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TIMES

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 50

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Page 5



Hawks fly

Town discusses water concerns

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Potable water use and storage continue to be high priority topics for Town of Strathmore council.

Ethan Wilson, manager of infrastructure, provided an update to the new council similar to a presentation he made roughly 14 months ago regarding the town's current infrastructure, and open discussion about next steps as rapid local population growth is imminent.

The purpose being to inform the new council of major long-term capital projects which will be necessary to address the town's future growth.

"Currently, we have an effective capacity of about 14,500 cubes of water ... when you look at what we use daily, you can see on average we use about 4,000 cubes a day, so we currently have about three to four days of storage," said Wilson. "When you look at our maximum day, this would be a hot day in the summer when everybody is out watering their grass, kids are playing in the sprinklers, many additional uses than just general hygiene, we are (using) 7,800 cubic meters a day, so that means our storage is now down to two days."

Town administration is stressing that water licenses are a critical limiting factor, which outweighs local storage capacity, as well as the capacity of the East Calgary Regional Water Line.

This is due to the Bow River being a capped, as well as potentially an already overutilized resource.

Though the town's current storage is adequate, the local reservoir is anticipated to become a bottleneck on future development roughly by 2040.

"The Bow River ... normally has flows between 50 and 300 cubic meters per second - that is in Cochrane, so upstream of Calgary. This is the main water source for the Calgary region which includes Cochrane, Airdrie, Chestermere, and Strathmore," said Wilson.

Continued on Page 4

Page 10



Spartans hit the hardwood



Christmas spirit

Grade 2 student Remi Armstrong proudly shows her decorated classroom door during the Christmas Celebration at Wheatland Crossing School on Dec. 10. Along with some wonderful performances, there was hot chocolate and cookies, games, a craft station and a visit from Santa. See Pages 2-3 for more holiday concerts from various schools in the area.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

Address
129 2nd Avenue
Inside the Strathmore Business Centre

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Look on Page 6 for
Town of Strathmore Municipal Notices

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REPs



Wheatland Crossing Concert



Sacred Heart Concert



Sacred Heart Concert



George Freeman Concert



Sacred Heart Concert



Trinity Christian Academy Concert



George Freeman Concert

'Tis the season

Local schools were busy the last few weeks preparing for the early batch of holiday concerts. Wheatland Crossing School and George Freeman School got the ball rolling when they hosted their Christmas celebration on Dec. 10, while Sacred Heart Academy, Westmount School, Trinity Christian Academy held theirs on Dec. 11.

Joe Lepage, Melissa Piche, John Watson and Trinity Christian Academy Photos



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.

- January 13, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting
- January 14, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission
- January 14, 2026, 10:00 a.m. | Agricultural Service Board

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

WHEATLAND COUNTY
OPEN HOUSE
 Lyalta Community Centre
 263075 Township Rd 252
 January 13, 2026 | 7:00 P.M.

- Evening Agenda**
- 7:00 P.M. Open House Begins
 - 7:30 – 8:10 P.M. Formal Question & Answer Period
 - 8:10 P.M. – Close Informal Discussion and One-on-One Conversations with Council and Administration.

Christmas Closure Dates

The Wheatland County Administration Office, Agricultural Service Board Shop, and Public Works Shop will be **CLOSED**:
 December 25, 2025 - January 1, 2026

Waste Transfer Sites:
 Our Waste Transfer Sites will be closing at 3:00 PM on December 24, and will be closed December 25 & 26, as well as January 1.
 Normal operating hours will resume January 2, 2026

Wheatland County invites residents to attend a community open house in Lyalta. This session will include project updates, an opportunity to ask questions, and time to speak directly with County representatives.

We encourage all community members to join us and take part in this informative evening.



2026 DOG LICENSE RENEWALS & REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Payment for 2026 Registrations and Renewals are currently being accepted. License fees are due by January 2, 2026.

- ✓ Providing proof of spay/neuter reduces your dog's annual registration fee to \$20; otherwise, the fee is \$50.
- ✓ Please ensure your contact information is up-to-date, this helps us reunite you with your dog quickly if it becomes lost.
- ✓ If your dog's tag is lost, replacements are available at no cost. Contact our office, and we'll mail a new tag or have one ready for pickup.
- ✓ A valid dog license is required for all dogs over 90 days old. Failure to comply may result in a fine.



- **New registrations:** Use the QR code to access the online Dog License Registration Form.
- **Renewals:** If your dog is already registered, please email admin@wheatlandcounty.ca to request your renewal form.

Address: 242006 Range Rd 243, Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4
 Phone: 403-934-3321 www.wheatlandcounty.ca
 Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.





Westmount Concert



Westmount Concert



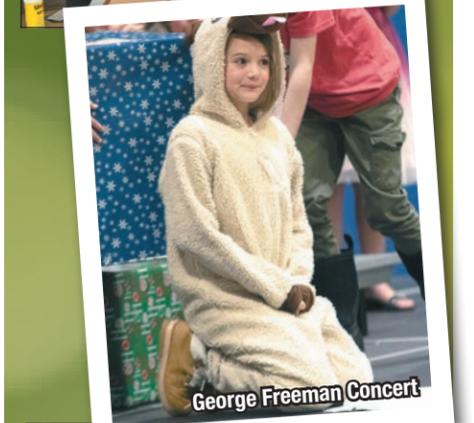
Wheatland Crossing Concert



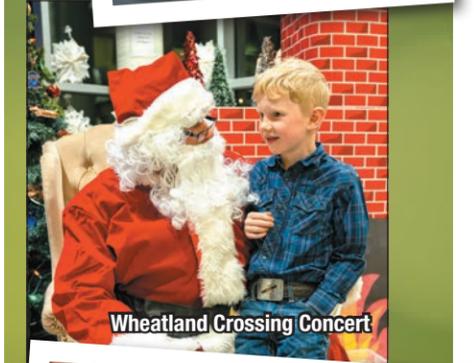
Trinity Christian Academy Concert



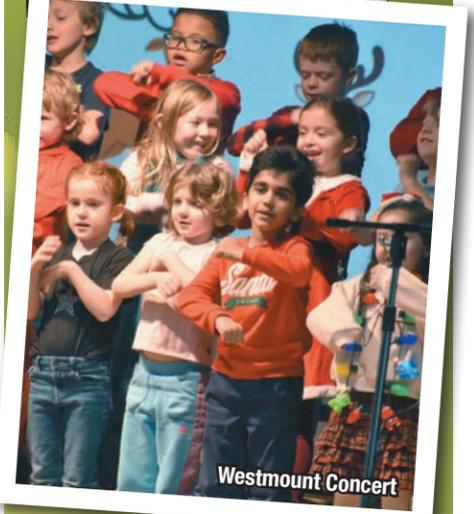
Trinity Christian Academy Concert



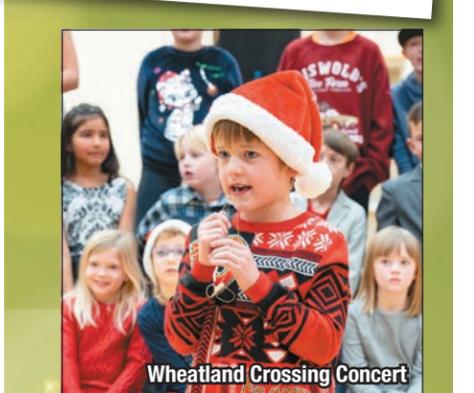
George Freeman Concert



Wheatland Crossing Concert



Westmount Concert



Wheatland Crossing Concert



Trinity Christian Academy

403-804-8340

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debmitzner@gmail.com

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Celebrating the Reason for the Season

Strathmore Alliance Church:
Dec. 24, 6 p.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic:
Dec. 24, 5 p.m./8 p.m./Midnight
Dec. 25, 10 a.m.
Dec. 31, 5 p.m.
Jan. 1, 10 a.m.

Hope Community Covenant Church:
Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.

C3 Strathmore:
Dec. 21, 10 a.m.
Dec. 28, 10 a.m.

Strathmore Full Gospel
Dec 24, 6 p.m.

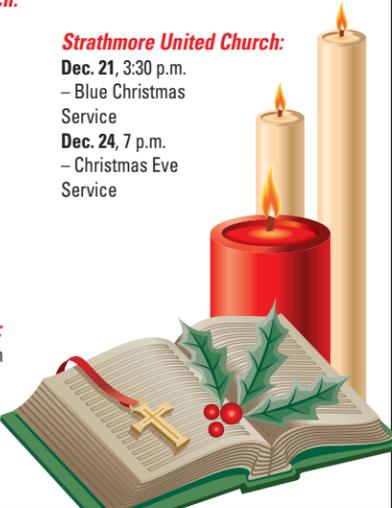
Harvest Healing
Dec 24, 4 p.m. - Candlelight Service

RCCG Peculiar People Assembly:
Dec 24, 10:30 a.m. - Christmas Brunch
Dec. 31, 10 a.m.

Strathmore Seventh Day Adventist:
Dec. 20, 11 a.m.

Lord of All Lutheran:
Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at Wheatland Lodge (Families welcome)
Dec. 22, at Sagewood
Dec. 24, 3:30 p.m. - Cards & Candles (with Baptism & Special Children's message)
Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. - Traditional Christmas Carols & Candles
Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. - Traditional Christmas Morning Communion Service

Strathmore United Church:
Dec. 21, 3:30 p.m. - Blue Christmas Service
Dec. 24, 7 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service



RCMP search for thieves

ALBERTA RCMP

On Nov. 23, between the hours of 3:30 a.m. and 5:30 a.m., two suspects were in the neighbourhoods of Strathmore Lakes Bend and Wildrose Crescent checking for unlocked vehicles and buildings. The suspects entered two garages and stole a dark grey 2014 GMC Sierra truck with black rims.

The first suspect is wearing a beige hooded jacket, black baseball cap with a red logo and black pants. The second suspect is wearing a black jacket over a grey hoodie, white pants and beige shoes.

If you have any CCTV video relating to these incidents, please upload them to the RCMP's portal (<https://rcmp.ca.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/20251732056>).

Strathmore RCMP would like to remind residents to keep their vehicles and garages always locked and do not leave

vehicle keys inside a vehicle in any circumstances. With winter upon us, we would also like to remind people not to leave keys inside an idling vehicle and instead use a remote start or remain with the vehicle while it warms up.

If you observe suspicious activity, please contact the Strathmore RCMP complaint line at 403-934-3535 or call 911. If you have information pertaining to the identity of the suspects, please contact the Strathmore RCMP at 403-934-3968 or if you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crimestoppers.

Safe driving this December

ALBERTA RCMP

While December brings holiday celebrations for community members across the province, it's important to practice safe driving and to never drive impaired due to drugs or alcohol. We can all do our part to uphold traffic safety so that everyone can arrive home safely.

As part of the Canada Safety Council's National Safe Driving Week, the Alberta RCMP is also encouraging drivers to never drive distracted. This includes any activity that might impair your ability to operate a vehicle safely.

On Dec. 6, the Alberta RCMP participated with other enforcement partners in National Impaired Driving Enforcement Day. Officers will be conducting traffic enforcement initiatives and check stops to remove impaired drivers from the roads.

Stay safe when driving by following the below reminders:

- Driving while impaired due to drugs or alcohol is never okay. Impaired driving is criminal and dangerous.
- Mandatory Alcohol Screening is used by the Alberta RCMP to deter and detect impaired drivers. If you are pulled over or at a check stop, you can expect to provide a breath

sample.

- Impaired driving is always preventable and can always be avoided. Call a taxi or rideshare service, use a designated driver or stay the night.

- Party hosts are still accountable. If your guests have been drinking or using drugs, ensure they have a safe place to stay or a sober ride home.

- Individuals with a Graduated Driver's Licence must abide by the zero-tolerance law.

- Call 911 immediately if you witness or suspect impaired driving.

"The Alberta RCMP will be busy this month with enforcement initiatives aimed at removing impaired drivers from the roads," says Sgt. Darrin Turnbull, Alberta RCMP Traffic. "Look out for one another. If you suspect an impaired driver, call 911 immediately. You never know whose life you could be saving."

For more traffic safety information, follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta and X @RCMPAlberta.

GET YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS IN THE TIMES!

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PUZZLE SOLUTION

	F	M	C		P	S	I		T	E	G			
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Thought for the Week

Perhaps the words we leave behind will be a lasting picture of who we are or were.

SUDOKU

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		9	6					

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Town to consider future of local potable water resources

Continued from Page 1

"About 1.7 million people are served daily. That also includes downstream municipalities: Brooks, Medicine Hat, (and) many others. This is definitely an important water body for the region. It is our only source of water at this time."

The area now being occupied by and developed into the Lakewood neighborhood was previously the town's raw water storage site.

Prior to 2018, the town maintained operation of both the Brentwood and Wildflower reservoirs. Around the same time the Wildflower reservoir was shut down, the Brentwood reservoir was restricted to operations at approximately 50 per cent capacity, as its condition was noted to be deteriorating.

Administration is recommending that the current council incorporate water resources, water conservation, and water reuse into their strategic planning going forward.

Regarding local redundancy, it was noted that increasing storage capacity would be a more cost-effective solution for the town as opposed to constructing an independent water treatment facility.

No additional decision making regarding the future of the town's water supplies was finalized during the meeting.

STRATHMORE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Meeting in the Lutheran Church
112 Lakeside Blvd.
1-888-506-1066 ext. 101
Pastor: Donald Wright
Services held every Saturday
Sabbath School: 10 AM
Worship Service: 11 AM
www.strathmoreadventist.ca
donald816@hotmail.com
God's Closet
Collects children's clothing and distributes Feb., May, Aug. and Nov.

STRATHMORE ALLIANCE
325 1 Ave • 403-934-3543
Corner of 1 Ave & Wheatland Trail
Lead Pastor: Mike Wiebe
Associate Pastor: John Duerksen
Youth Pastor: Ian Scantland
Sundays 10 am
Join in person or online
www.strathmorealliance.com

RCCG PECULIAR PEOPLE ASSEMBLY (1 PET. 2:9)
322 A 2nd Avenue, Strathmore
403-714-2283 www.rccgstrathmore.com
Pastor: Sunday Adeola
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
Wednesdays Bible Study: 7 pm
Youth Fridays: 7:30 pm
Last Friday of every Month -
Hour of Dominion: 10 pm

LORD OF ALL (NALC) LUTHERAN
112 Lakeside Blvd. • 403-934-2374
Pastor: Dawn Nelson
Sunday Worship Services - 10:30 am
Join us in Praising our Lord, Jesus Christ!

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
221 4th Ave, Strathmore
403-934-2641
www.sacredhc.ca
Pastor: Fr. Cristino Bouvette
Masses: Saturday 5 pm | Sunday 10 am

C3 STRATHMORE C3 CHURCH NORTH CALGARY
3812 Marbank Drive N.E., Calgary, AB
403-273-0494 www.c3connect.ca
Lead Pastor - Bill Olson
Location Pastor - Shan Simpson
Pastor - Eric Horstia
Sunday at 10:10 a.m.
C3 Prayer - Tuesday at 7 p.m.

STRATHMORE UNITED
Wheatland Trail & 3rd Avenue
403-934-3025
Rev. Maria Szabone Berces
Sunday Worship Services 10:30am
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102 Canal Gardens
403-901-0893 / 403-880-3171
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Youth Tuesdays 7 pm
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STRATHMORE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
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Lead Pastor: Rev Murray Wright
Associate Pastor: Kyle Lomenda
Services Sundays
1st service 9:00am
2nd service 10:45am
www.strathmorefullgospel.com

HOPE COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH
245 Brent Blvd, Strathmore
403-934-2424
Sunday Worship 10 am
www.hope-community.ca



Home cooking

The Holy Cross Collegiate Hawks junior high boys basketball team hosted their home tournament on Dec. 12-13. The Hawks hosted Calgary's Heritage Christian Academy to open the tournament.

Joe Lepage Photos

Town to explore new off-site levies in new year

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Taking a pre-emptive response to significant future growth within the town, Strathmore's town council has opened discussions regarding the implementation of new off-site levies.

Mayor Pat Fule submitted the notice of motion during the Dec. 10 meeting to grant authority to charge levies (soft levies) for new or expanded community recreation, fire hall, police station, and library facilities.

"The Town of Strathmore has not previously charged soft levies for development within the town ... and council recognizes that growth will have a significant financial impact to the town," he said. "The town is looking for opportunities to mitigate the financial impact of growth on existing residents and businesses. Soft levies will mitigate the capital costs associated with growth on existing residents and businesses."

"Soft levies" are a type of off-site levy which are charged by a given municipality to real estate developers to fund services infrastructure. They function as a condition of subdivision or development approvals.

Generated funds are subject to be allocated to the capital costs of maintaining existing or developing new community infrastructure in order to support population growth.

Fule suggested to direct town administration to return to the Committee of the Whole, Jan. 14, with a report relating to the potential development of bylaw amendments relating to soft levies and their applications.

Additionally, administration would be to return with a proposed implementation plan for the soft levies.

"I think this is just a way for us to look at ways to help us. I think many of us ran on managing the growth and there is a definite situation where our town is going to grow quickly and this will help us be able to capture soft levies, capture funding for the things that we will need to build and create as fast as our rapid growth for residents," said Fule.

"I also campaigned on this. I think we need to grow prudently; I think we need to mitigate our future growth and make sure that our current taxpayers are not subsidizing the future residents as much as possible. I think that this goes a long way," added Coun. Brent Wiley.

CAO Kevin Scoble clarified the timeline suggested by the motion is to be able to provide council with information relating to the proposed levies for their strategic planning session in January.

He added under the Municipal Government Act, this type of off-site levy became an option for municipalities in 2018, though does not see much implementation, as it may be interpreted by developers as a disincentive to investment by the private sector in new developments.

"Clearly, the developers might not be the biggest fans of this, and certainly it is going to increase the cost of new home development in Strathmore, so there (are) definitely some negative side effects to it," said Wiley. "Alternatively, what it means then is that current residents are paying, for example, a new fire hall, even though the one we have meets the capacity of the town right now. The example would be taxes go up for current residents to pay for the development of a new fire hall that is going to be servicing new residents."

Council passed the notice of motion unanimously to have the discussion return in the new year.

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. American automotive titan
- 4. Tire term
- 7. Two-year-old sheep
- 10. Indigenous people of Thailand
- 11. Anti-Soviet Cold War group
- 12. Actress de Armas
- 13. Not moving
- 15. Cool!
- 16. Plants of the arum family
- 19. Connected with touch
- 21. Pen stain
- 23. Monetary units
- 24. School kids' art project
- 25. Early Bell Canada executive
- 26. Sword
- 27. Hates
- 30. Fixed in one place
- 34. Pie ___ mode
- 35. Moved swiftly on foot
- 36. Carrier on vehicle
- 41. A path to get through
- 45. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 46. Spiritual leader
- 47. Flowing
- 50. Respectful compliments
- 54. Cure
- 55. Soft, lightweight fabric
- 56. Building material
- 57. Japanese delicacy
- 59. A way to cause to be swollen
- 60. One and only
- 61. You might get one in summer
- 62. Wreath
- 63. Thus far
- 64. They ___
- 65. Employee reference number

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Policemen (French)
- 2. Toy dog
- 3. Intestinal condition
- 4. Muscular weaknesses
- 5. Helps little firms
- 6. Alphabetical lists
- 7. Takes down
- 8. Facilitates
- 9. Ethnic people of Ethiopia
- 13. Engine additive
- 14. Explorers group
- 17. Written account
- 18. Consumed
- 20. Opposite of first
- 22. No (slang)
- 27. Government lawyers
- 28. NY Giants great
- 29. Small amount
- 31. A way to save for your future
- 32. Fall behind
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Head pain
- 38. Wildly popular sport
- 39. "Princess Diaries" actress Hathaway
- 40. Boat race
- 41. About fish
- 42. Nursemaid
- 43. Able to be marketed
- 44. Not as large
- 47. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 48. Paddle
- 49. Oneness
- 51. Bitter chemical
- 52. Not around
- 53. Very fast airplane
- 58. Main tributary of the Rhine

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Shop LOCAL

STRATHMORE WHEATLAND
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Upcoming Council Meetings

January 14, 2026 | 6 p.m. Committee of the Whole
 January 21, 2026 | 6 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council
 February 4, 2026 | 6 p.m. 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.

Good food, great food. Get the Good Food Box.

The Good Food Box is a non-profit organization offering access to nutritious, quality produce while ensuring variety, freshness and affordability. This program is accessible for everyone regardless of income level. For more information visit Strathmore.ca/GoodFoodBox

Help keep hydrants from looking like snowmen. Adopt a hydrant.

In the winter months, heavy snowfall turns hydrants into snowmen lookalikes, making it difficult for firefighters to locate and access them during emergencies. By adopting a hydrant and keeping them clear all year long, you're helping firefighters help others.

Visit Strathmore.ca/adopt-a-hydrant to learn more, or be the proud adopter of one of the 370+ hydrants in town.

Curious about your neighbourhood? Planning Dashboard.

Curious about what's being built down the street? Now you can find out with just a few clicks.

Our Planning Application Dashboard (PAD) is an interactive map that makes it easy to stay informed about local developments. Whether it's a proposed new subdivision, commercial development, or secondary suite, you can now see where projects are happening, what stage they're at, and key details about applications received on January 1, 2025 or later.

View the Planning Application Dashboard at Strathmore.ca/PAD.

Now with new signs! Be someone's Snow Angel.

While the winter season makes for a beautiful snowscape, it also comes with its icy challenges. Navigating icy sidewalks can be daunting, especially for those who face mobility limitations or health concerns. Shoveling those same sidewalks is an even more daunting challenge. This is where the Strathmore Snow Angels Program comes in.

Need the Snow Angels help? Call FCSS at **403-934-9090** to request a sign or visit the Strathmore Municipal Building. Visit Strathmore.ca/SnowAngels for more information.



Snow's here and so are we.

Winter in Strathmore means snow—sometimes a lot. We're prepared, and your cooperation helps keep things moving. Here's what to know about snow removal this season.

Our Operations Team maintains priority roads, sidewalks, and pathways to keep Strathmore safe. We clear over 160 km of roadways and 120 km of sidewalks and paths. Note: the Town does not maintain strata properties, private roads, Wheatland Trail, or the Trans-Canada.

Snow clearing focuses on keeping emergency routes safe and restoring reasonable travel conditions as quickly as possible. Our ability to respond to changing weather conditions must always be weighed against the availability and cost of resources. Each year, Council reviews our *Winter Maintenance Policy* to set service levels and guide our snow response.

Some FAQ

1. When will my street be cleared?

It depends on where you live and available Town resources. Roads are cleared by priority to keep key infrastructure, emergency services, and schools accessible. Crews stay on priority routes until they're safe, then move to second and third priority roads.

Clearing third priority roads can take up to 72 hours. If it snows again, crews must return to first priority routes before continuing.

Priority roadway details:

- **First priority:** includes high volume and strategic arterial and collector roads, emergency service access roads, school zones when in session, etc.
- **Second priority:** includes major collector roads linking neighbourhoods, central business district (downtown), etc.
- **Third priority:** includes minor collector roads, commercial roads, roads where drainage issues have been identified, Town owned parking lots, etc.
- **Non-priority:** includes local residential roads, lanes, cul-de-sacs, and alleys, etc.

2. When do priority roads get plowed?

Snow plowing begins when five-centimeters of newly fallen snow has accumulate and it is likely to remain on the ground. That's roughly the height of a AA battery.

Who ya gonna call? Snow plows! We're here for you.

If you have a concern about your street or suggestions about winter maintenance, let us know. There's a few ways you can reach out:

- Fill out a Citizen Communication Form at Strathmore.ca
- Call or email Operations during office hours at Operations@strathmore.ca or **403-361-2126**

Please do not direct any concerns or suggestions about snow removal to the equipment operators. After regular working hours, on weekends or statutory holidays, emergency calls can be directed to **403-899-1428**.



The outdoor rink is almost ready.

We're preparing the outdoor rink for the holiday season, and we're just as excited as you are to bust out our skates.

To make sure the ice is in perfect condition, we ask everyone to stay off the rink until it's officially open. Skating on the ice while it's being flooded and prepared will damage all that hard work and delay opening.

Thanks for your patience, we promise it'll be worth the wait.



Season GREETINGS

*Heartfelt holiday wishes
from local businesses*

December 2025
A Special Supplement to

Strathmore TIMES



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Kindness!*

We would like to wish Everyone
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Happy New Year!



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Happy Celebrating!

At this festive time of year, we count customers like you among our best reasons to celebrate. Thank you for dropping in on us and for trusting us with your business. We are truly grateful for your support and friendship.

May your days be trimmed with every happiness at the holidays and throughout the New Year, Merry Christmas & best wishes to you!

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**Merry Christmas
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**Kings with
a major assist**

The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings hosted their annual Christmas Shopping With the Kings on Dec. 13, a holiday giving initiative that assisted 21 local families ahead of the Christmas season. Players from the team walked the aisles alongside children, helping them select gifts while sharing laughs and conversations. Thanks to the generosity of donors, partners, and supporters, more than \$17,000 was raised to help families during the Christmas season.

Carter Lawrence Photos



Rejoice!

May your Christmas be bright and your new year guided by the love and light of our Savior.



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Season's Greetings

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It fills us all with much delight
To extend warm wishes and gratitude,
To each and every one of you!*



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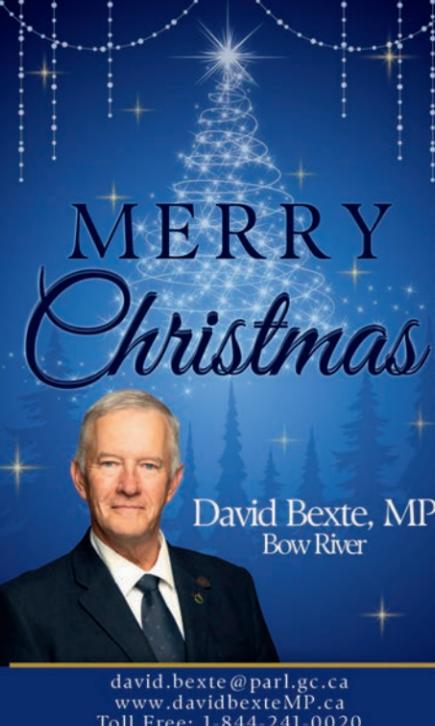


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Everyone We Know**

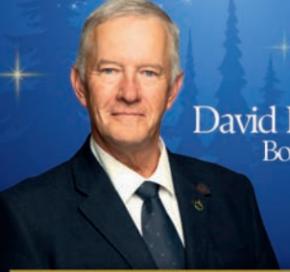
Folks like you fill our Christmas with so much warmth and joy, and we hope that same spirit fills every corner of your heart and home this holiday season and always.

**Thank you for an incredible year, and for
your continued support!**

The Stillwells



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Musical melodies

Crowther Memorial Junior High School filled its gymnasium with music on Dec. 11 as students took the stage for the school's annual holiday band concert. The concert showcased the work of Crowther's band students, who performed a selection of seasonal and concert pieces for family, friends, and members of the community.

Joe Lepage Photos



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Celebrate the magic!

We DO believe in Christmas - and in the goodness of people like you!

We wish we could send each and every one of you a gift, but nothing could compare to the gifts of friendship, loyalty and support we've received from you! Many thanks and best wishes for a beautiful and joyous holiday season from all of us. Every member of our team would like to thank all of those who have pulled so hard for us this year. It's been a privilege and a pleasure serving you. We look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.

Merry Christmas, everyone!

VALUE DRUG MART

Joy TO THE WORLD

"...the Lord is come." Our faith in Him is ever-strengthened at Christmas, when we recall anew His message of love and peace. It is in this spirit that we draw closer to friends and family, and express appreciation to you for the many kindnesses you've shown us. As you've touched our lives, may yours be enriched during this special holiday season.

Wheatland Funeral Home Ltd.
Glen & Brooke Van Bussel & Family
Francis & Lynn Van Bussel & Family
Wyatt Petersen
Breane Van Dresar

2025 Memory Tree



Previously, the Tree of Hope. Sponsored by the Strathmore District Health Foundation.

You are invited to honor your loved ones while supporting Strathmore Hospital by donating to the Hospital Foundation. Donations of \$20 or more are eligible for an income tax receipt upon request.

Please send your contribution and the names to be commemorated to:

Strathmore District Health Foundation
200 Brent Blvd., Strathmore, AB T1P 1J9

Alternatively, donations can be made online at Strathmoredistrictfoundation@gmail.com or dropped off at the Hospital.

All proceeds directly contribute to patient care through the purchase of equipment.

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Please make cheques payable to SDHS Foundation
 Receipt requested by mail Receipt requested by email No receipt necessary

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Spartans host home tourney

The Strathmore Spartans junior varsity basketball team opened their home tournament on Dec. 12 when they hosted Heritage Christian Academy.

Joe Lepage Photos



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Kings eye top spot in south

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Firmly being into the second half of the regular season, the Agra Risk Wheatland Kings are looking for a solid finish heading into the post season.

Currently sitting second in the South Division, the Kings have earned 31 league points after 25 games, recently claiming another pair of wins on home ice last weekend.

“We played Coaldale on Friday night, who is right there at the top of the league with us, and that was a hard fought 2-0 victory for us. Evan McNair was in (net), and he played spectacularly and got the shutout,” said Head Coach, Doug Raycroft. “Then Saturday, we did our Christmas with the Kings event; I think the group that runs it, they got \$17,000 in donations, and then our players met with families, and they walked around and bought Christmas gifts ... and we had a few hours before our game against Airdrie.”

Saturday's game concluded as an 8-4 victory for the Kings, despite being outshot by the Techmaton Thunder all game.

At this point in the season, Raycroft explained he is adamant to simply continue improving each week and secure a position in the playoffs.

In the South Division, there remains only a six-point difference between the Medicine Hat Cubs at the top (35 league points) and the Cochrane Generals (29 league points) in fifth place.

The North Division has cemented its standings more firmly, with the Sylvan Lake Wranglers at the peak boasting 39 league points, followed by the Red Deer Vipers with 36.

“I think as we get into January here, (there) will be a little more separation. It's started to separate a little bit, and then in January it will separate even more until we get to the playoffs,” said Raycroft. “It's one of those things where I think every team is trying to position themselves in the best spot so they have the best chance to win the playoffs.”

Come start of playoff season, the teams in fourth and fifth positions will play a best-of-three decider to lock in the Top 4 for the playoffs. The top seed will take on the resulting Rank 4, while the second and third place teams square off in the first round.

“Defensively, that is kind of our weakness, so we are always working on trying to get better defensively and so that is our theme,” said Raycroft. “We want to play really defensively and if we were to end our perfect season going forward here, we would really get into a great defensive zone where we could shut teams down. I think that would be the difference with us turning the tide and maybe pulling away and seeing some success.”

He added his team has not found the level of consistency he would like to see from them yet, and hopes to improve their cohesion.

The next games scheduled for the Kings are both away, taking on High River, followed by Sylvan Lake, Dec. 19 and Dec. 21 respectively.

NEXT HOME GAMES

Friday, January 9
• 7:45 pm VS Medicine Hat

Saturday, January 10
• 7:45 pm VS Coaldale



Strathmore Family Centre - Gold Arena

PLAYER OF THE GAME

Dec 13
Cody Mountjoy

Dec 12
Evan McNair

Come Cheer on Your Agra Risk Wheatland Kings



YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist

Capsule Comments

The holiday season is a busy time for families. Illness and social events add to this and it's a good time to watch out for things that can poison children. Be cautious leaving cold medications, alcohol and even holiday plants like holly and mistletoe which can be poisonous to children. Ensure you have your local Poison Control Centre on speed dial.

Another reminder for the holiday season: There is no evidence that “hang-over cures” work. So don't depend on ginseng, probiotics or any other remedies touted in social media. The best way to prevent a hangover is to abstain from alcohol or drink in moderation.

If you are going to use alcoholic drinks, drink slowly and on a full stomach. If you are a small person, the effects of alcohol are greater on you than on a larger person. Also, drinking a glass of water between alcoholic drinks is a good idea. This will help you drink less alcohol and decrease dehydration from drinking alcohol.

The end of a calendar year is also a good time to resolve to change one's relationship to alcohol. Starting with a dry January or February might be a good way to do it.

Hours: M-F: 9-7 pm
Sat: 9-6 pm • Sun & Holidays: 11-5 pm



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ALBERTA CULTURE DAYS 2025

This September, The Strathmore Library, The Vault, Hope Bridges Society, CCIS, WFCSS and SFCSS came together to celebrate Alberta Culture Days with a month of family-friendly events highlighting cultures from around the world.

From art exhibits and music to food, storytelling, and hands-on workshops — there was something for everyone!

A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers, facilitators, participants, and donors. Your creativity, energy, and support made this celebration of community and culture possible.

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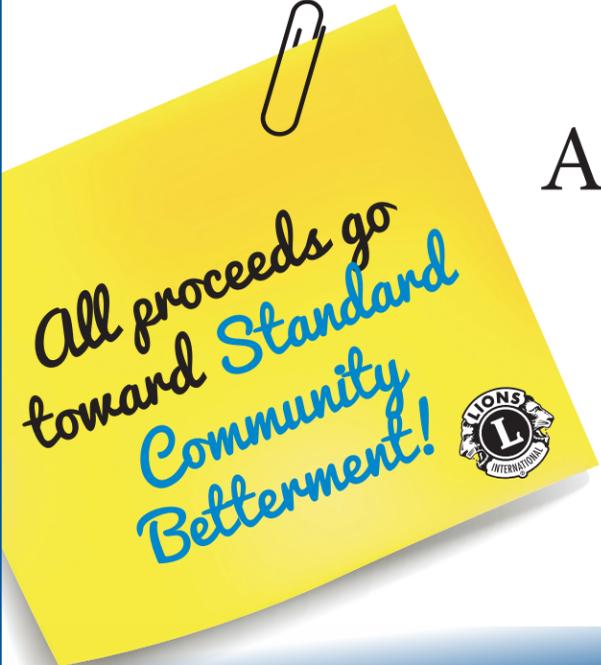
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Hadestown hits the stage

Drama students from Strathmore High school brought the ambitious and emotionally complex production of *Hadestown* to the stage on Dec. 13, showcasing their resilience and dedication as they continued rehearsals despite the teachers strike in October. The cast and crew's commitment highlighted both the challenging nature of the show and the strength of the school's drama program. The students and ensemble cast performed the show 10 times in five days.

Melissa Piche Photo



Strathmore's own Josh Hall will use this custom built cross-road vehicle for racing during a big festival in Dubai.

Photo Courtesy of Josh Hall

Strathmore havoc racer to showcase in Dubai

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A Strathmore local is taking to the sands of Dubai, having accepted an invitation to race as part of the Liwa International Festival.

The event launched Dec. 12 and will run until Jan. 3, 2026, taking place in Al Dhafra, Abu Dhabi. Josh Hall explained he is taking place as part of the Axlebusters Racing Team, which makes up three of the eight attending teams.

"Mudfest is the production company that was offered these contracts through this festival, and ... I guess the whole thing is basically the royal family in Dubai or EAU, one of them is paying for this whole festival and it has been going on since the early 2000's," said Hall. "Sometimes they bring acts from overseas, like Monster Jam is there this time with us, so we are kind of like a sideshow act with them."

Hall explained his, as well as his team's vehicles – each being approximately 8,000-pound trucks, had to be flown to the venue well in advance of the start of the festival. Likewise, they will return to Canada the same way upon its conclusion.

He added Mudfest had been contacted to put a team together for the Liwa Festival through their online presence, posting records of past racing events on platforms such as YouTube.

"It's havoc-style racing. They are big thousand-horsepower trucks with big tires on them and we climb hills, do jumps through the mud, all sorts of – it's like your redneck mud truck except taken to a thousand, cranked all the way up," said Hall. "It's pretty extreme offroad racing. Usually for something like this there would be a trophies and stuff, but I think, as I am to believe, we are going more of as an act like the monster trucks (to) put on a show."

The idea for the festival will be to get through their leg of the festival without accidentally flipping the trucks, lighting them on fire, or otherwise destroying

them. Otherwise, the teams are a long way from home and their regular maintenance trailers.

More typical racing events regularly take place within Alberta, as well as in Kelowna, Dawson Creek, at Mudfest, and at several venues throughout the United States.

"I've competed in southern California, Idaho, and Pennsylvania. I've been in all sorts of different places and I thought I'd pretty much reached the pinnacle as far as I could take the sport, and then I was sitting in bed and I got a call from a friend (asking) if I had ever thought about racing in Dubai," added Hall. "This opportunity just popped up, and all the parts fell into place and away we go. I flew out on Sunday (Dec. 14)."

A future aspiration of Hall's would be to potentially see his type of racing able to be hosted at the Strathmore Ag Society grounds, or a venue close to home.

With millions of dollars' worth in trucks and equipment gathering in one place to put on such an event, Hall said he feels it would be an excellent opportunity to gather a crowd, put on something unique, and contribute to the local community.

"I would like to see if it's feasible and then I'd have to gather up some sponsors. As far as the work, (we'd) need a bulldozer and a swing hoe to make the obstacles and then tear them down again. Maybe a local company would want to jump on," he said. "It's always better when you have natural terrain so we will go somewhere that has big mountains and hills and rocks and stuff, but we do have events like, basically you start with a flat field and you have to dig a big hole and then the dirt from that hole creates jumps, and you can fill it with water and old tires."

The Liwa International Festival hosts traditional sports such as falcon racing, as well as its host of motorsport events throughout the course of the event, with an estimated more than 100,000 people attending.

Help avoid theft this holiday season

ALBERTA RCMP

The holidays are coming, and this means an influx of deliveries and mail to residents across the province. As a result, there are more occurrences of mail theft. The Alberta RCMP is urging residents to secure their mail and homes this holiday season.

If ordering online or sending gifts through the mail, follow the below tips:

- Whenever possible, opt for a “signature required” delivery, or provide instructions for the delivery person to leave your items out of sight.
- Track your shipments to ensure you know when to expect your items. This way, you or a trusted neighbour can grab your items before someone else does.
- If possible, arrange for deliveries to be scheduled when you’re at home.
- Have packages shipped to a delivery service pickup location. This is a free service and a great option for large or valuable items.
- Installing a doorbell camera and motion sensor lights can be great deterrents for opportunistic thieves.
- Never send cash or other forms of payment through the mail.
- If you see suspicious activity at yours or someone else’s mailbox, report it immediately to your local police.

For those traveling this December, follow the below tips to

help keep your mail and property safe:

- Ensure there is no mail left on your doorstep or in your mailbox as this can indicate that you’re not around.
- Ask a neighbour to shovel and collect your mail while you’re away to give the impression that someone is present in the home.
- Ensure that all doors and windows are locked. Consider motion sensor lights for the exterior, and timers for indoor lighting.

For more information on mail theft and keeping your property safe, follow us on Facebook (@RCMPinAlberta), X (@RCMPAlberta) and YouTube (RCMP-GRC Alberta).

The Alberta RCMP encourages the public to report any criminal or suspicious activity to police. Reports tell us where to look, who to look for, and where to patrol in the future. If you see a crime in progress, dial 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the “P3 Tips” app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store.

Removing federal barriers

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

For too long, families across Alberta have felt the impact of federal policies that made it harder to grow our economy, build major projects, and create good jobs. Many Albertans watched opportunities slip away because Ottawa kept putting up new roadblocks that created needless uncertainty for investors and held our province back.

But now that’s changing. Premier Danielle Smith and Prime Minister Mark Carney signed a new agreement to double Alberta’s ability to ship oil to Asian markets, remove federal barriers to new investments, and set our province on a path to remain a global energy leader.

This agreement is a big win for working families. By ending the federal oil and gas production cap and suspending the Clean Electricity Regulations, Alberta will be an even more attractive destination for major energy developments. Those two federal policies threatened thousands of good jobs across Alberta and the livelihoods of the energy workers who power our economy and keep the lights on.

Ottawa has also declared an Indigenous co-owned bitumen pipeline to the West Coast a project of national interest. Along with a planned expansion to the Trans Mountain pipeline, the new pipeline will enable Alberta to grow production to six million barrels per day by 2030 and eight million per day by 2035. For communities in oil country, contractors, trades workers, small businesses, and Indigenous partners, this means good jobs and long-term prosperity.

While Alberta’s government is standing up for our energy sector, we’re also taking action to defend law-abiding firearms owners. This week, our government introduced a motion under the Alberta Sovereignty within a United Canada Act to push back against Ottawa’s expensive and ineffective firearms confiscation scheme.

The vast majority of Alberta firearms owners are trained, licensed, and responsible. They’re sport shooters and hunters lawfully enjoying a treasured pastime. They’re farmers and ranchers defending livestock from predators. These Albertans are not the problem, and they don’t deserve to be treated like criminals by their own federal government.

Our motion makes it crystal clear that law enforcement should focus their limited time and resources on violent criminals, not law-abiding Albertans. And it reaffirms that Albertans have the right to acquire, keep, and use firearms in accordance with the Alberta Bill of Rights. It also makes clear that Albertans have the right to use reasonable force to defend themselves, their families, and their homes from intruders.

These actions prove that when we push back and stand firm, we get results. We are strengthening our economy, defending our communities, and protecting the rights of responsible Albertans.

As always, please feel free to reach out to my office with your feedback and questions (Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca).

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

Thinking about How you Recycle?

We are too

Recycled newspaper is used to create cereal boxes, egg cartons, pencil barrels, grocery bags, cellulose insulation, tissue paper, wrapping paper, and is even used in sheet rock surfacing and molded packaging.

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Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association – recognizing the efforts of community newspapers

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Greenhouse business expansion moving forward

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A longstanding Wheatland County business is being allowed to move forward with the expansion of their physical infrastructure following approval by the Municipal Planning Commission.

The development permit application, which was reviewed during the Dec. 9 meeting, proposed the addition of three seasonal cold frame greenhouses to their existing operation.

“The current infrastructure exceeds capacity in the spring. To navigate this, products are transferred between buildings once shipments have gone out,” said Suzanne Hayes, development officer for Wheatland County. “Adding these buildings will make greenhouse space available when needed and reducing labour requirements and improving plant quality.”

The development permit is for the construction of two 20-foot by 120-foot, and one 20-foot by 96-foot cold storage greenhouses. Among the 12 conditions outlined by the municipal planning commission, no variances were granted to the land use bylaw.

Once constructed, the buildings will be utilized for spring production of bedding plants grown from approximately mid-April to mid-June annually.

During the growing season, the additional greenhouses will allow for the anticipated extra five delivery shipments, averaging one additional truck per week at the facility.

No concerns have been raised regarding estimated increased traffic to the site following the completion of the new greenhouses.

The applicant, AVB Greenhouses Ltd, has been operating within the county since 1978, initially consisting of three greenhouses. The business now operates, according to their own application as presented to the MPC, largely as a wholesale operation, as well as hosting a seasonal retail element.

Bedding out plants are grown on site which are largely supplied to garden centers, landscapers, municipalities, golf courses and hotels.

Via the land use bylaw, the greenhouse is defined as public, as it is a commercial, for-profit operation which sees both employee and public traffic in and out of the facility.

The term “public” in this instance refers to any commercial operation that is for profit and makes sales to the public, regardless of whether product is being distributed from private property.

Due to this, it was clarified to the Municipal Planning Commission, the facility required a permit, as opposed to being treated similarly to other agricultural facilities.

The development permit is largely tied to potential safety concerns. As the proposed structures will be open to the public, the particular classification requires inspections to ensure they will meet the county’s safety standards.

The Municipal Planning Commission approved the development permit application unanimously without notable objection during the discussion period. No estimated construction timeline was provided during the meeting.

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Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association – recognizing the efforts of community newspapers

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary



SANDUM, Melvin Arthur
Born November 4, 1954 - Brooks, Alberta
Passed Away December 9, 2025 - Calgary, Alberta

Surrounded by family, Melvin Arthur Sandum passed away peacefully on December 9, 2025, at the age of 71, leaving behind a legacy of love. His greatest joy in life was family, who now mourn his loss including wife of 52 years Karen Sandum; Son Travis (Tara) Sandum; daughter Kimberley Stawnichy; six beautiful granddaughters, Katelyn, Jacquelyn, and Marli Sandum; Trinity, Charleigh, and Jaycee Stawnichy; brother's Lee (Lori) Sandum; Larry Sandum; Sister Barb (Ken) Filkohazy; Brother in Law Lorne (Orlene) Bishop; Sister in law Jeanne (Willard) Treacy; and many Aunts, nieces, nephews and cousins. Melvin was predeceased by his parents, Kenneth and Maxine Sandum; Father and mother-in-law William (Bill) and Kathleen Bishop; Son in law Lawrence Stawnichy. Melvin (Boss) took great pride in his family farm and the life he built on it. He was happiest on the farm seeding, harvesting, calving cows and watching the seasons change with the love of his family and friends nearby.

A Celebration of Life will be held for Melvin on Friday, December 19, 2025, at 2:00 P.M. at the Hussar Community Hall, private family interment to follow at the Hussar Cemetery. If friends so desire memorial donations may be made to Hussar and District Agriculture Society. Courtney-Winter's Funeral Homes are in care of the arrangements.

COURTNEY WINTER'S
Funeral Chapel

Obituary



WATT, Cecilia (nee Madsen)

Cecilia Watt (nee Madsen) passed away peacefully on November 16, 2025 in Strathmore. Cec was born February 3, 1938, to Charles and Esther (Reiffenstein) Madsen, and grew up in Chancellor and Standard with her brothers Glennis, Bruce and Robert.

In 1958, Cec married Jim Watt from Rosebud, and together they raised five children in Standard; Sheldon (Laurie), Dawn (Phil), Traci (Mike), Janelle (Rob) and Tara (Adrian). They were blessed with 13 grandchildren: Jennifer (Greg), Michelle (Gil), Marc, Kai, Tanner, Danika (Kyle), David, Raeanne (Wyatt), Ethan, Cole, Kegan, Jessalyn and Bodey and four great grandchildren Tessa, Lincoln, Maclan and Emilia. She also leaves behind her brothers Bruce (Rusty) and Robert (Lorelee), and sister-in-laws Colleen Julian and Joy Whittaker.

Cec was predeceased by her husband Jim in 2003, her brother Glennis in 2022 and her son Sheldon in 2024. Service of remembrance will be held on Monday, December 22, 2025, at the Standard Community Hall at 2:00 pm. See full obituary at Wheatland Funeral Home.

Wheatland Funeral Home
Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

MEMORIAM



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MEIER GUN AUCTION, Saturday, December 20 - 10am Wetaskiwin - Selling Rifles, Shot Guns, Antique Firearms, Gun Safes, Ammunition, Scopes, Sportsman Equipment. Consign now! Free Pick-Up. Call 780-440-1860; www.meierauction.com.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of VERLA MATHILDA BEACOME who died on the October 12, 2025.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by January 25, 2025.

with STRATHMORE LAW,
ATTN: Daman K. Gill
at 101, 318-3rd Ave.,
Strathmore, AB T1P 1V9

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

Creditors: you must include a full description and value of the debt you allege the deceased owes you and a full description and value of any of the deceased's property that you hold as security for the debt.

Claimants: you must include a full description of your claim and why you have a right to make such a claim.

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of DEBORAH DENIE SEAMAN who died on the September 15, 2025.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by January 25, 2025.

with STRATHMORE LAW,
ATTN: Daman K. Gill
at 101, 318-3rd Ave.,
Strathmore, AB T1P 1V9

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

Creditors: you must include a full description and value of the debt you allege the deceased owes you and a full description and value of any of the deceased's property that you hold as security for the debt.

Claimants: you must include a full description of your claim and why you have a right to make such a claim.

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2	7	3	9	1	4	6	8	5
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TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

(Business Corporations Act (Alberta) – Sections 212, 219 and 226)

Logity Ltd. intends to voluntarily dissolve under the Business Corporations Act (Alberta). Any person or entity, in any jurisdiction, claiming to be a creditor, claimant, contractor, employee, shareholder, or otherwise having any form of claim against Logity Ltd., must deliver full written particulars of such claim within 30 days from the date of this notice.

Claims must be delivered exclusively in writing to:
Logity Ltd.
231029 Range Road 250
Wheatland County, Alberta T1P 0S6
Canada

No other method of delivery will be accepted. Verbal, electronic (including email), or late claims will not be accepted.

If no valid written claims are received within 30 days of this notice, the dissolution will proceed and all claims will be forever barred, including (but not limited to):

- contract claims
- invoice claims
- employment or wage claims
- consulting or service claims
- commission or equity claims
- foreign claims
- claims filed outside Alberta
- claims based on implied or alleged agreements

Alberta Court Proceedings

Any person or entity currently involved in, or intending to initiate, an action in the Courts of Alberta must ensure proper legal service and notice in accordance with Alberta law.

Failure to:

- provide proper legal service under the Alberta Rules of Court, and
 - submit a written claim to Logity Ltd. within the 30-day period,
- will result in such claims being forever barred by the voluntary dissolution process under the Business Corporations Act (Alberta).

The absence of proper legal service does not suspend the dissolution process, nor does it create any personal liability for shareholders or directors of Logity Ltd.

BUSINESSES



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Crystal Gaudet, cgaudet@wfcss.org

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