

Hello wonderful Revelstoke Community. This is Scott, Stoke FM's Executive Director, bringing you a message from your one and only Community Radio Station.

Curious what the deal is with our FM signal? Wondering what your friendly neighbourhood radio station is up to these days? A Stoke FM update is long overdue, and we are finally in a place where we've overcome enough hurdles that we are ready to do so. In this post I'd like to share with you our struggles, achievements, and our gratitude to the amazing people in our town.

The last couple years were very challenging for us for a number of reasons. To list a few, we had a nearly full Board/Staff turnover, our social media was banned by our original Facebook and Instagram accounts were banned by Meta (all Canadian journalism stations were affected), and we had too many equipment/software breakdowns to count. We've pushed through, and with dedicated staff/volunteers, we've improved as much as our capacity and finances would allow every step of the way. Being a Non-Profit, change can be slow.

FM Signal: You may be asking, "What the frig is going on with your signal?" A little ways back we noticed the signal was getting consistently worse. This began the long journey of troubleshooting, tinkering, fundraising, and waiting on new parts. With a lot of time, community help, and learning on the fly, we've simplified our signal flow, replaced many parts of our operation, including but not limited to: Scheduling Software, Broadcast and Transmitter Software, Cables and Antennae (Big thank you to The Rotary for that donation), and about a thousand setting tweaks.

Currently, in town our signal is strong, and on the far sides of town it's not as good as it can be, and we are continuing to work on that until it's clearer than ever! As you know, progress is not a constant upward trend, such is the case with our FM signal. I firmly believe that from now on it will continue to get better (with the possibility of the random rough patches along the way).

New phone: I'll skip over the part where dealing with Telus was a nightmare (everyone knows that battle), and just tell you that we finally have our cell phone up and running. Same good ol number: 250-837-7475. Now you can text us, call us, and we are able to, once again, do on-air phone interviews on our Morning Shows!

Uninterrupted Programming: A million software changes later, and we have a smooth sailing radio ship! Dead air days are in the past and we've been computer crash free for months now! *knocks on wood*

Local Journalist: We've received another grant funded position and will have our journalist back to share the good important updates of our town and beyond.

Events: We've got a wonderfully Wintery event starting soon called, The Hot Chocolate Showdown! This will be happening from February 14th-28th. For details on how to participate head to our website!

Now that was a lot.... But I'm not done yet. Stoke FM wants to share our utmost appreciation to everyone that's supported us in the past, especially over the last couple difficult years. To all of you that became members, participated in our community events, donated to us, advertised with us, volunteered for us, and more.. We could not be more grateful!! We appreciate you very much. We could not do what we do without your support.

We would also like to call upon the town for help. The last couple months were especially difficult with the holidays, and larger than normal end of year radio bills. There are so many ways to support us, here's a few:

- **Advertise with us!** Let's do business together 😊
- **Hire us for an event!** We can bring the tunes
- **Buy a Membership:** <https://stokefm.com/membership/>
- **Donate:** <https://gofund.me/a99a4cd9>

We are in a bit of a tight spot, so we've started a GoFundMe that will only be open for the next 10 days, until January 31st. If you love our tunes, and what StokeFM has to offer, please consider leaving a donation.

All the repairs and equipment upgrades have been costly, but having our equipment in good working condition means that we can focus our efforts towards the community. That means more fun events, and less StokeFM asking for money!

We need to make a large Fundraising push, and if you want to give to Stoke FM in the form of a donation, our GoFundMe is the way to do it!

StokeFM will never stop doing what it does best: Playing a funky eclectic array of tunes, providing a platform for the community to share its messages, and most of all....

Bringing Unity to the Community! Long Live Radio :)

Thank you very much for reading.

Love, Stoke FM