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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 17

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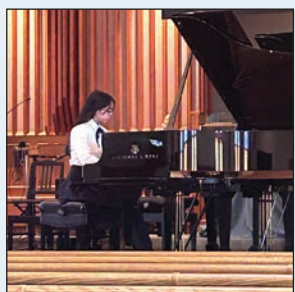
KIC REALTY

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Kings crown award winners

Page 4



Fantastic festival

Governance presentation to WHMB

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

During the April 18 Wheatland Housing Management Board (WHMB) meeting, representatives from Alberta's Ministry of Housing were in attendance to present regarding a governance review of the board, and answer questions about the Housing Act.

Barb Panich, Director of Housing Policy for the Government of Alberta, explained her presentation to the WHMB largely covered the roles and responsibilities of the management body, the board and the municipalities, and the governance and responsibilities of the different parties involved.

"This is basically a presentation we do whenever we are asked. This was not anything prepared specifically for (the WHMB). We do this to many management bodies and municipality boards when we are asked to come out," said Panich. "Lots of times when there has been a municipal election, you get a lot of new councillors who do not really understand the program and their roles, so it is this kind of presentation we do to clarify that."

The presentation at the WHMB meeting follows the approval of a letter from Wheatland County to Jason Nixon, minister of seniors, community and social services regarding governance practices of the WHMB.

Wheatland County expressed in its letter, previously made publicly available, a goal to uphold transparency, accountability, and the best interests of the community.

Concerns surrounding the governance of the WHMB exist regarding how budgeting has been handled and a lack of concrete numbers about the proposed new Wheatland Lodge, suggested for construction east of Kinsmen Park in Strathmore.

Panich added her presentation by itself was completely separate from concerns directly related to the new lodge project. Additionally, the presentation was at the direct request from the WHMB, and unrelated to the governance review requested by the county.

In a letter from the WHMB to Nixon, the board stated they do not acknowledge the legitimacy of concerns outlined by the county to the office of the minister.

Continued on Page 4



Smashing success

Strathmore High School (SHS) hosted the zone qualifying badminton tournament on April 17 at the school gymnasium. The top performers in singles, doubles and mixed doubles at each level (junior, intermediate and senior), will travel to Airdrie for the zone tournament. The three local schools - SHS, Holy Cross Collegiate and Wheatland Crossing - took part in the tournament.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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The Wheatland Kings hosted their annual awards banquet to cap off their season on April 20 at the Strathmore Family Centre. It was one final chance for the players, staff, family, friends and sponsors to celebrate the team's achievements. Additionally, it was announced that naming rights for the team had been sold in a sponsorship deal to Agra Risk Solutions. **John Watson Photo**

Kings host players banquet, celebrate new naming rights deal

JOHN WATSON
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland Kings capped off their 2023-24 season, hosting their annual awards banquet April 20, at the Strathmore Family Centre.

For the first time in franchise history, the Kings were unsuccessful in making it to the HJHL playoffs.

The banquet was hosted to celebrate the achievements by the players throughout the course of the season, with nine awards being handed out.

The awards were given to; Chase Tweit (MVP), Joel Romano (Most Dedicated), Kyle Provencher (Top Defenseman), Kobe Grosling (Top Forward), Charlie Goll (Rookie of the Year), Cole Walker (Most Improved), Cole Tweit (Top Defensive Player), Kage Yellowfly (Strathmore Times Player of the Year) and Ethan Van Egmond (King of the Year).

"Although the team did not make playoffs, the coaching staff saw a lot of tremendous growth from our players. Some

of our bottom end guys started to come up to be top tier guys for us and we really just saw a lot of growth throughout the season," said Cody Holdaway, the newly minted general manager of the Kings. "I think it is probably very meaningful for a player to win an award like this. (For) a lot of these guys, this is the last place they will play hockey and I think it means a lot to them."

For Yellowfly, Walker, and Van Egmond, they will be aging out and retiring from the Kings.

Romano added having an event such as the banquet is a big deal for the players to be able to see all the support behind them in a different environment than throughout the regular season.

"Everyone who comes and supports us comes to these things and shows their face, so it is kind of a big deal for us to see them and say hi and have a drink with them and talk to them," he said. "I think this year we faced a lot of ups and downs, and I feel like it was a hard year in some ways but also a good year. (We have) lots to build on, and I feel like we built a big team and I feel like going into next year we can be a big threat and possibly win this thing."

Also taking place during the banquet, it was unveiled that the team had signed a five-year naming rights sponsorship agreement with Agra Risk Solutions. This deal marks the largest sponsorship agreement in franchise history.

"This is going to give us the funds to allow us to really change what we do as an organization. We will be able to provide our players with so much more," said Holdaway. "Things like stick deals, player apparel, even the fan experience at our games will get a lot better. We are trying to bring back the mascot and thanks to this new sponsor, we have the funds to do so."

Going forward, formerly the "Wheatland Kings" will now officially be known as the "Agra Risk Wheatland Kings."



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Siksika Health Services hosts 22nd annual Health Fair

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Siksika Health Services hosted their 22nd annual Health Fair at the Piiksapi Memorial Arbour, April 17, celebrating healthcare, mental health, wellness, and athletics.

This year's event featured UFC hall of famer, Georges St. Pierre, as well as Humboldt Broncos crash survivor, Ryan Straschnitzki.

"It has been an amazing run for us at Siksika Health Services. It is our premier event that we share with the community and it is really our staff that are the driving force," said Tyler White, Siksika Health Services CEO. "As a CEO, I get a lot of the accolades, but I give everything back to our staff ... it is really about bringing a positive health and wellness message to the community, it is about offering hope and empowerment to our youth ... and also being respectful to our elders and those with other needs."

St. Pierre was recognized for his advocacy of health and wellness by overcoming bullying as a young person. Straschnitzki was invited to share his story of overcoming hardships and pursuing dreams in the face of challenges.

This year's theme of the Health Fair was improving and empowering youth mental health.

St. Pierre, prior to making his way to Siksika to attend the health fair, also stopped to visit the Enoch Cree Nation.

"I grew up near Kahnawake First Nation, so I am aware of some of the problems that might happen in the community. It is often a recurring thing and I am here trying to improve the situation," he said. "There are places that are worse than others, but when I talked to the Chief ... to see what kind of a message they want ... growing up from a humble beginning, I understand and I believe a lot of them and they can identify with me because of the history, the life that I had and they can see a spark of hope."

White added, having been CEO of Siksika Health Services



Siksika Health Services hosted the 22nd annual Health Fair at the Piiksapi Memorial Arbour on April 17. **John Watson Photo**

for 25 years, seeing events such as the annual health fair come together has become an emotional experience.

He explained seeing the reactions and the joy of the public in attendance of the event reinforces the need to continue hosting the health fair and similar events.

"I think these events and speakers and activities like this save lives. When you talk about saving lives, that puts another connotation on what we are doing here," he said. "You can have a nice event and bring in people, but when you are actually doing things to save lives, that puts on a whole different perspective."

St. Pierre and Straschnitzki were honoured by Siksika for coming to their event with a series of gifts presented before the public audience. Opportunities to meet them were held following their presentations.

Strathmore Cosplayer returns to world stage, will compete at Calgary Expo

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Autumn Desjardins and her partner Conor Anderson are once again going to be representing Team Canada through the World Cosplay Summit.

This time staying at home to do so – the World Cosplay Summit is hosting a video division for its competitors, which allows them to showcase their skills as costumers and actors via a digital format.

"The World Cosplay Summit did a video division over the COVID-19 pandemic (because) people could not do the competitions on stage in person," said Desjardins. "People liked it enough that this is the first year that they are doing it as its own entity. Now there are in person and video divisions."

She explained hers and Anderson's video submission was created over the course of January through March with a team of six other people supporting them.

To qualify for the world stage, Desjardins and Anderson had to first be selected as the victors of a preliminary competition hosted by the World Cosplay Summit. Their video will now move forward and be judged in May as part of the global event.

"The nice thing here is that a lot of times, competing is limited to people who make their own costumes, whereas this cinematic version of World Cosplay Summit, WCCS, you are allowed to buy costumes," said Desjardins. "It is more

about how they look overall as opposed to how they are made. It makes it really open to a lot more people who want to be involved."

Desjardins will also be competing at the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo on April 27, once again returning to their Master's Division.

For Calgary's event, which is a more traditional competition judging craftsmanship and performance in person, Desjardins will be dressed as Mitsuba Sousuke, from the Japanese supernatural horror comedy, "Jibaku Shounen Hanako-kun."

Continued on Page 4

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YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

Cocaine-use is on the rise in Canada. Using analyses of wastewater in various Canadian cities, the highest cocaine levels were found in samples from Montreal, Edmonton, Vancouver, Prince Albert, Halifax and Toronto. The Canadian Wastewater Survey has been collecting water samples since 2019. Cocaine is sometimes added to drug mixtures to counteract the sedative effects of others.

More Canadians are being diagnosed with cancer... from 193,000 in 2012 to an estimated 233,000 in 2023. This is due partially to an increase in population. But the good news is that through better detection and treatment techniques, more cancer patients are living longer. The top three cancer diagnoses are cancers of the lung, breast and prostate. As far as cancer deaths are concerned, the deadliest is lung cancer (24.3% of all cancer deaths; colorectal cancer (11%), pancreatic (6.7%) and breast cancers (6.5%).

Sardines aren't usually on people's top ten list of favourite foods. However, they are quite high in calcium. Five sardines supply 50mg because you are actually eating the whole fish skeleton. Sardines also contain good amounts of selenium and vitamin D.

Nighttime leg cramps can be painful, annoying as well as sleep-disturbing. One of the best cures for these cramps is stretching. Performing exercises before bed that stretch those calf and thigh muscles for even 5 minutes just might give you a good night's sleep. It used to be said that taking *quinine*, a drug that was used to treat malaria, would lessen cramping. Tonic water contains quinine and is worth a try but without the gin, of course.

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Hitting the right beat

Students in drumline from Holy Cross Collegiate were part of the Strathmore Performing Arts Festival on April 16 in the school gymnasium. They received an assessment of Superior from adjudicator Dr. Wendy Freeman. The members then participated in the Canadian Drumline Association Alberta Provincial Championship in Calgary on April 19 and placed third in the concert class.

Joe Lepage Photo

WHMB receives presentations about governance review, lodge proforma

Continued from Page 1

In the same WHMB meeting, following Panich's presentation, a proforma was presented in regards to the new lodge project to better clarify ongoing budgeting processes, and the need for applications for municipal and provincial grant funding.

"The new lodge, the new build, the structuring of the proforma, there should be no operating requisitions," said Glenn Koester, director of the WHMB. "The municipal share is what the municipalities are paying and that is like the down payment ... they have a yearly (of) around \$700,000 because they borrowed money up front to pay (the mortgage). For the lodge itself, once we get the downpayment, we can pay the mortgage on the \$30 million."

Derek Weiss, who presented the proforma to the WHMB, clarified several significant differences in the Class B budget that currently exists, and expenses that were originally anticipated when the project began.

This included a clarification regarding a currently documented \$39 million ask from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation versus the previous \$28 million, which was previously a subject of debate among county council during their April 2 regular meeting.

The change is attributed to rising anticipated costs of the project, which had not previously been communicated openly between the WHMB and the county, as well as fluctuation in what is able to be covered by municipalities and the province.

Cosplayer to compete at Calgary Expo

Continued from Page 3

"There is this Japanese legend about a bathroom ghost, kind of similar to how we have Bloody Mary here. It is kind of similar to that. I have been working on this costume since June of last year," she said. "Nine months I have been working on this pretty much nonstop ... this is probably the biggest costume I have put together."

Desjardins described learning how to knit in order to create several of her costume components, writing program script for electronic eyeballs, and casting teeth using dental molds acquired from her dentist.

The winner at Calgary's competition will receive an invitation to compete in Toronto in August to represent Western Canada at that final, which invites competition winners from across the North America.

Pass the Salt

LOVE NEVER GIVES UP

Paul paints a vivid picture of what love really is all about in 1 Corinthians 13. He speaks of the sterling qualities that define true love. If it isn't patient, it is not love. Love isn't jealous; it doesn't make proud and boastful declarations. Love is never self-seeking or self-serving. Love doesn't keep score or detailed records of times it has been wronged. Love rejoices when justice prevails, when truth wins.

Paul also speaks about the enduring strength of love.

True love never gives up.

Real love never surrenders to hopelessness; it never loses faith. Sincere love endures through every circumstance.

I have been visiting a friend in hospice care. No matter what time of day I show up, my friend's wife is there overseeing his care. The outcome of his story is not in doubt; my friend will, in the next few days, die.

The disease has been cruel and unrelenting; it is much too soon for his story to end. However, the atmosphere of that hospice room is rich. Visiting, I never feel discouraged but leave encouraged. The reason? There is a love that this couple shares that saturates his room. The love that this wife has for her husband is so tenacious, so strong and filled with hope, that it changes what could be a very sad situation into a very refreshing atmosphere. There are lots of tears, but there are also warm smiles, kindness, and incredible tenderness.

Down the hall from them is another patient who has no visitors, no one bringing love to his last days. Staff give excellent care and attention, but there is no one fighting for him, bringing hope and faith to his situation. No one to thank him for the difference that he has made in their lives. There may only be a few feet between the two rooms, but the atmosphere is as different as the temperatures are between the equator and the north pole.

Driving home after my visit the other day, I was thinking about the many people around my life that need to have a strong, relentless, hope-filled, hearty love show up for them right now. Someone standing in their corner, fighting for them, encouraging them, reminding them that they count, that they make a difference. If love never gives up, who is going to get in the fight for them?

Love is not an emotion, or a swell of music and feeling in a rom-com. Love is joining in the fight to rescue people from a loveless existence and restore to them the value, purpose and dignity that God has intended them to know and experience. It can't just be words; it has to be powerfully demonstrated in practical ways to those who have not been loved. Love has been lavished on us so that when we meet up with someone who is in need, we can lavish it on them. Don't miss the opportunity.

Pastor Bill Olson
Christian City Church
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Piano performances

The Strathmore Performing Arts Festival kicked off their second week of performances on April 15 with a full week of piano. The junior piano performers held classes Monday to Wednesday with the senior piano and senior piano ensembles finishing the festival with a bang on April 20. Next up is the Showcase Concert and Awards Night on April 24 at 7 p.m. at the Hope Community Covenant Church. Admission is \$5 per person or \$10 per family.

Melissa Piche Photo

Wicked Wardens

The Wardens featuring local opening act Greg Rider played a sold out gig on April 20 at the Strathmore Travel Lodge as part of the Strathmore Musical Arts Society concerts.

Melissa Piche Photo



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Town presented with 2023 financial statements

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

During the April 17 Town of Strathmore regular council meeting, the town was presented with their consolidated financial statements for 2023.

Though it is recommended that that the town be annually presented with an unqualified audit report, Leana Ashbacher presented a qualified audit report due to the town's asset retirement obligation not being met for 2023.

"We brought this to you in our 2024 budget and asked for funding to get some assistance on getting a consultant to help us get this completed, and we are starting the process in 2024 for this," said Ashbacher. "Our financial assets saw a slight increase in \$3.6 million, and this was mainly due to our trade and other receivables. The significant increases were due to recording of our accruable for our municipal sustainable initiatives grant, and our Canada Community Building grants."

It was presented that the results of local financial statements confirm that the town is on solid financial ground and maintains stable revenue to meet its financial obligations.

The financial statements and audit ensure that the town is following generally accepted accounting principles, and is compliant with municipal reporting requirements.

Strathmore was also shown to have reduced its net financial debt by \$5 million, reducing from approximately \$6.8

million as of Dec. 31, 2022, to approximately \$1.8 million as of Dec. 31, 2023.

Annual financial statements reflect the current financial position of the town and help to identify financial strengths and weaknesses within the organization.

Ashbacher added there was a revenue difference from the town's budget of approximately \$1.3 million due to the Lead by Example event in 2023, sponsorship, donations, wildfire revenues, and utility revenues being slightly up from what was budgeted.

As reported in the expenses section of the presentation, the town had budgeted for \$37.9 million in expenses across 2023, whereas the town's actual expenses came in at approximately \$36.3 million.

"That (savings) is significant. It means we are being fiscally responsible with our money and ensuring we are doing the best for our community," said Ashbacher.

Section 276 of the Municipal Government Act requires that each Alberta municipality prepare annual financial statements and make such documents available to the public with a deadline of May 1. Additionally, each municipality must submit their financial statements to the associated provincial minister by the same date.

The full presentation is available publicly via the Town of Strathmore YouTube channel, and the associated documents are viewable through the town's website.



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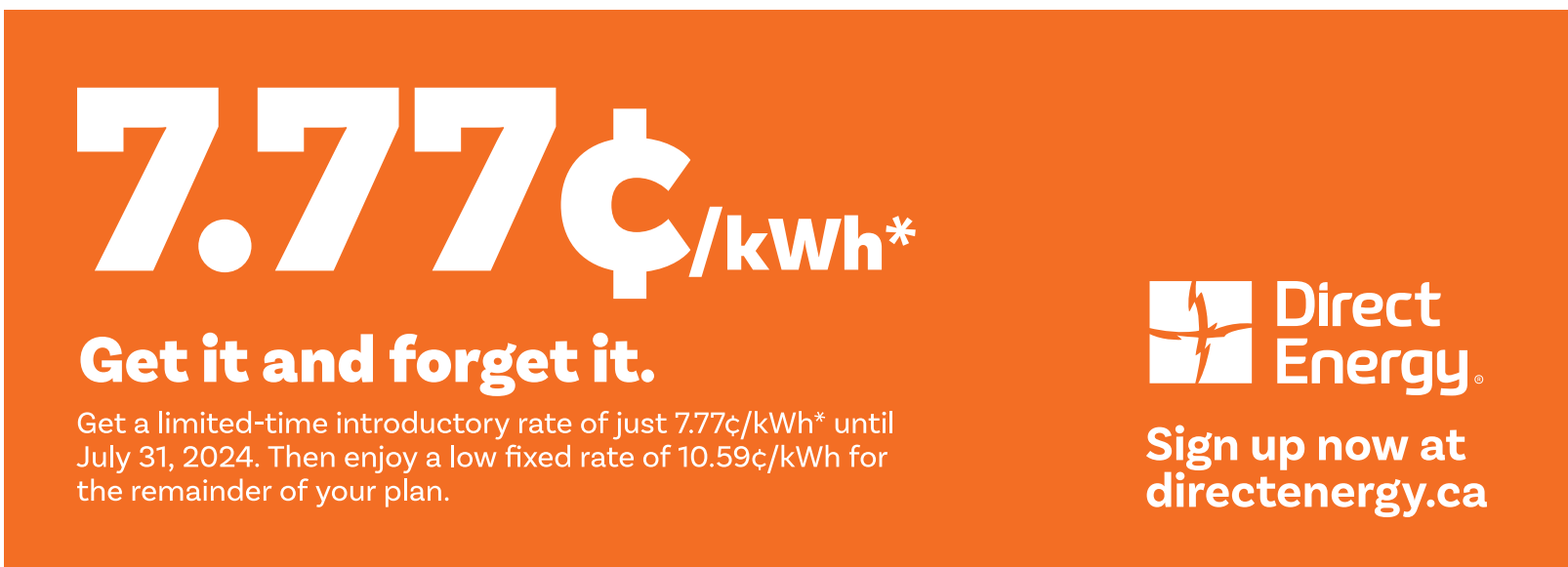
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Wheatland Kings announce new general manager

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland Kings have announced Cody Holdaway as their new general manager, who is taking over the position from Lee Smith.

An update was released publicly stating the Kings and Smith mutually agreed to part ways and he has been relieved of all his duties. The statement thanked Smith for his years of service to the team.

"It has been very interesting. I am obviously excited to take on this new role, it is a big role for someone my age, but I am really excited to help develop this new era of Wheatland Kings hockey," said Holdaway. "Working alongside with my team, we are developing a better player experience for our players, and also a better fan experience for our fans that support us at every home game."

Holdaway, 20, is assuming his new role after coming in to help the Kings initially to run their social media two seasons ago. Then in the offseason, he explained he started to take on a larger role in helping manage their equipment.

At the beginning of last season, Holdaway was promoted to associate general manager to assist Smith with the primary objectives of the team.

Outside of the official statement, the Kings and Holdaway declined to comment further on Smith's departure from the team.

Holdaway is stepping into his role as the Kings prepare to launch their spring training camp, looking to round out their roster for the upcoming season.

"We always want to better ourselves and bring in better talents within the organization, so we are running our spring camp June 1-2 out in Chestermere," said Holdaway. "We are really excited for that, and really for the short term here, we are actually running an auction right now, auctioning off our 15th anniversary jerseys ... hopefully that will help raise some funds to help us get down the road next season."

Regarding the betterment of the fan experience, Holdaway is looking to dust off the old mascot costume to bring back to games, as well as potentially work with sponsors to host activities during intermissions.

He added his role will effectively be a middle ground, working on business development for the Kings, as well as being on the ground with head coach Doug Raycroft.

"We are really going to try to make playoffs next year. We are a playoff team and we were one point shy of playoffs this year," said Holdaway. "We are going to go back and we are going to hit them hard next year."

Holdaway is the youngest person to hold a position of general manager in Heritage Junior Hockey League history. Previously, that accomplishment was held by Jacqueline Hurlbert when she was 22, working in Cochrane.



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**410 9 Avenue
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\$28,000

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Downtown Rockyford**

\$65,000

**312 N. Railway Street
Gleichen**

\$200,000

3 Acres

**232080 Range Road 250
Rural Wheatland County**

\$300,000

5 Acres

**24 NAMAKA Drive
Namaka**

\$375,000

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**253032 Township Road 244
Rural Wheatland County**

\$450,000

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**87 Slater Road
Strathmore**

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**263021 Township Road 240
Rural Wheatland County**

\$1,325,000

4 Acres

**245001 Range Road 280
Rural MD Rockyview**

\$1,500,000

30+ Acres

**240141 Range Road 274
Rural MD Rockyview**

\$1,500,000

Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed.



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County passes land use bylaw amendment in support of potential distillery development

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council hosted a public hearing, April 16, regarding Bylaw 2023-30, which proposed to redesignate a parcel of land from Agriculture General to Rural Business district.

The application proposed to redesignate a 2.02 hectare portion of land in order to facilitate the development of a distillery operation and restaurant business.

It was recommended in council's public meeting agenda by administration that following the public hearing, all three readings of Bylaw 2023-30 to amend the land use bylaw 2016-01 be given and passed.

Subject lands are located 4.04 kilometers north of the Hamlet of Carceland, 1.1 kilometers south of Highway 901, and immediately northwest of the Township Road 224 and Range Road 260 intersection.

Neighbouring lands to the parcel are noted to be predominantly agricultural and residential, with one industrial site.

The application proposed that the distillery operation and restaurant operate three to four days a week from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. seasonally, estimating three to four employees once the business is established.

Following a presentation of the proposed project, no members of the public expressed support, nor opposition to the development of the distillery and restaurant.

It was noted by the applicant that a letter of objection had been received, stating concerns surrounding transportation in the development area.

The applicant presented, following a traffic study, existing roadways will be adequately capable to handle the increase in traffic caused by the presence of a business.

Rod Potri, with planning protocol, added concerns had also been raised about potential noise and crime by people coming in and out of the restaurant.

"I think because it is a very small family operation that would be very, very limited, and I think exposure to that would be fairly isolated," he said.

The public hearing regarding the bylaw was closed without further discussion, following the applicant's presentation.

Coun. Donna Biggar motioned that council approve first reading of bylaw 2023-30. Following brief discussion of support for the bylaw, the motion was carried unanimously.

Coun. Tom Ikert motioned to approve second reading of the bylaw, which was also passed unanimously.

Coun. Shannon Laprise motioned to grant council permission to hold third and final reading during the same meeting which the first two readings were passed. This motion was passed unanimously without further discussion.

Biggar moved to approve third and final reading of Bylaw 2023-30. No final debate was had, and third reading was passed unanimously.

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JUNE 22ND 2024
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January 31, 2024 - April 30, 2024

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YOUR DREAM HOME AWAITS

HOME BUYER PROGRAM

LAKEWOOD A Destination Lake Community

Visit our website for details on Lakewood of Strathmore and Devmore Developments Inc's \$5000 home buyer program, applicable to new home buyers who sign a purchase agreement with our preferred builders in phase 2a between January 31 and April 30, 2024. Developer reserves the right to alter, change or remove the program at any time.

WHEATLAND COUNTY

Upcoming Meetings

Council and committee meetings will now be open to the public and via teleconference. For public hearings it is strongly encouraged that you attend in person.

May 7: Council Meeting
May 14: Municipal Planning Commission
May 14: Public Presentation Committee
May 14: Committee of the Whole

To join the call, dial 403-917-1764 and enter the PIN 47001 when prompted. Agenda packages can be found on our website.

2024 Dust Control Program Now Open

Wheatland County is now accepting orders for the 2024 Dust Control Program!

Dust control is offered by Wheatland County for landowners or residents within the County who wish to reduce the amount of dust created by vehicles traveling on the gravel roads near their homes, businesses, or farms.

Calcium Chloride:

- First Round: Application deadline is May 17, 2024 (Weather permitting, application will occur starting May 21)
- Second round: Application deadline is June 7, 2024 (Weather permitting, application will occur starting June 10)

Oiling:

- Application deadline is July 5, 2024 (Weather permitting, application will occur during July)

For more information and to complete an order form, visit our website at <https://wheatlandcounty.ca/documents/dustcontrol/>

Have you heard?

Wheatland County now has an expansive online business directory!

If your business, regardless of size, is based within Wheatland County, don't miss out - explore our new investwc.ca website and join today!

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
[@wheatlandcounty](http://www.wheatlandcounty.ca)



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Held on December 3, 2023, this year over **\$65,000 was raised** to be used toward Standard community betterment.

Thank you to the following donors and buyers, without your support this type of event could not possibly be this successful.

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- ## 2023 Standard Lions Auction **BUYERS** List
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Flushing will take place in the following neighbourhoods:

▪ Brentwood	▪ Maplewood	▪ Parkwood
▪ Thornburn	▪ Green Meadow	▪ Cambridge

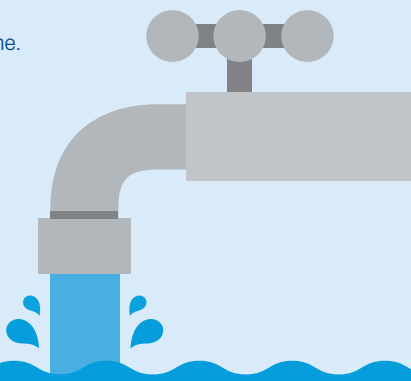
EPCOR will be cleaning inside public water lines to remove sediment and maintain water quality.

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County council honoured Connor Kautz, a standout luge athlete from Lyalta in Wheatland County, for his remarkable athletic accomplishments during the April 16 council meeting.

Photo Courtesy of Wheatland County

County resident Connor Kautz recognized for athletic achievements

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

During the April 16 regular meeting of council, Wheatland County presented Connor Kautz (15) with a recognition for his athletic achievements.

A motion was made by council, Feb. 20, that administration be directed to facilitate the recognition at a future council meeting. For this, a plaque was created.

Kautz, hailing from Lyalta, plays for the Wheatland Raiders U16AA hockey team, and is a member of Luge Canada.

He explained to county council he signed up for the RBC Youth Training Ground and was put through a series of tests and events to be ultimately selected to be a part of Luge Canada.

Out of a pool of 2,200 athletes, Kautz was selected to the Top 100 RBC Training Ground in October. After taking part in the National Final in December, Kautz was named one of 30 Future Olympians earlier this year. Future Olympians will receive access to top coaches, funding, and mentorship as they strive to turn their Olympic dreams into reality over the coming years.

“For luge, there was two of us (from Alberta) out of 2,200 (athletes) in all of Canada and then there was 30 who were selected for funding, and there

was two of us selected for luge,” he said.

Kautz returned to Wheatland County to make his presentation to council and be recognized, following a training session in Whistler, B.C.

“We went to where the Vancouver Olympics were held for luge, and we just went down the track and got experience..,” he said. “I would hope to make the Olympics one day and then train and work hard for it.”

Council recessed briefly following Kautz’s presentation to award him the plaque before resuming their regular agenda.

In a statement, Wheatland County “extends its heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for his continued success. Kautz’s dedication and determination serve as a source of pride for the community, and residents eagerly await the opportunity to cheer him on as he strives for Olympic glory. Congratulations, Connor, on your remarkable achievements, and may your future endeavours be as bright as your talent and ambition.”

Kautz has also participated in badminton, track, and volleyball at Holy Cross Collegiate in Strathmore.

More information regarding the RBC Training Ground is available publicly online through their own website.

The Strathmore Men’s Curling League would like to express our sincere THANK YOU to the following Sponsors who supported our 2024 Men’s Bonspiel in March. Without their tremendous support we would not be able to have one of the most successful Men’s Bonspiels in Southern Alberta. We also would like to Thank our Ice and Lounge Staff for the work they did to help us make this event a success.

Also Thank You to Baldwin BQ for the great meal they supplied on Saturday night. Congratulation to all the Draws and Event Winners.



Below is a list of our Major and Minor Sponsors in no order:

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Revisiting the potential of an Alberta Pension Plan

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Since being elected as your MLA, I have had numerous conversations on the potential of an Alberta Pension Plan (APP), both in support and against. The concerns I have heard are valid and important to our government and, that is why I would like to address some of the misconceptions around this issue and I encourage you to continue sharing your feedback with me.

From the beginning, Premier Danielle Smith has been clear that Albertans will decide, whether or not to move forward with a provincial pension plan by referendum before it could be implemented. That is why our government passed Bill 2, in December 2023, the Alberta Pension Protection Act that mandates the Alberta Government to conduct a referendum for establishing an Alberta Pension Plan, taking on Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) obligations and liabilities.

The Alberta Pension Protection Act also outlines the criteria Alberta must meet if Albertans choose to establish an APP, including ensuring the plan offers benefits that are the same or better than the CPP, and maintaining contribution rates that are either the same as or lower than CPP contributions. Additionally, it ensures the entire assets transferred to Alberta from the CPP could only be used to set up a pension plan and would be operated in the best interests of Albertans.

By passing legislation ensuring that there cannot be a move to an APP unless it provides benefits that are the same as the CPP or better, and since this is also legally required under the federal CPP Act, a provincial pension plan could only ever offer the same, or a better deal, for Albertans compared to the CPP.

If Albertans decide in a referendum to move to a provincial pension plan, pensioners will not lose any CPP benefits they have already earned. You would continue to receive your pension from the CPP until an APP is set up and then receive the same or better pension from an APP instead of the CPP.

Additionally, if you were to move away, come back to Alberta, or work or

retire outside Alberta, your pension benefits would follow you. As is already the case in Quebec and the QPP (Quebec Pension Plan), Alberta's government would develop agreements which would ensure that you would eventually receive one pension when you retire and apply for benefits – a pension that recognizes the contributions you have made during your life, no matter what pension plan you paid into. These agreements - often called reciprocal transfer agreements - are relatively common, particularly amongst public sector pension plans (including those in Alberta).

The province-wide engagement on the possibility of an Alberta Pension Plan formally kicked-off when the Alberta Government released a report from Lifeworks last September. The report suggests an APP could save Albertans' billions each year, which could lower contribution rates, increase benefits, and provide stronger benefit security for families and retirees.

As the Lifeworks report shows, Albertans have contributed roughly \$60 billion more in premiums to the CPP than they have taken in benefits; this is due to our young working population, higher employment rates, and higher pensionable earnings. In recent years this has averaged \$3 billion per year. This is more than any province, despite our modest size. When you take Alberta's accumulation of decades worth of net positive cashflow combined with the associated share of compounded positive net investment returns, Lifeworks calculated that Albertans are entitled to \$334 billion.

Upon request of the Alberta Pension Plan Engagement Panel, the Federal Government has committed to providing a comprehensive actuarial analysis of the asset transfer value Alberta would be entitled to receive, should it withdraw from the CPP. The Panel is giving the Office of the Chief Actuary of Canada some time to release findings before scheduling new public sessions. It is critical for this ongoing discussion that we have a firm asset transfer number so Albertans can make an informed decision on whether an Alberta Pension Plan is right for them.

This is an important decision for all

Albertans, and we welcome robust and respectful conversations about all aspects of an APP.

I encourage you to continue submitting your thoughts on a potential Alberta Pension Plan at www.AlbertaPensionPlan.ca.

Ultimately, it is your pension and your choice. Nothing will happen to Albertans' pensions without Albertans deciding first.

(Chantelle de Jonge is the MLA for Chestermere-Strathmore and the Parliamentary Secretary for Affordability and Utilities)

ARTS ON 817 PRESENTS

The Charms—Denis & Megan



Opening Act 7 PM— Melissa Matheson and The Locals

May 4, 2024— 7:00 pm

Adult - \$35.00
Youth - \$10.00 - 17 and under

Tickets can be purchased at the Vault Cultural Collective or online at www.smoreuc.com. Online purchases must be picked up at the door the night of the concert.




TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of WILLIAM MICHAEL BROWNRIDGE who died on the February 25, 2024.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by May 20, 2024.

with DAN B RAMSAY
at #104, 2003 14 St NW
Calgary, AB T2M 3N4

If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of ALEXANDRA ELIZABETH GARRIOTT, who died on February 24, 2024.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by May 31, 2024.

with JOELY PATRICK
at TODD & DRAKE LLP
4807 51 St
PO Box 908
Cold Lake, AB T9M 1P2

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COMING EVENT

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to work in our Facilities/Maintenance Department. The position is to commence upon a suitable candidate being found. Please refer to our website www.ghsd75.ca under Employment–Non-Teaching Opportunities–Facilities Positions for further information.



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NOTICE



2024 NOTICE OF WEED CONTROL TREATMENTS

The Western Irrigation District will be controlling broadleaf weeds along it's right of ways for the 2024 irrigation season. The District will use 2,4-D, Milestone, Clearview and Glyphosate for weed control on driving banks and reed canary grass control along canals. This spray program will be starting in April of 2024 and will continue to the end of the irrigation season.

Also included in this weed control program will be the treatments for aquatic weeds. **To control these aquatic weeds, the WID may be treating the Canals noted below on the approximate dates show during the 2024 irrigation season.** The Canals will be treated with Magnicide H (Acrolein, Inhibited) to control the growth of aquatic weeds and algae.

YEAR 2024 AQUATIC TREATMENT LOCATIONS AND DATES

May 13-17	June 3-7	June 24-28	July 15-19	Aug 5-9	Aug 26-30	Sept 16-20
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CARSELAND DISTRICT
A - Main from Langdon Reservoir Outlet (SE 36-22-27) to Rge Rd 262 (NE 27-22-26) Glenmore Trail (SE 29-23-25) (application sites-3)

STRATHMORE DISTRICT
A - Main from Highway # 1 east of Strathmore (SW 18-23-24) to Namaka Rd (NE 33-23-24) (application sites-2)
A - Main from Namaka Rd (NE 33-23-24) to Twp 232 (Hammer Hill NE 9-23-23) (application sites-2)

GLEICHEN-CLUNY DISTRICT
Twp 242 (Hammer Hill NE 9-23-23) to Rougeau Pipeline (NW 2-23-21) (application sites-4)

STRATHMORE DISTRICT
North A from Highway 817 (NE 27-24-25) to Rge Rd 231 (NE 26-23-23)

CROWFOOT DISTRICT
Standard lateral at the split/head gate and downstream (NW 34-24-24)
Glenrose lateral at the split/head gate and downstream (NW 34-24-24)
From Rge Rd 262 (SE 10-25-26) road crossing to the end of Standard and Glenrose laterals

CHESTERMERE/ROCKYFORD DISTRICTS

- NW 7-26-26
- NE 27-26-26
- SW 28-26-25
- NE 18-26-24 Nightingale Road
- NE 14-26-24 North Rockyford Pavement

COMING EVENT

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2024 AUCTION PROGRAM: Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, Antiques, Militaria, Collections, Estates, Single Items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Toll-Free 1-800-694-2609, Email Us at sales@switzersauction.com or Visit Us @ www.switzersauction.com.

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Upcoming Council Meetings

May 1, 2024 | 6 P.M.
 May 8, 2024 | 6 P.M.
 May 15, 2024 | 6 P.M.

Regular Meeting of Council
 Committee of the Whole
 Regular Meeting of Council

Come Say Hi

Hearing from the community is really important to us, so you're welcome at any Council or Committee of the Whole meeting. You do not need to call ahead or register to observe Strathmore Council in action. There is ample public seating and additional standing room if needed. You can also watch livestreamed meetings online as they happen, or catch up later on YouTube.



Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre

PD Day/School Closure Camps

Are you looking for activities to keep your kids busy while they have days off from school? Look no further. Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre is now offering day camps on PD / School Closure Days!

Course ID	Dates	Days	Time	Cost
27482	May 3, 2024	F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$47.50
27483	May 17, 2024	F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$47.50
27484	Jun 7, 2024	F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$47.50
27485	Jun 28, 2024	F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$47.50

Summer Day Camps

Registration for 2024 Summer Day Camps is now open and we're excited to be introducing new age groups, continuing with pre-care services, and offering half-day options.

Theme	Dates	Days	Time	Cost
Water Fun	Jul 2 to 5, 2024	Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$148
Spray and Play (Swim Lessons)	Jul 8 to 12, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$252
Sport and Explore	Jul 15 to 19, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$185
Multisport Adventure	Jul 22 to 26, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$185
Splash and Dash (Swim Lessons)	Jul 29 to Aug 4, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$252
Neon Days	Aug 6 to 9, 2024	Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$148
Balls and More	Aug 12 to 16, 2024	Mo, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$185
Olympic Days	Aug 19 to 23, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$185
Let's Celebrate	Aug 26 to 29, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$148

Register for classes and camps at Strathmore.ca/RecSchedule



Strathmore Wheatland Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting

+ State of the Town Presentation

The Strathmore Wheatland Chamber of Commerce held their Annual General Meeting on April 18, 2024, in partnership with the Town of Strathmore. Mayor Fule and Town Manager Kevin Scoble presented the State of the Town address, highlighting some of the exciting things that happened in 2023, along with what's to come in the future.

Thank you to Strathmore Wheatland County Chamber of Commerce, Wheatland County, Western Irrigation District, and all the businesses who joined us.



Congratulations Strathmore High School Senior Girls Basketball Team

During the Regular Meeting of Council on April 17, Council hosted the Strathmore High School Sr. Girls Basketball Team to congratulate them on their 2nd consecutive provincial championship. Each player was presented with a certificate and in turn, the team presented Council with a signed ball and photo.

Land Use Ammendment

Upcoming Public Hearing

Purpose: to permit the construction of two apartment buildings and a childcare facility.

Bylaw #24-03

Staff received an application for a land use re-designation (Bylaw No. 24-03) of 15 Bayside Place (Lot 1, Block 15, Plan 781 0935) by the Town on December 21, 2023. The proposed re-designation aims to permit the construction of two apartment buildings comprising 54 apartments and a Childcare Facility at 15 Bayside Place in Strathmore.



Lot 1, Block 15, Plan 781 0935 (15 Bayside Place)

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed bylaw can be found on the Town's website at Strathmore.ca/PublicHearing or may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Strathmore Municipal Building (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB).

The Public Hearing will be held via ZOOM AND in Council Chambers at the Strathmore Municipal Building on **Wednesday, May 1, 2024**, commencing at **6 p.m.** with procedures in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act, Section 199* and the *Town of Strathmore Council Procedural Bylaw #23-17* and amendments thereto.

Any person or group of persons, or person acting on someone's behalf, who claims to be affected by any or all of the proposed by-law, may present their concerns and/or suggestions by making a submission at the public hearing. Please contact Legislative Services by email at lsadmin@strathmore.ca no later than **noon on Wednesday, April 24, 2024**, in order to register to speak at the public hearing.

Written submissions to the Public Hearing or the name of any person wishing to make an oral presentation at the Public Hearing must be received by the Planning and Development Department prior to **noon on Wednesday, April 24, 2024** as outlined in *Bylaw #23-17* and amendments thereto. If your written submission is not received by this time, please provide fifteen (15) copies for distribution at the Public Hearing. Each person wishing to address Council at the Public Hearing shall complete their verbal presentation within three minutes.

Please note that written submissions will become public documents once submitted to the Town, unless otherwise requested.

Please contact Legislative Services at 403-934-3133 prior to attending a Public Hearing to determine the order of Bylaw presentations in the Council Agenda to ensure efficient use of your time.



Hazard Reduction Burning

We've recently finalized Strathmore's Hazard Reduction Burn Plan. This plan aims to assess grassland fuels on the landscape within the community, identify locations of high fire risk based on predicted fire behaviour, and prioritize and prescribe these areas for hazard reduction burning. Through this process, selected regions within town will undergo hazard-reduction burning treatment this week. This process will reduce the risk of wildfire, reduce the number of nuisance fires, and better prepare the community in the event of an approaching wildfire on the landscape.

Learn more about the plan at Strathmore.ca/HazardReduction

