the topic of staffing challenges—staffing is once again becoming an issue at the local clinic. While we don't have input into how Interior Health and the Elk Valley arm of the organization make their staffing decisions, your council is working hard to create functional, inviting and affordable housing solutions to help draw employees to town.

That big exciting purpose-built rental project that has been awarded to the Elk Valley Family Society to be located across from the nearly finished seniors' housing facility continues to slowly grind its way through the many-layered bureaucracies that have their toes in the pond—Interior Health, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, B.C. Housing, an election, etc. Know's who's not on that bureaucratic list? The District of Elkford! I am proud to say that your council and the entire staff team continue to find creative ways to encourage green tape and not red tape!

Get in the Holiday Spirit!

We hope to see you at upcoming seasonal events, including some long-standing family favourites, and some newer traditions that we are openly embracing! Check out all you need to know at www.elkford.ca!

Seniors' Christmas Luncheon

- December 11 at noon (doors open at 11:30 a.m.). And, yep, hard to believe given my you appearance, but alas, I will be there, too!
- I hope to see all residents who are 60 years + join us.
- RSVP by December 3 to 250.865.40210 or events@elkford.ca.

2nd Annual Truck Parade & Tree Light-Up

-December 2

-Parade through town starts at 6 p.m.

- Gathering for the tree light-up after the parade at 7 p.m. at Elkford's Meeting Place (that's the gazebo between the District Office and the Community Conference Centre.

-Want to join the parade? Register by December 29. Then, cover your car in Christmas lights, elves, Santas, reindeer...heck, there are no bounds to creativity here! Register at 250.865.4010 or events@elkford.ca.

- Look for a parade map and all the details on our website.

And...don't forget an Elkford Christmas Eve tradition! The North Pole has confirmed that Santa will be visiting Elkford on December 24. Our Fire Department will be touring Santa around town on the firetruck and collecting cash donations for local food banks. We are still awaiting the details from the North Pole, which will be posted on our Facebook page and website as soon as we receive them!

PSA: It is, in Fact, Winter out There!

I'll close with a public service announcement: IT'S WINTER OUT THERE! That means snow and ice. On the road. Where you drive. THE LAWS OF PHYSICS STILL APPLY! All those fancy doodads in your car may help you go faster, but the coefficient of friction between you and the ground is lower. Slow down and leave more space between your vehicle and the one in front of you. Consider how many months the body shop will take to repair your car—a lot longer than the added time it takes to arrive safely at your destination. Besides, a crash is a lousy way to change someone's life. Buy them a present they want instead. Leave home 10 minutes earlier. (it is considered an unsecured load and you can be ticketed). As to scraping your windows clean: you wouldn't have bought the vehicle without windows, why are you driving it with windows covered with ice and snow? Driving your child to school while you can only see out of a small space in the windshield cleared off? Consider the risk that you are putting your child at, as well as the safety of every other child in the school and on the roadway. Plan your morning a little bit better—10 minutes or less is all that it takes to be considerate of other road users.

Sharing some Joy from our Home to Yours!

Yes, the rumours are true: the Fairbairn family has new furry member—a dog (puppy, actually....a large one)! We are totally enjoying her presence in our lives. Thanks to the efforts of Twin Meadows Animal Rescue Society, our home is busier, happier and funnier! Squeaky toys, torn blankets and pillows, random dog toys, and...a vehicle large enough to transport a dog in (how much does pet ownership cost, you ask?). We'd love for you to say hi if you see us out and about! Now...spread joy, keep warm and enjoy the season: snow blow your neighbour's berm, shovel their front step, enjoy the Christmas lights and decorations, wear a toque, take out your snow shoes...just do what makes you—and others—smile!

Mayor Steve



The Elkford Public Library's

Sourdough 101

Would like to thank United Steel
Workers Local 7884
for the generous donation of their
space.





Free Community Christmas Event

Hosted By: THE LIGHTHOUSE

Saturday, December 14th 1-3pm

Live Nativity with Stable Animals!!!

Enjoy the retelling of the Christmas Story

ACTIVITY CYCLE STARTS EVERY 20 MIN

EXAMPLE: START TIMES 1, 1:20, 1:40 ETC...

BONFIRE WITH HOTDOGS, S'MORES AND HOT DRINKS

CRAFTS, GAMES, STORIES AND CAROLS

TOTAL ACTIVITY DURATION IS 1H : 40MIN

✦ 2900 BALMER DRIVE

You can submit an article to the Elkford Focus for FREE!



Send us your submissions of events, announcements, classifieds, ideas, and opinions to info@elkfordlibrary.org by the 20th of the month to appear in the next issue.



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EVR'S Annual Outdoor Recreationalist Meeting

Join us for an information session on EVR's approach to Conservation, Land Management and Reclamation.

December 4, 2024

Information Booths

4:30pm – 7:00pm

Presentation

5:15pm

Location

Causeway Bay, Sparwood, BC

Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

evr.com

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ESS Celtics Volleyball



Congratulations to the Elkford Secondary School Junior Boys and Senior Boys Volleyball Teams for their outstanding performances at the Junior Boys East Kootenays and Senior Boys Single A Kootenay Zones Championships—both hosted right here at home in the Hugh Twa Memorial Gym. Both teams played with exceptional skill, passion, sportsmanship, and Celtic pride, representing Elkford in the most inspiring way.

A huge thank you goes out to all the supporters who helped make this season such a tremendous success. Coaches Tate Clarkson, Kaelin Walgren, and Darrin Cook have been invaluable to our athletes, we are also grateful for the parents, ESS Athletic Director Devan Sanford, the ESS staff, and our SD5 bus drivers for their unwavering support. And, of course, a special shout-out to our dedicated fans—those who cheered passionately from the stands and those who tuned in via live stream. Your energy and enthusiasm have been felt by every player, and we are beyond grateful to share this exciting journey with you.

We are thrilled to announce that the Senior Boys Volleyball Team has earned the opportunity to represent the Kootenays at the BC School Sports Single A Provincial Volleyball Championship for a second year in a row. This year hosted in Abbotsford, happening November 27–30. This is a huge achievement, and the team is beyond excited to show the big city schools what our small corner of the province has to offer!

As we prepare for Provincials, we will be launching fundraising efforts to help offset the significant costs of sending our 11 enthusiastic athletes and one proud coach to Abbotsford. We appreciate any support the community can provide as we continue swinging for success at the provincial level!

Stay tuned for updates and thank you again for your ongoing support!



Pictured on the left JR East Kootenay Champions: Coach Tate Clarkson, Xavier Haviland, Andrew Rust, Boston Olsen, Kavan Cook, Liam Hurley, Assistant Coach Darrin Cook, Jared Welsh, Evan Newlove, John Welsh, Paul Gagnon, Ben Chamberlain, Martin Li, and Sawyer Clarkson.



Pictured on the Right SR Kootenay Zone Champions: Assistant Coach Kaelin Walgren, Cole Tennant, Nicholas Gagnon, Ronan Cook, Brayden Smith, Andrew Rust, Boston Olsen, Lindi Clarkson, Liam Hurley, Coach Darrin Cook, Sawyer Clarkson, Brendan Arthur and Ben Chamberlain.



Celtic Athletics



As the High School Volleyball Season at Elkford Secondary School draws to a close, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated community fans, both near and far, for your unwavering support and enthusiasm. This year, ESS proudly fielded 7 competitive teams, each showcasing incredible athleticism, skill, dedication, and Celtic Spirit—both on and off the court. Our teams included the Grade 7 Girls, Bantam Boys and Girls, Junior Boys and Girls, and Senior Boys and Girls.

Each team played with passion and pride, competing in tournaments across the East and West Kootenays, as well as in the Pass. Your support helped fuel their performances, and we couldn't be more grateful.

A special shout-out goes to our amazing school and community volunteers who went above and beyond to assist with hosting visiting teams for league games and tournaments. Your contributions ensured that we had the resources and support to succeed throughout the season. Thank you for being a part of our volleyball journey, and for helping make this season one to remember!



Grade 7 Girls



Bantam Girls



Bantam Boys



Junior Girls



Junior Boys



Senior Girls



Senior Boys

Thank You Coaches! We Dig You!

Thomas Skelton,
Jamie Paton,
Rebecca Bauer,
Mike Haviland,
Thorsten Haviland,
Brendan Arthur,
Bryanna Johnston,
Milissa Fitzgerald,
Erick Canlas, Luke
Johnston, Shelby
Wurmlinger, Taeler
Kniert, Dustin
Murray, Kaelin
Walgren and Darrin
Cook



VOLLEYBALL





ELKFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



Category: Abstract
Photographer: Jeff Gavey
Location: Elkford



Category: Long Exposure
Photographer: Raf Rzedowski
Location: Elk Prairie



Category: Abstract (Youth)
Photographer: Isaac Russell
Location: Water-tower, Elkford



Category: Interesting Perspective (Youth)
Photographer: Skarlett Bilenki
Location: Elkford



Category: Long Exposure (Youth)
Photographer: Emily Li
Location: Lundbreck Falls



Category: Open
Photographer: Colleen Welter-Gavey
Location: Elkford



Category: Open (Youth)
Photographer: Hawk Bilenki
Location: Elkford



Interesting Perspectives
Photographer: Raf Rzedowski
Location: Elk Prairie

**2025 PHOTO CONTEST CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE TO
PURCHASE AT THE LIBRARY FOR \$10 EACH**

January 2025



Name & Age:

Phone number & Email address:

Elk Valley Streak

Beat the winter blues by getting outside for a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity every day this January. Snowshoeing, biking, cross country skiing, walking, tobogganing, downhill skiing, snowman-building... it all counts!

To be eligible to win prizes:

Step #1: Register (\$10* for adults, kids are free) and you can find the link on our FB, IG and website.

Step #2: Record your physical activity on this (or any) calendar for all 31 days in January

Step #3: Hand this completed calendar in at the Elkford Visitor's Centre by February 5th



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

*All funds raised go towards a local charity, announced mid-December (visit our FB page to find out which one!)

*By submitting this form I authorize my email address to be added to the ETA mailing list

ELKFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Book Club



Date: December 19, January 30

Time: 6:30–8 pm

December's book: *I Hope This Finds You Well* by Natalie Sue

January's book: *Run Towards Danger* by Sarah Polley

Family Board Game Day



Date: December 14, January 25

Time: 1–3 PM

All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

LEGO Day



Date: January 24

Time: 2–4 PM

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

Millennial and Gen-X Board Game Night



Date: December 20, January 31

Time: 6:30–8 PM

This program is for adults, please be respectful of other attendees and do not attend with children.

For more information on programs visit our website. <https://elkford.bc.libraries.coop/>

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Tales for Tots



Date: December 14

Time: 11:30 AM–12:30 PM

Storytime, crafts and visit with Santa.
Swimming with Early Years starts at 12:30 pm

TECH FRIDAY



Date: December 13, January 10, 24

Time: 2–4 PM

Bring your devices and your questions to the library. Open to all ages and all devices (phones, tablets, laptops, etc.).

Writing Club



Date: December 13, January 17

Time: 6:30–8 PM

Drop in to our monthly adult writing club for a casual night of writing exercises and quiet time to work on your writing projects.

YOGA Fundraiser



Date: Beginner Yoga December 9, January 26

All Levels December 18, January 29

Time: 6:30–7:30 PM

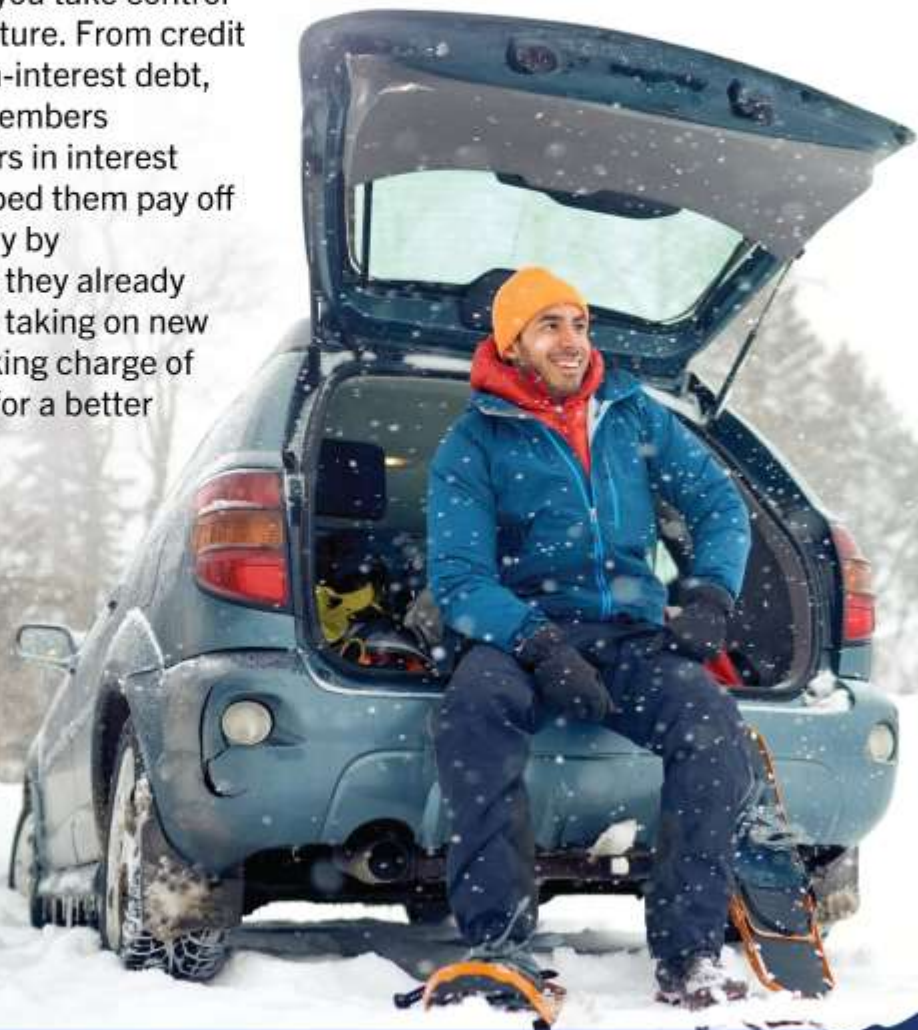
Yoga Fundraisers: Pay what you can to support us!

Check out our “Resource Center” at the library for take home resources, program materials, and more.

StellerVista.com/simplify

Redefine Your Debt.

Let our team help you take control of your financial future. From credit cards to other high-interest debt, we've saved our members thousands of dollars in interest payments and helped them pay off debt faster—simply by restructuring what they already owe. It's not about taking on new debt; it's about taking charge of your current debt for a better financial outlook.



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credit union



KID'S COMMUNITY CALENDAR DECEMBER 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 8:15-10
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 Public Skating 4-6	2 Little Wapitis 10-12 Christmas Light Parade & Tree Lights Up 6-8	3 Parent & Tot Swim 11:45-1:30	4 Parent & Tot Swim 9:15-12 Parent/Tot FunTimes 9:30-11:30 Family Swim 12:30-3 Public Swim 3-5 Public Swim 5:30-8	5 Parent & Tot Swim 9:15-12 Family Swim 12:30-2:30 Public Swim 2:30-4:30	6 Baby Lapline—10-11:30 Parent & Tot Swim 12:30-1:30 Family Swim 3-5 Public Swim 5:30-8	7 Healthy Start 10-11:30 Family Swim 12:30-2:30 Public Swim 2:30-4:30 Public Skating 6:30-8:30
8 Play in the K 9:30-11:15	9 Parent & Tot Swim 11:45-1:30	10 Parent & Tot Swim 11:45-1:30	11 Parent & Tot Swim 9:15-12 Parent/Tot FunTimes 9:30-11:30 Family Swim 12:30-3 Public Swim 3-5 Public Swim 5:30-8	12 Parent & Tot Swim 9:15-12 Family Swim 12:30-2:30 Public Swim 2:30-4:30	13 Baby Lapline—10-11:30 Parent & Tot Swim 12:30-1:30 Family Swim 3-5 Public Swim 5:30-8	14 Early Years Christmas Event 11:30-2:30, Library & Santa @ 11:30, Swim 12:30-2:30 Public Swim 2:30-4:30
15 Public Skating 4-6	16 Little Wapitis 10-12	17 Parent & Tot Swim 11:45-1:30	18 Parent & Tot Swim 9:15-12 Parent/Tot FunTimes 9:30-11:30 Family Swim 12:30-3 Public Swim 3-5 Public Swim 5:30-8	19 Parent & Tot Swim 9:15-12 Public Swim 2:30-4:30	20 Baby Lapline—10-11:30 Parent & Tot Swim 12:30-1:30 Family Swim 3-5 Public Swim 5:30-8	21 Healthy Start—Christmas Stores 10-11:30 Family Swim 12:30-2:30 Public Swim 2:30-4:30 Public Skating 6:30-8:30
22 Christmas Break Begins	23 Christmas Break Begins	24 Christmas Day	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28 Public Skating 6:30-8:30
29 Public Skating 4-6	30	31				

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 ~ cwtf@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:	1-250-425-2064
BCNurseline 24hrs	1-866-215-4700
Mental Health	1-800-661-0329 or
	1-250-425-4564
Addiction Services	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 Transition House	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

Beginner Yoga (Fundraiser) December 9th and January 26th at 6:30 pm in the library. Bring your mat and pay what you can to support the library.

Tech Fridays December 13th, January 10th & 24th 2 to 4 pm in the library.

Writing Club December 13st & January 17th at 6:30 pm in the library.

Family Board Game Day at the library December 14th & January 25th from 1 to 3 pm.

Santa Visit - Tales for Tots December 14th at 11:30 am to 12:30 pm at the library.

All-Levels Yoga (Fundraiser) December 18th & January 29th at 6:30 pm in the library. Bring your own mat.

Book Club December 19th & January 30th at 6:30 pm in the library.

Millennial & Gen X Board Game Night December 20th & January 31st from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the library.

Christmas Day December 25th.

Boxing Day December 26th.

Christmas Break Art Camp Monday December 30th & Friday January 3rd from 9 am to 4 pm. Visit www.katherinerussell.ca to register.

LEGO Day January 24th from 1 to 3 pm at the library.

Elkford Public Library Regular Board Meeting January 28th at 6:30 pm in the library. All are welcome.

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 guided showshoe hikes & fatbike throughout the winter. Follow us on FB & IG for meeting dates, times and locations. Snowshoes available for seasonal rental contract.

info@elkfordtrailsalliance.ca

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.



CHECK YOUR CHIMNEYS

Before you hang up your stockings by the chimney with care this Christmas, make sure you book a service call for your chimney! This holiday season, the Elkford Fire Department reminds homeowners to check their chimney and heating appliances.

Chimney fires are common during the fall and early winter as the weather cools down. Inspections should be completed by a qualified inspector on an annual basis.

Visit www.y.p.ca and search for chimney cleaning and sweeping to find a local service provider.

KEEP KIDS OFF ROADSIDE SNOWBANKS

Please ensure that children do not play in snow berms or on snow piles along the roadways. When we get a huge dump of snow, Public Works operators will work to cut back snowbanks and snow piles to widen roadways.

Operators don't have x-ray vision and cannot see tunnels carved in the snow, and they may not always be able to see children who are playing on snowbanks either. Play it safe: reminds kids that snowbanks along the roadways are off limits!

NORTH POLE REPORT

The Elkford Fire Department is scheduled to take Santa Claus for his annual tour of town on the firetruck on December 24. They will be collecting donations for the food bank at that time. Watch our advertising on Facebook and at www.elkford.ca for more news from the North Pole about this event!

**2024 Christmas
TRUCK PARADE & TREE LIGHT-UP**

TRUCK PARADE: THROUGH TOWN
(STARTS AT 6 P.M. ON ALPINE WAY, ENDS AT ELKFORD'S MEETING PLACE)

TREE LIGHT-UP: ELKFORD'S MEETING PLACE
(STARTS AT 7 P.M. AT THE GAZEBO BETWEEN 744 & 750 FORDING DRIVE)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

To register your vehicle(s) for the truck parade, email events@elkford.ca or call 250.865.4010. Deadline to register: November 29, 2024.

2025 BUSINESS & PET LICENCE RENEWALS

It's almost time to renew your business and pet licences for 2025! You can look for your renewal notices in your mailbox in January.

Annual fees for business licences are:

- New OR Annual Renewal for **Business Licence**: \$100
- New OR Annual Renewal for **Youth Business Licence**: \$20
- New OR Annual Renewal for an **Inter-Community Business Licence (ICBL)**: \$100 (note that the ICBL fee is in addition to your \$100 fee for your municipal business licence)

The due date for all business licence fees is **January 31, 2025**.

The dog/cat pet licence fee is \$50 annually for an unsterilized licence and \$20 for a spayed/neutered licence.

Are you a new pet owner? You must purchase a licence for your dog or cat. Please bring the certificate of spaying/neutering for first time registration. The due date for all pet licence fees is **February 28, 2025**. **For pet licences, a late fee of \$20 applies after February 28, 2025.**

SENIORS' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Elkford residents who are 60 years and over, and their spouses, are invited to join us for lunch to celebrate the Christmas season!

- **When:** Wednesday, December 11 at noon (doors open at 11:30 a.m.)
- **Where:** Elkford Community Conference Centre - 750 Fording Drive

Please RSVP by 5 p.m. on December 3 to 250.865.4010, events@elkford.ca or visit us at 750 Fording Drive.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The Community Conference Centre, Aquatic Centre, Recreation Centre and Public Works Office are closed on **December 25 and 26, 2024 and January 1, 2025**.

The District Office is closed from **December 25, 2024 to January 1, 2025**. We will reopen on **Thursday, January 2, 2025**.

In the event of an after-hours emergency (water, sewer or roads only), Public Works standby personnel can be reached at **250.910.4026**. Note: after-hours charges will apply.