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\$1.25 (HOME DELIVERED: 61 CENTS A DAY)

FIRST HOMICIDE OF YEAR



Citizen photo by Brent Braaten

A RCMP service dog checks the parking lot of Moxie's Restaurant on Thursday at the scene of a shooting that left a 21-year-old Prince George man dead.

SHOOTING VICTIM 'TARGETED': POLICE

Citizen staff

A 21-year-old Prince George man has died after a shooting outside Moxie's Classic Grill at about 3:45 p.m. Thursday.

"This is a targeted shooting," Prince George RCMP spokesman Const. Gary Godwin said of the first homicide of the year.

"All of the shootings that we've had recently have been drug related and we are presuming this one is as well."

A silver minivan was seen leaving the area, but we are not sure yet if that has any association to this incident," said Godwin. The Citizen learned later that the injuries he suffered were to the head and/or neck. Godwin said the victim is known to police.

One witness said five shots had been fired, but that wasn't confirmed by police.

Anyone with information is asked to call RCMP at 561-3300 or give information anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS or online at www.pgcrimestoppers.bc.ca.

Another local man was sent to hospital in Vancouver after suffering a gunshot Jan. 10, during part of a gangland-style violence spree over the last few weeks.

The violence included a fight at Pine Centre Mall and a minor stabbing on Christmas Eve; a pair of shootings minutes apart on Jan. 9, just after a bomb threat was called in at a nightclub (believed to be a diversionary hoax); and a drive-by shooting on Norwood Street Jan. 10.

Senior investigators said recently they are reasonably confident the shootings are related to Prince George gang disputes, but "we are still connecting the dots."

Expanding ice threatens more homes

City crews reinforce diking in Morning Place area

by MARK NIELSEN
Citizen staff

The Nechako River ice jam is within striking distance of riverside homes in the Morning Place area, city liaison officer Kevin Brown said Thursday.

After growing to 11.5 kilometres — the longest it's been in the 45 days — the ice has plugged the waterway.

Crews were dispatched to the area, where there are seven homes, to double the height of about 700 metres of gabion diking that was put into place at the start of this month so it's 60 centimetres above the 200-year flood plain. Sandbags were delivered to one other home on North Nechako Road.

The jam has about 0.5 km. to go before reaching Morning Place, but is growing quickly thanks to the ongoing spate of cold weather.

"It could well be at Morning Place by (today)," Brown said.

On Saturday morning the jam stood at just 5.5 km. before the mild weather of last week made way for more seasonable temperatures that has brought in lows in the -20 C range for the last few days.

Given the forecast of continuing cold — -30 C with wind chill is predicted for late next week — the jam is expected to continue increasing in length as more frazil, or soft ice is generated and floats down river to butt up against the jam.



Citizen photo by Brent Braaten

The Amphibex works at widening a channel on the Nechako River.

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