

opinion

# What good can come from driving tragedy?

Our broken hearts ache for something positive to rise up from the worst tragedies.

It is January 28, 2015, on a straight stretch of Highway 33, east of Kelowna. It is broad daylight and road conditions are ideal. A Mitsubishi Lancer eases

## Achieving Justice

PAUL HERGOTT



over the centre line. The tire tracks leading off the roadway show no sign of

braking or evasive steering.

The crash down a 150-metre cliff takes the life of the sole occupant, Alexandra, who is just 21 years old.

Alexandra's father is among the emergency services

personnel at the scene. He tried to make sense of it and believes that his daughter, who had been overtired, may have fallen asleep.

Our hearts ache for this tragic loss of a young life and for those close to Alexandra who feel that loss so poignantly.

How could it be that something positive might come from this senseless tragedy? Each of us learning of it holds just a little tighter to our children.

As our memory of the loss fades, though, so does our grip. We ache for a more lasting legacy.

Might Alexandra's senseless loss prevent another? Might her loss be leveraged to prevent a multitude of others?

'Alexandra's Story' could be told in high school classrooms to help our young people learn and fully appreciate

that motor vehicles are dangerous, heavy machinery requiring the utmost care and respect.

In my experience, though, young people may be the least in need of that lesson. Young people are products of our society's driving culture.

We are all a product of our driving culture—a culture of complacency. Those of us motivated to change that culture face a horrendously uphill battle, countered every step of the way by advertising campaigns espousing the safety of motor vehicles and continual media

reports suggesting that crashes don't come with consequences.

Precious little is being done to change our driving culture.

Alexandra's story could be the impetus for a road safety initiative requiring those obtaining, as well as renewing, our licences to sit through a half hour safety video. The photograph of those tire tracks could be the opening image.

Mass advertising is expensive, particularly when it is important to reach all demographics. By requiring a viewing of the video when

obtaining and renewing our driver's licences, we are guaranteed that everyone will benefit. It would require as little capital expenditure as the video production and a designated viewing room at each driver's licence issuing location.

Let us pay our respects to Alexandra's memory by making whatever contribution each of us can make to help prevent future road traffic tragedies. Those in positions of influence can do more than others.

Paul Hergott is a personal injury lawyer. paul@hlaw.ca



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## West Kelowna hosts Family Day events at arena, pool

The District is hosting Stick n Puck n Rings for kids aged from 5 to 17 on Family Day, Monday, Feb. 9, in Jim Lind Arena.

- Stick n Puck n Rings (5-9yrs) 10:45-11:45 am
- Stick n Puck n Rings (10-13 yrs) 11:45-12:45
- Stick n Puck n Rings

(14-17 yrs) 1-2 pm. The cost for admission is \$2.50. The arena is located at 2760 Cameron Rd., West Kelowna.

Johnson Bentley Memorial Aquatic Centre is hosting a Family Day Swim. Families have the opportunity to

spend more quality time together for half the price. The Family Day Swim is from noon to 4 p.m. and admission is only \$5 per family.


The aquatic centre is located at 3737 Old Okanagan Highway, West Kelowna.

## CAPITAL NEWS UPCOMING ROUTES AVAILABLE 2 DAYS A WEEK / NO WEEKENDS


Kelowna North & Glenmore	Rutland South & Rutland North
#KC01004303 - 61 Papers Bay Ave. 706 to 990, Ethel St. 890 to 1005, Jones St. 845 to 890, Okanagan Blvd. 705 Only, Pettigrew St, Richter St. 815 to 903 Odd Side Only, Walrod St. 802 to 890	#KC03013502 - 36 Papers Oakridge Rd, Westridge Dr. 4655 to 4727
#KC04000301 - 50 Papers Woodpark Cres, Woodpark Cr.	#KC03013603 - 60 Papers Canyon Falls Cr, Canyon Ridge Cres, Canyon Ridge Cr, Canyon View Cr, Mid Ridge Cr, Westridge Dr. 4920 Only
#KC04000303 - 70 Papers Rio Dr. S. 309 to 417, Woodcrest Cr, Woodwind Cr.	#KC03014003 - 40 Papers Conally Lane, Main St, McCaren Ave. 351 to 436, Winslow St.
#KC04000600 - 44 Papers Rialto Dr, Rio Dr N. 1232 to 1257, Rodondo Pl, Clear Pond Cr, Clear Pond Pl.	#KC03014100 - 38 Papers Ash Rd, Okaview Rd. 352 to 458
#KC04000701 - 59 Papers Altura Rd, Caramillo Cr, Caramillo Rd. 31 to 57, Monte Rd, San Cabrio Cr, Spruceglen Dr. 1628 to 1709	#KC03014201 - 58 Papers Carolina Cr, South Crest Dr. 700 to 786, South Ridge Dr. 5026 to 5114
#KC04000702 - 24 Papers Cara Glen Way 1501 to 1533, Caramillo Rd. 8 to 20 Even Side Only, Clifton Rd. S. 523 to 599	#KC03014204 - 51 Papers Benmore Cr, Benmore Pl, Burnell Cr, Dougherty Ave. 630 to 672, South Ridge Dr. 5161 to 5251
#KC04000902 - 48 Papers Lindsay Dr. 1526 to 1649, Patricia Cr, Sonora Dr. 1507 to 1678	#KC03015600 - 47 Papers Claxton Cr, Flower Cr, Keiull Cr, Kimatouche Rd. 3520 to 3780, Mowitch Cr, Tillicum Cr.
#KC04001003 - 39 Papers Glenmeadows Rd. 536 to 608, Lipsitt Cr, Sprucedale Cr, Spruceglen Dr. 1729 to 1772, Sprucegrove Cr, Sprucemont Cr.	#KC03016704 - 50 Papers Almandine Cr, Arbor View Dr. 566 to 699
#KC04001606 - 19 Papers Long Ridge Dr. 307 to 867, Big Rock Cr.	#KC03016706 - 43 Papers Albers St, Devonian Ave, Peridot Cr, Peridot Pl.
#KC04002203 - 82 Papers Celano Cres, Union Rd. 2025 to 2053 Odd Side Only, Verna Cr.	#KC03016708 - 37 Papers Dillon Cr, Dillon Pl, Quarry Ave, Quarry Pl.
#KC04002600 - 45 Papers Ayre Ave, Ayre Cr, Clifton Rd. 800 to 989, Glen St, Lymwood Cres, Macleay Cr.	#KC03058903 - 19 Papers Cavell Pl. 438 to 454, Hedeman Cr. 5320 to 5411
#KC04003100 - 71 Papers Clifton Rd. 1260 Only, Gaddes Ave, Glenview Ave, Glenview Cr, Hartwick St, Hillcrest St, Lambert Lane	<b>West Kelowna</b>
#KC04003503 - 48 Papers Bernard Ave. 1810 to 1850, Dilworth Cres, Glenmore Dr. 1220 to 1390	#KC07001013 - 39 Papers Horizon Dr. 1991 to 2136
<b>Kelowna South &amp; Mission</b>	#KC07001014 - 28 Papers Aurora Hgts.
#KC02006100 - 51 Papers Abbott St. 1749 to 1894, Lake Ave, Maple St, Riverside Ave.	#KC07001112 - 62 Papers Devon Cr, Devon Rd, Hants Rd, Somerset Cr, Somerset Cr, Surrey Rd, Sussex Rd.
#KC02007600 - 43 Papers Abbott St. 2165 to 2251, Glenwood Ave. 300 to 499, Long St. 2127 to 2160, Pandosy St. 2134 to 2178 Even Side Only, Royal Ave. 300 to 499, Strathcona Ave.	#KC08001311 - 25 Papers Derrickson Pl, Manuel Rd, Tomat Ave. 2036 to 2106
#KC02008300 - 50 Papers Abbott St. 2362 to 2501, Birch Ave. 400 to 499, Francis Ave. 300 to 499, Pandosy St. 2366 to 2490 Even Side Only, Robin Way, Taylor Cres.	#KC08001411 - 22 Papers Alexander Pl, Michelle Cres.
#KC02014401 - 56 Papers Holland Rd, KLD Rd. 1160 to 1559, St. Armand Rd.	#KC08001811 - 41 Papers Boucherie Rd. 2545 to 2555, Brenmauer Rd, Rummy Rd, Stuart Rd. 842 to 993, Winnipeg Rd.
#KC03011702 - 18 Papers Hobson Rd. 4200 to 4397	#KC08001812 - 35 Papers Collingwood Rd, Harmon Rd, McKay Rd.
#KC03011901 - 26 Papers Duke Cr, Eldorado Cr, Eldorado Rd. 402 to 467, Walker Rd. 4508 to 4529	
#KC03012301 - 33 Papers Bayhill Pl, Carriage Cr, Vintage Terrace Rd, Vintage Terrace Cr.	
#KC03012601 - 56 Papers Eso Cr, Hazell Rd, Toms Cr, Toms Rd, Turner Rd. 4303 to 4353	
#KC03013201 - 53 Papers Berk Cr, Buck Rd, Darin Cr. 4690 to 4697, Gordon Dr. 4611 to 4693, Vance Ave.	
#KC03013402 - 46 Papers Crawford Rd. 1415 to 1533, Mission Ridge Dr. 1383 to 1549, Mission Ridge Rd, Westridge Dr. 4570 to 4590	

## On February 11, I'm inviting everyone over.

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