

Benefits for McBride & District Chamber of Commerce members:

1. **Building your Business/reputation:** we are successful because of the people we know. Belonging to your Chamber is not about selling things, it's about building rapport.
2. **Policy/Positions:** typically involved in quiet diplomacy and lobbying, together with the BC Chamber, a unified effort is in place to make available more services from Municipal, Provincial and Federal institutions.
3. **Member Discounts:** we have a number of discount programs exclusive to Chamber members including significant savings on Visa/MC merchant rates and fuel discount programs. Chamber members get preferential rates, consideration and treatment.
4. **Chamber Insurance:** this national group insurance program allows small business, even one-person operations, to enjoy group benefits for dental, medical, drug, disability, and retirement plans.
5. **The Voice of Business:** we are regularly asked to provide input on behalf of the business community. Whether it's commenting on government policy or advising on community issues, your Chamber provides the business perspective.
6. **Networking:** we have a variety of events for you to attend from our monthly meetings on the third Wednesday, to special presentations.
7. **Information:** we help keep you up to date on news and events in the business community.
8. **Newsletter:** you will receive a free copy of Chamber newsletters with information on local business news, local Chamber news, legislative news, Provincially and Nationally.
9. **Business Resources:** contact our Info Centre for a wide variety of information for people starting, expanding or improving a business.

Visit our benefits page on our www.mcbridechamber.ca website to learn more about these and other great benefits.

What your Chamber is doing:

- Supports the year round staffing of the Visitor Centre – appx 16,000 visitors are served each year through our Centre. Through promotion of local businesses, our Visitor Centre brings tens of thousands of new dollars into our community.
- Organizes Shop Local campaigns.
- Organizes the annual Logger's Bonspiel.
- Promotes Late Night Shopping with advertising and local promotions during the Festival of Lights.
- Co-hosts the First Responder Appreciation.
- Hosts Canada Day Celebrations.
- McBride Adventure Weekend tourism promotion.
- www.visitmcbride.ca tourism website Robson Valley Tourism.
- www.mcbridechamber.ca business website.
- Organizes business information sessions, seminars and presentations.
- Works with all levels of Government on the issues that matter to you!

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm in the E-Free Church. All members are welcome to attend and speak on any issue.

*Join us as we work to improve opportunities for business in our community!
To become a member email us info@mcbridechamber.ca*



McBride and District Chamber of Commerce

Serving Robson Valley businesses since 1948
PO Box 02 • McBride • BC • V0J 2E0
www.mcbridechamber.ca



McBride and District Chamber of Commerce Newsletter Summer 2013

The Horseshoe Lake recreational area, originally a Chamber project, then turned over to the RDFFG, was offered again this year to the Chamber. Your Chamber feels Horseshoe Lake is a valuable resource to our community, therefore we have pledged to work with the RDFFG to maintain the site. If approved, the Chamber will take over management, perform routine maintenance and have the opportunity to further improve the site as resources permit. A copy of the proposed land use agreement is available on the members page of our site: www.mcbridechamber.ca

Congratulations to Fern and Lloyd Sansom, winners of the Cheryl Sansom award for community service.

McBride Adventure Weekend events, held in conjunction with Pioneer Days organized by the McBride Elks and Royal Purple, were a hit with residents and visitors alike. Brenda Molendyk did a wonderful job organizing and hosting. Jet boat tours sponsored by Rod Whelpton were very popular and the dinner was well attended and received rave reviews.

Emergency Responder Appreciation Picnic is September 8th at 1:00 pm. In the Village Park. This annual community event honours our hardworking emergency responders and is open to everyone. Please bring your favorite salad or side and join us in showing our thanks to these dedicated people.

The Canada Day celebrations were a lot of fun. The Canada Day Committee would like to extend our thanks and sincere appreciation to the following volunteers, without whom the event would not have been possible:

- Our BBQers who, in scorching heat, managed to feed the hungry hordes and D & A Ranch for their chuck wagon BBQ.
- Raj Basran, Village of McBride Councillor who gave the Village address and greetings from Shirley Bond, MLA.
- The Whistle Stop, Visitor Centre and McBride & Dist. Public Library volunteers who were responsible for all the kids having fun in the sun - special thanks to Naomi, Martina, Denise, Sierra, Eli, Emilio and Cassidy who organized all the children's games.
- A three gun salute to the McBride and District Volunteer Fire Department who put on a fantastic fireworks display.
- Heritage Canada and the "Celebrate Canada" program, helping to provide funding along with the Village of McBride and the McBride and District Chamber of Commerce.

Our next meeting is September 18th – this is a General Meeting and all members are welcome to attend and vote on issues of importance to them. Included on the agenda is the bylaw review and the Horseshoe Lake Recreation Site proposal.

Many of our members have had significant accomplishments this year and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate:

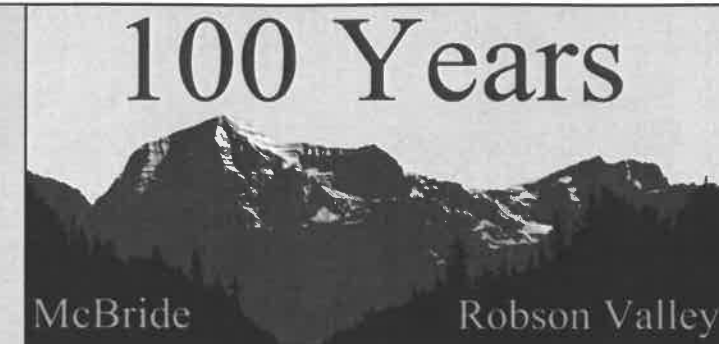
Al Miller the new mill manager for General Biofuels, McBride Division. This new cant mill provides 10 full time and three part time jobs plus spin off jobs. The cast off material from processing cants is trucked to the pellet mill in Prince George, maximizing value and minimizing waste.

Garry and Wendy Lowe, and their Twin Meadows Organic Farm - they have become an approved supplier to Overwaitea Food Group LP for local Robson Valley certified organic produce. They will be providing selected items to the SaveOn Foods stores in Prince George. Residents in PG will be able to treat themselves to our own Robson Valley produce!

Raj and Sheila Basran who, with Gary Hayes, have started up BKB Cedar Manufacturing, a new cedar mill potentially creating up to 15 direct full time jobs plus spin off employment in the forest industry.

Val Markoff, who started Combat Catering and Rent-a Chef – tickling the taste buds of Robson Valley residents.

If you know of a Chamber member who is doing something positive, let us know for the next newsletter!



2013 is the 100th anniversary of the railway through the Robson Valley and the naming of the town of McBride. Fraser Heritage Festival 2013 will focus on celebrations for this occasion throughout September.

This is the 2013 schedule of events .

Sept. 2, thru 29, Valley Museum and Archives museum display, **Happy Birthday, McBride**

Sept. 2 thru 29, Happy Birthday McBride and the Robson Valley Sign Contest. Create an art project to advertise 100 years of McBride and the Robson Valley. It could be a sign, straw-bale sculpture, garden or flower art, etc. Take a photo of the sign and display it at the Visual Arts Fair 28 Sept 2013 in the McBride Community Hall.

Sept. 2, thru 29, McBride Centennial School, **Remixing 100 Years of Culture**

Sept. 7, Adrenalin Tours, Rod Whelpton, free river boat tour. **The Fraser River in the Fall.** Registration at the Visitor's Centre.

Sept. 7, Family Dancing Through the Decades, Elks Hall. 7:00-11:00 pm. Adults \$8, Kids 5-12 years \$5, Kids 2 years free.

Sept. 8, Tom Ryan, **A Century of Horsemanship.** Extreme Horsemanship demonstration & workshops, - 521 Main Street, 10:00 am.

Sept. 8, The Robson Valley Food Producers, **The Food We Grow,** 1:00 pm at the Cochrane's Balsam Ranch, Dunster

Sept. 15, Robson Valley Trapper's of B.C. **Trapper's Rendezvous,** Picnic Grounds, Dunster, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Sept 21, Robson Valley Back Country Horsemen of BC, **Centennial Poker Ride,** start location to be announced.

Sept. 22, Family Fun Day Dunster Fine Arts School Society and Robson Valley Circle Dance.

4pm - 6pm	Outdoor and indoor games - Bocce, Croquet, Tennis, Volleyball, Badminton, Horseshoes, etc.
4pm to 8pm	Silent Auction in the School classroom ,
6pm Pot	Luck Supper,
7pm	Circle Dancing
8pm	Bonfire and sing-a-long in the yard and/or dancing in the gym

Sept 28, "Toast 'em breakfast" 8:00 – 9:30 am at the McBride Community Hall

Sept 28, McBride Community Hall, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 Whistle Stop Gallery, **Visual Arts Fair, Writers Through the Years,** Critiqued Art Exhibit, **Robson Valley Art through the Ages**

Valley Piece Makers, **Our Heritage in Quilting,** McBride and District Public Library **Heritage Story Booth,**

Keith Monroe and Friends **Old Tyme Music,**

Robson Valley Trapper's Association, **Trapping display,**

Centennial Sign Photo Contest, McBride Community Hall, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00

Sept 28 Robson Valley Back Country Horsemen of BC's **Pack Saddles and Harnesses** outdoor games and demonstrations at The Gigglin' Grizzly Pub, McBride, 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sept 28, Wishbone Theatre, **"Off The Rails".** cabaret presentation. 7:30 pm, Proposed library building on Main St.

Sept 29, Robson Valley Trapper's Association; **Introductory Trapping Short Course,** McBride Community Hall, 9:00 a.m.

Sept 29, Valley Alphorns, **Echos from the Mountains,** musical introduction to performing arts fair, outdoors at McBride Community Hall, 12:30 p.m.

Sept 29, Robson Valley Fiddle Sticks and Robson Valley Strings, **Music Around the Kitchen Table**

McBride and District Public Library, **100 Years of McBride** multi-media projects,

Monday Night Knitting Group **Fashions of the Decades** with knitted afghan to raffle,

McBride Community Hall, 1:00 p.m.

29 Sept. Wishbone Theatre, **"Off The Rails".** Final cabaret presentation. 7:30 pm, Proposed library building on Main St.