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Looking for locals

Page 10



Excellent exhibit

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Look on Page 2 for Town of Strathmore Municipal Notices

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Yellow and blue bin debate

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

During the April 12 Committee of the Whole Meeting, Strathmore Town council discussed an idea to potentially add recycling bins to the local waste collection program.

The town currently collects from green compost bins and black waste bins, but may consider the addition of blue, mixed recycling bins, and yellow paper products and packaging bins.

Utility Strategist, Colleen Parken, who presented the town's waste services update during the meeting, suggested the yellow bins may be more worthwhile to consider, as they could be more cost-effective.

"When we look at the volumes for paper products and packaging per year, we can see this is a large volume of materials. As restrictions continue to be put in place on plastics, we foresee this volume to trend upwards," she said. "Paper products are typically the recycling materials which have the best market and can even be cost-neutral at certain times. Plastics, metals, (and) glass, however, are items that have limited markets and therefore are a cost to the town to provide those services."

The discussion has not been formally brought before council as of publication regarding their final decision. The project schedule to implement yellow collection bins boasts a deadline of July 5 to submit a proposal to council.

Should the town approve the proposal and move forward with the distribution of, and regular collection from yellow bins, the service would be scheduled to begin on Jan. 1.

Due to the higher potential to be a direct cost to the town, Parken said a blue bin collection program would not be worth exploring and did not recommend it to the Committee of the Whole.

"An item to consider if we do explore a yellow or blue bin program is the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulation ... which came into force on Nov. 30," Parken added. "EPR means producers take responsibility at the end of life of the products and packaging they put on the market. EPR programs incentivize producers to design products that are more durable and recyclable, so materials and components can remain in the economy for as long as possible."

Continued on Page 4



Exotic experience!

Strathmore Civic Centre was host to the second Wildlife Festival to pass through town on April 21-23, with each day featuring a host of animals not typically seen around Alberta. The show aims to help raise awareness for exotic animals, and responsible pet ownership

John Watson Photo





Upcoming Council Meetings

 May 3, 2023 | 6pm
 Re

 May 10, 2023 | 6pm
 Co

 May 17, 2023 | 6pm
 Re

Regular Council Meeting Committee of the Whole Regular Council Meeting

Want to speak at a Council Meeting?

Members of the public are welcome to speak at Council or Committee of the Whole Meetings during the Public Comments or Public Hearing portion of the meeting. Learn how at Strathmore.ca/CouncilMeetings

Holiday waste collection

Strathmore's residential waste collection schedule is no longer impacted by holidays, except for Christmas and New Years Day.

This means that if your regular collection day falls on Victoria Day, (Monday May 22), you should put your carts out in their regular spot for collection!

Find your waste removal schedule at Strathmore.ca/Waste-Collection

Collection schedule updates

Weekly Green Cart collection resumes on May 1.

Reminder, extra compost bags can be placed curbside for regular pick up, just make sure to affix an extra bag tag (green tags) to the bags. Tags can be picked up for free at the Strathmore Municipal Building.

Summer camp registration is open!

The Recreation Team has made some exciting updates to the Summer Camp Program, including new themes, age groups, and an option for pre-care.

This year's themes promote physical literacy and the importance of staying active. Kiddos can enjoy multi-sport, pool fun and swimming lessons!

Register today at Strathmore.ca/SummerCamps or call 403-361-2121.

Urban hen pilot project

If you haven't heard the egg-citing news yet, residents can now participate in the Urban Hens pilot project.

You'll need to do a few things to prepare for your new feathered friends. To get started, **visit strathmore.ca/urbanhens**. or call Municipal Enforcement at 403–361–2112. Happy Henning!

Career opportunities

The Town of Strathmore is hiring full-time, part-time and seasonal positions including:

- Summer Camp Counsellor
- · Manager, Community and Social Development
- Sports Centre Lead Attendant
- Special Projects Coordinator
- Taxation Clerk
- Casual Lifeguard / Instructor
- Contract Group Fitness Instructor

Head to Strathmore.ca/Careers to join the team!

Be a part of Canada Day

Have you ever dreamed of taking the main stage? Here's your opportunity!

We're seeking various acts to entertain the crowds in Kinsmen Park on Canada Day. If you're interested in promoting yourself and gaining exposure this is your chance.

Juggling, magic, balloons, comedy and music – if this sounds like you, get in touch with us at Strathmore.ca/BookaGig

Smile cookies are back!

May 1 – 7 you can purchase Smile Cookies to help support our local FCSS. 100% of your cookie supports emergency social services and other essential programs for our community. Helping our community never tasted so good!

Head to Strathmore.ca/Smile to pre-order your cookies!

Tour 546 Tradeshow

Registration for the tradeshow are live! Join the region's largest tradeshow on May 28, and promote your business or industry.

Register now at swcc.ca

Council's Priorities

What is a strategic plan?

At the beginning of each term in office, Town Council establishes a strategic plan which will guide their four-year term. This plan identifies key priorities that Council feels are the most important actions to effectively steward Strathmore towards a brighter future. These priorities also work to inform the Town's annual budget and provides their CAO with direction as to where to invest staff time and resources.

Once created, staff develop Business Plans based on Council's Strategic Priorities and provides periodic progress reports to Council. The Council Strategic Plan is reviewed and updated as needed over the term, based on emerging priorities and needs.

Strathmore's Town Council has identified six areas which will receive focus during this Council's term. These priorities are not listed in any particular order of importance or priority; however, were selected based on community feedback provided to Council as well as current service opportunities and challenges from Administration.



AFFORDABLE LIVING

Strathmore is an affordable community for residents and businesses enabling access to housing, services, and supports.



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Strathmore provides predictable and prudent tax rates and user fees that reduce overall Town debt, build financial reserves, maintain existing assets, and plan for sustainable growth.



INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Strathmore creates communities for its residents and with its neighbours (Siksika Nation, Wheatland County) and institutional partners, which promote sustainable and intra-dependent family friendly spaces.



CLIMATE RESILIENCY INCLUDING ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Strathmore protects, manages, and enhances its local environment while preparing for future challenges due to climate change.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Strathmore is well-positioned to encourage commercial and industrial economic development with a focus on sustainable growth.



COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Strathmore values Community Wellness focused on the maintenance, protection, and improvement of services that support optimum lifestyles.

Town adopts minor revisions to strategic plan

IOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

During the April 19 regular meeting of council, the Town of Strathmore made some changes to their strategic plan, originally developed and released last year.

Council previously met on Jan. 14 to review the plan, and at the time had requested what were described as minor wording revisions to their priorities

The Strategic Plan is produced at the start of each council's term and is reviewed on an annual basis in order to change or refine the current council's priorities.

"There was a slight wording change made to the financial sustainability and community development priorities, based on the feedback from the workshop," said Town of Strathmore Chief Administrative Officer, Kevin Scoble. "Under financial sustainability, we have added user fees, and under intentional community development, we have changed 'intra community' to 'inter community."

Scoble explained the remainder of the strategic plan remains unchanged, describing that council's priorities remain affordable living, financial sustainability, intentional community development, climate resiliency, including environmental leadership, economic development, and community

Coun. Brent Wiley, though in support of a motion made by Coun. Denise Peterson to accept and adopt the revised strategic plan, made a comment regarding the document as it was presented.

"Just like I said a year ago, there are items in here I would like to see less of, there are items in here I would like to see more of. I think, at the end of the day, a strategic plan has to be something that there is compromise on," he said.

Peterson's motion was carried unanimously by council without further debate or discussion.

The summary of council's six priorities describes them as follows, with the addressed changes in wording affecting the notation on financial sustainability:

Affordable Living - Strathmore is an affordable community for residents and businesses enabling access to housing, services and supports.

Financial Sustainability - Strathmore provides predictable and prudent tax rates and user fees that reduce overall town debt, build financial reserves, maintain existing assets, and plan for sustainable growth.

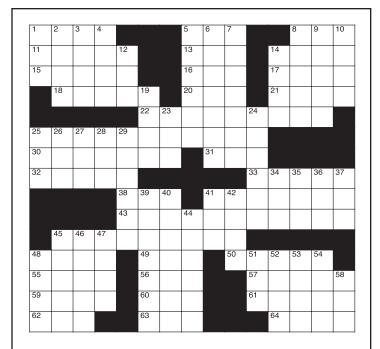
Intentional Community Development - Strathmore creates communities for its residents and with its neighbours (Siksika, Wheatland County) and institutional partners, which promote sustainable and intra-dependent family-friendly spaces.

Climate Resiliency Including Environmental Stewardship - Strathmore protects manages, and enhances its local environment, while preparing for future challenges due to climate change.

Economic Development - Strathmore is well-positioned to encourage commercial, and industrial economic development with a focus on sustainable growth.

Community Wellness – Strathmore values Community Wellness focused on the maintenance, protection and improvement of services that support optimum lifestyles.

A summary of the strategic plan, as well as the full document, were included in council's agenda for the April 19 meeting and is available for public review.



County Council resumes Wheatland Lodge support discussions

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council has resumed discussions regarding their potential support of the proposed Wheatland Lodge aiming to be constructed in Strathmore.

County Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Brian Henderson presented a report to council during the April 18 regular meeting of council.

"The purpose of this report is to summarize the historical information and presentations (to) the Wheatland Housing Management Board (WHMB), including presentations made directly to the Wheatland County council, intermunicipal groups and public that have occurred," he said. "After publishing the (agenda) package, we did receive a few other letters of correspondence from the public, and we also received a 'what we heard' report from the engagement sessions that occurred throughout the communities."

Council received five letters of support for the project, which were included in the agenda package for the meeting. The 'what we heard' report will be published by administration for council review in the next agenda package, which will be discussed May 2.

Henderson's report also included a collection of information, referencing previous meetings of council and public engagement sessions dating back to 2019, when the idea for a new lodge was first being introduced.

"Starting in 2019, there was a community presentation that was held at the Strathmore library. Once COVID-19 hit, that took a little bit of a hit for in-person engagement," he said. "However, the decision whether to approve their support of the (WHMB) did attempt to do some engagement, so they conducted some meetings virtually."

John Watson Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Mario Prusina Publisher

Kristina Bezic Financial Manager

The WHMB hosted online community presentations and engagement sessions, as well as online public engagement meetings in October and November, 2020. These were followed by an additional series of meetings in May 2021.

Henderson added starting January, regular discussion surrounding the potential lodge picked back up again.

On Jan. 17, there was an intermunicipal presentation at the Town of Strathmore. That was a hybrid meeting that the public had been invited to

"During that intermunicipal presentation ... the WHMB did provide a draft letter of support for the municipality's consideration," he said. "This letter was subsequently brought to Wheatland County council. It was provided to administration, Jan. 31 and was put into the Feb. 7 agenda package."

At the request of the WHMB county representatives, the letter was withdrawn from the Feb. 7 meeting of county council and was not voted on.

WHMB did endeavor to take up some community engagement, hosting six sessions, which were detailed in the April 18 council agenda package, which occurred between March 27 to April 5.

"What makes this project so unique is there is both monetary and non-monetary contributions that are being proposed by the member municipalities," said Henderson. "It is important to note that if county council does choose to support this project, it is advisable to formulate this agreement into writing. There is nothing that has been put into writing just yet."

Council will have two more opportunities in May to discuss the issue before they must make a project, before the June 1 deadline.

Jody Schneider Production

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. It's all over the beach
- 5. A cirque
- 8. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- 11. Influential report author 13. Satisfaction
- 14. Recurring only at long intervals
- 15. Islamic calendar month
- 16. Neither
- 17. Gelatinous substance
- 18. American electronic music
- 20. Old computer system 21. Professional organization
- 22. Malaria mosquitoes
- 25. Not composed of matter
- 30. It's in the ocean 31. Peyton's little brother
- 32. French commune

- 33. Eyelashes 38. Equal (prefix)
- 41. Quality of little or no rain
- 43. One who beheads
- 45. Sung to
- 48. Influential punk artist 49. Amount of time
- 50. Polio vaccine developer
- 55. Abba , Israeli politician
- 56. Job 57. Flat-bottomed sailboat
- 59. Japanese wooden clog
- 60. Folk singer DiFranco
- 61. FL city
- 62. Naturally occurring solid
- 63. Language of indigenous
- Asian people
- 64. Dark brown

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 2. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
- 3. Venomous snake genus
- 4. Uninteresting
- 5. Straightforwardness
- 6. Expression of wild excitement 40. Egg-shaped wind instrument
- 7. Arrange in order
- 8. East Indian cereal grass
- 9. Hillsides
- 10. Bird beak covering 12. Baseball stat
- 14. Edge of a surfboard
- 19. Wrapping accessory 23. Express approval
- 24. Deduce
- 25. Similar 26. Born of
- 27. Automobile
- 28. Obliged to repay

- 29. Live in
- 34. Influential journalist Tarbell
- 35. Set aflame 36. OJ trial judge
- 37. Scottish town
- 39. African nation
- 41. Mimic
- 42. Frees

45. Sword

- 44. In slow tempo
- Related on the mother's side
- 47. Mars crater
- 48. Plant of the lily family 51. Suitable in the circumstances
- 52. Hillside 53. Metrical foot
- 54. Amazon river tributary
- 58. Adult male human

Contributors: Laureen F. Guenther, Joe Lepage, Melissa Piche 125 2nd Avenue, Strathmore, Alberta

STRATHMORE

Rose Hamrlik Advertising

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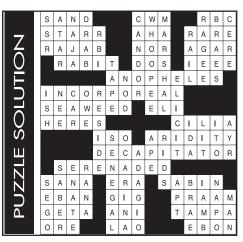
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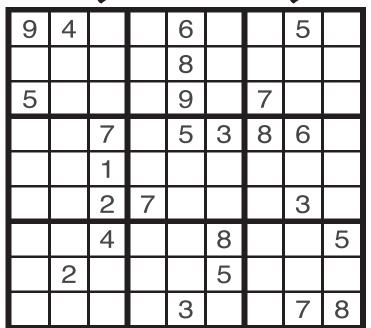
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Thought for the Week

Although the umbilical cord is severed within the few moments of birth, its spiritual counterpart continues to pulsate forever between mother and child.



Level: Advanced



Wheatland County Food Bank talks government support

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland County Food Bank, with the help of the Alberta Government, has been able to help several hundred more people within the community struggling with food in-

According to Lynnette Aschenbrenner, executive director of the Wheatland County Food Bank, the support from the province has gone a long way within the Strathmore com-

'We received that money back in December. It is always great to have the support of the Alberta Government," she said. "It is nice to see them pitching in and recognizing that the cost of living is just too much for people to handle right now. There is a lot of pressure on food banks at the moment to help fight food insecurity."

The grant distributed by the province totalled \$40,000, as a part of an initiative announced in November, 2022 to provide \$20 million to foodbanks across Alberta. To date, the first half of that commitment has been distributed.

Aschenbrenner added there were certain conditions that applied to the grant, which were in regards to how it was allowed to be spent.

We could only use it on certain things, but obviously to be able to buy food and household essential items. We figured that window that we were able to buy stuff would help us serve roughly 680 individuals throughout the year," she said. "It varied from food bank to food bank, but it is essential to fight food insecurity. We could buy food and household necessities, and just a host of other things to make access a little bit easier for our clients."

To date, Aschenbrenner said the demand on Wheatland County Food Bank is up roughly 25 per cent from last year. This is on top of the 25 per cent increased demand also observed by the food bank at this point in 2022 from the previous year.

Despite this, she spoke reassuringly that the food bank is able to support the increased client use and demand of their services.

"We have had a couple of big food drives, and our community is always very supportive," she said. "I do not think I remember a time when they have been not with us, or with other organizations as well. We are pretty blessed in this area."

The Wheatland County Food Bank is estimating another influx of support from the province, once the second half of the \$20 million commitment is to be distributed, though has not yet been given an indication of when that will be.



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Pastor: Kevin Enns

office@bowriveralliance.com Broadcasting services on church Facebook page. www.bowriveralliance.com

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Sunday Worship Services 10:30am Services posted on-line at: www.smoreuc.com

Rev. Pamela Scott

Loop System for the Hearing Impaired W/C accessible

Town considering addition of yellow, blue recycling bins for collection

Continued from Page 1

According to Parken, the Town of Strathmore Infrastructure department intends to go to public tender in June to request proposals for the automated curbside collection of solid waste and organics.

Mayor Pat Fule expressed interest in exploring the possibility of adding the collection of vellow bins to the town's contract with Waste Management once that is to renew at the end of this year.

Manager of Infrastructure, Ethan Wilson also addressed concerns from councilors regarding the potential impacts from conducting more trips to collect paper products, should residents be given a convenient outlet to recycle those articles, suggesting that the impacts versus benefits would be explored, should the conversation continue.





Locals lead Oilers to provincial success

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore hockey players Nash Wassing, Phoenix Flett, Trip Jensen and Connor White helped the Okotoks Oilers U17AAA team became provincial champions.

The Oilers claimed the championship on April 9 after squaring off against the Fort Saskatchewan Rangers for the title in St. Albert.

The U17AAA provincial tournament consists of two teams from both the North and South Divisions, as well as the host team gunning for a shot at a podium placement.

"It was a really exciting day ... (this) was out first year of the U17AAA league... (having) replaced the previous U16AAA Minor Midget League that was in Alberta," said Oilers Head Coach Kyle Finch. "We were able to be the first team to ever win the championship, so our name will be on the trophy for a long time."

According to Finch, when it came down to the deciding game at the end of the tournament, the Rangers from Fort Saskatchewan were the favourites to win, having previously defeated the Oilers 10-5 during the tournament.

"I believe they only lost four or five games the entire season and they beat us in the round robin ... we were lucky enough to get to play them again in the finals so that we could atone for our previous defeat," he said.

The Oilers were outshot throughout the entirety of the final game. By the time the final buzzer rang, the shot count was 49-17 in favour of the Rangers. The score, however, was 1-0 in favour of the Oilers.

Connor White, who players of the game, was voted MVP of the entire playoffs.

"You just have to look at it one shot at a time. If you focus on the outcome, that is when problems start to arise, in my opinion. So as long as things are taken one step at a time, it makes it the whole process much easier," said White. "It is an experience that is really hard to describe. You work so hard all season with a group of your closest friends for this exact outcome, and you don't really believe that it's going to happen until it does."

White added this season was extremely hard fought, with teams in the South division being separated by only a handful of points in their overall placement.

Additionally, he explained something that makes the win even more special is that for many players on the team it will have been their only opportunity to play in and win a provincial championship.

"Something like this doesn't happen every year and for a lot of the guys, it'll be their only provincial championship that they win in their career," he said. "I won't have another opportunity to compete at a provincial tournament just in my age. So, in my last go at it, it is pretty special that I was able to win it."

In addition to being named tournament and Oilers MVP, White was among three players to receive a tournament All Star recognition.



The U17AAA Okotoks Oilers are the provincial champions. Four players are from Strathmore, including team and tournament MVP, Connor White. **Photo Courtesy of Charla Flett**



May is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month. MS is a chronic progressive disease of the central nervous system affecting 1 in 1000 Canadians. It is usually diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 49. Females are more than three times as likely to develop MS as males. Geographically, people who live farther from the equator, in more temperate climates, have a higher risk of developing MS. Go to mssociety.ca for more information on MS.

High levels of blood sugar associated with diabetes can slowly damage both the small and large blood vessels of the heart, brain, kidneys and the entire body and can lead to a variety of cardiovascular complications. Best advice for diabetics: keep your blood sugars under control.

When looking at the fine print of the contents of some food products, do you ever wonder why some chemicals are in there? Sodium citrate is often found on the labels for some dairy products. It is used to prevent the separation of the solids in the product, to improve the whipping properties of cream and as an emulsifier in cheese. It is a harmless chemical for humans but does the job for which it's intended.

There is no cure for wrinkled skin but here are four ways to slow down the process. Don't smoke anything. Avoid prolonged exposure to the sun and use sunscreens daily when out in the sun especially during the hours of 10AM and 4PM. Also avoid harsh soaps and hot water when bathing and eat a balanced diet.





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The Build.









hank You

Wheatland & Area Hospice Society (WAHS) and Wheatland Housing Management Body (WHMB) would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Wheatland County, Standard, Rockyford, Hussar, and Strathmore for their unwavering support for the building of a new Senior's Lodge and Hospice in our community.

As of April 18 all municipalities have voted unanimously to support Phase 1 of the project.

We appreciate your kind words of encouragement, letters, questions, and ideas. We will continue to need your input and support as we move forward to each of the remaining three phases until construction begins.



Go to www.wheatlandhospice.ca or **wheatlandhousing.ca** to view our Community Presentations Final Report.





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Space is limited so please register early. Light refreshments will be provided.

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(Parking is Free)

Meals will not be provided at the conference, however, the Glenmore Inn - Garden Court Atrium offers a lovely lunch buffet Wednesdays from 11:30 am - 2:00 pm if you would like to enjoy a meal before attending the conference.



Other restaurant options are available at Glenmore Inn in the evening hours.

Please call Glenmore Inn & Convention Centre directly if you wish to make meal reservations: 403 720 5288



CHARA FOUNDATION

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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 2: Council Meeting May 9: Municipal Planning Commission **May 9: Public Presentation Committee** May 9: 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.

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To update your address, please complete a Change of Address Form and mail the original signed copy to the Land Titles Office.

Land Titles Office Mailing Address: Calgary Alberta Land Titles Office Box 7575 Calgary, AB, T2P 2R4

Email: Ito@gov.ab.ca

Street Address: 710 4th Ave. S.W., Calgary Phone: (403) 297-6511



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- Online: Visit our website https://wheatlandcounty.ca/taxes/. Please complete the form and email it to tax@wheatlandcounty.ca.
- Visit the Wheatland County Administration Office to fill out the form in person.

For more information, please visit our website https://wheatlandcounty.ca/taxes/



Address: 242006 Range Rd 243, Wheatland County, ABT1P 2C4 Phone: 403-934-3321 www.wheatlandcounty.ca @wheatlandcounty Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.











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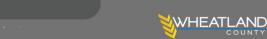
COMMITTEE

- August 22, 2023
- November 14, 2023

Community groups, stakeholders, and individuals may request to present at a Public Presentation Committee (PPC) meeting. To request the opportunity to present to Council at PPC, please visit our website.







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Locals can apply for Family Feud

Times Contributor

Ryan Savein, the associate casting producer with Family Feud Canada, is encouraging families from Strathmore and Wheatland County to apply for the fall

This is your family's opportunity to play a fun, family-orientated show featuring Canadians just like you -and of course a chance to win the \$30K grand prize.

What types of families are the show looking for?

Savein explains that it's not a one-typefits-all selection.

"Everyday Canadians. You don't have to be a certain type of family. Genuine Canadians," he said. "There is no mold. We are looking for people who live in Canada; a family of five. They can be wacky, extroverted, silly or funny. So many things we are looking for, but overall, just everyday Canadian families."

Auditions are currently underway for this next season and will be on-going throughout the spring for the upcoming fall season, which begins in September.

Auditions are being held virtually, which allows families who might not all live together to all be a part of the audition at the same time.

Canadian comedian Gerry Dee will once again be hosting the show - this will be the show's fifth season and Dee's fifth season as host.

"The audition itself takes about an hour," he said. "Sometimes a bit more, give or take."

Be prepared to give it your all, as rumour has it that families go all-out for the auditions

"My biggest tips would be to have fun, be authentic and to just showcase your family's uniqueness," said Savein

As for the show itself, if you're one of the lucky families selected to be on the show, you should expect to dedicate 2-3 days for the taping, which is filmed on location in Toronto.

"Something we're really proud of is the shows diversity," said Savein, as they feature different cultures, religions, heritage and locations (where people are from). "Most of all, we're really proud of the comedy aspect of the show. It is a comedy game show after all, so we are really proud that people can watch, laugh and have fun.

"My biggest advice is to just apply; you never know what will happen. If you have that interest, just go ahead and do it."

If you would like more information on Family Feud Canada, you can visit their website (https://www.cbc.ca/television/familyfeud). People are also invited to email the show with any further questions at familyfeud@cbc.ca.





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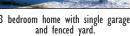
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137 Wildrose Cr

Kiwanis hosts anti-bullying workshop

IOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Kiwanis, a not-for-profit organization seeking to establish a branch in Strathmore, hosted a free workshop for parents and caregivers about effectively responding to bullying.

The event took place at the Strathmore Civic Centre on April 24. Following opening remarks by Mayor Pat Fule, the presentation was given by Elizabeth Bennet, a former educator, principal and author.

For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

Bob Sobol, who spoke on behalf of Kiwanis, said it is a primary goal of the organization to actively benefit youth in the local community.

"(We) have a really strong belief that bullying is something that basically hurts a child's self-esteem and can also lead to many other issues such as high anxiety, bad grades, dropping out of school and even suicide," he said. "There is documented evidence that suggests bullying is a precursor to some episodes of suicide, so we want to do what we can to help with that."

Kiwanis brought the presentation to
Strathmore in partnership with PMAST
(Peer Mediation and Skills Training) – a Calgary-based charity which focuses on providing anti-bullying and conflict management solutions.

The goal of the presentation was to provide the community with tools and understanding about how to potentially stop bullying activity, and deal with it in a way to benefit both the victim and the antagonist.

"This is one of the issues that Kiwanis International is very interested in because they are very well aware of the fact that this is a major issue, not only in the Town of Strathmore, but everywhere," said Sobol. "I do not think people realize the gra-

vity and some of the ramifications of what bullying can do, but in the last 10 or 15 years, I think it has become

Kiwanis hosted a workshop in Strathmore on April 24 at the Civic Centre to talk about how to address bullying situations with youth. During the meeting, methods to help both victims of bullying, as well as those engaging in hurtful actions, were discussed.

Photo Courtesy of Bob Sobol

very evident."

Based on a release distributed by Kiwanis, one in five kids will experience some form of bullying during their school years.

Sobol added bullying is not something that appears strictly in a school setting, as it can also occur in recreational and sporting environments.

"It is everywhere. The focus is making sure that people understand that it is around and how to perhaps deal with it," he said. "It is a very difficult issue to deal with because it is happening in playgrounds, it is happening in sports – it is happening, and not necessarily always in public."

Though he did not provide specific examples, Sobol suggested going online following the presentation to seek out additional resources if a parent or caregiver suspects their child or charge is involved in or being affected by bullying.







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Thank you for a great time

LEELA SHARON AHEER
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Hello Chestermere-Strathmore readers, it has been a privilege to serve this riding. I have been to your homes, farms, and businesses, seen your kid's productions and spoken in their classrooms. I have played music for your events and have enjoyed time with our precious seniors. My family and I have been so lucky to see every corner of this constituency and to learn and appreciate the diverse and unique people, opportunities, and challenges that have built strong and resilient communities. I have served on multiple committees and been a Minister of the Crown and the deputy leader of a party, but I am most proud to have been your MLA. I will miss the daily interactions, the conversations, and being invited to the many events that make this riding so spectacular. Thank you for allowing me to represent you.

Thank you to my incredible staff over the years for their tireless work. MLAs rely heavily on these incredible folks who do so much of the heavy lifting for our constituents, and I am grateful to all of you who served through some of the most difficult times this province has seen. You have been stoic under intense pressure, and I have learned so much from all of you. Thank you!

This last article highlights the work and dollars flowing into our community through your hard work and advocacy! These are your hard-earned tax dollars and seeing them at work in a community I love so much is wonderful. Congratulations to all who have received funding!

Grants received in the Chestermere -Strathmore riding:

- Wheatland County grant for purchasing public works equipment and road construction
- De Havilland Field an Aircraft Manufacturing Facility in Wheatland County
- Wheatland County Food Bank grant for a new facility purchaseWheatland County received a grant
- for a new Firehouse in Carseland

 Pacconstruction of Highway 817
- Reconstruction of Highway 817
- New Firehouse in Langdon
- New school build in Langdon
- EMS Expansion in Chestermere
- Town of Strathmore grant for reconstruction of West Ridge Rd, intersection of Lakeside Blvd & Archie Klaiber Trail and storm water management

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Finding the right candidate

To the Editor

That seems to be the current campaign theme these days. When a candidate shows up on your doorstep or sends a social media feed, there are a couple of questions you may want to ask the current MLA government candidate.

- 1. What's the latest on getting back the \$1.5 billion on the dead-end Keystone bet going? I state "bet" because it was made perfectly clear what intention the US had to shut it down before this effort started, but instead of waiting a couple of months for the election result, the UCP seem to bet that the outcome shouldn't be a problem.
- 2. What advantage did Alberta get from the \$30 million war room on misinformation on the oil industry other than a cartoon, who, by the way, appreciated the notoriety, and what about the consultant cost on this late report, which as reported didn't seem to find anything specific?
- 3. In the news, the government is said to be spending \$20 million on a fountain in front of the capital. Which would you hold as a better investment: putting more resources in supporting post-secondary students that are struggling with increasing costs like rent, tuition, food etc ... or a nontax-paying fountain for the few? These people are our future and this government is making it harder for these future job-creating tax payers to not become social assistance reliant because they can't afford an education. Where are the leadership foresight priorities?
- 4. Do you think the Keeping Alberta Affordable "campaign" is needed by those households that make \$180,000? That's \$15,000 per month do you really think an extra \$100 bucks is going to make a difference at that income level or would it have made a bigger difference to struggling students that don't get this benefit? Some perspective: a senior on just CCP and OAS if they contributed most of their working career would get about \$1,700 per month. That's just 10 per cent of the upper end of this program's monthly income.

Do you think this taxpayer-funded benefit is actually being used as an election benefit given it's sent out by the Government of Alberta? Why do I ask? I got my first mailed flyer about this program in February and then to my surprise another one in March, which makes me wonder

why, resend that info, which has a cost to process?

Could it be a taxpayers' supported campaign thing? Another cost that seems to have been ignored and not managed well over the decades of governance is the cost that resource companies are legally responsible for. We have our protecting ERA and government stating they're going to hold those responsible on one hand, and on the other hand, municipalities that are not allowed to run a deficit, have to manage it because some resource companies' not paying their taxes. It's reported to be about \$268,000,000 currently. Who's in charge, really?

If you or I did that according to what is noted by the government, a seven per cent yearly penalty charge would apply, so ask your MLA is that happening, or is it the taxpayers on the hook while resource companies are reporting historic profits? On another note, do you find it interesting that Premier Smith on her own admission can find time to focus on one person that has charges against him or to run a radio show, but can't seem to find time for a follow-up question by the media? I think we have all seen how politicians can talk around a question without answering it, so a follow-up question to ask for clarification has now been controlled by our Premier. Do you think that demonstrates less transparency and more government control on a society that wants less government oversight? The media is the public eyes and ears, so what's next? How politicians communicate shows who they work for; do you feel included?

Given my rant above you may think I have allegiance to a particular party, and you would be wrong. I don't know about you, but I believe most Albertans want a government that actually pays attention to the Albertan and not treat them as if they have no interest or intelligence or that they have short memories in what is going on.

On voting day it's your choice on how you want to be handled, and what type of future your family can count on in adapting to the many challenges we're all seeing around our world. This is a good time to ask your candidate what their goals "and solutions" are, and can we afford them?

Dennis Bigras Wheatland County

- Strathmore Handi-Bus grant
- Phyto Organix Foods Inc
- WID grant for Watershed Resiliency & Restoration Program and CSMI Co-operative Stormwater Management Initiative
- Alberta's Recovery \$815 Million irrigation infrastructure expansion adding over 200,000 acres for Alberta Irrigators and \$430 Million to Alberta's GDP
- Rocky View County grant for replace/ repair of roof on the Chestermere Recreation Centre
- Rocky View grant to replace the bridge on Rainbow Road
- City of Chestermere grants for park improvement, public works building upgrades /Chestermere & Area Restorative Justice program
- \$72,000 to Rehabilitate the Strathmore Aquatic Centre
- \$90,000 to Strathmore to replace playground equipment
- \$75,000 to Strathmore to upgrade the irrigation systems at several parks and recreational areas
- \$220,000 to Strathmore to install a portion of the waterline
- \$90,000 to Strathmore to rehabilitate the outdoor tennis and pickleball courts
- \$250,000 to Strathmore to construct an equipment storage building
- \$75,000 to Strathmore to prepare engineering plans for the stormwater infrastructure
- \$75,000 to Strathmore to install a columbarium
- \$90,000 to Strathmore to upgrade the Strathmore Sports Centre
- \$75,000 to Strathmore to purchase a water tank vehicle
- \$75,000 to Strathmore to install a building automation control system at the Family Centre

- \$210,000 to Strathmore to pave the parking lot at Kinsmen Park
- \$525,000 to Strathmore to rehabilitate several roads
- \$750,000 to Strathmore to replace waterlines and wastewater lines along Willow Drive
- \$150,000 to Strathmore to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant computer systems
- \$85,000 to Strathmore to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant
- \$12,592.72 to the Town of Strathmore for the 2022/23 Fire Services.
- \$245,402.64 to the Town of Strathmore for Wastewater Treatment Plant
 – Upgrade
- \$237,000 CCBF to Chestermere to upgrade 1.6 km of Rainbow Road
- \$30,000 for a one-year term Alberta Community Restorative Justice Grant to the Synergy Youth and Community Development Society
- \$260,000 to Wheatland County for the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program - for the Wheatland Riparian Crossing Project
- \$315,908 2023 Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program, County of Wheatland - Culvert Replacement
- \$180,000 to the Western Irrigation District, Natural Hydrology Restoration Project.

SCHOOL FUNDING: design funding for Chestermere, Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School Division – a new K-9 school. School Planning Program funding for Strathmore, Golden Hills School Division to replace Westmount School. Pre-Planning Program funding for the Chestermere – Rocky View School Division – new K-9 School.

(Leela Sharon Aheer is the MLA Elect for Chestermere-Strathmore)

Do Canadians prefer to shop in person?



The results of a recent study conducted by **Totum Research Inc.** showed that Canadians prefer to shop for products and services in-store, compared to online shopping. They gave reasons like:

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Totum Research Inc. January 2023 Study on How Geography Impacts Shopping Patterns, Habits and E-Commerce Across Canada

George Freeman School and the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre are hosting another exhibit circulated by TREX Southwest.

Sports Centre hosting TREX art exhibit

JOHN WATSON Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

George Freeman School and the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre are once again hosting an exhibit circulated by TREX Southwest for students and the community to observe.

Titled "We Are Immigrants – The Hidden Hardships and Legacy of Early Chinese-Canadian Immigrants," the exhibition explores the hardships and legacy of Chinese-Canadian immigrants beginning in the 19th century. It is the third TREX exhibit hosted in the sports centre.

"(TREX) has a number of travelling exhibits and when we looked through them, we really liked the theme of this one. We thought it was an important theme for students to learn and think about," said Jill McDonald, associate principal of George Freeman School. "We also thought that it would be good for the community to learn a little bit more about that early Chinese-Canadian immigrant story."

The exhibit consists of approximately 17 articles assembled by Raeann Cheung. According to a release, the exhibit is, in addition to its educational uses, meant to raise awareness regarding anti-Asian sentiment, and to celebrate Chinese-Canadian contribution to Canada's history.

McDonald added response from students and the community to exhibits displayed through the sports centre is very positive and collections tend to be well received.

"We have got some pretty regular people who (utilize) the walking track on almost a daily basis, and I really love seeing them stop and take in a piece of artwork," she said. "They stop at a different one each day and you can tell that they spend a little bit of time reflecting on them. It is a nice way to make that exercise a little bit different and more meaningful."

Students at George Freeman School are not made aware of a visiting exhibit until the pieces are set up for display, at which point they will have several learning opportunities to interact with it as part of their regular coursework.

This particular exhibit is described as having very strong connection to the Social Studies and English Language Arts curriculums.

"In those core courses, lots of our students will visit the exhibit and then have some learning and tasks to do from it ... art, photography and some complimentary courses will benefit from it as well," said McDonald.

Displayed on the walking track, the exhibit will be available for viewing during the sports centre operating hours until May 15.

For community members, only the regular fee charged for use of the walking track will be required to view the exhibition.

COMING EVENT



ANNUAL MARKET Saturday, April 29

10 am - 2 pm Strathmore Civic Centre

For more info email strathmorefarmersmarket1@gmail.com or visit

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If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by May 26, 2023.

with JANICE M. ELMQUIST at Underwood Gilholme 210, 4954 Richard Road SW Calgary, Alberta T3E 6L1

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<u>MISC</u>

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FORM 5 Irrigation Districts Act (Section 85/86)

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TAKE NOTE that applications have been received by the Western Irrigation District to change the area of the District.

 $Applications \ to \ ADD \ parcel(s) \ that \ consist \ of:$

Name of Landowner	Number of Irrigation Acres	Legal Land Description		
Bruce Farms Ltd	145	NW 12-23-26 W4M		
Bruce Farms Ltd	90	SW 12-23-26 W4M		
Barbara Lausen	78	SW 24-22-26 W4M		

Any person wishing to complain is required to submit a written complaint to the Western Irrigation District at A-1000 Pine Street, Strathmore, Alberta, T1P 1C1 within 30 days after the date of the publication of this notice

Troy Tangedal GENERAL MANAGER WESTERN IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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Applications will be accepted until April 28, 2023. Only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. The start date is May

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