



Merritt Information Item

FLOURISH UNDER THE SUN

To: Sean Smith, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Will George, Economic Development, Communication, & Tourism Manager

Date: October 22, 2020

Subject: 2020 Third Quarter Report for the Merritt Visitors Centre at the Baillie House

This is provided as information, and no resolution is required. Council may make a motion to direct staff to take particular action if they wish.

In the third quarter of 2020, from July to September 10,335 visitors stopped at the Merritt Visitor Information at the Baillie House. This was a 24% decrease over the number of visitors in 2019 due to COVID-19 and travel restrictions.

The Merritt Visitor Centre at the Baillie House was open from 9 am to 5 pm every day of the third quarter of 2020, including holidays. During this quarter, common questions included camping locations, outdoor recreation activities and parks. The Merritt Visitor Centre provided many copies of the City of Merritt Nicola Valley Trail Guide produced in 2019.

Moving forward, the Merritt Visitor Centre at the Baillie House will be open from Tuesday to Saturday each week with hours of operation from 10 am to 4 pm. There is new furnace scheduled to be installed in the Visitor Centre at the beginning of October.

Respectfully submitted,

Will George
Economic Development, Communications and Tourism Manager