

NEWS

Art exhibit by the lake

The Mission Painters' "Art by the Lake" exhibit takes place July 5 and 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, at the Okanagan Mission Activity Centre, 4398 Hobson Rd., in Kelowna.



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▼ ACCIDENT

Full injury recovery not always likely

*"My mom was just in a pretty terrible crash and is headed to the hospital. The other driver didn't stop. Not sure I'm going to make it in tomorrow."*

**T**hat email went to my iPhone just before 11 p.m., as I lay in bed.

I called my case manager (I'll call her Melissa for the purpose of this column) as immediately as I could find her number. She was still at the scene.

Melissa and her dad were notified by a passer-by who had come on the scene and helped make the call.

They had driven the short distance from their home, further up Glenrosa Road.

Had the other driv-



ACHIEVING JUSTICE

Paul Hergott

er kept on his side of the road, her mom would have made it that further, short distance and been home with them.

Instead, an ambulance was taking her to the hospital.

Dad went along, leaving Melissa with the RCMP officer and others dealing with the crash aftermath.

Melissa was counting her family's blessings as she filled me in.

She was thankful that it was not quite a direct

head-on crash, the impact point being near the driver's side front wheel.

And at least her mom was walking around at the scene.

Yes, there seemed to be a lot of blood, but a few stitches and she'll be released that night from the hospital.

It's a common gut reaction when something horrible happens: "At least it wasn't worse."

I had a couple gut reactions. That wasn't one of them.

One was shared by the RCMP officer who was openly questioning how someone could have caused such a crash and left the scene without even stopping to see if the victim might need immediate medical attention.

Ironically, a brief stop might have increased the chance of getting away

with it.

The offending driver might have noticed, and picked up, the incriminating license plate laying among the pieces of vehicle debris on the road.

My deepest gut reaction was a feeling of utter dread about the journey Melissa's mother is now on.

I was almost in tears with the realization of how she was going to feel waking up the next morning and what I regretfully believe to be a likelihood of never fully recovering from the whiplash type injuries that occur during such a crash.

If I was a praying person, I would still be on my knees praying for the miracle of a quick and full recovery. I happen not to believe in miracles.

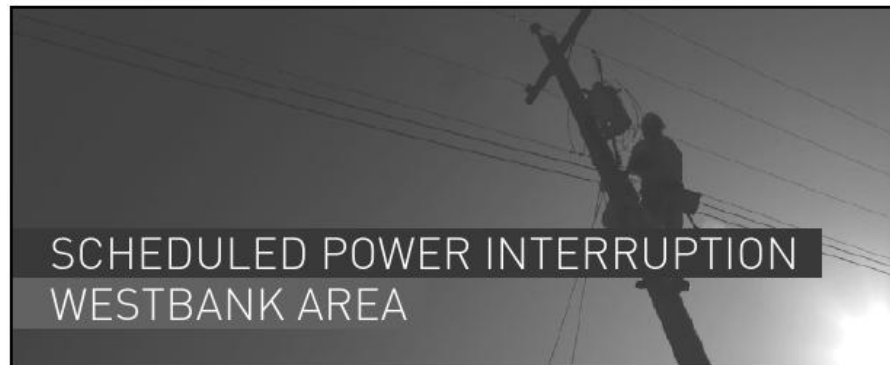
I also know that as miraculous as our medical system seems to be at

times, only so much can be done to help the healing of ligaments, tendons and other tissues that are damaged when part of us is held back by a seat belt while other parts are not. In case the fallen license plate has not already led to the identification of the offending driver by the time this is published, please contact me if you know anything about this crash or about a damaged white SUV.

However empty a consolation, I can at least lend a hand to ensuring that justice is done.

*This column is intended to provide general information about injury claims. It is not a substitute for retaining a lawyer to provide legal advice specifically pertaining to your case. Paul Hergott is a lawyer at Hergott Law in West Kelowna.*

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**SCHEDULED POWER INTERRUPTION  
WESTBANK AREA**

We will be making electrical system improvements in Westbank on Thursday, July 3. To ensure the safety of our work crews, it will be necessary to interrupt electrical service for approximately 4 hours.

**Time:** 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

**When:** Thursday, July 3

**Where:** From the intersection of Red Cloud Way and Boucherie Road, North to the end of Cougar Road. From the intersection of Elk Road and Carrington Road, East to Ridge Estate Drive and also from Elk Road, North on Carrington Road, to Mallard Crescent, including all side streets.

To prepare for this interruption and protect your equipment from damage, turn off all lights, electric heaters, major appliances and unplug all electronics.

For the first hour after the power comes back on, please only plug in or turn on those electronics and appliances that you really need. This will help ensure the electrical system does not get overloaded.

We are sorry for the inconvenience. We will restore your power as soon as we can.

Fintry Summer Fair to feature work of artisans and musicians

The Friends of Fintry will hold the fourth annual Fintry Summer Fair on Sunday, July 13, celebrating BC Parks Day on the scenic grounds of the Fin-

try Manor House.

The fair will be open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with artists, artisans and others exhibiting their work, products and pro-

duce.

Several local and provincial organizations will come to highlight their work in the Okanagan.

Musical entertainment will continue throughout the day, with the Kalamalka Pipe Band marching onto the lawn at 11 a.m.

The North Westside Fire Fighters will bring their heavy equipment and plan to organize demonstrations.

Children's games will begin at 11:30 am and will include a Bouncy Castle (\$1 charge).

Three vendors will provide a range of food to purchase for lunch, with traditional hot dogs and hamburgers, French sweet and savoury crepes and spicy Caribbean chicken on the menu.

Entry to the grounds will cost \$5 for adults and \$2 for youths 11 to 18.

There will be no charge for members of the society and children.

Entry to the Manor House and Barns will be by donation.

Visitors from the whole region are invited



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These regions are invited to enjoy the beauty of Fintry Provincial Park and to join in the fun.

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