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VOLUME 18 ISSUE 33

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Soccer skills

WADEMSA responds

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

WADEMSA has issued a statement in response to the Town of Strathmore providing notice of their intent to withdraw their membership at the end of this year.

The statement, attributed to Chair, Darcy Burke, and the board of directors, states WADEMSA remains committed to maintaining professional, and collaborative relationships with the town, as well as all remaining member municipalities.

"As the current service provider, WADEMSA will continue to fulfill its responsibilities and remain focused on delivering the high standard of emergency medical care that residents deserve and have come to expect," it reads.

Listed among the town's reasons for ceasing their participation, were questions raised over WADEMSA's governance, operational capacity, and financial oversight.

WADEMSA noted in their statement that the Town of Strathmore has held two seats on the association's board of directors since their founding in 1988.

Additionally, they have iterated being in the process of preparing a formal response to active information requests noted to have been put forward by the Town of Strathmore.

The association was challenged by AHS in 2024 when requests were put forward for the return of more than \$4 million in accumulated surplus since 2013.

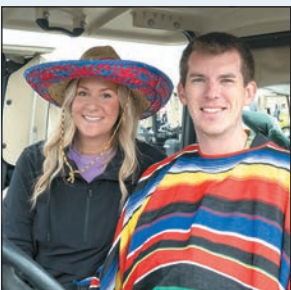
Mayor Pat Fule noted July 28, concerns regarding WADEMSA's transparency and levels of voluntary open communication with the town.

"Financial statements have been provided to member municipalities and AHS/EHS on an annual basis," reads the statement. "WADEMSA will also continue to work with the Town of Strathmore for complete transparency and accountability for unpaid 911 fees owed to WADEMSA that have been collected by the Town of Strathmore from Rogers/Shaw."

Regarding the public address of reports concerning matters involving Emergency Health Services Alberta (EHS-Alberta), WADEMSA has stated they have been advised against open discussion so as to not risk breaching any outstanding confidentiality agreements.

Continued on Page 4

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Fore a great cause

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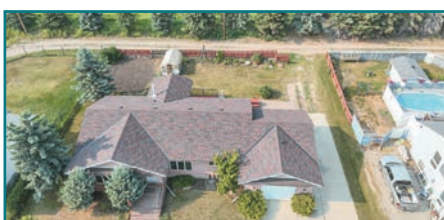
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Sold-out festival

The Three Sisters opened for the Juno Award-winning Canadian singer-songwriter Fred Eaglesmith during the Rosebud Open Air Festival on Aug. 16. Known for his distinctive songwriting and storytelling, Eaglesmith entertained the crowd with a mix of music and stories during the summer concert, which featured food trucks and a beer garden.

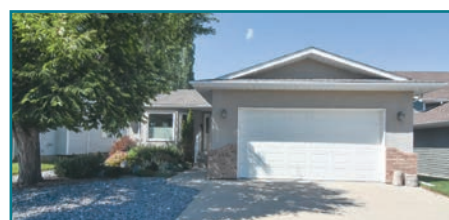
Joe Lepage Photo



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Treat time
For over 24 years, people from all across Canada have taken part in Dairy Queens Miracle Treat Day, which took place Aug.13. One hundred per cent of the proceeds from participating Dairy Queen locations help support children's hospitals. The Strathmore Dairy Queen was filled with patrons eager to support the cause, and equally enthusiastic were the employees who served every Blizzard treat with a smile.
Melissa Crispin-Piche Photos

County approves new Range Road 255 rail crossing safety infrastructure

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County voted to invest in additional safety infrastructure at the Range Road 255 rail crossing.

Previously brought before council in June, administration had recommended at the time, setting aside a budget of nearly \$900,000 for the installation of an active crossing warning system with gates at the crossing.

Such an active warning system was estimated to cost in the realm of \$736,000, though it was suggested to approve additional funds as a contingency.

“Following discussion, council rejected the proposed installation due to the significant capital cost, then directed administration to investigate alternative measures, specifically the installation of stop signs with and without flashing lights,” said Cody Zimmerman, manager of operations. “Administration subsequently sought additional information regarding regulatory requirements, crossing compliance, and reviewed potential safety enhancement measures at the crossing.”

The Range Road 255 rail crossing is classified as an existing grade crossing under current regulations.

Zimmerman explained current rail crossing safety standards would have required the installation of an active warning system with gates if the crossing were to be constructed today, however the GCR does not require the retrofitting of existing crossings.

Instead, council has voted to approve the purchase and installation of an oversized stop sign, which will also feature solar-powered flashing beacons.

The replacement of an existing stop sign with an oversized one to improve visibility and driver recognition, as well as the installation of solar powered flashing beacons are permitted under existing regulatory requirements.

“The estimated cost to implement the enhanced safety control measures is approximately \$4,000 and sufficient funding is available to complete the installation within the approved 2026 operating budget,” said Zimmerman. “It is anticipated that the installation could be completed within four to six weeks from the time of approval.”

The Range Road 255 crossing sees a typical average of 17 train movements, as well as between 100 and 150 vehicle crossings per day.

A primary concern regarding the crossing is the steep angle, being less than 30 degrees. Under modern engineering standards for rail crossings, a similar crossing would have to be set up with active controls if constructed today.

Reeve Scott Klassen noted prior to the vote, council recently discussed the potential of closing a public access roadway which currently features safety features similar to what had been recommended for the Range Road 255 crossing.

Should council have voted to close the previously subject road during the previous discussion, the infrastructure could have been migrated to Range Road 255 and reused.

Despite the noted improvements, the approved new safety measures still fall short of modern recommended minimum protections.

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Youth assaulted in Strathmore during Stampede

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore RCMP are investigating the assault of a 17-year-old, having been called out to investigate a report in the early hours of Aug. 1 at the Ag grounds.

Staff Sgt. Mark Weilgosz was able to confirm the arrest of one person at the time of the incident, and that the investigation is ongoing.

With regards to a recent incident where a 15-year-old was assaulted in Strathmore, Weilgosz did not confirm whether the two incidents were related.

“I would ask that anyone with information to either incident or any crime for that matter in our community, come forward and certainly bring it to our attention,” he said. “Any information would be helpful to ensure we are dealing with each of these ... or any criminal incident in our community in an appropriate way.”

The victim of the Aug. 1 assault is not able to be publicly identified due to their involvement in a separate police investigation. A publication ban is active regarding their identity because they are a minor.

A Strathmore resident sympathetic to the victim explained the youth’s face was cut up and swollen, they were unable to see out of an eye for several days, and they sustained a broken nose among their injuries.

The source’s identity has been redacted for their protection, as they have described reception

of threats for their provision of aid to the Aug. 1 victim.

“My oldest son attends youth night at the Trelis Society, and (last time) he was there, a kid came up to him and said that (the redacted) family knows that we have been taking care of (the victim) and letting him stay safe with us, and if our family doesn’t stop, we are going to be in the crosshairs next,” they said. “None of our kids are allowed to leave where we are staying without an adult. These people are willing to beat (the victim) after already getting the authorities involved, and now it feels like they are taking it as an attack on them for us making sure a minor doesn’t get his ass kicked again.”

According to the source, the victim intends to press charges against the accused once suspects are identified.

Weilgosz added, engaging in vigilante justice, or taking a sense of justice into one’s own hands is extremely discouraged, particularly when violence is a potential prospect or if weapons may be involved.

“It is always preferable to bring these incidents or issues to the attention of the police or jurisdiction to deal with these matters in an appropriate and safe manner,” he said.

“In reassurance to the residents of Strathmore ... these incidents are not random acts of violence, and people are not randomly being selected for violence ... any kind of violence committed in our community, if it is random or if it is of a (targeted) nature, is very rare.”

Town donates \$5,000 to support landscaping of upcoming True North facility

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore has approved the donation of \$5,000 to the True North Society to be utilized for landscaping and beautification purposes.

The donation was approved following an in-camera session during the July 28 special meeting and is to be financed through the town’s financial stabilization reserve.

“True North is an amazing organization that works with primarily women and children at risk in crisis situations, and they do incredibly good work for Strathmore, for the county, for Siksiika, for the city of Calgary,” said Coun. Brent Wiley. “I think that True North’s contribution not just in the services they provide, but in this multi-million-dollar capital investment they are going to be making in our community is so substantial that I think it is incumbent upon council to give them even a small amount of money outside of normal policy.”

Wiley iterated the typical process for user groups to request financial assistance should be to apply at a community event night, go through Alberta’s community initiatives program (CIP) or through Family and Community Support Services (FCSS).

He added the argument that despite being to aid in the landscaping and beautification of True

North’s facilities, it may be to the benefit of the entire local community.

Coun. Richard Wegener, in support of Wiley’s motion, suggested even increasing the amount donated to True North to \$10,000.

“True North does a lot of good work in our community, helping with the other organizations in town, and for the \$5,000 ... motioned for, I think that is not really enough,” he said.

“The beautification of their new facility is an investment not only in our community, but an investment in the people who will be living there and healing there, and they deserve to move forward in their (lives) with some beauty around them,” said Coun. Melissa Langmaid.

Wegener’s motion for a \$10,000 donation was defeated in a tied vote. Coun. Claude Brown was not present at the meeting to weigh in on the decision.

Though the wording of the passed motion was vague and did not technically specify it must be utilized to benefit True North’s new affordable housing and wellness hub, it was noted to be implied as the intended purpose.

The official groundbreaking for the new facility is scheduled to take place, Aug. 26, with construction estimated to occupy an approximately 18-month to two-year timeline.

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	51									52		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Microgram

4. Fixed charge

7. Each

8. Feeling of humiliation

10. Coat with sticky substance

12. Powerful “Severance” family

13. Japanese city

14. “Pulp Fiction” actress Thurman

16. Hat

17. Place where rockers work

19. Psyche

20. Snakelike fishes

21. Where people live

25. Body part

26. Old towel

27. One’s essential being

29. Japanese alcoholic beverage
30. Boxing’s GOAT

31. Wet muddy ground

32. Christian Laettner is one

39. A place to store lawn tools

41. Large tub for liquid

42. Old World lizard

43. One-time European member group

44. Healing student

45. Nuclear weapon

46. “Kiss of the Spider Woman” actress Sonia

48. Silk garment

49. About some Norse poems

50. Woman religious community member

51. Congressman (abbr.)

52. Two-year-old sheep

CLUES DOWN

1. An insane person

2. “Homeland” actress Danes

3. Buttock muscles

4. US federal agency

5. Birds of prey

6. Electronic communication

8. Ocean

9. Terminates

11. Low-pitched sound from a bell

14. Exclamation: yuck!

15. A place to attach a boat

18. Exclamation of surprise

19. Make a mistake

20. Border line

22. Have religious faith

23. Klutz
24. Large tree

27. House of __ rulers

28. Red deer

29. Small coin (French)

31. Popular sandwich

32. 10-year period

33. Not good

34. Government lawyer

35. Egypt’s intelligence agency

36. Without an occupant or incumbent

37. Stain with one’s hands

38. Crippling

39. One point east of southeast

40. Large, united groups

44. __ and cheese

47. Alcoholic beverage

STRATHMORE

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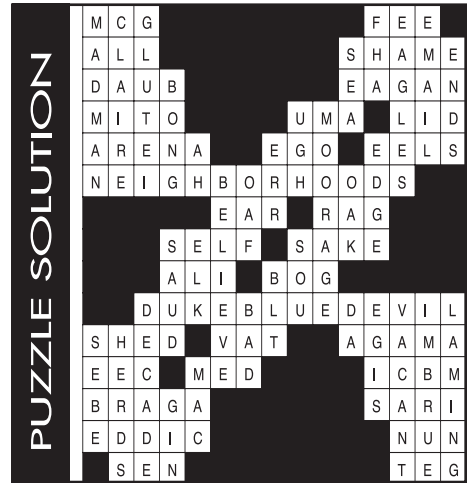
STRATHMORE WHEATLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Soccer fun

Players took to the Ranch Soccer Fields for the inaugural PPFF 3v3 Soccer Tournament Aug. 15-16. Presented by the Woodcreek Virtual Lions Club, the family-friendly event featured fast-paced 3v3 action across various age categories, along with skills activities, food trucks and plenty of competitiveness.

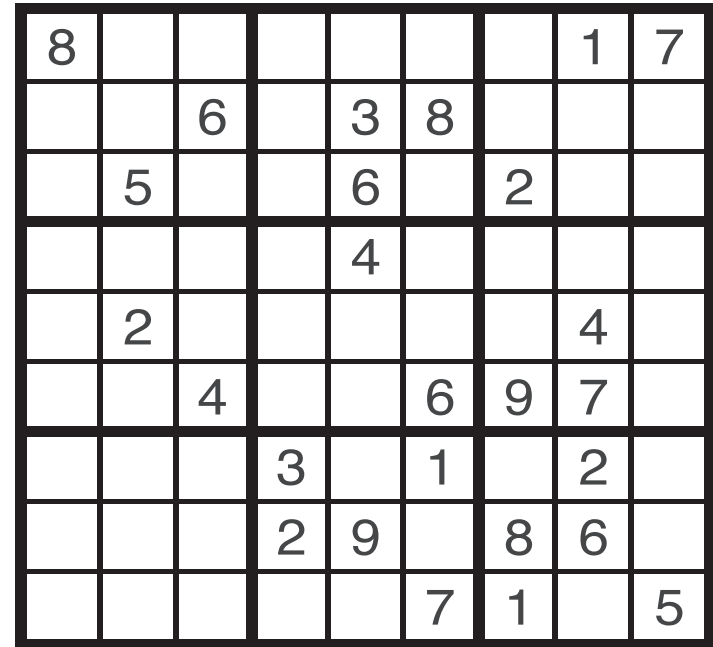
Joe Lepage Photos



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Highway options

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Times Contributor

An intersection northwest of Strathmore at Highway 9 and Highway 564 is being considered as part of a broader regional transportation plan according to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors Minister Devin Dreesen.

During a media round table Aug. 10, Dreesen said the province is looking at several intersections east of Calgary as traffic volumes continue to grow.

“When I mentioned the 400,000 new drivers in Alberta, the vast majority of that is in that Calgary area,” Dreesen said. “And we’re seeing a lot more people that have just moved into those areas and are obviously commuting on a daily basis.”

The Highway 9 and 564 intersection has been the focus of renewed safety concerns following a fatal May 10 collision that killed two Calgary women and sent three others to hospital including a child. A second collision involving a semi and an SUV occurred at the same intersection later that month.

Dreesen said the province is considering a range of options.

“So, whether it’s roundabouts, improve intersections with lights or just widening in those areas, that is something that, as a region, we’re looking at trying to get money in next year’s budget to actually see some construction dollars in that area,” he said.

The minister described the issue as extending beyond one intersection pointing to traffic coming into Calgary from the east on Highway 9, Highway 564, the Trans-Canada Highway and Glenmore Trail.

“We do have other projects in that east of Calgary area that we’re trying to get across the finish line,” Dreesen said, adding the goal is to move projects beyond the design and engineering stage and into construction.

For residents who have long called for changes at Highway 9 and 564, the comments offer a potential indication that construction funding could be considered in the province’s next budget.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A country facing changes it cannot avoid

To the Editor

Canada is entering a period where continued oil and gas consumption will shape daily life for everyone under 65. The acceleration seen in 2023 showed the climate is shifting faster than expected, and Canada, warming at roughly twice the global average, is already feeling the strain. Environmental stability will deteriorate with shorter winters, harsher summers, intensifying droughts, destructive storms, longer wildfire seasons, and northern permafrost collapse. These shifts will drive up costs for food, insurance, cooling, and municipal services, embedding climate volatility into everyday living.

The political question now is whether Canada continues the past era of incremental, symbolic climate policy or moves toward a future government positioning that treats climate risk as a structural economic threat. The past approach balanced climate commitments with ongoing fossil fuel expansion, creating visible action but little change in emissions.

A government that prioritizes long-term economic stability will have to confront the financial risks of increasing fossil fuel production, integrate climate impacts into national planning, and pressure industry to prepare for transition rather than expansion. This may become an issue of survival for many people.

Canadians under 65 will live through rising internal migration, deeper inequality, and growing political strain as governments struggle to manage continuous climate-driven crises. Canada’s next 30 years will not be defined by sudden collapse – but by steady, compounding deterioration unless national policy shifts to structural planning. The choices made now will determine whether future Canadians inherit a country that adapts with clarity and purpose or one that becomes harsher, more expensive, and more unequal with each passing year.

Ken Riley,
Bassano

WADEMSA addresses town ceasing participation

Continued from Page 1

To date, both the Town of Strathmore and Wheatland County have indicated their intention to, at the expiration of their current service agreement contracts with WADEMSA, be transitioned to fire dispatch services provided by Calgary 911.

As EHS-Alberta is responsible for determining how ground ambulance services are delivered and which organizations are contracted to provide services throughout the province.

Should a Request for Proposals process be initiated, WADEMSA has released their intention to submit a proposal in order to compete for the opportunity to continue serving residents within the local region.

In the meantime, the association has indicated service delivery will not experience changes or interruptions.

The Town of Strathmore has stated their intention to engage with the Province of Alberta in order to determine the future of local emergency medical services delivery.

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Elks give back

The Strathmore Elks No. 491 hosted its second annual Elks Mental Health Golf Tournament on Aug. 13 at the Strathmore Golf Club. Held in partnership with local family and community support services, the event featured a Mexican scramble, silent auction and door prizes, with proceeds supporting local mental health initiatives.

Joe Lepage Photos



Wheatland Kings roster nearly set for upcoming season

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland Kings have nearly finished finalizing their roster ahead of the new regular season, looming just about a month away.

“We did a little blitz of signings and we are starting to add some new forwards especially, to the roster,” said Cody Holdaway, general manager for the Kings. “A couple months ago, we acquired Nash Wassing from the Grand Forks Border Bruins; just last week, we were in the process of acquiring Brayden Thurlow from the Merritt Centennials.”

Holdaway added the team will now also feature Jaden Prairie Chicken, hailing from Siksika Nation and previously playing with the Indigenous Sport Academy.

He explained throughout the recruitment and signing process, the Kings have been scouting for talent originally hailing from approximately the local region from across several outside hockey organizations.

Strathmore’s own Tripp McArthur has now officially been signed to the Kings after spending time last season as an affiliate player. Prior to beginning his junior hockey experience, he played with the Wheatland Athletics U18AA program.

Another former affiliate player, Johnny Babkirk, from Okotoks, is now an official member of the Kings roster for the upcoming

season.

“We continue to make marquee signings that are going to be key pieces of our roster going into the season ... when you are coming back from Junior A hockey, and the KIJHL, or the BCHC, it is a no-brainer to bring this local talent back home,” said Holdaway. “Lots of new faces this year, definitely some old faces, but overall, we are definitely making improvements to the roster, hopefully push the team to that next step.”

Holdaway added when scouting for potential players, coaches and staff aim to take a holistic approach, observing candidates both on, and off the ice.

Despite the community responsibilities which come with being a Wheatland King, he added on-ice performance remains the number one priority.

“At this point, effective as of (Aug. 11), we have almost entirely signed our roster for the coming season. We are still looking for a couple more defensemen, but at this point the team is just practicing getting the boys to gel together and meet each other,” he said. “We are definitely really strong on offense this year; it is shaping up to be a really strong offensive year, but we are still working on that defense portion as well.”

For the last two seasons, the Kings have earned themselves first round byes, only to be defeated in the second round.



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August 6, 2026

WADEMESA Statement Regarding the Town of Strathmore's Notice of Withdrawal

The Wheatland and Adjacent Districts Emergency Medical Services Association (WADEMESA) has received formal notice from the Town of Strathmore of its intention to withdraw from membership in the Association effective December 31, 2026.

Since 1988, WADEMESA has proudly provided high-quality emergency medical services to communities throughout the region. For nearly four decades, the Association has earned a reputation for delivering professional, reliable, and patient-focused care while supporting the health and safety of residents across its service area.

WADEMESA respects the Town's decision and remains committed to maintaining a professional and collaborative relationship with the Town of Strathmore and all member municipalities. As the current service provider, WADEMESA will continue to fulfill its responsibilities and remain focused on delivering the high standard of emergency medical care that residents deserve and have come to expect.

Recent public comments have raised questions regarding WADEMESA's governance, operational capacity, and financial oversight. It is important to note that since WADEMESA's establishment in 1988, the Town of Strathmore has held two seats on the Association's Board of Directors, providing direct participation in governance, organizational oversight, and key decision-making processes. We are currently preparing a formal response to the information requests that have been submitted and look forward to continuing discussions through the appropriate channels.

WADEMESA has during the duration of the contract with AHS/EHS incurred surpluses and deficits which have been identified within yearly audited financial statements. The financial statements have been provided to member municipalities and AHS/EHS on an annual basis.

WADEMESA will also continue to work with the Town of Strathmore for complete transparency and accountability for unpaid 9-1-1 fees owed to WADEMESA that have been collected by the Town of Strathmore from Rogers/Shaw.

WADEMESA has also sought to address reports concerning matters involving Emergency Health Services Alberta (EHS-Alberta). However, we have been advised on multiple occasions that publicly discussing these matters could constitute a breach of confidentiality provisions contained within existing agreements. As a result, our ability to comment publicly has been limited.

That said, WADEMESA wishes to be clear that it has complied with all requests and requirements from EHS-Alberta regarding surplus funds and related matters.

It is also important to recognize that EHS-Alberta is responsible for determining how ground ambulance services are delivered and who is contracted to provide those services. WADEMESA understands that a Request for Proposals (RFP) process may be undertaken for this service area in the future. Should that occur, WADEMESA intends to submit a proposal and compete for the opportunity to continue serving the communities of this region. We remain confident in the quality, value, and reliability of the services we provide.

Residents should be assured that the Town's notice of withdrawal does not result in any immediate changes to emergency medical service delivery. WADEMESA continues to operate as it always has and remains fully committed to providing safe, reliable, and professional ambulance services throughout the region. Our dedicated paramedics and staff continue to deliver the high standard of patient care and operational excellence that our communities have relied upon for nearly four decades.

WADEMESA remains well positioned for the future and continues to believe in the value of a regional emergency medical services model. We remain committed to pursuing opportunities that enhance emergency medical care for Albertans and to maintaining positive relationships with the municipalities and communities we serve.

WADEMESA extends its appreciation to the Town of Strathmore for its many years of partnership and contribution to the Association. Our focus remains, as it always has, on providing exceptional emergency medical services and ensuring residents receive the care they need, when they need it most.

This statement is issued on behalf of the Board of Directors of WADEMESA.



Darcy J. Burke
Chair, WADEMESA



Upcoming Council Meetings

Sept 2, 2026 | 6 p.m.
Sept 9, 2026 | 6 p.m.
Sept 16, 2026 | 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.

Community and Heritage.
Alberta Day Celebration. August 28.

Albertans are invited to come together and celebrate Alberta Day, a province-wide occasion that recognizes the people, cultures, history, and achievements that make Alberta a vibrant and welcoming place to live, work, and grow.

This year's Alberta Day celebration in Strathmore will feature a variety of family-friendly activities, local food vendors, and community organizations, creating opportunities for residents and visitors to connect, learn, and celebrate together. Opening ceremonies will be from 3:00 p.m. to 3:10 p.m. and attendees can enjoy live performances ranging from indigenous dancing to live music.

For more information about our annual Alberta Day celebration, visit: Strathmore.ca/AlbertaDay

Enjoy them safely.
Storm pond safety.

Storm ponds play an important role in protecting our homes and neighbourhoods. They help prevent flooding by managing heavy rainfall and slowly releasing water back into the environment. As water moves across streets and properties, it collects sediment, pollutants, and debris - storm ponds help filter this before it reaches our rivers and streams.

While Strathmore is home to many storm ponds, only Kinsmen Lake and Strathmore Lakes permit recreational use such as fishing. For your safety, please avoid any activity on or near other storm ponds. These ponds are deeper than they appear with water levels that rise and move quickly. They often contain contaminants like fertilizers, pesticides, and animal waste as well.

Visit our website, Strathmore.ca/StormPonds for more information.

Annual Sanitary Mainline Flushing.
EPCOR Annual Maintenance.

EPCOR has begun portions of its annual sanitary mainline flushing program in Downtown Strathmore, The Ranch, and the Orchard & Spruce Park Industrial Areas.

This routine maintenance helps keep the sanitary sewer system operating efficiently by removing buildup from sewer mains and supporting the long-term health of the community's infrastructure.

Residents and businesses in affected areas may notice maintenance crews, equipment, or temporary odours while work is underway. These conditions are normal and are expected to be temporary.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as this important maintenance is completed.

For more information, visit Strathmore.ca/WaterMovement

Join our team.
Career opportunities available.

Are you looking for a new opportunity? The Town of Strathmore is hiring! We have a variety of positions available across different departments.

- Contract Group Fitness Instructor/Personal Trainer
- IT Analyst

Check out Strathmore.ca/Careers for more information about current opportunities and discover your bright future with the Town of Strathmore.

Fall Registration Open!
Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre Fall programming is now open!

Looking for ways to stay active, learn something new, or keep the kids engaged this fall? We've got something for everyone!

Registration opened on August 4 for our exciting lineup of fall programs, including:

- Cardio & Strength
- Seniorcise
- Stay & Play
- School Closure & PD Day Camps
- Mini Sport Adventure
- Mini Movers
- Yoga & Stretch

Whether you're looking to build strength, improve flexibility, stay connected with your community, or keep your little ones active and having fun, our fall programs are designed to help you make the most of the season.

For more information about programs and activities, visit: Strathmore.ca/SMPSportsCentre

Bored? We can fix that.
Join a board.

Boards and committees have always played an important role in our community. If you're looking for a way to make an impact, this is your chance to get involved. The Town is currently accepting applications for Family and Community Support Services Advisory Board - 1 position open.

For questions about Volunteer Boards and Committees, please email LSAdmin@strathmore.ca or call 403-934-3133.

Maintenance Notice.

Aquatic Centre closed for annual maintenance.

Every fall, the Strathmore Aquatic Centre closes for a few weeks to complete its annual maintenance shutdown. This important work helps keep the facility clean, safe, and operating efficiently for swimmers and visitors throughout the year.

This year's shutdown started on August 17, 2026, and includes a variety of maintenance projects such as replacing chemical lines, cleaning filters and replacing filter sand, repairing pool tiles, servicing valves, and completing maintenance on the waterslide and steam room.

Additional facility upgrades include replacing fire sprinkler heads in the pool area, performing boiler maintenance, and completing electrical system work.

There's a lot happening behind the scenes during this closure, all with the goal of keeping the Aquatic Centre in top condition. Watch for progress updates throughout the shutdown.

For more information, contact the Aquatic Centre at 403-934-3325.

Community Connection Night.

Come for the fair, stay for the movie!

- Resource Fair (5:30 to 7 p.m.)
- BBQ (6 to 7 p.m.)
- Zootopia 2 (8 p.m.)

September 4, 2026
at Kinsmen Park



Strathmore



New Addition. Blue Recycle Carts Coming Soon.

Starting **October 1, 2026**, blue carts will be available to Strathmore residents for curbside recycling collection, with more accepted materials and single-stream collection. **(no sorting required!)**



Notice of Public Hearing. September 2, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Area Structure Plan Amending Bylaw No. 26-11 (The Prairies)

Please be advised that the Town of Strathmore has received an Area Structure Plan Amendment application to amend The Prairies Area Structure Plan Bylaw No. 11-08. ommunity consisting of attached residential units centred around a central clubhouse amenity. The site is located at the north of the TransCanada Highway and east of George Freeman Trail. The proposed amendment would support the development of a residential community consisting of attached residential units centred around a central clubhouse amenity. The amendment proposes to facilitate neighbourhood commercial uses on a 3.74-acre (1.51 ha) parcel located in the southwest portion of the subject lands.

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed Bylaw may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Town Office (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB), or can be found on the Town website, Strathmore.ca/PublicHearings Please contact the Town Office if you would like an opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed amendments prior to the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing will be held via ZOOM and in Council Chambers, Strathmore Municipal Building, 1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore Alberta on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, commencing at 6:00 pm with procedures in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Section 199 and the Town of Strathmore Council Procedural Bylaw No. 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 of the proposed bylaw may present suggestions or concerns by making a submission to the public hearing. Please contact Legislative Services at LSAdmin@strathmore.ca by 12:00 noon on **Wednesday, August 26, 2026**, in order to register to present.

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 12:00 noon on **Wednesday, August 26, 2026**, as outlined in Bylaw No. 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 five 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.

Notice of Public Hearing. September 2, 2026 at 6:05 p.m.

Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw No. 26-14 (The Prairies)

Please be advised that The Town of Strathmore has received an application to amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 14-11 to redesignate the subject lands in support of the proposed area structure plan amendment of The Prairies Neighbourhood “D” (Prairies View). The Applicant is proposing to redesignate the lands to facilitate the development of an attached housing neighbourhood, complemented by neighbourhood commercial uses and associated public service areas.

The proposed land use districts include:

- R3 – High Density Residential District with a Direct Control District Overlay to accommodate the residential portion of the development. The proposed Direct Control District would include “Community Building and Facility” as a permitted use. Within the direct control district, the rear setbacks are proposed to be at the discretion of the Approving Authority
- C1 – Neighbourhood Commercial District to accommodate future neighbourhood commercial uses within the southwest portion of the site.
- P1 – Public Service District to accommodate public service uses, including the proposed Municipal Reserve lands and associated public infrastructure.

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed Bylaw may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Town Office (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB), or can be found on the Town website, Strathmore.ca/PublicHearings Please contact the Town Office if you would like an opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed amendments prior to the Public Hearing.

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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.

Notice of Appeal Hearing. August 20, 2026 at 5 p.m.

Notice of Appeal on Development Permit D26-083 for the property located at 52 Lakes Estates Circle, Strathmore, Alberta, Lot 14, Block 25, Plan 081 1227.

The Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB) received a Notice of Appeal on July 27, 2026. The SDAB will hear the appeal on:

Date: Thursday, August 20, 2026.

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: Town of Strathmore Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, Alberta.

Adjacent landowners have the right to be heard by the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. Affected persons incide people who speak in favour or against the decisions being appealed.

Persons are asked to provide any written and/or visual presentationto the clerk no later than noon on **August 14, 2026**.

Please be aware that any submissions are collected for the purpose of a public hearing. By making a submission you are consenting that all information that it contains – including addresses, personal or other sensitive information – to be forwarded to the parties (e.g. municipality, appellant, applicant), the board/panel and any other person who requests to see the material.

The Development Permit Application, Notice of Decision and Notice of Appeal are available for review at the Strathmore Municipal Building, at 1 Parklane Drive during regulair busines hours, being 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

For any further questions, please call 403-934-3133 or email veronica.anderson@strathmore.ca.



Trash to Treasure and Heavy Item Garbage (HIG)

For more information
on HIG or
Trash to Treasure, visit:
Strathmore.ca/HIG



FARM FUN

Fieldstone Fruit Wines, Origin Brewing and Eagle Lake Nurseries were some of the many establishments to take part in the annual Alberta Open Farm Days Aug. 14-16. Farms, ranches, markets, greenhouses and other agricultural operations opened their doors, inviting visitors to meet local producers, learn more about where their food comes from and discover the work that goes into Alberta's agriculture industry.

Joe Lepage and Eagle Lake Nurseries Photos

Renaissance Faire gears up for fourth annual show in Strathmore

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Renaissance Faire is gearing up for its fourth annual show at the Ag grounds, ramping up activities to celebrate an attendance milestone set last year.

"We hit 10,000 at the gates last year. I had always promised myself that when we hit that number, we were going to do something awesome," said Gail Stamp, owner of the Strathmore Medieval Faire and Artisan Market.

In addition to hosting the international joust, which will feature athletes from across Europe, Australia and Canada, the faire is throwing a Saturday night concert with The Devil's Brigade as the headliner.

Stamp explained that anticipated attendance increases year-over-year tend to be between 3,000 and 5,000 people. Should the Strathmore event ceiling out around the 10,000 attendees mark, she said it's still a number the team can be satisfied with.

"This company is all about growth. It is growing with everyone who is a part of it, which would be ... I would say somewhere in the area of 100 small businesses. Most of them are from Alberta," said Stamp. "This event, no matter where we take it, it is successful. People want to get out, they want to have fun, they don't want to deal with all the politics or the yuckiness that is going on out there. They just want to come out with their families and have some fun."

In addition to the concert and joust, Stamp explained the weekend-long event will feature a mix of new and familiar faces, with a new layout for patrons to explore.

These will include regular features such as heavily armoured combat, roving magicians and storytellers, Gaelic dancing, and a new Viking group, among others.

Stamp added due to recent industry saturation, next year's event is likely to look noticeably different in order to keep the show fresh and unique.

"We have entertainers that I couldn't imagine doing the show without. Lothar the Magician, he is amazing, the people love him. Angus and Dolina, they are full of song and dance and laughter, and they will have over 100 people up and dancing. How does it get any better than that?" she said. "Even if we bring in a lot of the same attractions, it is important that we also bring in new ones ... we will bring in more rather than switching them out, and we will see how it goes next year."

Continuing to utilize the local Ag grounds, Stamp added there remains plenty of space to grow the event and saturating the venue for years to come.

Should the traffic begin to feel difficult to manage, she said she is also prepared to potentially add a day to the event.

The event will take place Aug. 21, opening between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. as well as Aug. 22 and 23 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

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MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Times Contributor

For sisters Alex and Emmeline Keeling, dance has always been about more than learning steps.

It is about finding confidence, making friends, having fun and, perhaps most importantly, feeling like you belong.

That philosophy is at the heart of Uplift Dance Studio, the Strathmore dance studio the sisters co-own and operate together.

Now heading into its fifth year, Uplift has grown into a non-competitive program offering dance opportunities for everyone from preschoolers to adults.

The studio came to life after the program the sisters had previously been involved with, Dance for Fun, dissolved.

“We really wanted to keep that going in Strathmore so that we could have an opportunity to provide a program that was really positive in town,” Alex said. “I always wanted to teach dance. It was always a dream of mine.”

Both sisters brought plenty of experience to the venture. Alex danced competitively for 11 years, while Emmeline competed for 10. The sisters have since spent years teaching, with Alex having more than a decade of teaching experience and Emmeline about eight years.

What started as a way to keep dance available in Strathmore has continued to grow. Last session, Uplift had about 90 students. While the number is important, the sisters say what happens inside the classroom matters more.

Uplift is deliberately non-competitive. Students don’t travel to competitions or festivals, and there isn’t the same pressure that can come with a traditional competitive dance model.

The dancers still learn choreography and work toward a year-end recital, but the focus is on enjoying the experience and celebrating what they’ve learned.

“We want to make sure that you’re welcome to make mistakes,” Alex said. “We can start where they are and then build.”

That approach also makes dance more accessible financially.

Without competition fees, additional choreography costs and the expenses associated with travelling to events, the sisters can keep their program costs lower. Uplift is also a non-profit dance company –

something they say is important as families continue to feel the pressure of rising costs.

“We work really hard on keeping the costs low,” Alex said.

The community aspect is just as important. The sisters want their students to form friendships that extend beyond their weekly dance class. They’ve seen students stay after class to talk and have heard stories of them continuing to practise together at home before returning the following week excited to show their teachers what they’ve been working on.

Those moments are particularly meaningful for the sisters because of what dance gave them growing up.

“Alex and I both had a lot of meaningful connections

through dance,” Emmeline said.

Running a business while still young has brought its own lessons. One of the biggest challenges was figuring out the less glamorous side of entrepreneurship; the paperwork, business requirements and logistics that come with starting a company, particularly when you’re working against a tight timeline.

“There isn’t a model set up when you’re young, so how to set up a business can be difficult in that aspect,” Alex said.

Rising rental and facility costs have also made it challenging to maintain an affordable program.

Fortunately, the sisters were able to take over the existing arrangement at the Strathmore Civic Centre, where Dance for Fun had previously operated, giving them one less hurdle to overcome when they were getting started.

And doing it all together has been one of the best parts.

“I love working with my sister,” Alex said. “Emmeline and I have a very intuitive connection with each other and we’re able to bounce ideas off each other, which is really nice and helpful.”

Their mother, Jennifer Keeling, is also part of the operation working at the front desk. So, what started as two sisters pursuing a shared passion has become a family affair.

As for where Uplift goes next, the sisters aren’t putting a firm limit on their ambitions.

They’d like to reach more students and potentially expand to offer dance on more than one day a week, but for now they’re happy to continue building the studio and seeing where it takes them.



Sisters Alex (l-r) and Emmeline Keeling, owners and coaches at Uplift Dance, are heading into their fifth season. They are building a safe place where people of all ages can find joy and friendship while participating in various forms of dance.

Photo Courtesy of Uplift Dance

ding the studio and seeing where it takes them.

“We’re hoping to help as many people as possible, and we’re open to whatever the future holds for us,” Alex said.

Uplift offers ballet, jazz, hip hop, contemporary and musical theatre, along with preschool and adult classes.

Registration for the upcoming season opens Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. Classes begin Thursday, Sept. 17. For more information you can email them (uplift-dancecompany@gmail.com).

Alberta RCMP provides tips for new drivers

ALBERTA RCMP

This August, the Alberta RCMP is sharing safety tips for new drivers. According to Transport Canada, young and new drivers are more likely to be involved in fatal and injury collisions due to their age and inexperience.

The Alberta RCMP would like to remind new and experienced drivers of the following tips:

- If you have your learner’s license, you must always be accompanied by a valid Class 5 licence holder.
- Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of major collisions. Stay off your phone and avoid any activity that might impair your ability to operate a vehicle safely.
- Your passengers’ safety is also your responsibility. Make sure everyone is wearing their seatbelt.
- The posted speed limit is the limit for ideal conditions. You may need to slow down according to weather, road, and traffic conditions.
- Highways tend to be busier in the summer. Give yourself extra time to reach your destination.
- Be aware of your surroundings and don’t tailgate. Only pass when it is safe to do so.
- Be mindful of other roadway users, such as bicycles and motorcycles. They are not always easily seen.
- Driving for the first time can be nerve-wracking. Be patient with new drivers.

“Everyone has a duty to look out for each other on the roads, and this includes looking out for new drivers,” says Sgt. Darrin Turnbull, Alberta RCMP Traffic Services. “Stay attentive, drive according to conditions, and if you see dangerous driving, report it. This way, we can all do our part and stay safe.”

FRIDAY AUGUST 20TH, 2026

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STRATHMORE TIMES

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General Doors: 6:30pm - Show 7:30pm

Corporate - Group and Table Questions - 403-616-1870

Card Subject to Change without notice

Supporting groups across Alberta

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Our government is strengthening the supports Albertans need during some of the most important moments in their lives, by increasing funding for survivors of sexual violence, improving the response when vulnerable Albertans go missing, expanding opportunities for midwifery care, and investing more than \$38 million in community support groups across Alberta.

Survivors of sexual violence and abuse need to be able to access the support they need, no matter where they live in the province. That's why we are investing nearly \$21 million to strengthen specialized care services across Alberta. This includes \$17 million for 15 sexual assault centres and funding for the Association of Alberta Sexual Assault Services, as well as \$3.7 million for eight child advocacy centres. Child advocacy centres bring medical and mental health professionals together in one place to support children and youth who have experienced abuse, reducing the likelihood that they will have to relive their trauma as they move through the justice system. These investments will

help survivors and families get specialized care when they need it most.

When vulnerable Albertans go missing, every minute matters, and it becomes critical to respond quickly to help protect their safety. This is why our government is reviewing how Alberta's emergency alert system responds in these situations. Public Safety and Emergency Services will work with police, disability advocates, and community partners to examine current emergency alert processes, including the criteria for issuing an Amber Alert. This work will help ensure Alberta's alert system responds effectively when vulnerable Albertans go missing and that law enforcement has the right tools to deal with these urgent situations.

Families across the province will have more choices for pregnancy, birth, and postpartum care. Applications are now open for the Alberta Midwifery Strategy Grant, backed by a \$5-million investment from our government. Individual projects can receive up to \$750,000 to recruit and support midwives, and bring services to more rural, remote, and Indigenous communities. Midwifery is a publicly-funded health service for low-risk pregnancies, providing care throughout pregnancy, la-

bour, birth, and the first six weeks after delivery. By helping more communities access these services, our government is giving families more options and helping bring maternal care closer to home.

Strong communities often depend on the local organizations that know their neighbours best. Through Budget 2026, our government is investing more than \$38 million through the Community Facility Enhancement Program and Community Initiatives Program. These grants help non-profits improve community facilities, run local programs, support families, and strengthen community services. Through the Community Facility Enhancement Program, every \$1 invested by our government attracts an average of \$3 from other partners. That means local organizations can turn provincial support into bigger projects and lasting benefits for their communities.

Our government is making sure that Albertans are not left to face their challenges alone. Whether it is helping survivors of sexual violence find care, protecting vulnerable Albertans, giving families more health-care choices, or backing the organizations that hold communities together. Together, these actions show that our government is meeting Albertans where they are.

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



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New RCMP uniform shirts

ALBERTA RCMP

As part of ongoing efforts to modernize the RCMP uniform, the RCMP is equipping officers with new navy blue uniform shirts on a province-by-province basis. Starting Aug. 15, frontline RCMP officers at RCMP detachments in Alberta will begin to wear their new navy blue uniform shirts.

Members of the public should note that RCMP officers may still wear the previous grey uniform shirts for the foreseeable future, meaning they can be seen wearing either the grey or blue shirts on duty.

The RCMP understands that seeing a new uniform colour may cause confusion. The RCMP also understands that there have been recent incidents of individuals impersonating police. If you have any concerns about the identity of the police officer you are interacting with, you can ask the officer for identification. You can also contact your local detachment's non-emergency line to determine if there is a police officer at your location.

Risky scams

BBB RELEASE

The Better Business Bureau released the 2025 Canadian Scam Tracker Risk Report on Aug. 12 with investment/cryptocurrency being the number one riskiest scam reported in Canada.

"We know that Canadians are losing millions of dollars to investment/cryptocurrency fraud on an annual basis," says Mary O'Sullivan-Andersen, President and CEO of BBB Serving Alberta and East Kootenay. "Unfortunately, scams have become ubiquitous so a report such as the Scam Tracker Risk Report is so valuable because it highlights the current fraud landscape in Canada."

In Canada the Top 3 riskiest scams reported in 2025 were:

- 1 - Investment/Cryptocurrency fraud;
- 2 - Home improvement scams;
- 3 - Employment scams.

"If you encounter an investment offer that promises huge returns in short order, be very skeptical," says O'Sullivan-Andersen. "Do careful research before you ever invest. Scams can happen to anyone. The best way to prevent being scammed is to learn more about them so you won't fall victim."

The 2025 Scam Tracker Risk Report is also available online at BBB.org.

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TIMES **CLASSIFIEDS**

Obituary



**MONTGOMERY,
A. Roger**

It is with heavy hearts that we announce on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at Strathmore, AB, Roger Montgomery of Arrowwood, AB passed away after a brief battle with cancer at the age of 85 years.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Heather Montgomery; son, Andrew Montgomery; daughter, Lisa (Greg) Foliott; grandson, Adam Foliott; granddaughter, Taylor Foliott (Dre Grasdall); great grandson, Philip Grasdall.

Rogers growing years were spent on his parent's dairy farm at Toora, Victoria; 200kms from Melbourne. Dairy farming never appealed to Roger so he was pretty sure he would not be doing that in his future.

Roger decided to leave the farm and attended Box Hill Boy's school to finish high school. He then went on to the University of Melbourne where he graduated with a Science degree and a diploma in Education. After completion he then began teaching in Bacchus Marsh where he met Heather McCabe who he eventually married in Melbourne in 1965.

In 1966 they made a major move and landed a job overseas in Canmore, AB, Canada where he taught High School. After one year in Canmore they moved to the Yukon where Roger was principal at the Mayo K-12 School for 4 years. During that time, in 1968 they gave birth to their son, Andrew; and in 1971 their daughter, Lisa.

In 1971 Roger was granted his Canadian Citizenship and then shortly after that the family moved back to Canmore for 1 year then made tracks to Lomond, AB until 1974, all-the-while teaching in the public school system. Eventually, family pressure lured Roger and his family back to Australia, where they resided for 4 years in Rockhampton, Queensland.

Deeply missing Canada, Roger applied and was granted a position as principal of the Arrowwood School in 1978 where he taught until accepting a Vice Principal position with County Central High School in Vulcan, Alberta and enrolled in the University of Calgary obtaining his Master of Education.

Roger loved the people and the community of Arrowwood, always willing to help out volunteering in many ways from Driving bus for school functions, judging photography/4-H Speeches. He also loved playing guitar and camping. He was a member of the Arrowwood Lions Club, the High River Tennis Club and the Arrowwood Rifle and Pistol Club. Hunting and his beloved firearms occupied a significant portion of his spare time always anxious for hunting season. After retirement, Roger made numerous acquaintances through his business, "Shooters Choice".

A Celebration of Rogers Life will be held early September with dates and times to be confirmed. Memorial contributions made in Roger's memory may be made directly to either the Arrowwood Lions Club or The Arrowwood Community Hall Fund.

To send condolences, please visit Roger's obituary at www.wheatlandfuneralhome.ca.

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COMING EVENT

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2026 AUCTION PROGRAM: Firearms, Ammunition, Accessories, or Militaria. Collections, Estates or single items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Contact us: 1-800-694-2609, Email: sales@switzersauction.com or Visit us @ www.switzersauction.com for Auction Dates & Details.

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9	6	7	5	4	2	3	8	1
1	2	8	9	7	3	5	4	6
5	3	4	8	1	6	9	7	2
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7	1	5	2	9	4	8	6	3
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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.

September 8, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

September 15, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission

For call-in details, access links, and agenda packages, please visit our website.
<https://wheatlandcounty.ca/agendasandminutes/>

Wheatland County Fire Services is Recruiting Paid On-Call and Volunteer Firefighters.

Make a real impact in your community by responding to fires, collisions, and medical emergencies.

No experience required, full training and equipment provided.





Requirements

- Must live within a 15 minute response time to the fire hall
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Valid Class 5 drivers license
- Provide a satisfactory criminal record check including a vulnerable sector check
- Provide a satisfactory drivers abstract
- Be willing to learn how to become a firefighter through training courses provided
- Eligible to work in Canada

If the opportunity to become part of Wheatland County Fire Services interests you, please email: fireservices@wheatlandcounty.ca to find out how you can become a Paid on Call or Volunteer Firefighter.

AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Wheatland County

Deadline: September 15, 2026

Submit application forms to agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca

Are you a student studying Agricultural or Environmental studies and residing in Wheatland County?

Apply today for the ASB Scholarship, offering support of up to \$2,500!

Terms and Conditions

Please read the following information and instructions carefully before submitting an application.

1. Successful applicants will receive a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$2,500 depending upon the number of applicants that meet the criteria.
2. Scholarships are available to high school graduates (within 3 years) residing within the boundaries of Wheatland County.
3. Provide a copy of high school and post-secondary (if applicable) transcripts.
4. Provide a copy of your Letter of Acceptance stating the course of studies from the accredited post-secondary institute and that you are enrolled in an Program with a focus on agricultural and/or environmental studies.
5. Submit a brief essay (500 to 1000 words) that introduces yourself and highlights your involvement in volunteering or extracurricular activities within your local community or school. Additionally, outline your career aspirations and elaborate on the reasons behind your passion for agricultural and/or environmental fields.
6. Complete consent documentation attached on application
7. Successful applicants will be selected on the grounds of academic merit, school and community activities, and a short essay.
8. Applications and required documentation will be reviewed by the ASB Scholarships Committee who will make a recommendation to the Board regarding selections.
9. Funds awarded will be made payable to the student's accredited post-secondary institution with the condition that funds be used for tuition, learning resources, or accommodation. Should the student leave the institution prior to the funds being expended, the balance will be returned to Wheatland County.
10. Submit a head and shoulder photograph of yourself (digital or print) and photo consent form. Wallet sized graduation pictures are acceptable. If your application is successful the photo will be used in the ASB meeting package and County communications.
11. Paper documents and photographs will not be returned.
12. Funding is **not available** to persons qualifying for or participating in job training assistance grants, or previous scholarship recipients.

The Wheatland County Agriculture Service Board (ASB) recognizes the importance of youth within the agricultural industry and rural communities in Wheatland County.

To aid students wishing to pursue a career in an agricultural or environmental related field, the ASB offers annual scholarships of up to \$10,000, with a minimum award of \$500 and a maximum award of \$2,500.

Application packages are available from the County office or www.wheatlandcounty.ca

For more information contact
Ph: 403-361-2000
agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca

Submit completed applications and required supporting information to:
agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca or in-person to Wheatland County, ASB Scholarship
242006 Range Road 243, Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4

