

GCPS Progress Report
January, 2024
By Diane Sterne

- Thank you GCPS members who have renewed their memberships for 2024. A reminder that if you haven't done so, you can renew by clicking one of the "donate" buttons on our website (granitecreekbc.ca), mailing us a cheque, or dropping off a cheque or cash to 1841 Main Street, Coalmont, B.C. VoX 1Wo. The membership fee is \$10 per year per person. Thank you, Roy Roberts, and Karen Gillich, for your generous donations and to our anonymous donor for his continued generous donations.
- Just after Christmas I was contacted by Peter Nobes. He is Director of the Roman Catholic Cemeteries Archdiocese of Vancouver. Peter is working on a website, cemeteryrestoration.org (not yet up and running), which will address some of the challenges faced in preserving old, abandoned cemeteries. He had visited the Granite Creek Cemetery in October and was very impressed with the GCPS's work there. Peter wanted to pick my brain as to the steps involved in reopening it and preserving it. We spoke for about an hour on the phone, and I explained some of the issues we encountered on our journey.
- Andrea DeMeer of the Similkameen Spotlight asked if I would be interested in writing articles for the paper about our local history. I told her I could commit to one article a month for one year. She has been publishing them since December. The articles focus on Granite Creek, Coalmont, Tulameen, and touch on Princeton. This is done gratis to promote the history of the area.
- We received a tax assessment for the Granite Creek Cemetery. We received an assessment for 2023 *and* 2024. The 2023 assessment was \$66,800. The 2024 assessment is \$66,900. We do not pay taxes on this land because cemeteries are exempt, however, the government still sends an assessment. The taxable amount is \$0.
- We will be having our AGM in March. The date and time will be announced at a later date.
- Financial Report: paid members 16; current bank balance \$3,863.08; PayPal \$202.11; cash on hand \$20; accounts payable to Ernie Rice when he builds and installs the Delprato Cabin picnic table \$800; \$60 that was owed to Bob Sterne for supplies to repair the donated chair last fall has been paid. Balance is \$3,285.19.