

EVENING READER

Interior Weekly

Stories and smiles from the BC interior

VOL. I

NO. IW-2026-01

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025

BC INTERIOR

COMPLIMENTARY

SAMPLE

Sunrise on Shuswap



Sunrise on Shuswap

Marlene Lafleur has lived on the same stretch of Shuswap Lake shoreline for over sixty years, in a modest cedar-sided house her husband built by hand in the summer of 1963. Every morning, regardless of the weather, she walks down to the dock with a cup of tea and watches the lake wake up. In

April, the water is still cold enough to make your bones ache, but the loons have returned, their haunting calls echoing across the glassy surface before the first motorboat of the day breaks the stillness. Marlene has seen this lake in every mood. Gentle and blue under July skies, churned into whitecaps by sudden August squalls, and frozen at the edges in the deep quiet of February. She raised three children here, taught each of them to swim off this very dock, and now watches her grandchildren do the same. 'A lake has a memory,' she says, settling into her weathered Adirondack chair. 'It holds every reflection that ever fell on it, every laugh that ever echoed across it. If you sit still long enough, you can almost hear them all.' Her husband built the dock the same summer they were married. Every board was cut from fir trees felled on the property and planed by hand. The wood has greyed to silver over the decades, but it still holds. The lake itself sits in a valley carved by glaciers ten thousand years ago, deeper than some parts of the Pacific Ocean just a few hundred miles west. As the sun climbs over Bastion Mountain, turning the water from silver to gold, Marlene smiles. Another morning on the Shuswap. Another day in paradise.

This Week in Western History

1910

THE SS SICAMOUS LAUNCHED

The SS Sicamous, a grand sternwheeler steamship, was launched on Okanagan Lake to carry passengers and freight between Penticton and Vernon, serving as a floating lifeline for lakeside communities.

1948

THE GREAT FRASER FLOOD

Flooding along the Fraser River and its tributaries in the BC Interior became one of the worst natural disasters in the province's history, displacing thousands and leading to major flood control projects.

1972

SHUSWAP MARINE PARK

The Shuswap Lake system was designated as a provincial marine park, recognizing its importance for recreation, wildlife habitat, and the cultural heritage of local First Nations communities.

Memories

1954 HIT SONG

"Sh-Boom" by The Crew-Cuts topped the Canadian charts in the summer of '54. Every radio from Vancouver to Halifax was playing it, and teenagers across the country were practicing their harmonies in school hallways.

1962 AT THE MOVIES

Lawrence of Arabia premiered to packed theatres. The sweeping desert landscapes and Peter O'Toole's piercing blue eyes left audiences spellbound. A ticket cost 75 cents.

1957 ON THE RADIO

The CBC's "The Happy Gang" was still going strong after 20 years on the air, broadcast live every weekday at 1:15. Families across the prairies arranged lunch around it.

1968 POPULAR RECIPE

Pineapple upside-down cake appeared in every church cookbook across Canada. The recipe called for tinned pineapple rings, maraschino cherries, and brown sugar caramelized in a cast-iron skillet.

1963 TELEVISION

The Forest Rangers debuted on CBC, filmed in Ontario's cottage country. Children across the country spent Saturday mornings imagining themselves paddling canoes and fighting forest fires alongside Chub and the gang.

From the Archives

Orchardists Gather in Kelowna for 48th Annual Horticultural Meeting



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More than three hundred fruit growers from throughout the Okanagan Valley gathered at the Kelowna Memorial Arena on Tuesday for the 48th annual meeting of the B.C. Fruit Growers Association. The hall was filled to capacity with orchardists from Vernon to Osoyoos, many arriving by automobile along the newly improved Highway 97. President Harold MacPherson opened the proceedings with a report on the previous year's harvest. Despite a late spring frost that damaged some early blossoms, the 1947 apple crop was the largest in a decade, with over 2.8 million boxes shipped to markets across Canada and Great Britain. Mr. MacPherson noted the growing importance of the new controlled-atmosphere storage facility in Penticton, which allowed growers to keep apples fresh well into the spring months. The morning session included a demonstration of the latest spraying equipment by a representative from the Dominion Experimental Farm in Summerland. After a hot lunch served by the Ladies Auxiliary of St. Michael's Church, the growers divided into committees to discuss irrigation schedules, packing standards, and the ongoing negotiations with the Canadian Pacific Railway regarding refrigerated freight rates. A highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of the Golden Apple award to Thomas and Edith Lindgren of Naramata, whose Spartan apples scored highest in the provincial quality trials for the second consecutive year.

Adapted from the Kelowna Courier, February 1948

Questions of the Week

- I.** *What is your fondest memory of time spent at a lake, whether swimming, fishing, or just relaxing on the shore?*
- II.** *If you could own a piece of property anywhere on a BC lake, where would it be and what would you build?*

TALK ABOUT IT

- ◆ Did you ever go camping or stay in a cabin during the summer? Tell us about a trip that stands out.
- ◆ What songs were playing on the radio during your favourite summer? Can you hum a few bars?
- ◆ Describe the best meal you ever ate outdoors. Who cooked it and what made it special?

From the General Store



Coca-Cola

The Pause That Refreshes

Ice-cold Coca-Cola at your neighbourhood soda fountain. Five cents a glass, served with a smile from Creston to Prince George.

Circa 1955

Then & Now

THEN

In the 1950s and 60s, summer cabins on BC Interior lakes were rustic affairs. Simple wood-frame structures with outhouses, wood stoves, and kerosene lanterns. Families loaded up station wagons with supplies for the entire summer, and children spent their days swimming, fishing from rowboats, and catching frogs along the reedy shorelines. The only sounds were loon calls, splashing, and the occasional crackle of a radio picking up a distant AM station.

NOW

Today, many lakeside communities have grown into year-round towns with modern amenities, but the spirit of lake living endures. Houseboats, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards share the water with the same old wooden rowboats. Many families still maintain cabins passed down through generations, now with WiFi and solar power, but still with the same sandy beaches and sunset views that made them special decades ago.

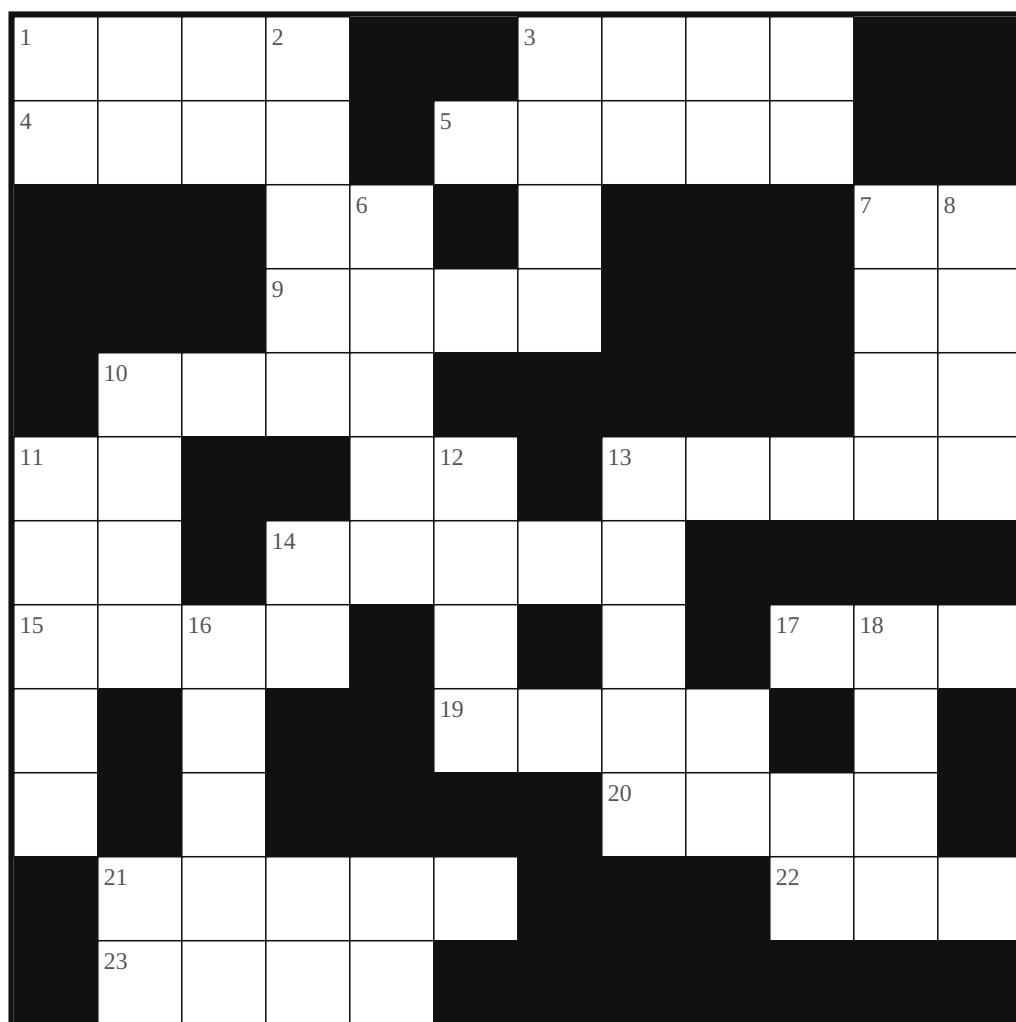
A Little Laughter

- ◆ What do you call a fish wearing a bowtie?
So-fish-ticated!
- ◆ Why did the boat get bad grades? It was
always sailing through class!
- ◆ What did the lake say to the river? You crack
me up!
- ◆ Why don't fish play basketball? They're
afraid of the net!
- ◆ What do you get when you cross a lake with
a computer? A lot of mega-bytes of water!
- ◆ Why did the apple go to school? It wanted to
be a smart apple!
- ◆ What did one mountain say to the other?
Nothing, they just exchanged peaks!

Did You Know?

- ◆ Shuswap Lake has over 1,000 kilometres of shoreline, more than the coastline of many small countries, with hundreds of bays, inlets, and sandy beaches.
- ◆ Kalamalka Lake near Vernon is known for its striking turquoise colour, caused by dissolved limestone that crystallizes when the water warms in summer.
- ◆ Okanagan Lake is home to more than 30 species of fish, including the famous kokanee salmon, which spend their entire lives in fresh water rather than migrating to the ocean.
- ◆ The Adams River, flowing into Shuswap Lake, hosts one of the largest sockeye salmon runs in North America every four years, with up to 2 million fish returning to spawn.
- ◆ Arrow Lakes, formed by damming of the Columbia River, stretch over 230 kilometres and are among the longest reservoir systems in British Columbia.
- ◆ The town of Greenwood, BC, proudly claims the title of Canada's smallest city, with fewer than 700 residents but a full city charter dating back to 1897.
- ◆ Kootenay Lake is one of the deepest in British Columbia at over 150 metres, and is home to the famous Kootenay Lake ferry, the longest free ferry ride in the world.

BC Interior Crossword



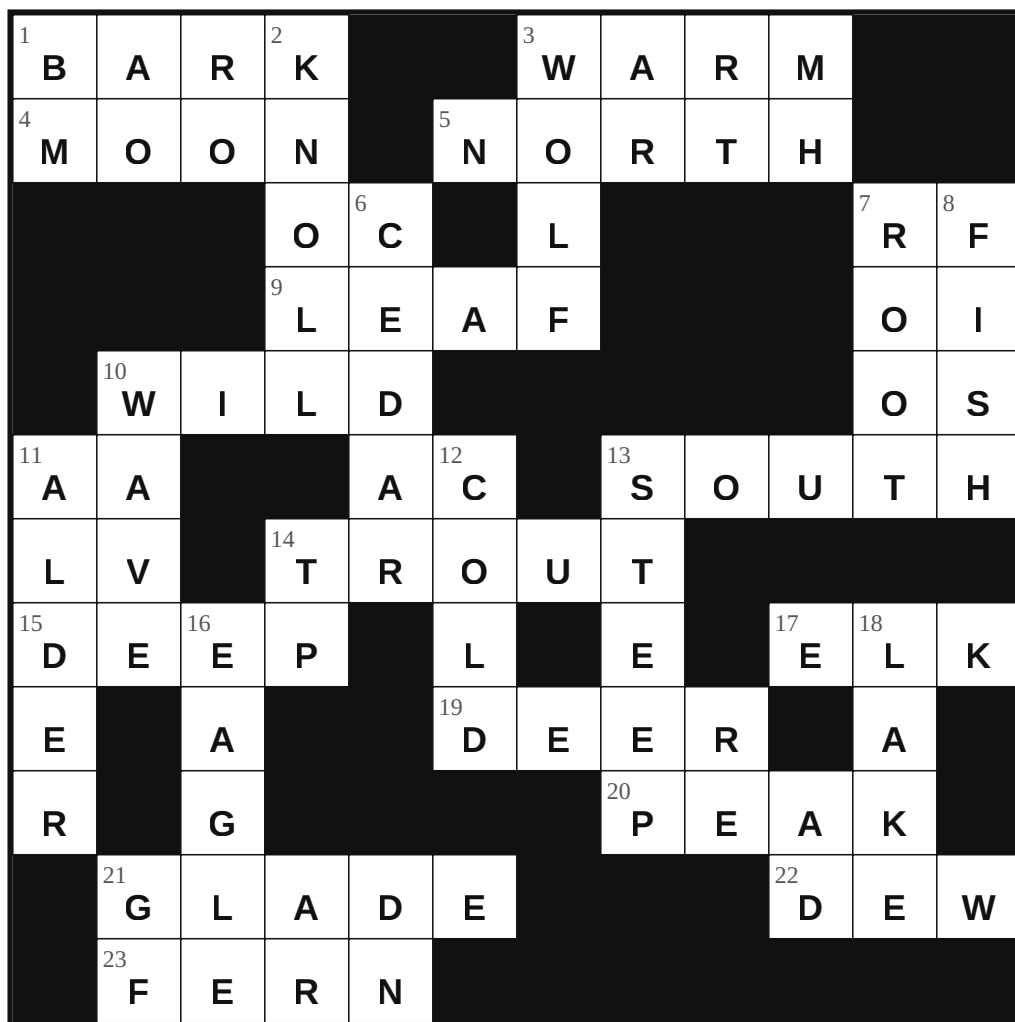
Across

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Tree trunk covering (4) | 15. Far below the surface (4) |
| 3. Comfortable temperature (4) | 17. Deer of mountain valleys (3) |
| 4. Night sky light (4) | 19. Woodland animal with antlers (4) |
| 5. Direction of the Arctic (5) | 20. Mountain summit (4) |
| 9. Green tree blade (4) | 21. Forest clearing (5) |
| 10. Untamed and free (4) | 22. Morning moisture (3) |
| 13. Direction of the Antarctic (5) | 23. Feathery green plant (4) |
| 14. Prized cold-water fish (5) | |

Down

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2. Small rounded hill (5) | 11. Water-loving tree (5) |
| 3. Pack-hunting predator (4) | 12. Chill of winter (4) |
| 6. Aromatic evergreen tree (5) | 13. Sheer incline (5) |
| 7. Underground tree part (4) | 13. Sheer incline (5) |
| 8. Creature caught with a rod (4) | 16. Bird soaring over mountains (5) |
| 10. Ridge on the lake surface (4) | 18. Mountain body of water (4) |

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