

# The Link

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**“Sidewalk Superintendent”**

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**Granby Bridge Project**

## Bill Wellwood Retires



**Bill Wellwood - Retired May 1, 2009**

Bill joined Emcon Services Inc. in November 1999 after being the successful applicant for the RF2 position in Beaverdell. Bill had previously spent time with Emcon Services in Vernon as a Road Supervisor and prior to that as a Road Supervisor for the District Of Spallumcheen. Bill brought many skills to our team and was very involved in the Beaverdell community. Bill worked his way to Fire Chief of the Beaverdell Volunteer Fire Department. We will miss you Bill.

**Happy Retirement and Stay Healthy!**

## New Faces for the Emcon Team

**Derek Watson - RF2 Beaverdell**

Derek originally started with Emcon in November 1991 as a machine operator with the Beaverdell Road Crew until March of 2001. Derek left to operate a family business until December of 2008 when he re-joined Emcon Services on the Beaverdell Road Crew. In February of 2008 Derek was the successful candidate for the Beaverdell Road Foreman 2 position. Derek brings organization, experience and enthusiasm in taking on this challenging position.



We welcome Derek and his wife (Jerry) and three children to the Emcon group.

**Rick Wright -Road Superintendent Grand Forks**



Rick joined Emcon Services Inc. on April 6, 2009 as the Grand Forks Road Superintendent. Rick joins Emcon after working at Canpar Industries for the past 22 years as a production supervisor and scheduler. Rick brings a variety of skills to Emcon including supervision, safety, quality control and equipment operations. Rick is married to Val and they have two young adult children. Welcome to the Emcon family Rick. We look forward to your leadership.



## Black Train Bridge — a Community Effort

The Black Train Bridge, upon its completion, will become a major element in the Grand Forks Trail System. The 39 Combat Engineers worked fast and furious for two days to complete the new decking which is essential to its' use as a pedestrian thoroughfare. In preparation for the engineers arrival, local volunteers George Longden, Jim Kastrukoff and Bruno Pavin notched the cross ties so that the new surface could be laid efficiently. The

work went even more smoothly than contemplated and was completed earlier than expected. A letter of thanks from the Rails to Trails Society follows:

*“This is a hats off to Emcon and especially Jim Kastrukoff. The successful decking of the Black Train Bridge is a testimony to combined community efforts. Emcon's role was a big part of the success. Thank-you for the generosity of lending the equipment that Jim ran so diligently during the troop exercise. Jim put in hours of volunteer effort that made the one day decking of the trestle so successful.”*

*Yours in trails....Chris Moslin*



## Grind & Replace Hwy 19A Courtenay

*“....spraying tack oil for our grind and pave”*



Cam Jones spraying tack oil for our grind and pave project that we did on Hwy 19A in Courtenay, with Oliver overseeing the activities. The

paving contractor was charging too much to tack, so we decided to try this activity in house.



## Removing Old Asphalt Patches on Old Seal



Removing Old Patches

Emcon crews pulverizing, with a rented Pulverizer, adding virgin aggregates and capping with double graded seal on Cortes Island .



Rented Pulverizing Machine

# Bridge Crews Hard at Work in the Island



Bridge Crew Members, Robin Jasbec mixing, Paul Laughlin and Dwayne Randall laying the joint armour repair on the Cluxewe Bridge in Port Hardy.



Below—One of the new sidewalks we fabricated has been installed on Simms Creek Bridge in Royston. This is the site of a new bike and walking path which will extend from north of Courtenay eventually to Buckley Bay Ferry.

Below is a picture of a partnering project with MoT to use ex concrete bridge beams for a sidewalk. The old beams are framed and new rebar is added.



Above—Mitch Jensen, Dwayne Randall, Robin Jasbec and Paul Laughlin, Leadhand, are pouring the sidewalk.



## New Chain Up Area



The Sayward Crew doing Emcon /MoT partnering project—building a new chain up area before Sayward Hill. Acting RF, Gord Forester on the Roller with all the required Safety PPE on. Way to lead by example Gord! Good Job!



*“Sayward Crew doing Emcon / MoT partnering project, building new chain up area before Sayward hill ”*

## Grader Laid Patching

The Island Crews were busy with the Grader Laid pavement patching in Gold River. This project utilized our in house crews that are skilled in these activities allowing us to be more cost effective and having the ability to receive value for our end product.



SPREADING HOT MIX IN FRONT OF GRADER



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## Bursary Recipient Now an Employee!

Ian Stanchuk - Bridgeworker 3 Birchbank



Ian is a previous recipient of the Emcon Bursary Program in 2003. Ian went on to secure a carpentry apprenticeship with Red Mountain Village and subsequently with Argosy Construction Group.

During this time Ian entered the Selkirk College Carpentry program and has recently completed his 4th and final year.

Ian recently joined Emcon Services Inc. as a Bridge Worker 3.

We welcome Ian's' youth, experience, commitment and enthusiasm.

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## Bits & Pieces



At a recent Budget Meeting in Merritt, some of the group was so worked up by the discussions that they decided to go on a Paintball Exercise. Pictured at the left are Trey Jarvie (Shane's son), Simon Rizzardo, Greg Ehman, Ken Lawson, in front are Kevin Baxter, Shane Jarvie and Morris Green. At the right is Kevin Baxter taking aim at some poor unsuspecting soul. Many cuts, scrapes and bruises were evident at the next day's budgeting session.



### Environmental Award

At a Management Meeting on the Island, Damian Girard was presented with an Environmental Award for Services to Frogs. The plaque reads "*For services to the environment and saving the lives of many frogs*". This award was for the Frog Fence Project that Damian completed successfully.

Geoff Battimelli presents Jeff Smith, Acting RF in Cumberland with an Emcon cooler bag in recognition of his efforts with the Cumberland road crew. The crew laid 230 tonnes of grader laid hot mix on what turned out to be the hottest day ever recorded in the Comox valley. Congratulations on your efforts Jeff!



# It's that time of year again—Graduation!

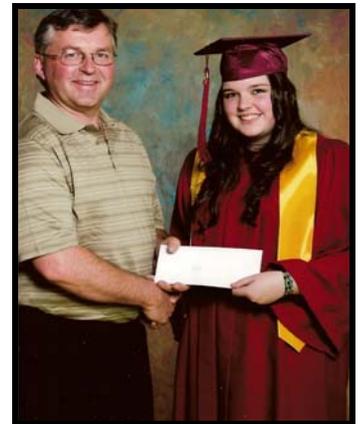
Teshia Borisenkoff, daughter of Holly Borisenkoff, Grand Forks office, received the Linda Tatlow Responsible Citizen Bursary, Co-op Woman's Guild Bursary, Grand Forks Senior Secondary PAC Scholarship and the Mary & Pert Abrosimoff Scholarship. Teshia also received a 5 year academic award and the RCMP Citizenship Award. Teshia is going to Calgary, Alberta to take her Bachelor of Science and is looking at going into the Medical Field. Congratulations Teshia and best of luck in your future endeavors.



Pictured above, left to right are Teshia Borisenkoff, Courtenay Mottishaw and Lindsay Woykin.

Lindsay Woykin, daughter of Rob Woykin, Grader Operator, on the Grand Forks Road Crew, graduated from Grand Forks Senior Secondary with Teshia Borisenkoff. Lindsay has been very active in many aspects of athletics including playing many sports herself. Lindsay is going to attend school in Victoria and major in Sports Medicine. Congrats Lindsay on your career choice.

Kathleen Schrader, daughter of Mike Schrader, a member of our Birchbank Road Crew, graduated from Rossland Senior Secondary. Kathleen is very active in her community in a variety of ways, some of which are the Amnesty International Club, Red Mountain ski racing and the Relay for Life. She is looking at pursuing a career in Psychology. Kathleen is pictured on the right receiving an Emcon Bursary from Gerry Popoff, Area Superintendent, Birchbank.



Recipients of an Emcon Services Inc. Bursary in the Kootenay Boundary Division this year are:

Nikki Basran  
Kathleen Schrader  
Teshia Borisenkoff  
Lindsay Woykin

Congratulations to All!!

## Camera Shy!



Nikki Basran graduated this year from Stanley Humphries Secondary School in Castlegar. Nikki is looking at pursuing a career in Digital Arts and News Media. Good Luck and Congratulations Nikki. No picture available at this time.



Emily Schmidt, girlfriend of Damian Girard, QA, Area 3, plans to spend the summer in the beautiful Comox Valley working with Sun Ray Cleaning, spending time with her friends and family, and enjoying all that the Comox Valley has to offer. In the fall, she wants to continue making money, and also continue her education at North Island College through some general courses. The next step for her is to accompany Damian to Victoria, where they will both be attending Camosun College and working at her grandma's award winning restaurant, Haultain Fish n Chips. Emily is really looking forward to life as a college student, and experiencing all that the world has to offer!



## Updating Our Equipment Fleet

“...Emcon continues to upgrade the fleet...”



Emcon continues to upgrade the fleet with this new Power Tailgate on a 3/4 ton pickup. This will allow the crews to safely lift heavy loads.



On the right is the new Freightliner truck for the Islands. The new Freightliners will replace the 1 tons that were being heavily utilized.



Pictured left is Ted Williams of the Cumberland crew washing out the new Rest area and Garbage truck.

## Before You Climb a Ladder...

Going up? Tens of thousands of serious injuries involving ladders occur each year.

**For safer ladder climbing:**

**Select** the right ladder for the job. For example, don't use a metal ladder near power lines or electrical equipment.

**Choose** the proper height for the job. The correct ladder height is a minimum of 3 feet above the roofline or work area.

**Place** the ladder on a flat, level surface. Don't use an unstable base such as bricks or blocks to make it reach farther.

**Don't** place a ladder in front of an entryway or door. **Set** up straight, single or extension ladders at a 75° angle.

**Inspect** the ladder before each use. Never step on a ladder that is shaky or slippery or that isn't well maintained. Make sure all rungs and hardware are tight and secure.

**Clean** off debris from your shoes before using the ladder. Wear shoes with slip-resistant soles.

**The bottom line:** Using a ladder can be risky business. For common "high-up" jobs around your house, such as cleaning gutters, painting or window washing, consider enlisting a professional's help.



## Jack is out on the lake - without a cell phone!



Jack Burnham, Comptroller, has decided he needs some time off for fishing! So Jack has taken semi-retirement effective May 30, 2009. Jack picked that date so that he could get on the lakes and fish, fish, fish.

Jack, besides being a brilliant comptroller for the company for the past 20 years, is also a very talented carpenter. Jack builds quality customized furnishings and cabinets, so he will be trying his hand in that area on a part time basis.

Jack will continue to drop into the office and assist Shane with his duties and also to program our new computers.

Jack will be missed, but we all know he is enjoying fishing!



## Married, now gone!

Ranjit Bhangu has left the building! Ranjit was married in April and tried to continue to work in the Corporate Office, but being her husband was not able to relocate to our fair city, she has decided it is best that she move down to Richmond with her new husband. Ranjit plans on working somewhere closer to where they are living. Ranjit's family still lives in the Merritt area so we are sure that she will be dropping in from time to time for a visit and to bring us up to date on her married life. We all wish Ranjit luck for the future.



## New Faces in Merritt



April Schneider has joined the team at the Corporate Office in Merritt. April started on July 6th and is taking over some of the accounting functions that Kevin Baxter had. April will also be assisting Shane with year end audits and filing for the office.

April came to us from the banking industry where she has spent many years assisting clients as Branch Ambassador. April has a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree with Finance Concentration. We welcome April to our team!

Michelle Burton is the new receptionist at the Corporate Office. She is known as Shelley and joined our group on June 18th and is assisting Barb Treadway with the Fleet Insurance, as well as general office duties. Shelley has come to us from a local investment office.

Welcome Shelley.



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Road & Bridge  
Maintenance Contractor



## ALCOHOL AND DRUG FREE WORKPLACE

It is the responsibility of Emcon Services to provide a safe and healthy work environment for all employees. As members of the Road and Bridge Maintenance Industry, we are acutely aware of the results of alcohol and drugs when mixed with operating machinery of any type. In carrying out our responsibilities at worksites and on the public highway system, we expect that our employees will be alert and able to react quickly to changing conditions. This need is incompatible with the use of drugs or alcohol. Immediately preceding or during work is not the place to mix your responsibilities with drugs and/or alcohol. As such, Emcon Services has established the following policy.

Effective June 1, 2007 all new employees will have a drug-screening test prior to hire. Drug screening will be done at an approved laboratory with appropriate supervision. A positive test will mean that person will not be hired. The new employee must not commence work until the test results have been received and reviewed by management. Random testing of existing employees will be discussed with the BCGEU to ensure compliance with our “no drug” policy in the workplace. Drug screening may also be carried out subsequent to any personal or vehicle incidents. Employees should be aware that disciplinary action, in the form of immediate suspension, will automatically follow those employees who place themselves, their co-workers and the public in jeopardy by mixing the workplace with drugs and / or alcohol.

To date we have had to exercise disciplinary action in one case and this person is no longer employed by our company.

**Note:** We have started a Voluntary Drug Screening Program . The Corporate Office has set the example for all with a large percentage of employees coming forth for the testing.

## TRAINING

Training, as life, is an ongoing learning experience and Emcon certainly supports it's team members in the area of education.



Instructor Derm McNulty

Some of our most recent training has been more safety related. We have had management and union people attend “**Early & Safe Return to Work**” training sessions, in both Kelowna and on the Island. This course provides the basics of how to set up and manage a RTW program to assist in getting our injured workers safely back in the workforce with approved modified duties.



“**Foundations for Health and Safety Excellence**” training course was also held in both locations for members of the Kootenay Boundary and Is-

land Divisions. This course provided the basic concepts of health and safety – the things you will need to know so that your company can set up an excellent health and safety program and is designed for people who are responsible for health and safety in their organizations.

Both courses were provided by the Construction Safety Network.



*“In skating over thin ice, our safety is in our speed.”* - Ralph Waldo Emerson