
The Kingfisher

The Community's Newsletter

... a publication of the Kingfisher Community Society

JULY 2026

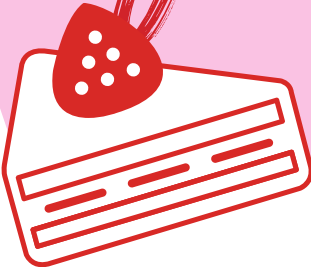
3337 Enderby Mabel Lake Road, Enderby BC V4Y 4L4
www.kingfishercommunity.com is live!!



KingfisherCommunitySociety



Strawberry TEA



This year's Strawberry Tea is Sunday, July 12 from 1 – 3; fun for the whole family, featuring delicious Shortcake, a cake walk and music.

Bring your toonies to enter the cake walk!

THE HISTORY OF THIS LOVELY FAMILY EVENT ...

The Strawberry Tea was originally held in Wilfred and Isabel Simard's garden with entertainment provided by the Kingfisher Kitchen Band. It was a true garden party and included the famous strawberry shortcake, the cakes baked by Isabel Simard and other band members. Wilfred provided tours of his museum. Handicrafts created by community members were also sold at the event. Chairs and tables were transported from the hall and (only once) the piano was also moved. The event was held on Thursday afternoon.

Eventually the Tea was moved to the hall but the garden party theme continued with the hall decorated with an abundance of flowers. The Kitchen Band continued as the entertainment for several years.

Eventually quilts were added to the décor and for a time by the Kingfisher Quilting group hosted the event. The cake walk was added some years later.

Everyone is welcome to join us at the hall for an afternoon of fun and food and to celebrate this special Kingfisher tradition.

**TICKETS ARE
\$10 for adults and
\$5 for children.
Children under 5 are free.
Strawberry Shortcake is
provided for each ticket.**

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... a publication of the Kingfisher
Community Society

**We welcome any
suggestions, public
notice announcements,
community events, ect**

**Email photos and news items to Robin:
editorkingfisher@gmail.com
Or call, 250-574-3572**

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

I will acknowledge receipt of your email, so if you do not receive a reply, I did not receive your email.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



FARMERS MARKET

June 24 – August 26

Every Wednesday

10 am - noon

Contact Sherry Saunby

sjsaunby@telus.net

JUMBLE DANCE

Saturday, July 4

8:00 - 12:30 am

- cash bar • food • prizes,
- \$30 - tickets at TonyO's and at the door



Sunday, July 12

1:00 - 3:00pm

STRAWBERRY TEA

SHORTCAKE • 50/50 draws
music • cakewalk



DANCE PARTY July 25

DJ • cash bar • 50/50 tickets
Doors open at 8:00



CORN ROAST

August TBA

*Dependant on the corn!

KINGFISHER JUMBLE DANCE

SATURDAY, JULY 4.

LIVE BAND, DANCING,
COSTUMES & PRIZES



THE KINGFISHER JUMBLE DANCE IS BACK!

This legendary cross-dressing tradition returns on Saturday, July 4th, and quite possibly, this could be the very last Jumble Dance ever.

For 69 years, brave men have squeezed into dresses, women have rocked mustaches, wigs have defied gravity, and the dance floor has witnessed some truly unforgettable fashion choices.

If you've attended in years past, you know there's nothing quite like it. If you've always heard the stories but never made it out, this is your chance to be part of a piece of local history.

So dust off those wigs, find your most outrageous outfit, lace up your dancing shoes, and join us for one final celebration of laughter, community, and a tradition that has brought people together for nearly seven decades.

Come make some memories, take some photos you'll regret (or cherish), and help us give this iconic event the send-off it deserves.

- Saturday, July 4
- Kingfisher Hall
- Music, dancing, laughs, and questionable fashion choices guaranteed!

Don't miss it. Once 69 years of history is gone, it's gone.

KINGFISHER COMMUNITY HALL

DANCE JULY 25

Cover Charge \$10

CASH
BAR

50/50
tickets

Hope to
see
everyone
there!

Come and dance to your favourite music
provided by a DJ.

Kingfisher Hall
3337 Enderby, Mabel Lake Rd
Doors Open at 8:00 pm



The Directors would like to recognize and thank residents for showing pride in our community by cutting the grass on the road shoulders, this improves visibility and adds to safety. It is the small things that show we care for our neighbours!



**WE ♥ OUR
VOLUNTEERS**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES THIS SUMMER

Jumble Dance – July 4 – contact Sydney Graham at 250-574-5725 or by email at amoreesthetics2@gmail.com

Opportunities include set up, working at the bar, clearing tables, monitoring back door, helping with food, clean up in kitchen and at end of dance

Strawberry Tea – July 12 – Sunday 1 – 3 pm - to help at the Tea, contact event organizer at Donna Murray at drmmurray@telus.net. Opportunities include set up, decorating, kitchen help, serving, clearing tables, baking cakes for cake walk, and clean up

To donate a cake for the cakewalk contact: Laura Jameson – chairpersonkingfisher@gmail.com 250-838-6379

Corn Roast – date TBA in mid- late August contact: Alana Brookes 778-212-3255 brookesa@hotmail.com Opportunities include set up, serving food, clean up



KINGFISHER COUNTRY QUILTERS

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Five inspiring days of quilting,
creativity, friendship and
relaxation at beautiful Mabel Lake.

A Thank You to Kingfisher

After six years, it feels like it's time for me to step down as Entertainment Director.

It's hard to know exactly what to say. On one hand, it feels like those six years flew by. On the other, when I look back at all the events, meetings, volunteers, and memories, it feels like a lifetime of moments packed into a short chapter.

First and foremost, I want to say thank you.

Thank you to the past directors, volunteers, and community members who paved the way long before I came along. So many of the traditions we enjoy today exist because people before us gave countless hours of their time, energy, and heart to build them. My goal was never to reinvent what was already there, but simply to help keep those traditions alive and moving forward for the next generation.

There are so many memories I'll carry with me.

The late-night prep sessions before the Mother's Day Breakfast, followed by very early mornings and a lot of coffee. The beginner's luck moments, and the stumbles and lessons that inevitably came along the way. The harvest dinners, overflowing with gravy, laughter, and enough food to feed an army. The beautiful chaos of the Jumble Dance. Hosting my very first Strawberry Tea while attending my very first Strawberry Tea at the same time—thank you, Jan, for holding my hand through that one.

What I'll remember most, though, are the people.

Over the years I've had the privilege of getting to know so many different groups within our community. People I might never have crossed paths with otherwise. Volunteers who quietly show up year after year. People who bring desserts, set up tables, wash dishes, donate prizes, haul chairs, and somehow make every event happen. Communities like ours don't run on budgets or buildings—they run on people.

If I have one regret, it's that I never felt I could give the position as much time and attention as it truly deserved. Life has a way of moving quickly, and there were many times I wished I had more hours to devote to the role, more energy to give, or more opportunities to help events reach their full potential.

But I can honestly say I tried my best.

I did my best to honour the work of those who came before me and to keep traditions alive for the people who invested so much of themselves into creating them. I hope I managed to do that, even imperfectly.

As I step aside, I want to thank the new directors and volunteers who are stepping forward. Every generation leaves its own footprints and clears a little more ground for the next. I know the hall and community are in good hands, and I'm excited to see what new ideas, traditions, and memories are created in the years ahead.

My hope is that Kingfisher continues to be a place where people gather around a meal, lend a hand when it's needed, and come together for a common good. A place where everyone feels welcome. You don't always have to be on a committee, volunteer

for every event, or even know everyone in the room to belong here. Sometimes just showing up is enough.

And if you've ever thought about getting involved, please do. Pick an event. Bring a friend, your family, your crew. Have fun with it. You might be surprised by the friendships, memories, and sense of community you find along the way.

While I'm stepping down from this role, I certainly won't be disappearing. I look forward to helping with a few select events in the future and giving them the full attention they deserve. I'll still be cheering from the sidelines, lending a hand where I can, and supporting the traditions that make Kingfisher such a special place.

Thank you for trusting me with this role, for your patience when things weren't perfect, and for six years of memories I will never forget.

With gratitude,
Sydney Graham, former entertainment director



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KINGFISHER / MABEL LAKE FIRE RESPONSE FAQ'S

Thank you all for attending. With that being said, I need to say we are a group of volunteer community members and DO NOT act in any formal capacity as fire specialists; Defensive fire response only.

We strongly recommend downloading the BC Wildfire Service mobile APP to report Wildfires. Not only can you report wildfires on the APP you can stay up to date with wildfires in the area.

FIRE season is upon us and the best thing you can do to protect your property is to keep your property clean and follow Fire Smart Guidelines.

FAQ'S (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS):

Q1: What do I do if I see a fire within the Kingfisher / Mabel Lake area?

A1. Sound the ALARM! Alert others of the emergency. Activate the airhorn at the nearest fire hose house. Phone your neighbors, knock on doors, anything you can do to attract attention. Gather local resources to attack the fire. Suppress the fire with caution, safety first.

A2. At the same time, have someone Report wildfire to BC Wildfire Services. To report a wildfire or irresponsible behaviour that could start a wildfire in British Columbia, please call 1 800 663-5555 or (*5555 from a cell phone) as soon as possible.

Information from the public is crucial to the effectiveness of our response. If you can, take a picture of the fire and submit it using the BC Wildfire Service app (download in the App Store and on Google Play). Whether you call or submit on the APP, you will need to provide details about the fire such as location, size, rate of spread, fuel, smoke/flames, threat, action, and campfires.

BC Wildfire will respond and assess the report and if required will action the fire if threatening forest spread.

Source: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/contact-channels/report-a-wildfire>

Q2: What happens if we need to evacuate to safety?

A2: The RDNO is responsible for evacuation due to wildfire threats. Educate yourself, family and visiting guests by reading the RDNO Rural Evacuation Route Plan: Kingfisher / Mabel Lake, version September 2020, and follow RDNO direction during any evacuation order. **The document is now posted on the KCS Website**

Q3: What equipment is available to suppress the spread of fire?

A4: Throughout the Kingfisher / Mabel Lake area, we currently have

✓ **Several fire hose houses** are located throughout the community. The fire hose houses contain hoses and connections to attach to the nearby standpipes or hydrants. The hoses can connect to reach adjacent properties. Airpark & Golf Course fire hose houses contain airhorns to alert others of fire.

✓ Developments that have in-ground pools have **submersible pumps and hoses**.

✓ Personal water backpacks

✓ **mobile fire trailers** located in the following developments:

- Golf Course Lots: 2 fire trailers and one equipment trailer,
- Airpark: 2 fire trailers at the old 'Fire Hall' and 1 fire trailer at Lot 7. There are also 2 golf cart towable fire wagons which are currently under modification and will be available soon,
- Resort Marina: 1 fire trailer,
- Mabel Ridge Estates: 1 fire trailer at Lot 73.

The fire trailers require a vehicle with a 2-inch ball hitch to be pulled to the fire. There are step-by-step instructions posted on most trailers to guide proper operation.

All this equipment is available for residents to utilize to suppress small fires before they spread.





KINGFISHER Interpretive Centre

From Field Trips to Family Fun

As another school year comes to a close, we are celebrating another successful field trip season at the Kingfisher Interpretive Centre. This spring, approximately 1,500 students, teachers, and parents joined us for hands-on environmental education programs. Thank you to all of the schools, educators, volunteers, and families who helped make this season such a success!

Now, we are looking forward to a summer filled with fun, learning, and adventure. Summer officially rolls out on July 2 with our shift to summer hours. The Centre will be open Thursday through Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and our enthusiastic summer students will be happy to provide salmon hatchery tours and answer questions about the furs, antlers, and other fascinating displays available each day.

Beginning July 19, we will be offering free, family-friendly programming every weekend.

We are kicking things off with our popular **Learn to Fish** event on **Sunday, July 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** This free event is especially exciting for children 15 and under. Some might catch the first fish of their lives—and anyone who has experienced that moment knows it can create a lifelong love of fishing and the outdoors!

This event would not be possible without the incredible support of our volunteers. Each year, more than 40 volunteers help make Learn to Fish a huge success. We are currently looking for a few more helping hands to join the team. Whether you are an experienced angler or simply enjoy helping children create lasting memories, we would love to hear from you!

Then, on **Sunday, July 26 at 11:00 a.m.**, we are thrilled to welcome back **The Bug Guy**. His show was a crowd favourite last year, and we can't wait to discover which fascinating creatures he will bring along this summer. We also have several more exciting special guests and activities planned, so stay tuned for upcoming announcements.

We hope you'll join us this summer for learning, exploration, and plenty of family fun at Kingfisher!



2550 Mabel Lake Rd,
Enderby, BC



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Wednesday • 10am - Noon

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BY SANDRA • LUDDITT BEE PRODUCTS • SAMOSA LADY •
SHUSWAP HIGHLAND STILLS • BROKBOYS BAMBOO CLOTHING
• KINGFISHER KITCHEN ... and there are more Vendors Applying!!

COME AND HAVE PIE & COFFEE - LISTEN TO MUSIC
AND SUPPORT OUR MARKET.
The Library is Now Open - Hope to see you there!

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Kingfisher School
Community Engagement Session in June!

Didn't make it to the session in June? You can still have your say!

There's still several options to share your input:

Option 1: Visit the Community Futures team at the Kingfisher
Farmers Markets and share your input for the future of the
Kingfisher School. Here are the dates we will be at the Market:

**YOUR
OPINION
MATTERS**

**July
22**

**July
29**

**August
5**

Option 2: The Kingfisher School survey will be available for
completion online and in-person this summer - stay tuned!

Questions? Contact Karen Savill, karens@futuresbc.com.

PLEASE NOTE

The Kingfisher Hall and Kingfisher School facilities are both available to rent for family birthdays, weddings, parties, workshops, or ongoing sessions. - Subject to availability -

Inquiries: Joan; turnerr1@telus.net or Laurie; lauriebaines96@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

Free to members. Limit of 50 words - no graphics. Please confirm information every six months.



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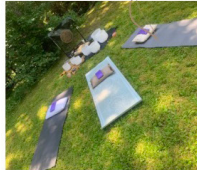
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Dance • July 4 | Car Show • July 25
Dance • August 1
Baxter Music Festival August 7-8



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

FAMILY RATES: \$30
SINGLE: \$20

Contact Sherry Saunby
Email: sjsaunby@telus.net

MAIL: Sherry Saunby
74 Lusk Lake Road East, Enderby, V4Y 4L4
(Make Cheques out to Kingfisher Community Society) OR

E-TRANSFER:

kingfisher3337@gmail.com

IMPORTANT Please include your name if not in your email address

To get on the Directors' Meeting Agenda: chairpersonkingfisher@gmail.com

To submit a post to the Facebook page: turnerr1@telus.net

Kingfisher Community Society Directors

Chairperson: Laura Jameson chairpersonkingfisher@gmail.com

..... Phone: 250-838-6379

Treasurer & School: Sandra Scott..... kcstreasuresls@gmail.com

Secretary / Hall Bookings / Entertainment: Laurie Baines.....

..... lauriebaines96@gmail.com

Memberships & School: Sherry Saunby sjsaunby@telus.net

Maintenance & Supplies: Kowyn Hibbert.... kowynhibbko949@hotmail.com

Maintenance Director: Colin Cogswell..... ccogswell83@gmail.com

Director / Social Media / Entertainment: Joan Turner..... turnerr1@telus.net

Newsletter - Paid Advertisements: George Jameson.E: g67george@gmail.com

Kingfisher School Contact Information

School & Gym Manager: Henry Peter..... henrypetersis@gmail.com

Librarian & Memberships: Sherry Saunby sjsaunby@telus.net

Open Summer Only: Wednesday 10am - Noon

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