

GCPS Progress Report
March, 2026
By Diane Sterne

- Last year was a great year for volunteer work. I would like to thank the people who helped look after the Delprato Cabin, the Granite Creek Townsite and the Granite Creek Cemetery. Neil Gabie, Lori Frank and Paul O'Toole have been lifesavers for us. We appreciate all their hard work and dedication keeping the sites in beautiful order. Thank you!!!
- Thank you, Ray Boyd, for keeping the Granite Creek Preservation Society website updated. We are so grateful to you, Ray for your expertise!
- Thank you to our Executive for keeping things running smoothly. We are so lucky to have you volunteering your time to keep the Granite Creek Preservation Society working.
- Thank you to those who have donated to the Granite Creek Preservation Society! Without your donations, we would not have the ability to pay for the annual insurance, pay for our yearly updates on Societies Online and other expenses that crop up throughout the year.
- I am so excited to give you this news!!! It has been many years of waiting but finally the Delprato Cabin is being officially recognized for its heritage value. We received an email from Theresa McFarland, Manager-Stewardship and Historic Places, Heritage Branch, Tourism Sector Strategy Division, Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. Whew...that is a mouth full. 😊 She has informed us that a Land Act Notation of Interest has been established for 10 years for part of the District Lot 789, Yale Division of Yale District that includes the area around the Delprato Cabin. In this case, a Notation of Interest is a recognition of an interest in preserving the heritage value in Crown land by the Heritage Branch. This is really great news for the Delprato Cabin and the GCPS!!
- Delprato Cabin picnic table: Many of us agree that this has been dragging on for too long. Bob contacted Bert Rice (who now has a sawmill). He has agreed to make the table, stain it and deliver it to the cabin site for \$800 which is the amount we had set aside from a grant we received a few years ago. We need to discuss this and vote to get approval before he begins the work.
- I realize what I am about to discuss doesn't pertain to Granite Creek, however, it does involve the area close to it, so that is why I am including it here. As most of you know, the province announced its decision to deactivate and destroy the KVR trail between Princeton and Coldwater. I emailed Theresa McFarland, Provincial Heritage Registrar expressing my desire to have the Coalmont portion of the trail recognized as a heritage site. Theresa asked Roger Tinney, Director Heritage Branch Tourism Sector Strategy Division Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport to respond. Roger phoned me to say that the Heritage Branch no longer does this. He stated that I must first go to our local government and have them recognize it. Once that is done, the Heritage Branch would have it acknowledged on their site. This was the route we took for the Granite Creek Townsite and Cemetery. I explained to Roger that our local government, the RDOS, doesn't have much interest in this area anymore, and our area rep. had previously

told us not to come to him for anything in the future. Roger said I should discuss the Coalmont area with the Trails & Trail Infrastructure Team, Ministry of Environment and Parks. I had already done this without any success. I also pointed out that they do not have anything to do with designating heritage status to a site. While he had sympathy with my concern, he said there was nothing he could do to help. He did, however, say that my email explaining why I felt the Coalmont portion of the trail deserved heritage status was very compelling. I decided to try contacting RDOS and sent their planning department (that is where the RDOS website directed me to) an email for a Heritage Site Nomination. I even offered to prepare the Statement of Significance for it. This was sent on March 2, and I have not heard a word from them – not even an acknowledgement of my email. I did follow this up with Allen Fillion who is supposed to be in charge of that department but have not heard back from him either.

- Financial Report: 20 paid members; current bank balance \$4,502.39 of which \$100 is the Cemetery Care Fund; PayPal \$193.60; cash on hand \$0; accounts payable for picnic table \$800. Balance is \$4,038.61 (which includes the promotional items inventory).