



PICTURED Benjamin Lambert, (back row left) and others from this year's Dreams Take Flight trip to Disneyland enjoyed a one-day, whirlwind visit at the Magic Kingdom. Logan Fergusson photo

Soaring hearts

Air Canada charity lifts spirits of young children

Philip Raphael, Editor

South Delta Leader

Dozens of flights take off and land at Vancouver International Airport (YVR) every day. But early on Oct. 18 a special Air Canada Boeing 767 not only lifted off the runway, it helped raise the spirits of its passengers—including a pair from Delta.

It was the 19th annual Dreams Take Flight trip to Disneyland with 124 children who face physical, social and mental challenges.

Ladner's Katrina Lane, 7, and Benjamin Lambert, 9, and others were whisked away to the Magic Kingdom for the day.

For Lane's mom, Melissa Kluey, the chance for her daughter to take part was like a dream come true.

"I was so excited for her. I didn't tell her she was chosen until about a week before the flight," Kluey said. "And when I did she was stunned. She kept saying, 'I get to go, I get to go.'"

Lane, who is in Grade 2 at Port Guichon elementary school, was diagnosed with epilepsy 18 months ago. Her mom said she is a big fan of Rapunzel in the

Disney animated movie Tangled and is growing her brunette locks in hopes of performing some of the Rapunzel's magical stunts.

But while that may be a bit of a stretch, the real magical events of the trip to California was to see, "other kids like her and that they can all have fun together and it doesn't matter," Kluey said.

For Lambert, a Grade 5 student at Holly Elementary school who was diagnosed with Tourettes syndrome, the news he was picked for the flight came a couple of months ago.

Mom, Martha Cheney, said her son, "had huge eyes and just couldn't believe it," when told.

Cheney said she was impressed with the event's organization and attention to detail to ensure the day goes off with few, if any, hitches.

"To send your child off without you (a parent) on a plane trip you have to feel pretty confident in the people you're sending them with," she said. "And I think it's wonderful they send such a wide range of kids."

Along for the trip were 85 Vancouver-based escorts and

leaders, six flight crew members, and three pilots. The group was met in Los Angeles (LAX) by an additional 28 escorts to help get them around the theme park.

Dreams Take Flight is a national non-profit charity made up of active and retired Air Canada volunteers dedicated to providing a trip of a lifetime to physi-

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PICTURED Ladner's Katrina Lane takes time out to pose with a special friend at Disneyland. Logan Fergusson photo

behind the scenes

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— Greg Muirhead, Past President of the Delta Chamber of Commerce



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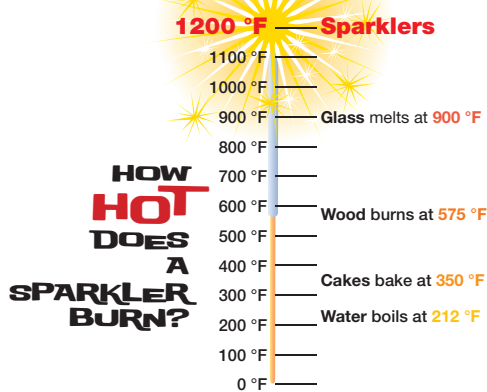
Unauthorized use of Fireworks can lead to serious injuries or property damage. No Person shall ignite, possess, sell or transport any Fireworks at any time within the Municipality of Delta unless they have a valid Fireworks Permit issued by the Delta Fire Department.

PROCEED WITH CAUTION!

- Leave fireworks to the professionals. Do not use consumer fireworks.
- The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public display conducted by trained professionals.
- After the firework display, children should never pick up fireworks that may be left over, they may still be active.

CONSUMER FIREWORKS

include sparklers and firecrackers. The tip of a sparkler burns at a temperature of more than **1,200 degrees Fahrenheit**, which is hot enough to cause third-degree burns.



FACTS

- Each Halloween, thousands of people, most often teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks.
- The risk of a fireworks injury is more than twice as high for children ages 10-14 as for the general population.

One hip researcher

Delta man wins health research funding award

Black Press

Delta resident Charles (Chuck) Ratzlaff is among the recipients of a prestigious research award from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR).

Ratzlaff, a PhD candidate in epidemiology in the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Health Care and Epidemiology at UBC, is one of 95 individuals working in diverse fields of health research to be selected for funding in MSFHR's 2010/11 research scholar and trainee competitions.

Ratzlaff's research will demonstrate how physical activity and one or more subtle deformities of the hip can cause cartilage damage and eventually osteoarthritis.

His research will generate the new knowledge needed for major breakthroughs in the prevention, detection and treatment of hip osteoarthritis.

Given an aging population

and the increased prevalence of chronic diseases in Canada, physical activity is an important intervention for health. Knowledge of how to modify and perform physical activities, and identification of susceptible individuals, will lead to inexpensive and practical recommendations that maximize the benefits of physical activity without increasing the risks of joint disease.

MSFHR awardees were selected from a pool of more than 300 applicants following a rigorous peer-review process.

Thirty-two scholar awards will support researchers establishing or building research programs to address critical health issues. Awards to 63 post-doctoral fellows will provide an additional three years of advanced research



Charles Ratzlaff

training to prepare the next generation of scholars for our BC universities and hospital-based research centres.

"Through these awards, MSFHR is investing in a healthy future for British Columbia," said Dr. Bruce Clayman, MSFHR's interim president and CEO.

"Providing support to the scholars helps recruit and keep these exceptional investigators in BC, enabling them to establish research programs that can attract additional funding into the province. The post-doctoral fellows hold promise to become the next generation of premier health researchers."

For more information, visit www.msfhr.org.

New dog park fences on the horizon

Delta sets aside money to enclose four off-leash areas

Christine Lyon, Reporter

South Delta Leader

Four off-leash dog parks in Delta could get fenced off next year.

On Monday (Oct. 17), Delta council unanimously endorsed a recommendation from the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department that funds to fence off-leash areas at Dennison Park, Ladner Harbour Park, Delview Park and Scott 72 Park Reserve be considered as part of the 2012 budget planning.

"Providing a contained area for dogs to roam freely will alleviate many of the concerns expressed by area residents and current users of these spaces," says a parks department staff report.

About 627 metres of fencing would be required to enclose the four locations at cost of \$72,105.

There are 13 off-leash areas in Delta, all established by late fall 2010. Each area is equipped with waste receptacles and bags,

plus signage that includes a site map and park rules. Council previously deferred a decision to create fenced compounds at the four locations, allowing more time to judge the success of the sites.

Since creating the off-leash areas, "there have been very few problems reported at any of the locations," says the municipal staff report. "Issues that do arise are generally around the interaction between other users within the space, and or the fact that some users don't pick up after their pet(s)."

"There has been some expressed concern about the lack of containment within some of the areas and the fact these areas are positioned in close proximity to spaces that would otherwise not allow dogs."

The off-leash area at Dennison is adjacent to sport fields and close to the road. Some 190 metres of fencing would be required to keep dogs from

running freely onto the playing fields and streets.

Ladner Harbour Park is adjacent to a picnic and children's playground area, and environmentally sensitive lands around the Ladner Harbour Sewage Lagoon. And Delview Park is close to a playground and parking lot.

"Several complaints have been received by users of this space that dogs are often roaming the adjacent sport fields and running into the parking lot and playground. Providing fencing at this location will help manage these concerns," the staff report says.

The Scott 72 Park off-leash area is a large, open, grassy space adjacent to the Scottsdale Mall parking lot.

"Several complaints have been received from area residents that use the adjacent pathway to the mall that free running dogs pose a threat to them, as many are elderly. Providing fencing will alleviate this concern."

Disneyland dreams come true

— From p.3

cally, socially and mentally challenged children, said Vancouver chapter president and Tsawwassen resident Melissa Hance.

"We have a coordinator who works closely with all of the agencies selected," said Hance. "We always take 15 children from BC Children's Oncology department, five each from BC Epilepsy, BC Tourettes, Spina Bifida Association, the Touchstone Family Association, and Learning Disabilities. The remaining

children come from various low income elementary schools. All must fit the age criteria of six to 11-years-old and can not have the physical or financial means to go to Disneyland."

To help speed up the departure and arrival, the flights bypass normal check-in at YVR and are greeted in Los Angeles by a choir singing "It's a Small World."

Then it's on to buses and a day of rides at Disneyland, with a stop for lunch and visit with

Goofy, Mickey, Minnie, Donald and Pluto.

"The food is yummy and the highlight is always the Mickey rice crispy ears dipped in chocolate," Hance said.

After eight hours in the park, it's back to the airport and the usually very quiet flight home.

"All of the kiddies are exhausted and that's the sound of success for us," Hance said.

For more information about Dreams Take Flight, visit dreamstakeflight.ca.

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