



THE RIDGEDALE ROD & GUN CLUB

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 54, Stn Matsqui, Abbotsford, BC V4X 3R2

Range and Bookings: 604-826-0552 **Web:** www.ridgedale.net

Range: East END of Harris Road (35655), Abbotsford, BC

Archery • Pistol • Rifle • Black Powder • Trap • Fishing

Newsletter April 2016

2016 AGM - Election Results

At the March 9, 2016, the following members were elected by acclamation:

▪ Henk Gauw	President	3 yrs.	▪ Donna Maud	Membership	2 yrs.
▪ Mark Voth	2 nd Vice President	2 yrs.	▪ Larry Foulds*	Archery	2 yrs.
▪ Zoya Jones	Treasurer	2 yrs.	▪ Virginia Brooke	Webmaster	2 yrs.
▪ Zoya Jones	Secretary	2 yrs.	▪ Joanne Sward	Recording	Indef.

**On April 15, Larry Foulds stepped down for personal reasons. Stephen Arnold has been appointed as Archery Chair.*

We still need a Fishing Chair. Mail president@ridgedale.net if you are interested in taking on this position.

Motions

After discussion and some amendments, the following motion were passed at the March 9 Annual General Meeting:

1. **Carried with one opposed:**

Replace the "\$25.00 Donation in lieu of one day's volunteer work, with a \$20.00 Capital Projects Fee (CPF) each membership category, other than Junior must pay. Members putting in one day of volunteer work will receive, once a year, a \$20 credit towards their membership dues for the following year."

2. **Carried unanimously:**

Amend the Constitution & Bylaws, Schedule B, Bylaws, Part II -Membership, Item #1 to read:

"Anyone can become a member on presenting themselves and their dependants (if named) with their application for membership at an appointed membership information session, have their photo(s) taken for their Gate Card/ID Combo and, if applicable, dependant ID Card(s), pay all dues and fees, and all named on the application attend a range orientation. Depending on the type of payment, cards will be issued on conclusion of the range orientation."

The types of payments and conditions determining when cards will be issued are defined in the updated Membership Policy, available at: http://www.ridgedale.net/documents/20160414_Membership_Policies.pdf

Calendar

▪ **Work Bee – Saturday, April 30, 2016 – 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Come and lend a hand to help us get ready for the May 7 Ladies Day. We start at about 8:00 a.m. and usually pack it in by 3:00 p.m. In addition to various clean-up jobs, repair and maintenance tasks, we may put up the new light pole at the trap range. New members, this a great opportunity to meet other club members. As long as at least two persons are willing to swear they have seen you do something, lunch is free! 😊



▪ **Ladies Day 2016 = Saturday, May 7, 2016 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

An open invitation to ladies of all ages

For information, see our poster at http://www.ridgedale.net/documents/2016_Ladies_Day_Poster.pdf or the bulletin board at the range.

- **General Meeting - Wednesday, May 11, 2016 – Starts at 7:00 p.m.**

When attending, remember to wear your Photo ID Card, and sign the green book. Except for associate members, junior members, dependants, and those who have not been a member in a good standing for a full calendar year yet, only members in good standing are entitled to vote.

Our Second Annual Raffle - Winning Numbers

At the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting, we turned the raffle drum. Here is the list of the winners.

Number	Prize	Description/Value	Winner
143	1 st	Weatherby Vanguard rifle (matt silver) in 30-06 SPRG w/Leopold VX1 3-9x40mm scope, leather sling, aluminum case & box of ammo - \$1,400+ value	Eric Bruck
053	2 nd	Italian Sporting Goods Gift Card - \$500	David Oliver
710	3 rd	Hunters Arm - \$350 value	Darren Mulrooney
081	4 th	Wholesale Sports Gift Card - \$300	Shawn Taylor
724	5 th	International Shooting Supplies Gift Card - \$200	Kelsey Pekavele
745	6 th	Canadian Tire Gift Card - \$200	Dave Graham
360	7 th	Coleman Classic Stove - \$155 value	Joe Sward
670	8 th	Outland Fire Bowl Deluxe - \$135 value	Leann Goertzen Loeppky
328	9 th	Fenix E41 LED Flashlight - \$75 value	Troy Barnes
552	10 th h	Fenix E20 Flashlight - \$45 value	Gene Mitchell

A big "Thank you!" to Italian Sporting Goods, International Shooting Supplies, Wholesale Sports, Canadian Tire, FraserWay RV, Otter Co-op, and Fenix Ultimate Flashlights for their generous support to help realize this lottery.

Important Information

Anyone handling firearms or archery equipment on Club property must be covered by a minimum of \$5,000,000.00 third party liability insurance policy and be prepared to provide proof that this insurance exists.

How to be covered:

1. Be a member in good standing (paid-up member) of the Ridgedale Rod & Gun Club (RRGC). A Family Membership provides insurance for each person who carries a PhotoID with that membership number and current year sticker.
2. Be invited as a guest of a paid-up adult member of the RRGC who has signed in the guest appropriately, correctly filled out a guest envelope, AND paid the applicable guest fee; i.e., adult \$10, junior \$5.
The sign-in sheet must clearly show the membership number of the 'host' and number of guests. Members may invite a maximum of two guests per day, and MUST act as range officer when these guests are shooting. Guests must shoot from the same bench as the member.
3. Be a registered participant in a club-sanctioned event (on club property); e.g., Ladies Day, trap shoot, etc. To register, the participant must sign in with name, address and telephone number. Some events may require a guest fee. We keep Sign-in Sheets on file for period of one year, after which they are destroyed.

Anyone found using our ranges without meeting one of the above rules will be asked to leave the property immediately.

→ The foregoing stresses why you always should renew by the December 31 deadline! ←

Hunting & Fishing News

- **2016/2017 Limited Entry Hunting Synopsis**

Hard copies of the 2016/2017 Limited Entry Hunting Synopsis are being distributed throughout the province. If you do not want to wait, go to: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/hunting/resident/leh.html#Synopsis>.

- **Attention Hunters – LEH Application - Amendment**

The Fall 2016 LEH Draw will open for submissions on April 25.

Effective April 25, Hunters can apply online, or at Service BC, FrontCounter BC, or participating licence vendors.

Until then, it is business as usual for anyone wishing to obtain a Hunter Number or purchase a hunting licence. *Hunters can obtain their Fish and Wildlife ID when they apply for LEH – either online or at a service provider.*

For updates, continue to monitor <http://www.gov.bc.ca/hunting>, our newsletter and bulletin board.

- **2016-17 Freshwater Fishing Licences are on Sale**

The weather is warming up, the days are getting longer and now, the surest sign of spring is here. In case you didn't know, freshwater fishing licences for the 2016-17 season are on sale! Since 100% of freshwater licence revenue is invested back into recreational fisheries, buying your licence helps stock more than 800 lakes a year; fund research, conservation, and education programs; and improve angler access. Buy your license online at <http://www.fishing.gov.bc.ca/>

Go Fishing! Go to Jail

There is something fishy about Bill C-246

It's time (again) to use your writing skills — and write your MP — whether Liberal, NDP or Conservative. BC MPs need to know that British Columbians oppose this 'brutal and vicious' attack on traditional hunting and fishing practices. For contact information of BC MPs go to <http://www.sources.com/PNN/BCFed.htm>

“In late February 2016, rookie Liberal MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith stood in the House of Commons to deliver a chapped and disjointed announcement. Clothed in a maroon tie draped over an oversized Tory blue shirt, Erskine-Smith—a pet-less, 31-year-old vegan from Toronto—introduced the Modernizing Animals Protection Act. Bill C-246, he said, would bring Canada’s animal welfare laws into the 21st Century. It sounded about right.”

This Modernizing Animals Protection Act (<https://openparliament.ca/bills/42-1/C-246/>) aims to amend the Criminal Code, the Fisheries Act, the Textile Labeling Act, the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act and the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (animal protection). If passed, it could mean fines as high as \$10,000 or 18 months in prison for storing a catch in a live-well or baiting a hook with a minnow, night crawler, or leech. Short of fanning the age-old flames of Canada's ugly rural-urban divide, Erskine-Smith, MP for the upscale Toronto inner-suburb riding of Beaches-East York, has placed himself in the crosshairs of every outdoorsman from Prince Rupert to St. John's.

Here are a few snips from the Canadian Sports Fishing Industry media release:

“The bill's three “specific and achievable” goals (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWfATx9y69g>), opponents argue, range from the sensible to the ridiculous, with little logical middle ground. C-246 looks to ban the sale of cat and dog fur in Canada and aims to end the cruel and unusual practice of shark finning. This bill also hopes to strengthen criminal laws related to animal sexual abuse and introduce a gross negligence penalty for animal cruelty.”

“Bill C-246 would make it possible for someone who catches a fish or shoots a deer to face criminal prosecution for cruelty to animals. Even the act of baiting a hook with a worm would be considered an act of cruelty according to the Bill; specifically, Section 182.1.1 states that: (1) Everyone commits an offence who, willfully or recklessly, (b) kills an animal or, being the owner, permits an animal to be killed, brutally or viciously, regardless of whether the animal dies immediately.”

“According to exhaustive legal opinions, for the first time in Canadian history this section would make it an offence to kill an animal brutally or viciously – without defining those terms – and does not exempt from this offence normal hunting and fishing activities. Hunting and fishing necessarily involve the killing of animals. Animal rights groups consistently attempt to portray these traditional Canadian heritage activities as inherently brutal and vicious”.

“If Bill C-246 becomes law, this section will be used by animal rights activists who will employ provisions of the Criminal Code to bring private prosecutions to harass lawful anglers and hunters.”



“Canadian families who fish together will do time together” if Bill C-246 becomes law. Therefore, if you enjoy the freedom of fishing with your family without fear of prosecution, contact your Member of Parliament to express your opposition to Bill C-246. For more information on this subject, visit the sources of this article at:

- <http://www.keepcanadafishing.com/go-fishing-go-to-jail-theres-somethings-fishy-about-bill-c-246/>
- <http://www.robertsopuck.ca/feature-article/an-open-letter-to-social-media-commenters-on-bill-c-246/>

The BCWF’s Position on Bill C-246

The BC Wildlife Federation has raised concerns about the new federal Bill C-246 that was introduced into Parliament on February 26, 2016, to amend a number of acts.

C-246 has shifted the focus of the Criminal Code from cruelty to killing an animal as offences unless there are lawful excuses (which are not defined). The act casts a wide net that potentially includes medical research, pet ownership, veterinary practice, and certain religious slaughtering practices (kosher and halal butchering).

Animal vehicle collisions could be an offence under this act if the operator was deemed to be reckless, i.e. was not taking into account changing conditions. Many of the activities covered by the bill are activities regulated under existing federal and provincial law. There also may be conflicts with aboriginal rights in terms of traditional harvesting practices. **Read the full BCWF response to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada at <http://tinyurl.com/jsl8vho>** It’s time to contact your MP, wouldn’t you say?

Support our Loyal Supporters

