

Valemount Community Forest

JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

<https://valemountcommunityforest.ca>

Valemount Elementary Cranberry Marsh Field Trip

On a beautiful warm Tuesday afternoon VCF's GM Alana Duncan, previous Assistant Admin Janey Weeks, and Board of Directors President Dylan Savoie hosted a "Cranberry Marsh Nature Walk" field trip for 22 enthusiastic grade 3 & 4 VES students. With magnifying glasses in hand, binoculars and bird identification charts the children set out to explore all nature has to offer at our beautiful



local wetlands, Starratt Wildlife Management Area. Topics included learning about environmental responsibility, ecosystem, wildlife, birds, snakes, bat houses, amphibians, insects and plants. The kids took home wild bird coloring pages, bird picture charts, a mini flashlight, and wonderful memories of one of the many scenic areas of our town.



Valemount Secondary Silviculture Field Trip

In mid-June twenty-two VSS students embarked on an informative, adventurous outing to a live silviculture experience. Travelling 3km up Westridge Mainline to VCF's active tree planting site, where they learned about environmental responsibility, wildlife, forest safety, reforestation, and how seedlings are planted. Thank you, Reiner, for showing the students how to plant trees!



VCF plated 350,000 seedlings this year from May to June. Free to Grow has been contracted with this task which began at lower elevations when the block became snow and frost free, later moving to higher elevations as more ground becomes available. The 2026 planting program finished in late June.

Amplify Consulting Inc.

Amplify Consulting is an award-winning agency specializing in engagement and communications.

VCF hired Amplify to help us learn how we might improve our relationship with Valemount's community members, and to explore how much knowledge, and understanding that the people have regarding our operations. They have done a superb job of helping us reach our goal of improving communication and providing more output of informative information.

At our Open House in December Amplify created a survey to get much needed feedback from our community members. Thank you to everyone who participating in this survey!

Did you know that the VCF and the Valemount Industrial Park (VIP) are now separate companies? VCF established VIP in 2019 to support the development of the Valemount Industrial Park and the Specialty Mill. In 2023, the two organizations became separate corporate entities, each with its own Board of Directors and management team. While they now operate independently, both companies continue to be owned by the Village of Valemount, which holds 99.9% of the shares in each corporation. Today, VIP is responsible for managing the Industrial Park and operating the Specialty Mill, while VCF focuses on the sustainable management of the community forest and the forest resources that benefit our community. You can contact the mill by calling 250-566-1433 or emailing VSMsales@outlook.ca



Wildfire Risk Reduction



The Valemount Community Forest has received grant funding from the BC CFA to complete the layout and prescription for a Wildfire Risk Reduction treatment in the area above the Village's water treatment plant.

The proposed treatment includes manual thinning to reduce forest fuel loads, with excess woody debris being mulched, chipped, and removed from the site where practical. This work is intended to help reduce wildfire risk while improving the overall health and resilience of the forest.

If you have any questions about the project, please contact the Valemount Community Forest at **250-566-4610** or by email at admin@valemountcommunityforest.ca.

Up Coming Events



2026 Community Funding Programs

VCF community financial contributions to June 30, 2026

\$5,000 in Grant funding to the Wishbone Theatre and Valemountain Days

\$9,000 in Annual Community Program Funding for Meals on Wheels, the Valemount Food Bank, Valemount Secondary breakfast and basketball programs

\$6,500 in Sponsorships to the Valemount Climbing Club and VARDA

\$2,730 in Discretionary Funds to: Open Gate

Valemount Community Forest Limited Partnership – Box 1017, Valemount, BC, V0E2Z0

Phone: 250-566-4610 3300 Hwy 5 South - Email: admin@valemountcommunityforest.ca

Community Garden, Canoe Valley Skating Club, Zero Fox Tree Seminar, U7, U15, and U18 Wildcats Hockey Teams, Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt, 2026 Grad Banners, and the Valemount Community Bus Society.

Don't forget to watch for the Grant application opening in October for the 2027 funding.

