



LAKE COUNTRY SENIORS CENTRE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER #4 Your December 2022 update from your Board...

Christmas is now in our headlights, but we have a few things to share with you before that!

Greetings from David French, president.

Hi Everyone,

Here are a few highlights of what your Board has been working on over this past summer. Some are small and some are large but equally important for the Centre.

- The biggest project is rebuilding the group/club cabinets in the storage room (old office). The District agrees this is a priority as the old cabinets are well past their 'best before dates'. Materials alone are more than \$3,000 plus labour. We will partner with the District on this project along with funds that they hope to acquire from a Community Improvement grant, plus their own municipal budget. The District is grateful for the detailed drawings and proposals that we have submitted. Stay tuned for a completion date for this work!
- There are a number of small projects that we will proceed with shortly. In the kitchen new shelving for drying our dishwasher racks plus hose extensions for dishwashing and cleaning the dishwasher. Also, some upgrading of the electrical supply to operate larger mixers and kettles etc. (15 amp circuits just don't cut it any more).
- In the basement we will add more tables for card playing and meetings. The District will also work to find base cabinets and counters for the old stairwell area so we can set up a Coffee/Tea serving area.
- There will also be some minor improvements to the office area.
- One other key project underway is the development of our own website. Communicating with you, our members and the community is critical. We are working with a site developer to make this all happen. We have applied for a \$4,500.00 grant through Lake Country Rotary and their B.C. Gaming Grant to pay for the project. We hope to have the first phases of that running in January.

We, as a society, will need to pay for parts of these projects because the District faces significant financial constraints this year with inflation and rising costs. We are cost sharing with them to get some of these long overdue projects completed as quickly as we can, which will help us maintain our Centre and make it more attractive for people to enjoy our activities. Money from your activity fees (past and present) will go directly into these improvements. We are being careful with our money and are also actively seeking grant opportunities as they arise, to fund what we can.

That's all for the moment, but stay tuned!

Most respectfully,

David French



Trick-or-Treaters from Boys and Girls Club



On the morning of October 31 the Board was treated to a wonderfully sweet costume parade by the children in the Boys and Girls Club pre-school program. Keeping with the Halloween theme, the Board members were suitably attired in costumes.



Christmas comes early for the Food-Bank

The Centre's regular Saturday Quilters group (only a few shown here) has been busy since the summer, sewing colourful pillowcases. On November 14th we delivered 113 pillowcases to a very happy Joy Haxton, Manager at the Lake Country Food Bank, to be used in their Christmas gift program. Last year we produced a similar trunk full ! We hope that these small gifts will once again bring a little cheer to those families who are having challenging times.



Let's Welcome a new member to the Centre's team!

We are excited to announce one of our members, Deborah Champion, as our new Volunteer Information Clerk. You can welcome her, in person, while she operates the office on Thursdays from 10 am to 2 pm. Her many years of work experience means she'll quickly be up to speed with our current office procedures and computer programs.

WELCOME

Beginner's Bridge Classes



Pre-registration for these Bridge classes, with instructor Ardelle Cates, is going well. Don't wait too long to sign up as December 15th is the deadline date for that. After that time Ardelle will be ordering the Student Hand Books. \$33.50 is the cost of the class, which covers the price of the book.

Classes will begin Friday January 6th, 2023 and will run for 10 weeks from 1:00 pm to 3:00 p.m. You can now very easily and conveniently pay online for these classes. Just phone Diana at the office and she'll have you signed up and paid up in no time at all.

Tuesday Lunch Program

Come early for lunch on **December 13th**. At 11:30 am we will have some very special entertainment by the children from the Boys and Girls Club pre-school program as they sing 2 or 3 of their favourite Christmas songs just for you. It will be short and very sweet. Don't miss it!



The tickets for the **Christmas lunch** on December 20th are limited and are selling very quickly. Contact Diana at the office to pay your \$10.00 in person or pay online.

Our chef and her team will be preparing another amazing feast for all to enjoy.

Pop-Up Vaccination Clinics

On November 20th we offered an Interior Health walk-in pop-up clinic for Flu and Covid vaccinations, for all ages. A total of 251 people came by to get their shots. By the time you receive this newsletter, you will have been notified of a second clinic on December 4th 8:30 to 2:30 and a special one only for Children on December 5th.

We were pleased, as in past years, to provide a convenient location for this service to our Lake Country residents.

What's new for 2023?

It seems that the time has come (after 32 years) to raise our Activity Fees, so effective **January 1, 2023** those fees will go from \$0.50 to \$1.00. Our president, David, has explained the various improvements coming over the next year which will provide more activities and amenities at the Centre.

You may ask, does the Board have the authority to raise these fees? Yes. Our Society's by-laws make no mention of Activity Fees. Only the annual membership dues are controlled by a vote of our members at an Annual General Meeting.

In recent months we have reached out to 4 other Okanagan Seniors Centers who all have activity fees ranging from \$2.00 to \$5.00. In order to provide our current programs and new ones in the future, we must have income to do so. Our Centre and our community are growing.

Who is Zeffy? What is Zeffy?

For the first time ever, Lake Country Seniors Centre Society accepted Online payments from a new program called Zeffy and found that this first foray into the world of Online transactions worked very well.

Here's how it works. To make payments to the Centre for classes, memberships or special events, we will send you an email with a link for you to click on, answer a few questions and then input the method of payment. The Centre receives the information in a matter of minutes and we are paid out, from what is collected, once a week! Zeffy is easy to use and manage and we receive 100% of the funds paid to us. Our office staff will download a spreadsheet with all the details and this will save time and resources so that they will be able to spend more time helping our members!

Look for the link to Zeffy in the email coming soon for annual membership renewals, which will be **due in January 2023!**



Christmas Holidays

Please note that the Centre's office will be closed for the holidays from Wednesday December 21st and will open again on Wednesday, January 4th, 2023.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Newsletter Created
Just-4-You
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