



Locally Owned & Operated

STRATHMORE

TIMES

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 51

ROSE ENTERPRISES STRATHMORE AB

Excavation ■ Septic Install
Snow Removal ■ Landscaping
Gravel Hauling

403-934-7120 RoseDigsDirt.com

As we come to the end of year we would like to thank all our Clients, Friends, and Family for your continuing Trust and Support!

We want to Wish you a wonderful Holiday season and an Amazing Start to 2025!

La Shaun Andrews
403-850-4593
Lashaun@heartandsoldyycc.com

Ashlee Samaska
403-990-4962
Ashlee@heartandsoldyycc.com

The Mothers Daughters team that Treats You like Family!

RE/MAX
REAL ESTATE (CENTRAL)

Move in with Us!

Dixie Hartell
403.934.1034
dhartell@telusplanet.net

Brenda Sproule
403.809.8811
bsproule.realtor@gmail.com

KIC REALTY


LOOKING FOR A REAL ESTATE AGENT?
WE'VE GOT TWO!

Amanda & Jash

lush REALTY
ROYAL LEPAGE
Benchmark

LUSHREALTY.CA | 587.324.8223

Page 3



Major investment

Page 13



Hawks fly

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 2 for
**Town of Strathmore
Municipal Notices**

Contact Us Today!
403.934.5589
info@strathmoretimes.com
www.StrathmoreTimes.com

Town approves budget

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore council has voted to approve the capital and operating budgets for the upcoming 2025 year, as of the Dec. 4 regular meeting.

Council was presented with a summary of their deliberations and decisions regarding the budgets over the roughly seven-week budget period.

Departmental budget summaries were distributed to Council Nov. 1, which kicked off the discussion period.

Through budget deliberations, Town of Strathmore council reviewed their operating, capital, and community group funding budgets, making adjustments and amendments where they saw best fit.

Goals among council largely were to keep tax increases to residents and businesses as low as possible, all the while providing funding for local infrastructure and expansion, and to see as few dramatic impacts as possible to community groups and services.

"In our operating budget, we had a reduction in our operating expenses which was the \$50,000 on going from \$400,000 to \$350,000 for funding of our fiscal sustainability reserve – there was an administrative amendment for transfer to reserves to support our non-recurring expenditures over the next few years, and then we had an adjustment for \$10,000 to our community events," said Leana Ashbacher, senior manager of financial services with the Town of Strathmore. "Within our capital budget, we had no amendments, and then in our community group funding, we had a reduction of \$15,100, and then to balance the budget, we had a reduction of \$148,100, which then takes us from our original starting point of the 4.5 per cent of increase in our budget, down to a 3.62 (per cent increase) for a total operating budget of \$48.63 million."

Continued on Page 4



Silent night

Kaizley Laughlin plays the role of Mary during Mrs. Kent's kindergarten classes' rendition of the nativity scene on Dec. 12 at the Sacred Heart Academy Christmas concert at the Sacred Heart Parish. Fellow classmate Marek Narajiwsky played the role of the donkey during the play. For more coverage of the holiday performances at local schools, see Page 8.

Joe Lepage Photo

HOUSE | LAND | LUXURY | LAKE | COMMERCIAL

RE/MAX
KEY

Looking is **FREE**

587-316-2000

the-reps.ca

REPs



Upcoming Council Meetings

January 15, 2025 | 6 p.m. Committee of the Whole
January 22, 2025 | 6 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council
February 5, 2025 | 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.

Don't worry, we'll be back soon.

Facility hours during the holidays.

Some of our town facilities will have adjusted hours or closures during the holiday season. For information about town facility hours and how those changes might affect you, visit our website Strathmore.ca/recreation. For after-hours and emergency contacts, find what you need at Strathmore.ca/contact.



We have a map now! Visit our website for more info.

Be someone's Snow Angel.

While the winter season makes for a beautiful and icy landscape, 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. Here's how it works:

- Identifying those in need: Residents in need of snow removal assistance are marked with a "Snow Angel" sign, letting you know they could use a helping hand keeping their walkways clear during winter.
- Be a Snow Angel: Spread your snowy wings and help out your neighbour by clearing their sidewalk, driveways, and paths. You don't need to register to volunteer, simply look for a Snow Angel sign and help out your neighbour.

Need the Snow Angels help? Call FCSS at **403-934-9090** to request a sign or visit the Strathmore Municipal Building. Looking to see who does need help? Visit Strathmore.ca/SnowAngels to see the NEW snow angels map.



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. The contents of your Good Food Box change depending on the seasonal produce available and size of the box ordered. This program is accessible for everyone regardless of income level. Boxes are available for pick-up or delivery once a month, for more information visit Strathmore.ca/en/residents/good-food-box-program.



STRATHMORE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Get into the spirit with some Christmas events!

For more information, visit Strathmore.ca/SpiritofChristmas



It's hy-drant, not hide-drant

Help keep fire hydrants clear of snow.



Adopt a hydrant at Strathmore.ca/Adopt-A-Hydrant



Synthetic diesel facility near Carseland officially completed

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The government of Alberta announced, Dec. 11, an investment greater than \$20 million in Rocky Mountain Clean Fuels' synthetic diesel facility located near Carseland.

Investment in the facility is through the Alberta Petrochemical Incentive Program (APIP). Throughout the construction process of the facility, more than 900 jobs were created. Production through the facility officially started as of Nov. 27.

Brian Jean, minister of energy and minerals, said the grant will be distributed to Rocky Mountain Clean Fuels over a period of three years beginning in 2025.

"This is the first project to receive program grant funding outside of the Edmonton area, and it shows that it can be accessed by companies throughout the province, including in different parts of rural Alberta," he said. "This will help Alberta become a top global producer of petrochemicals. The Carseland project is also a good example of diversification, using natural gas and natural gas liquids as feedstock to produce synthetic diesel, naphtha, and wax."

Jean added APIP provides successful applicants 12 per cent back of a project's eligible capital costs. Any facility which utilizes natural gas as a feedstock is able to apply. This includes producers of fertilizer, petrochemicals, hydrogen, and fuel plants.

Future expansions to the facility suggest it may increase its maximum daily fuel output, integrate hydrogen production, incorporate carbon capture, utilization and storage, and add renewable feedstock.

This facility is the first commercial small-scale gas to liquids (GTL) plant in Canada. Doug Geeraert, president and CEO of Rocky Mountain Clean Fuels, said he believes expansion and growth to the facility will carry on for many years going forward.

"The plant, first envisioned in 2010, is now built. It has been through a lengthy commissioning period, during which time production and product quality has been tested and revisions have been made to plant design," he said. "The unique plant design and patented technologies bring together a suite of process modifications that we call Enhanced GTL ... these modifications bring well-needed solutions to the challenge that the energy transition faces, and provides provided the genesis for this small-scale GTL facility."

Wheatland County Reeve Amber Link explained the \$173 million facility investment into the region is among the most significant in recent history.

She added Rocky Mountain Clean Fuels is the first to utilize Wheatland County's Tax Incentive Bylaw for non-residential properties - a bylaw designed to attract developments such as Rocky



The Government of Alberta announced a more than \$20 million investment into the new Rocky Mountain Clean Fuels' synthetic diesel facility in Carseland. The investment is the first of its kind in the region through the Alberta Petrochemical Incentive Program.

John Watson Photo

Mountain Clean Fuels and their facility to the local region.

"Our total tax assessment base it around \$4 billion, so a \$173 million increase to that is significant. The county currently receives about 60 per cent of our total revenue from oil and gas, and oil- and gas-related businesses. Every year we see that number eroded a little

bit, primarily due to federal and global pressures on our energy industry," said Link. "Wheatland County identified that it was critical to diversify our economy. It is projects like this that demonstrate that it is possible to take traditional energy and leverage that through innovative technology to create a more sustainable product."

Season 2025 A Season of Belonging

March 6 - 15

Mar 28 - May 24

June 6 - Aug 30

July 4 - Aug 30

Sept 19 - Oct 25

Nov 7 - Dec 23

Alberta's Theatre Destination - Buffet & Live Theatre
Season Tickets & Flex Passes Now Available!
1-800-267-7553 • RosebudTheatre.com

NEXT HOME GAMES

Friday, December 20
• 8 pm VS Mountainview

Saturday, January 11
• 8 pm VS Okotoks

Strathmore Family Centre - Gold Arena

Strathmore Times **PLAYER OF THE GAME**

Dec 13 Luke Nottveit **Dec 14 Cole Tweit**

Come Cheer on Your Agra Risk Wheatland Kings

YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

It took decades before restrictions on smoking in public took effect in Canada. Older readers will remember that smoking was once allowed on airplanes. Hard to believe today. It took until 1994 for all Canadian airlines to ban smoking on all their flights. Now it seems that alcohol is becoming the new smoking. The push is on to reduce Canadians' consumption of alcohol. Alcohol is a carcinogen and any consumption increases health risks.

Alcohol is a preventable risk factor for cancer. New data on the topic has shown that reducing alcohol intake can reduce the risk of developing alcohol-related cancer. Each year in December or January, many people resolve to reduce their alcohol consumption. Perhaps this year it's your turn.

Having a pet dog in the home has many benefits for families. Now, new research is showing that growing up with a dog is healthy for the gut. Investigators found that early exposure to dogs creates changes in gut bacteria in a positive way. They also found a link between this and a reduced risk of getting Crohn's disease later in life.

A new year is beginning soon. Parents are encouraged to ensure their children are vaccinated against all preventable diseases like measles, polio, diphtheria and whooping cough.

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

Strathmore VALUE DRUG MART

Get the latest new products, special savings, contests and more sent directly to your email. Sign up today for the Value Drug Mart E-letter.

132 - 2nd Ave.
Strathmore
Ph: 403-934-3122

403-934-3334 - 888-934-4434

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1976 www.StrathmoreMotors.com

Whether it's New or Used Vehicle, Parts or Service, We're Here for You

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

GENUINE PARTS

Certified Service

Rockyford Arena springs carbon monoxide leak, several children hospitalized

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A carbon monoxide leak at the Rockyford Arena, Dec. 14, sent several children to the Alberta Children's Hospital and resulted in the temporary closure of the facility.

The Rockyford Fire Department responded to a call at the arena at approximately 7 p.m. Upon their arrival, high levels of carbon monoxide were detected inside the building. Those attending the arena were evacuated and treated on site.

Those responding to the calls detected carbon monoxide levels of 90 parts per million in the lobby of the arena

prior to its evacuation.

Several of the children who had become ill throughout the day stayed overnight at the Children's Hospital. They were released the next day and no fatalities were reported.

ATCO was contacted to assess the situation, and it was determined the carbon monoxide leak was caused by a defective radiant heater venting emissions into the building.

"The arena is currently closed and will remain closed until all necessary repairs to the heaters are completed and then we will have a follow up inspection to ensure the safety of all," said Lori Miller, chief administrative officer with the Village of Rockyford. "The vil-

lage and the Agricultural Society will be working collaboratively on this project to ensure public safety."

The arena is owned by the Village of Rockyford and is leased to the Agricultural Society. The latter will be responsible for the repairs. Miller clarified the village will simply be supporting them at this time.

According to Miller, the facility is inspected annually for exhaust, fire suppression, and other potential hazards, though carbon monoxide has not historically been monitored at the facility.

As of publication no carbon monoxide detectors were present in the building. Detectors have since been ordered and are scheduled for installation,

Monday, Dec. 23.

The facility will remain closed until repairs to the radiators have been completed. Miller said she hopes the facility will be able to reopen as soon as possible.

"Hopefully we are going to be able to get somebody out here right away and get everything inspected and hopefully be back up and running soon because there are a lot of teams that are depending on that ice surface," she said. "We will not reopen it if it is not safe. It will remain closed until we know positively that it is safe for everybody."

Subsequent inspections of the facility going forward will include measures for carbon monoxide detection.

Town passes third reading for IDP framework

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore council voted to pass third reading of the Strathmore, Wheatland County Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) bylaw during the Dec. 11 regular meeting of council.

According to the Alberta Municipal Government Act (MGA), all municipalities that are not members of a growth region which also share common boundaries are required by the ministry of municipal affairs to adopt an IDP framework.

The Town of Strathmore and Wheatland County left the Calgary Metropolitan Regional Board (CMRB) in March 2022.

A deadline of Dec. 31, 2024 was established for Strathmore and Wheatland County to come to an agreement and establish their IDP.

Oct. 1, Wheatland County held a public meeting, and voted to grant both first and second readings to the IDP, with some amendments to the presented document.

The following day, the Town of Strathmore held their own public hearing for the IDP, concluding in the passing of first reading.

Following the initial presentations, both municipalities exchanged memos proposing further amendments to the document.

As of Dec. 3, Wheatland County gave third and final reading as amended to the IDP. This was the same iteration of the document, which was presented before Strathmore council on Dec. 11.

Immediately following the presentation of the IDP to council, Coun. Denise Peterson motioned to grant second reading as amended.

"It was at the behest of Wheatland County that the Town of Strathmore, in the interest of future collaboration, left the

CMRB," said Peterson. "We both left the CMRB so that we could do this, and so I am really hopeful that this is the beginning of a really fruitful partnership where we will work together to make sure that all of our community acts as one and that we recognize that whether you live in the villages, the County of Wheatland or the Town of Strathmore, that we will work together for the betterment of all of our citizens."

Second reading was passed by council unanimously without further discussion or debate.

Following second reading, the amendments to the document recommended by administration were motioned to be voted on by Coun. Melissa Langmaid. These recommendations are available publicly via the town's Dec. 11 meeting agenda.

Langmaid's motion to approve the amendments was carried unanimously by council. Third reading was motioned by Coun. Richard Wegener. This was also carried unanimously.

The final IDP document is publicly available via the Town of Strathmore website. An expanded history of the process which led to the creation of the IDP is documented in an array of previous editions of *The Strathmore Times*.

Town votes to approve 2025 capital, operational budgets

Continued from Page 1

Following Ashbacher's summary of the budget deliberations, Coun. Denise Peterson motioned for council to adopt the 2025 operating budget in the amount of \$39,319,000, and the 2025 capital budget in the amount of \$9,313,000.

"I think this budget was really prudent. I was a little disappointed that council did not accept almost any of the proposed reductions in spending - I was hopeful we could get that tax increase even lower," said Coun. Brent Wiley. "I am still going to be supporting this budget because administration has put forward I think a very intelligent budget; it actually lowers operations spending, it invests in our reserves, it pays down our debt, and (through) all of that it maintains services even under all the inflationary pressures that we have been experiencing."

Town of Strathmore council voted unanimously in favour of the budget following Wiley's comments without further discussion or debate.

PUZZLE SOLUTION

M	G	D	A	L	E	U	T	T	U	M	M	Y	
I	R	A	L	A	S	S	O	E	R	O	S	E	
S	I	T	E	M	M	A	R	O	B	E	R	T	S
T	E	E	T	H	E	S	T	E	M	S			
I	G	L	O	O	S	N	O	O	T	I	E	S	T
B	I	O	U	O	E	A	L	A	E				
R	B	E	K	S	R	O	S	A	S	B	A		
I	A		S	U	S	A	N	R	E	A	R	S	
A	T	A	R		T	D	E	B	N				
R	E	N	O	V	A	T	E	S	N	A	T	E	S
A	V	I	L	L	A	M	A	N	I	L	L	A	
D	E	L	I	B	E	R	A	T	E	D	S	A	D
A	G	O	N	E	D	H	O	L	E	E	T	H	
H	O	G	G	S	Y	A	R	D	S	S	E	E	



STUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Christa Aleman
REMAX KEY REALTOR®
Your Deal - Your Way
Residential • Land • Farm • Luxury • Lake REALTOR®
Love Where You Live
Call 403.324.4343
Christaalemanrealtor.com

<p>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.</p>	<p>STRATHMORE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH 50 Maplewood Drive • 403-934-2225 Lead Pastor: Rev Murray Wright Associate Pastor: Kyle Lomenda Services Sundays 10:30 am www.strathmorefullgospel.com</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>BOW RIVER ALLIANCE CHURCH 105 Main St. Carseland • 403-991-6143 Pastor: Kevin Enns office@bowriveralliance.com www.bowriveralliance.com</p>
<p>ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS ANGLICAN Meeting in the Lutheran Church 112 Lakeside Blvd. • 587-727-0649 Rev. Malcolm Kern Sunday Worship 2:30 pm strathmoreanglican@gmail.com tinyurl.com/StrathmoreAnglican</p>	<p>HOPE COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH 245 Brent Blvd, Strathmore 403-934-2424 Pastor: Heidi Wiebe Sunday Worship 10 am www.hope-community.ca</p>
<p>STRATHMORE UNITED Wheatland Trail & 3rd Avenue 403-934-3025 Rev. Maria Szabone Berces Sunday Worship Services 10:30am Services posted on-line at: www.smoreuc.com Loop System for the Hearing Impaired W/C accessible</p>	<p>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!</p>
<p>HARVEST HEALING CENTRE CHURCH 102 Canal Gardens 403-901-0893 / 403-880-3171 Pastor: Elizabeth Karp Worship Sundays 10:30 am Youth Tuesdays 7 pm Come join us for a spirit-filled time of worship</p>	<p>SACRED HEART CATHOLIC 221 4th Ave, Strathmore 403-934-2641 www.sacredhc.ca Pastor: Fr. Cristino Bouvette Masses: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 10 am</p>
<p>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.</p>	



Kings keep rolling

The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings improved to 17-5-1 on the season after a 6-1 win over the Cochrane Generals on Dec. 14 at the Strathmore Family Centre. After falling 3-1 to Medicine Hat on Dec. 13, the local Junior B team responded with three shorthanded goals versus the Generals in front of the home crowd en route to the win. The Kings traveled to Cochrane for the rubbermatch on Dec. 17 (result not available as of press time). The team will close out 2024 with a home game on Dec. 20 (8 p.m.) when they host the Mountainview Colts and a road game in High River the following night.

Joe Lepage Photos

Council passes election, election signs bylaws

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

During the Dec. 11 regular meeting of council, the Town of Strathmore reviewed the municipal election bylaw, as well as the election signs bylaw.

These measures are in preparation for the upcoming municipal election scheduled to take place on Oct. 20, 2025. Changes to election bylaws are required administratively to align with the Local Authorities and Municipal Government Acts.

Nominations for the general election will be open between Jan. 1, and Sept. 22, 2025.

The Municipal Election Bylaw had previously been presented to council during the Sept. 11, Committee of the Whole meeting, though since then there have been amendments due to the impacts of Alberta's Bill 20, the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, on the next election.

Bill 20 amended the Local Authorities Election Act so as to establish what the province refers to as a framework for the conduct of elections in Alberta municipalities, school divisions, irrigation districts, and Metis settlements.

Additionally, the Municipal Government Act is amended to establish rules governing the conduct of local elected officials once they successfully win their seats on councils, as well as the overall administration and operation of municipal authorities in Alberta.

A full list of these amendments and the resulting impacts is available publicly through the Government of Alberta website. These changes came to full effect as of Oct. 31, 2024.

These amendments not only govern expectations and requirements of candidates, but also rules surrounding third party entities and how they are allowed to contribute to an election.

The municipality itself is also subject to specific rules regarding electors, as well as how votes are collected and tabulated.

Come election time, the Town of Strathmore will use two teams of election workers. The first team will work during voting days, while the second team will be responsible for counting ballots.

The province has mandated that ballots be counted by hand and has prohibited automated voting equipment; thus, town administration anticipates additional hours to be required for election workers.

"This is a change that the province brought in; it is manual vote counting and the City of Chestermere did manual vote counting almost as a pilot in June and it took from 8:30 p.m. when the polling stations closed until quarter-to-five in the morning for the results to come in," said Mayor Pat Fule. "The new mayor of Chestermere told me that it tripled the cost of their election. This is something that the UCP government put in – they did away with electronic voting machines that are not connected to the internet. They have done ma-

nual vote counting; it is incredibly long, and it tripled the cost."

The Town of Strathmore budgeted \$30,000 for their municipal election in 2021. For the upcoming 2025 election, the Town has budgeted \$150,000.

"We are trying to save money in our budget and this has been downloaded on to us and I asked if there was a way for the provincial government, at our midsize mayor's caucus, if the provincial government would help with funding all municipalities," added Fule. "I do not believe it is going to happen."

Council is expected to appoint a returning officer, as well as a substitute returning officer with a deadline to appoint of June 25.

Administration recommended council continue to utilize institutional voting stations. Council has the authority to establish the location(s) of one or more institutional voting stations for an election.

The appointed Returning Officer is responsible for designating the time(s) on advance voting days during which the votes in the institutions shall be taken and may appoint deputies necessary for taking those votes.

Regarding incapacitated voters, the town may provide for the attendance of two deputies at a residence of an elector during the hours on days advance voting stations are open.

Seniors' communities which desire to be one of such institutional voting stations are able to reach out to the appointed Returning Officer to make a request, though it is not a guarantee such locations will be designated as such stations.

Council passed all three readings of the municipal election bylaw. Johnathan Strathdee and Claudette Thorhaug have been appointed as the Returning Officer and Substitute Returning Officer, respectively.

The election signs bylaw was last discussed during the Sept. 11, Committee of the Whole meeting, at which time administration was directed to look at several updates to the bylaw.

Section 2.3 of the bylaw was expanded to clarify election signs may be of a variety of materials so long as they still align with size and placement requirements set out in the bylaw.

The town's election signs bylaw definitions were also expanded in order to account for rules pertaining to provincial elections, with a caveat that the province sustains additional rules which may be set out by the provincial government.

Annotations have been laid out regarding the distances required between signs, proximity to curbs and intersections, about fees associated with election signs, and penalties associated with the potential vandalism of election signs.

Council unanimously passed all three readings of the election signs bylaw following administration's presentation.

PRO WATER SYSTEMS

Water Softeners, Iron Filters & Drinking Water Systems

403-901-5512

Pentair Water Platinum Dealer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14			15					16					
17			18					19					
20			21				22						
23						24	25				26	27	
		28				29			30				
31	32					33	34	35	36			37	
38			39	40							41		
42			43					44	45				
46		47	48				49		50				
51				52	53	54			55			56	57
			58						59				
60	61						62	63				64	
65							66					67	
68							69					70	

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Miller beer variety
- 4. Member of people inhabiting Bering Sea islands
- 9. Stomach
- 14. Investment vehicle
- 15. Fictional soccer coach Ted
- 16. Irregular in botanical parlance
- 17. Cease standing
- 18. "American Horror Story" actress
- 20. Grow milk teeth
- 22. Plant parts
- 23. Snow house
- 24. Most contemptuous
- 28. Note to repay
- 29. Old English
- 30. Wings
- 31. Financial institutions
- 33. Parks and Lopez are two
- 37. Mr. T's "The A-Team" character
- 38. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 39. Give off
- 41. Semitic alphabet letter
- 42. Farm state
- 43. Actress Sarandon
- 44. Back parts
- 46. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
- 49. Touchdown
- 50. One point north of due east
- 51. Refurbishes
- 55. Silver and Dagg are two
- 58. Former Tigers catcher Alex
- 59. Type of envelope
- 60. Seriously considered
- 64. Unhappy
- 65. Past (archaic)
- 66. Asian wild dog
- 67. Old English letter
- 68. Young domestic sheep
- 69. Football players need to gain them
- 70. Witness

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Dormant Peruvian volcano
- 2. Norwegian composer
- 3. Indicates location
- 4. Pubs
- 5. Unable to walk easily
- 6. Electronic warfare-support measures
- 7. World leader
- 8. Midsection
- 9. Jewish calendar month
- 10. Urological condition
- 11. A small quantity of anything
- 12. Mountain Time
- 13. Affirmative
- 19. Word element meaning ear
- 21. Carried away
- 24. Short-billed rails
- 25. Newborn child
- 26. Sword
- 27. Groups of people
- 31. Prickly, scrambling shrubs
- 32. Become less intense
- 34. Polishes
- 35. Indicates position
- 36. Songs sung to one's beloved
- 40. The 12th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 41. Insects
- 45. Israeli politician
- 47. Pre-digital
- 48. Roaming
- 52. Ambience
- 53. Brew
- 54. Late
- 56. Make ecstatically happy
- 57. Semitic alphabet letter
- 59. Blend
- 60. Dash
- 61. Self
- 62. Exclamation of satisfaction
- 63. Hill or rocky peak

STRATHMORE TIMES

Mario Prusina Publisher
 John Watson Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
 Kristina Bezic Financial Manager Rose Hamrlík Advertising Jody Schneider Production

Contributors: Lauren F. Guenther, Joe Lepage, Melissa Piche, Fernando David Moreno-Prado

Funded by the Government of Canada | **Canada**

125 2nd Avenue, Strathmore, Alberta T1P 1K1 • 403.934.5589

Strathmore Times is published every Wednesday by Strathmore Times Inc. and our coverage area is Strathmore, Carseland, Cheadle, Cluny, Gleichen, Hussar, Lyalta, Namaka, Nightingale, Rockyford, Rosebud, Speargrass and Standard. We also have various pickup locations throughout our coverage area. We are printed by Star Press Inc., Wainwright, Alberta. The content in the Strathmore Times is copyright and reproduction without the proper written consent of the Strathmore Times is strictly prohibited.

The Times welcomes letters to the editor for publication. All submissions must be signed and a phone number included for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, legal considerations and taste. Please try and keep your letters under 400 words to ensure that it will appear as close to its original form as possible.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Local Journalism Initiative. **Canada**

ELEVATE
your e-commerce

Find out about the free Digital Economy Program for Alberta Small Businesses.

Learn more at:
dep.businesslink.ca

In Memory of **Lorne G. Fair**
March 22, 1937 - December 18, 2015

Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard,
but always near.
Still loved, still missed
and very dear.
- Unknown

Lovingly Remembered by
Lynne & Family



RCMP present Q2 report for council information

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore RCMP Staff Sgt. Mark Wielgosz presented the 2024-25 Q2 policing report to Town of Strathmore council during the Dec. 11 regular meeting for council's information.

The purpose of the report serves to outline the priorities for the community and provides an overview of the RCMP's accomplishments throughout the year.

Wielgosz explained Q2 is representative of the local detachment's community safety efforts spanning July 1, to Sept. 30.

"We are still making progress with all of our three priorities; the first of that

being the reduction of property crimes by seeking to either maintain or reduce theft of motor vehicles, break and enters, and theft from motor vehicles by up to five per cent from the six-year average," he said. "Our regular crime prevention activities are in place ... that being the habitual offender management program which remains quite successful. We monitored 12 offenders through Quarter 2. Our persons of interest program remains in effect as well as our other crime prevention activities."

Strathmore RCMP maintain partnerships with the Calgary Police Service, Federal Parole Board, Provincial Probation Officers and RCMP Intelligence units. These partnerships are leveraged in order to remain cognizant of offenders traveling in and out of Strathmore, as well as the surrounding area.

This program is carried out by the Strathmore General Investigation section, consisting of members strategically focused on drug trafficking activity, serious persons crimes, habitual offender management, and high value property crime in both rural and municipal areas.

"We are below our historical lows for Quarter 2 for theft of motor vehicles, the same yet again, we are below our historical lows for theft from motor vehicles," said Wielgosz. "At this point in time, we are at six-year lows for Quarter 2 in all three measurable areas for property crimes, and again, in no small measure as a result of the ongoing efforts of our members to execute the community safety and crime prevention programs that we have in place."

This quarter, three check stops were conducted in Strathmore and in the surrounding area, resulting in two Immediate Roadside Sanction (IRS) contraventions and two 72-hour suspensions. Through these checks, approximately 262 vehicles were checked.

Members of Strathmore's RCMP also conduct foot patrols through licensed establishments in order to maximize visibility in an effort to prevent, detect, and deter criminal activities such as gaming, liquor, and cannabis act infractions, illicit drug offences and impaired driving.

The full report is publicly available both through Town of Strathmore council's meeting agenda for Dec. 11, as well as on their YouTube channel.

Check us out ONLINE!!
www.StrathmoreTimes.com

THE STRATHMORE LEGION PRESENTS
THE RETURN OF THE LIVE BAND PISTOL NOON
HAPPY NEW YEAR
2025
TUESDAY DEC. 31 - COCKTAILS 6PM - DINNER 7PM - BAND 8:30PM
FAMOUS BRISKET DINNER BY BALDWIN BBQ - \$60/PERSON
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE LEGION BAR 403-934-5119

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Upcoming Meetings

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

January 14: Municipal Planning Commission

January 14: Council Meeting

January 15: ASB Meeting

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

WHEATLAND COUNTY INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR 2025 COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUNDING

Wheatland County recognizes that its residents utilize various recreational, cultural and other community enhancement facilities and resources and has established the Community Enhancement Fund to provide financial support for such venues and activities.

The Community Enhancement Fund provides grant funding from Wheatland County to enhance, promote, and support groups and organizations that bring a broad range of enjoyment, benefit, beautification, recreation, entertainment, participation, and enhancement projects to Wheatland County. The program is intended to invest tax payer dollars annually to support recreational, cultural and other community activities, facilities, and resources that are utilized by Wheatland County residents.

How to Apply:

Applications and Guidelines for the Community Enhancement Fund are available at the Wheatland County Office and on the County website: www.wheatlandcounty.ca/cerb

Deadline:

Applications must be post marked on or before **January 31, 2025**.

Please note that eligibility for 2025 funding is dependent on filing all previous funding reports with Wheatland County by January 31, 2025.

For more information please contact Jessica Salmon at 403-361-2021 or cerb@wheatlandcounty.ca

Christmas Closure Dates

The Wheatland County Administration Office, Agricultural Service Board, and Public Works Shop will be closed

December 25, 2024, to January 1, 2025

Normal operating hours will resume January 2, 2025.

Waste transfer sites will also be closed on December 25 and 26, and January 1

MERRY

Christmas

Wheatland County wishes you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas filled with enchantment and cheer!



Address: 242006 Range Rd 243, Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4

Phone: 403-934-3321

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

[@wheatlandcounty](http://www.wheatlandcounty.ca)

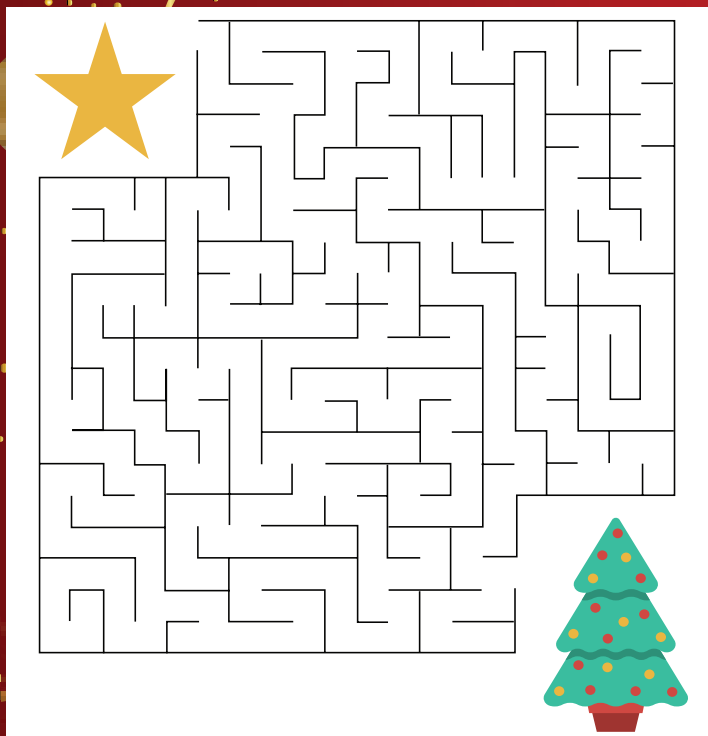


Season GREETINGS

Heartfelt holiday wishes from local businesses

Holiday Maze

Help the star reach the Christmas tree!



Sledding Word Search

G F W S W I W N T G M G A C R U E Z K E
 K A C U N Z R H Z O L B N D N W A W S S
 N S I W W O R U M G L F L S C E K E G T
 W T H S E I W E C M Y R P A V Z R W R W
 R P H I L G N Y P S R I W B D W V A M H
 N G T L L T K D S P V E S Y U E V U T Y
 B M S G U L W E P M B N O S S E S O F F
 U L G M F W P S G U A D S W L F B I P P
 N U W N D O V M O B N S A S U O N A M F
 D O Y I R C S D W V F R P P G S S C H T
 L E T A Z D G T M O H E B G V K P N P T
 E V W E N D R C O L U P E M A P K C D F M N D
 S O T E N F R Z H T W B D I E N B R F A E E N D
 F G T U L A E T N L C E P P S R S K L O S
 Y G M O H Z H T G C H N T O P Z T F R Z S
 C T W D B T V G V M W E L C C N N I K D U V
 C C D B T V G V M W E L C C N N I K D U V
 D E S O D Z U O G L I S L C I K M H L T
 U E E O V H A A C H I L L R E E T S C H
 L L I A R T L Z C Z O O M R K C L S N R

WORDS

- BLADES
- BUMPS
- BUNDLE
- CHILL
- CLIMB
- COASTING
- DOWNHILL
- FAST
- FRIENDS
- HILL
- LAUGHTER
- MOMENTUM
- MOUNTAIN
- ROPES
- SLED
- SNOWY
- SPEED
- STEER
- THRILLS
- TOBOGGAN
- TRACKS
- TRAIL
- TRAVEL
- ZOOM

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

The Best Gift you can give is Kindness!

We would like to wish Everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Dixie Hartell
403.934.1034
dhartell@telusplanet.net

Brenda Sproule
403.809.8811
bsproule.realtor@gmail.com

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!

Stylz Salon and Spa
Unit 4 - 104 3rd Ave, Strathmore | 403-934-3940

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from

THE CARPET COP
403.991.6192

THE CARPET COP
403-991-6192
CARPET AND FURNITURE CLEANING

Facebook icon

Greetings of the Season

Magnum Services
would like to wish you
and your family a
wonderful holiday
season and a happy
new year!




www.magnumservices.com



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



RE/MAX
REAL ESTATE (CENTRAL)

La Shaun Andrews
403-850-4593 | Lashaun@heartandsoldyyc.com

Ashlee Samaska
403-990-4962 | Ashlee@heartandsoldyyc.com



Chantelle de Jonge, MLA
Chestermere-Strathmore
403-962-0126
129 2nd Avenue
Strathmore, AB T1P1K1
Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca



Sweet Tidings to You & Yours

May you enjoy the full measure of joy this special season brings.

Thanks for keeping us in the mix this year! We always appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

For any of your WATKINS needs call:
Lenore 403-934-4196
email lenorestill@gmail.com
or to order direct
www.respectedhomeproducts.com/382292
And be sure to click on the Canadian flag



MERRY CHRISTMAS to You and Yours!

We thank you for your valued business, and wish you and your loved ones a bounty of glad tidings this holiday season.



Target Welding Ltd.
403-934-4558



Christmas CONCERT

Close to half the local schools in the area host their holiday celebrations Dec. 11-12. Sacred Heart Academy hosted their first Christmas concert on Dec. 11 for students in Grades 3-6, while the kindergarten to Grade 2 students went Dec. 12. George Freeman School hosted their festival/market prior to their concert on Dec. 11. Westmount Elementary, Trinity Christian Academy and Crowther Memorial Junior High School held their performances on Dec. 12. The remaining schools in the area will host their events Dec. 18-20.

Melissa Piche, Joe Lepage and TCA Photos



Westmount



Crowther



George Freeman

Christmas CONCERT



Perfect performance

Arts on 817 presented Christmas with the Heebe-Jeebees, who delivered non-stop hits and laughs to an enthusiastic audience on Dec. 7 at the United Church. The group has performed before with the Arts on 817 back in Season 2.

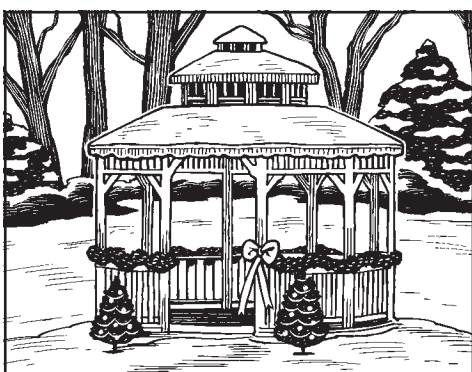
Melissa Piche Photo



Spreading Christmas cheer

The Arga Risk Wheatland Kings got into the holiday season by hosting their Christmas Shopping Campaign on Dec. 14 at Tina's No Frills and Strathmore Canadian Tire. According to Kings general manager Cody Holdaway, the team took families on a shopping spree, "pairing them with our players to pick out gifts for their loved ones and themselves. With grocery and shopping gift cards also provided, these families will have the opportunity to enjoy a warm Christmas dinner – a memory that will last a lifetime."

Joe Lepage Photos



Season's Greetings

*In this season so merry and bright,
It fills us all with much delight
To extend warm wishes and gratitude,
To each and every one of you!*



ROSEBUD GAS CO-OP LTD.

Phone: 403-533-3882

Merry Christmas

MARTIN SHIELDS MP
BOW RIVER
Toll Free: 1-844-241-0020
www.martinshieldsbowriver.ca
martin.shields@parl.gc.ca

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


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



*Merry Christmas
from Our Home to Yours!*

*Rose & Dennis
McNeill
85 Strathford Close*

Hope Your Holiday Season Is **Extra-Extra Happy!**



Thanks to all of our readers and advertisers for supporting our publication and the future of local journalism. We value our role in this community, and we're committed to keeping you current in 2025 and beyond with a focus on the local news and events that matter most to you.

We wish you an informed and fabulous new year!

STRATHMORE **TIMES**

Your Locally Owned & Operated Weekly Newspaper



Strathmore

Edson

FORTIS ALBERTA
The line that connects us all

Connecting the people and places of 240 Alberta communities with more than 131,000 kms of power lines.



Hounds hound Braves

The Wheatland Braves dropped an 11-3 decision to the Medicine Hat Hounds on Dec. 14 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The local U13AA team will host the Airdrie Lightning on Dec. 22 to close out 2024. **Joe Lepage Photos**

Winning streak

The Wheatland Wranglers U18T2 female team are on a two-game winning streak after a 6-0 win over Lethbridge on Dec. 14 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The Wranglers, who defeated Okotoks 11-1 to start the streak, will look to extending it when they host Lethbridge again on Dec. 21 (7:15 p.m.). **Joe Lepage Photos**

Handi-Bus Association discusses unsustainability with town

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Handi-Bus Association met with Town of Strathmore council in order to discuss the operations and mandate of the association on an ongoing basis.

A delegation from the Handi-Bus Association presented before council during the Dec. 4, regular meeting.

Preceding the presentation, council voted to waive section 27.1 of the Council Procedure By-law 23-17, for the purpose of hearing a second delegation from the Handi-Bus Association within a six-month period in accordance with Section 4.5 of Bylaw 23-17.

“When the Strathmore Handi-bus Association was founded in 1985, its mandate was to provide transportation for those unable to use a car or a taxi. Over time, not necessarily intentionally, the mandate evolved to become transportation of seniors to medical appointments, then to all seniors, then recently just about anyone claiming to be a senior who needed transportation in Strathmore and Wheatland County,” said Brian Grier, speaking on behalf of the Handi-Bus Association. “The number of registered clients grew from 229 in late 2021 to 537 in October of 2024. In the summer of 2024, the board recognized that this was unsustainable and took steps to reduce the number of trips. These efforts proved for several reasons to be inadequate.”


He explained the association cannot continue to operate as it has been over the last three years, as they do not have the financial resources available to them.

Because of this, Grier explained two busses have been taken out of service, rates have been increased, which took effect as of Dec. 1, and able-bodied clients were advised that the association was reverting to its original mandate of providing for the mobility challenged.

“The association board did not recognize quickly enough the increase in client numbers and unwitting expansion of service because of a spare bus, and sharp cost increases over the last three years would create the current situation,” he said. “The measures now taken should be sufficient remedy, but if not, additional steps can be taken. We do appreciate that this has caused considerable concern within the community, and this we regret.”

Grier emphasized the increase in usage volume over the last three years has created difficulties for the association that it was not ready to handle and cannot continue to sustainably operate by. He compared the situation as to asking a volunteer board of directors to operate a large-scale transportation business.

He also apologized for the association having “unwittingly created unreasonable expectations in the community” and wishes to work with the town on a joint statement about the reversion to its original mandate.



Seeking All Makes and Types of Firearms and Ammunition

Estates and Large Collections Welcome
- Inspection and Pickup Available

Fully licensed and insured, including for transportation and verification

Call Tony 403.519.7250 or email
info@metakdistributing.com



Helping the world hear better

Serving Alberta since 1964

202 Second Avenue, Strathmore

403-901-6332

Qualified Hearing Care Professionals

We Provide:

- Latest Technology
- all digital hearing aid models
- Repairs to all models
- 30 day trial period

We are AADL, WCB, NIHB, DVA providers

Hearing Evaluations | Free Tests for Seniors

Walk-Ins Welcome!





DREAM HOME, BUILT YOUR WAY

Contact our builders today to secure your dream home.





Your Vision, Our Passion

kellykustomhomes.ca

403-615-9174



LIVEINLAKEWOOD.CA

@LAKEWOODOFSTRATHMORE

2024 Tree of Hope

For the 29th consecutive year, you have the opportunity to remember loved ones and support the Strathmore Hospital and Palliative Care With A Donation to the Hospital Foundation.

Donations of \$10 or more receive an income tax receipt.

Clip & Mail this ad or list names on a separate sheet of paper

Submit donations to: **Strathmore District Health Foundation**
200 Brent Blvd., Strathmore, AB T1P 1J9


Donors Name & Address: _____

In Memory of: _____

Christmas Greeting to: _____

Donation Amount: _____

Please make cheques payable to SDHS Foundation Tree of Hope



Christmas Season Services

<p>Strathmore United Church: Dec. 8, 10:30 a.m. – Advent Music Dec. 24, 7 p.m. – Candlelight Service</p> <p>Strathmore Alliance Church: Dec. 24, 6 p.m. – Christmas Service</p> <p>Hope Community Covenant Church: Dec. 24, 5 p.m./7 p.m. – Christmas</p> <p>St. Michael and All Angels Anglican: Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Celebration</p> <p>Lord of All Lutheran: Dec. 24, 3 p.m. – Family Service Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. – Candles and Carols Dec. 25, 10:30 p.m. – Christmas Service</p> <p>RCCG Peculiar People Assembly: Dec. 22, 11 a.m. – Christmas Brunch</p> <p>Harvest Healing: Dec. 24, 4 p.m. – Christmas Eve celebration</p> <p>C3 Strathmore (Calgary Location): Dec. 22, 10:10 a.m. – Christmas Service 3812 Marbank Dr. NE, Calgary</p>	<p>Sacred Heart Parish (New Church): Dec. 18, 7 p.m. – Penitential Service Dec. 24, 5 p.m./8 p.m. Christmas Eve Dec. 25, 12 a.m. (Midnight Mass)/10 a.m. – Christmas Day Jan. 1, 10 a.m. – New Year's Day</p> <p>Bow River Alliance Church Carseland: Dec. 8, 15, 22, 10:30 a.m. – Advent Services Dec. 21, 6:30 p.m. – Christmas Carol Singing</p> <p>Nazareth Lutheran, Standard: Dec. 22, 7 p.m. – Blue Christmas Dec. 24, 4 p.m. – Christmas Service</p>
--	---



Alberta on the road to success

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Whether you live in one of Alberta's great cities or rural communities, highways play an important role in your life. Our vast network of highways connects communities, spurs economic activity, and provides access to essential services. Our government understands the vital importance of properly maintaining Alberta's highway network for safety, job creation, and reducing travel times.

Alberta's government invested \$818 million across over 200 highway improvement projects in the 2024 construction season, enhancing the safety and efficiency of our roadways. These projects have fueled economy development while supporting the growth of communities and new industry. During the 2024 construction season, projects included repaving, bridge rehabilitation, general maintenance on potholes, crack sealing, line painting, grading of gravel roads, and guardrail installation.

As part of my ongoing commitment to our constituency, I will continue to advocate for further upgrades and development of roadways in our constituency, ensuring efficiency and safety for all highway users.

In addition to infrastructure advancements, Alberta's government is also focused on maintaining a strong economic and industrial presence. One example of this is our support for the ongoing success and innovation of Alberta's energy industry through the Alberta Petrochemicals Incentive Program. Through APIP, our government is investing more than \$20 million in Rocky Mountain Clean Fuels' synthetic diesel facility, ensuring that Alberta continues to attract investments and create jobs.

The grant will support a synthetic diesel plant in Wheatland County near Carseland, that uses natural gas and natural gas liquids as feedstock to pro-

duce synthetic diesel, naphtha and wax. Naphtha is a petroleum fraction that can be used for gasoline blend stock and diluent. The plant will make a small volume of high value Fischer Tropsch paraffin wax used for lubricants, hot melt adhesives, paints and coatings.

While our government continues to prioritize infrastructure and energy growth, it is also taking decisive steps to safeguard the province. Last week, Alberta's government announced immediate actions to curb illegal border activities and strengthen national border security. New measures will crack down on illegal migration and drug trafficking across the border.

As part of these efforts, a new Interdiction Patrol Team (IPT) within the Alberta Sheriffs will crack down on drug smuggling, gun trafficking and other illegal activities occurring along Alberta's 298-kilometre international boundary. IPT will be supported by:

- 51 uniformed officers equipped with carbine rifles (weapons for tactical operations);
- 10 support staff, including dispatchers and analysts;
- four drug patrol dogs, critical to ensure reasonable suspicion to search vehicles;
- 10 cold weather surveillance drones that can operate in high winds with dedicated pilots; and
- four narcotics analyzers to test for illicit drugs.

This team will patrol to detect and intercept illicit drugs, illegal firearms and unlawful attempts at illegal international border crossing.

By addressing transportation, energy, and security, Alberta's government continues to create a safer, more prosperous future.

As always, please reach out with your questions or feedback via email (Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca).

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

County MPC approves development, subdivision applications

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland County Municipal Planning Commission approved a development permit, and two subdivision applications during the Dec. 10 meeting in council chambers.

Development Permit application DP 2024-129 proposed to address four existing buildings on a property located in Division 3, within the Hamlet of Carseland.

Each of the structures were previously indicated to be non-compliant accessory buildings on the subject land.

A compliance review indicated these structures had not received development permits prior to their construction. In order for this to be rectified, the four structures would all require variances to be granted.

Structures which do not meet land use requirements, including setbacks, or which do not receive development permits, are required to either obtain variances, be moved into compliance, or are to be removed from a given property entirely.

As no concerns have been raised from adjacent or surrounding landowners, nor by county staff regarding the accessory buildings in question, county administration recommended the requested development permit, as well as the six required variances to be in compliance with the land use bylaw be granted to the applicant.

The Municipal Planning Commission voted unanimously in favour of approving the development permit application.

Subdivision Application SD2024-007, located in Division 2 proposed to create an approximately 17.67 hectare parcel with a 47.03 hectare remainder regarding its subject lands.

The land parcel is located 10 kilometers northwest of the Village of Standard, immediately to the Northwest of the Township Road 252 and Range Road 232 intersection.

Subject lands are designated as Agricultural General District, which has been deemed appropriate for the proposed subdivision and remainder

parcel. The proposed Lot 1 is developed with a dwelling and a barn, as well as several quonsets and granaries.

Adjacent land uses are predominantly agricultural and of farmsteads, save for a 9.79 hectare portion of the quarter section immediately north of the proposed Lot 2, which is designated Intensive Industrial District.

County administration recommended that the subdivision application be approved under several conditions which are also outlined in the Municipal Planning Commission's Dec. 10, meeting agenda.

The purpose of the application is to facilitate the future development and storage of explosive devices and fireworks on the subject lands.

Comments from surrounding landowners were largely in regards to required setbacks from property lines and explosives storage requirements.

The application was voted on and approved unanimously by the Municipal Planning Commission.

Subdivision application SD2024-016, located immediately north of the Town of Strathmore, proposed to create a 4.89 hectare parcel, with a 30.04 hectare remainder, located in Division 5.

Subject lands are designated Rural Business District, which was deemed appropriate for the proposed parcel size and intended land use.

Lands which are adjacent to the subject are predominantly residential, country residential, and agricultural.

The proposed Lot 1 is developed land with an event venue and accessory buildings. Lot 2 is undeveloped land with no proposed changes to land use or development.

Administration recommended the subdivision application be approved subject to conditions outlined in the Municipal Planning Commission's meeting agenda.

The application was approved following discussion regarding comments issued by Alberta Transportation regarding the subject lands. No objections were raised by members of the commission.

Friday February 7th, 2025
AG PAVILION - 33 WHEATLAND DRIVE STRATHMORE, ALBERTA
REAL CANADIAN WRESTLING

MY BLOODY VALENTINE

BAREWIRE BAT ON A POLE MATCH

STEVE WILDE MOONDOG MANSON

Advance \$20, Advance Front Row \$25
Door \$25, Door Front Row \$30
Doors: 6:30pm - Show 7:30pm

Online Tickets and Tables
Available on Eventbrite.ca or call 403-616-1870

LICENSED ALL AGES EVENT - FOOD MENU Available
Advance tickets available in Strathmore at Sammich Cycles
Card Subject to Change

Gold (8 seats) & Silver (4 seats) VIP Tables Available (Beverage & Snacks)
Corporate Sponsorship, Fundraising Opportunities & Group Discounts Available.
Call 403-616-1870 for Sponsorship and table questions.



Prevent mail theft this holiday season

ALBERTA RCMP

Despite the current Canada Post strike, holiday deliveries are still making their way to doorsteps across the province. This time of year brings an influx of gift giving, and with it, increased chances of mail theft. And if you're travelling this holiday season, make sure your mail and home are secure.

In Alberta RCMP jurisdictions, December and January are typically the months with the highest amount of reported Mail Thefts.

- In December 2023 there were 61 cases reported to the Alberta RCMP; and
- In January 2024 there were 90 cases reported to the Alberta RCMP.

- From October 2023 to September 2024 there were a total of 695 reports of mail theft to the Alberta RCMP.

If ordering online or sending presents through the mail, make sure to follow these tips:

- Whenever possible, opt for a "signature required" delivery, or provide instructions for the delivery person to leave your items out of sight.

- Tracking shipments helps ensure you know exactly when something lands on your doorstep, so you or a trusted neighbour can grab it before someone else does!

- If possible, arrange for the delivery to be scheduled when you'll be home.

- Have packages shipped to a delivery service pick-up 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 a great deterrent for opportunistic criminals.

- 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 travelling to see friends and family, there's a few more things to keep in mind before leaving for the holidays.

- Ensure that there is no mail left on your doorstep or in your mailbox, alerting criminals that you're not around.

- Ask a neighbour to shovel while you're away, giving the impression that someone is around and checking in on the home.

- Make sure all your doors and windows are locked. Consider motion sensor lights for the exterior, and timers for indoor lights.

Follow #MailSafety all month long for more safety tips and follow our social media accounts on Facebook (@RCMPinAlberta), Twitter (@RCMPAlberta) and YouTube (RCMP-GRC Alberta).

RCMP encourage 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.



Hawks host

The Holy Cross Collegiate Hawks junior varsity boys and girls basketball teams host their home tournament Dec. 13-14. The girls opened the tournament when they took on the Siksika Suns, while the boys opened by hosting the Rosemary Rockets.

Joe Lepage Photos

Charges laid in fatal collision

ALBERTA RCMP

On Jan. 6, 2024, at approximately 11:45 p.m., Drumheller RCMP, Emergency Medical Services and local Fire Departments responded to a two-vehicle head-on collision on Hwy 9 near Range Road 214, west of Drumheller. Preliminary investigation indicated that a pickup truck and a car collided on the highway. The driver of the car, a 39-year-old male resident of Drumheller, was pronounced deceased at the scene, and the female passenger of that car, a 33-year-old female resident of Drumheller, was taken to hospital via ground ambulance. The driver of the pickup truck, a 50-year-old male resident of Strathmore, was taken to Drumheller Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

After an extensive investigation, and with assistance from the RCMP Collision Reconstructionist and RCMP Criminal Collision Investigation Team, on Nov. 19, 2024, Drumheller RCMP arrested 50-year-old Sean Powell, a resident of Strathmore. He has been charged with the following:

- Impaired operation of a conveyance.
- Operate a conveyance over 80 mg/per cent.

- Impaired operation of a conveyance causing death.

- Impaired operation of a conveyance causing bodily harm.

- Operate a conveyance over 80 mg/per cent causing death.

- Operate a conveyance over 80 mg/per cent causing bodily harm.

- Dangerous operation of a conveyance causing death.

- Dangerous operation of a conveyance causing bodily harm.

- Refuse to provide a breath sample causing death.

- Refuse to provide a breath sample causing bodily harm.

Powell was also subject to Alberta Immediate Roadside Sanctions which included suspension of his driver's licence. He was released from custody and is scheduled to appear in the Drumheller Alberta Court of Justice on Dec. 20 to answer to the charges.

DO YOU NEED A REALTOR?

lush
REALTY

Amanda Bazant
& Josh Fyfe



ROYAL LEPAGE®

SALES
ACHIEVEMENT™

AWARD 2024

LOCAL EXPERTS. REAL RESULTS.

ROYAL LEPAGE
BENCHMARK



587.324.8223
lushrealty.ca

Conservatives plan to put Canada first

MARTIN SHIELDS
Member of Parliament Bow River Riding

Despite campaigning on the issue for years, the Liberals were seemingly shocked when President-Elect Donald Trump announced his intention to tariff Canadian imports by 25 per cent unless we clean up our border issues like drug trafficking and illegal migration.

To be clear: the threat President Trump made was unjustified, against a Canadian economy that is weak and shrinking after nine years of Justin Trudeau.

However, one thing is also clear: President Trump is putting America First.

That's why Canada needs leadership that will put Canada first.

Conservatives will put Canada first.

The USA is the world's largest economy, and responsible for \$1.2 trillion of Canadian trade. Tariffs of this magnitude would pose significant challenges to the Canadian economy.

With that in mind, the federal government needs to get real about having a plan to put Canadian interests first.

After nine years of Trudeau, everything is broken.

- Our GDP per capita is smaller than it was when he took office.
- We have the most indebted households.
- We've had the worst housing inflation.

- Food prices have risen 37 percent faster in Canada than in the United States.

- Our economy is teetering on the brink of collapse.

- And now we face this renewed threat.

Justin Trudeau must put partisanship aside, not just for the sake of Team Canada, but for the sake of our people and fully reverse his liberalization of drugs by banning them and prosecuting those who traffic in them.

He must rebuild our military and secure our borders against the illegal importation of fentanyl. That is necessary now more than ever.

Finally, he needs to accept that he cannot go ahead with quadrupling the carbon tax to 61 cents a litre.

President Trump has the right to put his workers and his nation's security first. Pierre Poilievre will also put Canada's workers and Canada's security first.

Canadians need a Prime Minister with the brains and the backbone to stand up for this country. A Prime Minister that will rebuild our security, our military, and our economy. Let's bring it home.

Be sure to follow me on social media and sign up for my e-newsletter to keep up with federal news and updates: Facebook (@MartinShieldsBowRiver), Twitter (@MartinBowRiver) and Instagram (@MartinShields_BowRiver).

Obituary



HALL,
Marion Joan

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Marion Joan Hall, beloved Mother, Grandmother, and Great Grandmother.

Born on December 31, 1935 in Delburne, AB., Marion married her husband, Archie Hall, in 1955 and moved to Shepard in 1963 where they lived for 43 years raising their family and creating a lifetime of memories for the family. She passed away on December 2, 2024.

Predeceased by her Father James Crawford, Mother Marjorie Denson, brother Albert Crawford, Husband Archie Hall Sr, son Brian Hall, and son in-law Ralph Galenza. Marion is lovingly survived by her Daughter Donna, Son Archie Jr (Cindy), Son Brad (Tammy), 9 grand kids; Jennifer, Krissy, Stacy, Amanda, Ashley, Travis, Archie Cole, Austin, and Kelsey, as well as 8 great-grandkids and a great-great-grandchild.

Marion was a remarkable woman, she exuded love and kindness to everyone she met and there was never anyone that went unfed when they were around her.

The family would like to give a big thanks to the staff at Sagewood, for taking great care of Marion.

In lieu of flowers, the family ask that you hug your loved ones a little more for a little longer.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, January 4, 2025 at Shepard Hall (10800 84 street SE, Calgary, AB) from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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

Wheatland Funeral Home
Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

Obituary



ZIMMER,
Alfred Adam

October 19, 1934
- December 9, 2024

Alfred Zimmer passed away peacefully at home at the age of 90, on the evening of December 9th with his loving wife, Terry, by his side. He is survived by Terry, son John (Angie), daughter Jennifer and grandson David.

Alf, as he was known to friends and family, was born and raised in Bowness and spent the early part of his life working on the family dairy farm prior to moving to Shepard in 1970. There, he raised his family and continued to farm, raising cattle and farming the land for over 50 years.

Alf was a devoted husband and father, and a farmer through and through, always doing what he loved. He was well known in the community and loved visiting with friends and neighbours near and far with a smile, a coffee, and a joke or two. He was a regular at the Calgary, Olds, and Strathmore Stockyards. The hum of auction markets held a special place in his heart. He could often be found swapping stories, buying and selling cattle, and making friends in the lively atmosphere he loved so much. But his passion did not end there—he loved horses and spent many an afternoon watching his horses race at the track in Calgary. Later in life, he was content to watch his horses gallop in the field at home.

Alf lived his passion and was grateful to do so, making many great and long-lasting friendships along the way. He's gone to greener pastures, but his spirit will always be with us. A celebration of Alf's life will be held on December 21st at 11:00am in the Arbor Chapel at Mountain View Cemetery---1605 - 100 St. SE, Calgary. Lunch to follow.

LOW RATES. MORE SAVINGS.



Switch to a better deal with a great low rate, plus a low admin fee and year-round perks!

You can sign up for the whole package: no hidden costs and Carefree plans.

Find your low rate at epcor.com/encor or call 310-4300

Encor by **EPCOR**

Customers are free to purchase natural gas or electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit ucahelps.alberta.ca or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta).

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS
NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
ATLAND TECH SOLUTION LTD.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AND ENHANCEMENT ACT
NOTICE OF APPLICATION

In accordance with the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, Atland Tech Solutions Ltd. has applied to Alberta Environment and Protected Area (EPA) to construct a 9.97 MW natural gas fired power plant. The project will include six (6) x 1475kW natural gas generators (1.5 MW), one (1) 1120 kW natural gas generator, for a total facility output of 9.97MW. The project will also include 20 data centre containers to support electronic currency data mining.

The project is located on private land within 14-26-024-26 W4M, NW of Strathmore Alberta along RR 262 and Township Road 250.

A directly affected person may provide input into certain regulatory decisions, as allowed by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (section 73). Specifically, any person who is directly affected by this application may submit a written statement of concern within 30 days of the date of this notice to:

Environment and Protected Areas
Regulatory Assurance Section
Approvals Unit
5th Floor, South Petroleum Plaza
9915 - 108 ST
EDMONTON, AB T5K 2G8
Fax: (780) 422-0154
E-mail: epa.epeapplications@gov.ab.ca

The written statement of concern should include the following:

- the application number 001-501036
- describe concerns that are relevant to matters regulated by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
- explain how the filer of the concern will be directly affected by the activities proposed in the application
- provide the legal land location of the land owned or used by the filer where the concerns described are believed to be applicable
- state the distance between the land owned or used by the filer and the site in the application
- contact information including the full name and mailing address of the filer. Please provide a telephone number and/or email address for ease of contact.

Environment and Protected Areas will review each written statement of concern, seek more information if needed, and notify each filer by letter of the decision to accept or reject their written submission as a valid statement of concern. The Public Notice of this application will also be posted on the Department's website at <https://avw.alberta.ca/PublicNoticesViewer.aspx>.

Statements of concern submitted regarding this application are public records which are accessible by the public and the applicant. Failure to file a statement of concern may affect the right to file a Notice of Appeal with the Environmental Appeals Board.

Copies of the application and additional information can be obtained from:

McCallum Environmental Ltd.
Attention: Robert McCallum
115 2 BLUE WATER RD
BEDFORD, NS B4B 1G7
Telephone: 902-292-0514
Email: rmcallum@strum.com

COMMERCIAL

BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only \$269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach almost 80 weekly newspapers. Call NOW for details. 1-800-282-6903 ; www.awna.com; email classifieds@awna.com.

BROAD REACH at an AFFORDABLE PRICE

Advertise Province-wide \$799
with a combined circulation of over 650,000 for only... plus GST

Ask about the **Value Ad Network**

Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association
toll free 1-800-282-6903 x225
email classifieds@awna.com
or visit your community newspaper

NOTICES

Jesus is The Reason
for the Christmas Season.

Happy Birthday Jesus!

REAL ESTATE

2021 ROYAL LEPAGE AWARD WINNER!

SHAUNA KENWORTHY

Serving Strathmore and Area for 25 Years!

403-803-4605

HELP WANTED

SOUTHERN ALBERTA NEWS-PAPER GROUP is looking for Mailroom evening staff. Lots of room for advancement within the company. Email rturner@abnewsgrp.com for more information.

TRAINING

GET YOUR MESSAGE SEEN ACROSS Alberta. The Blanket Classifieds or Value Ads reach over 600,000 Alberta readers weekly. Two options starting at \$269 or \$799 to get your message out! Business changes, hiring, items for sale, cancellations, tenders, etc. People are increasingly staying home and rely on their local newspapers for information. KEEP people in the loop with over 75 Weekly Community Newspapers. Call THIS NEWSPAPER now or email classifieds@awna.com for details. 1-800-282-6903, 780-434-8746 www.awna.com.

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

COMING EVENT

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2025 AUCTION PROGRAM: Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, Antiques, Militaria, Collections, Estates, Single Items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Toll-Free 1-800-694-2609, Email Us at sales@switzersauction.com or Visit Us @ www.switzersauction.com for Auction Dates & Details.

MISC

CRIMINAL RECORD? Why suffer employment/licensing loss? Travel/business opportunities? Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon. US entry waiver. Record purge. File destruction. Free consultation. 1-800-347-2540. www.accesslegalmj.com.

PRIVATE MORTGAGE LENDER. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. Toll free 1-866-405-1228; www.firststandsecondmortgages.ca.

SUDOKU

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

AUCTIONS

MEIER GUN AUCTION, Saturday, December 21 - 10 am, Wetaskiwin - Selling over 200 Rifles, Shot Guns, Antique Firearms, Ammunition, Scopes. Consign now. Free Pick-up. Call 780-440-1860; www.meierauction.com.

FEED AND SEED

ALBERTA FEED GRAIN: Buying Oats, Barley, Wheat, Canola, Peas, Screenings, Mixed Grains. Dry, Wet, Heated, or Spring Thresh. Prompt Payment. In House Trucks, In House Excreta Cleaning. Vac Rental. 1-888-483-8789.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

DENTURES

WHEATLAND
Denture & Implant Centre

Do you want a beautiful smile?
Come for a **Free Consultation!**

403 901 0440
wheatlanddenture.ca
115 2 AVE Strathmore AB T1P 1A1

ELECTRICAL

JESCO
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LTD

RESIDENTIAL – COMMERCIAL
INDUSTRIAL – FARM & YARD
BUCKET TRUCK SERVICE
MASTER ELECTRICIANS

403-463-8616
Email: admin@jescoelectrical.ca
www.jescoelectrical.ca
Serving Southern Alberta Since 1999

FURNACE & DUCT CLEANING

THE CARPET COP
403-991-6192

STRATHMORE'S LEADER IN HOME SERVICES!

TRUCK MOUNTED CARPET CLEANING
FURNACE & DUCT CLEANING

THE CARPET COP
Kelly Camden
403.991.6192
kellycamden@hotmail.com

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

DENTURES

Strathmore DENTURE CLINIC

FREE Consultation
CONTACT US 403-902-2228
www.strathmoredentureclinic.com
219C 3rd Avenue, Across from the Post Office

Strathmore Denture Clinic StrathmoreDenture

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

FB Boersema & Partners Ltd.
Designers and Builders of Energy Efficient Homes

"Let us put YOUR thoughts on paper and build it to your satisfaction."

Certified I.C.F. Installers
403-651-4637 fbbp@efirehose.net
www.fbboersema.com
Serving the Foothills since '78.

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

All Decked Out AB
General Contracting

**DECKS
FENCES
ALUMINUM RAIL
VINYL DECKING**

Wes Breault 403-999-7097
wes@aldeckedoutab.ca
www.aldeckedoutab.ca

PLUMBING & HEATING

BRO-TECH
PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

- Hotwater Tanks
- Renovations
- Service Work
- New Construction
- Commercial
- Furnaces
- Hydronic Heating
- Gas Fitting
- Sewer Cleaning/ Sewer Camera

PRESTON & DYLAN CARL
LICENSED JOURNEYMAN
OWNER/OPERATOR
[Like us on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/brotech)

OFFICE 403-983-7671
admin@brotech.ca

SEPTIC SERVICES

NEED SEPTIC?

AFTERTHEFLUSH.CA

F.B. BOERSEMA ACREAGE DEVELOPERS
Since 1978 403-651-4637

Email: fbbp@efirehose.net
"Everything you need to turn raw land into your home"

COIN COLLECTIONS

CASH FOR COIN COLLECTIONS & ACCUMULATIONS OF COINS! ROYAL CANADIAN MINT COINS, OLD COINS, OLD PAPER MONEY, SILVER COINS, GOLD COINS, RARE COINS ETC

Also buying all Silver, Gold, Nuggets, Scrap, Coins, Old Jewelry, Bullion, Ingots, Sterling Silver, Old Quality Watches working or not, Rolex, Omega ++

TODD 780-504-7995

403-804-8340

GARAGE PARADE OF SALES
SPRING EDITION

6TH ANNUAL
Bark IN THE Park
 A Fun, Free, and Pet-Friendly Family Event!

TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

PARADE OF GARAGE SALES
 AUTUMN EDITION

Collecting food bank donations to support veterans and Legion members!

CANADA DAY FLAG GIVEAWAY!

CELEBRATING ANOTHER INCREDIBLE YEAR OF GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY!

DEBBIE MITZNER
RE/MAX
 LANDAN REAL ESTATE

LETTERS TO
Santa

Phone: 403.934.5555

www.debbiemitzner.ca

debmitzner@gmail.com

Welcome to
First Place

Strathmore's most unique and versatile short-term rental.

- Sleeps up to 14 people
- Full kitchen with all appliances and cookware
- Beautifully landscaped outdoor space with large deck and fire pit
- Flexible and functional private venue



Consider our house your home! From short term stays to business functions, to retreats, wedding, and family celebrations, you'll have the space to enjoy boutique comfort and charm along with amenities unmatched by traditional venues.

300 1st Avenue | www.welcometofirstplace.com | hello@welcometofirstplace.com | 1.877.807.1080