



Grasslands Conservation Council of British Columbia

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EVENTS

Children's Grasslands Art Exhibit

From June 12 to July 18, see our grasslands through the eyes of children at the Kamloops Art Gallery. [slide show and more information](#)

Volunteer Clean Up

July 10 – Westsyde, Kamloops
Dirt biker spearheading a volunteer effort to remove a growing pile of garbage from an area off a Westsyde backroad. [more information](#)

SIWMC Field Day 2010

July 14 – Westwold
Learn about local invasive plant identification, issues, and control methods. Free admission.

GCC News

GCC Reduces Staff Due to Funding Cutbacks

The GCC has had to address their funding shortfall by cutting their education and outreach program and reducing remaining staff time by 20%. These measures will allow the GCC to stay functional until March 2011. [full story](#)

Related Kamloops News story: [Grasslands Council Reeling from Funding Shortfall](#)

GCC Thanks All Who Made Grasslands Celebration a Success

The GCC thanks the many people and organizations who helped make our first Grasslands Celebration a resounding success on June 12th. The 160 participants of the daytime tours and the 110 guests left with a greater appreciation for grasslands, and the number of GCC members rose 25%! [more information](#)

Board Member Changes

The GCC warmly welcomes Don Bennett to the GCC Board of Directors. We also thank departing director Chloe O'Loughlin for her contributions to the GCC over the past year.

Visits bcgrasslands.org for the latest news

Members' News

Recent Publications

Temperate Grasslands Strategy Paper 2010

"Toward a Strategy for the Conservation and Protection of the World's Temperate Grasslands," by Bill Henwood, *Great Plains Research* 20 (Spring 2010)

Temperate grasslands are considered the most altered terrestrial ecosystem on the planet and are recognized as the most endangered ecosystem on most continents. This paper presents a global overview of the status of protected areas in the context of the health and extent of the world's temperate grasslands and identifies the scope of remaining opportunities and regional

priorities for increasing the level of protection. [link to document](#)

[more information](#)

Okanagan Odyssey: Journeys Through Terrain, Terroir and Culture

by Don Gayton

Described as “a quirky and lyrical examination of British Columbia’s Okanagan Valley. Sticking to the backroads and byways, Gayton gently pokes and prods local ecosystems, histories, vineyards and people. In his unique version of wine pairing, Gayton matches up local books and landscapes with local vintages, giving terroir a whole new meaning. Gayton deftly negotiates the tension between the Okanagan that is home to many endangered species and ecosystems and the same Okanagan that is a mecca for developers and urban refugees. Okanagan Odyssey is not a travel guide, but represents travel writing at its idiosyncratic best.” [more information](#)

Other News

Richard Bullock Appointed Chair of the Agricultural Land Commission.

Bullock previously served as a member and Chair of the Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB). He is a Kelowna orchardist and managing Director of a large Okanagan orchard and agritourism business. He is active in industry organizations and has served as President of the BC Fruit Growers’ Association, BC Tree Fruits Ltd., and Sun-Rype Products Ltd., and as a Director of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. [more information](#)

FOCUS ON GRASSLAND SPECIES

Snakes of the Grasslands

These often misunderstood animals can be fascinating. Several have adapted specifically to our grassland habitats. [learn more](#)

Tel: 250-374-5787
Fax: 250-374-5821
Email: gcc@bcgrasslands.org