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VOLUME 15 ISSUE 49

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Kings split

Page 8



Chiefs on a tear

Town gets policing grant

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore council voted to approve a grant funding agreement with the Province of Alberta to support local police service delivery. A special meeting of council was held, Nov. 29 to discuss the agreement and decide whether to accept it.

Jonathan Strathdee, on behalf of Town of Strathmore administration, explained the town receives an annual grant for the policing services.

The Town of Strathmore received a letter from Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services, dated Nov. 27, stating the grant agreement for policing services needed to be returned by Dec. 1

Having approved the agreement, the town will receive a grant in the amount of \$408,224 for 2024, which equals the grant funding that the town received last year for the RCMP grant.

According to the province, as stated in the letter sent to the town, the decision to continue funding local police services at the same grant amount has been made due to continued financial pressures in delivery of policing.

In terms of use of the grant, the purpose of public safety grants is noted explicitly to ensure the delivery of policing, policing oversight, implementation of policing initiatives and priorities, and the ability to support enhanced policing services for the municipality.

Coun. Denise Peterson motioned for council to authorize the mayor to sign the policing funding support agreement as it was presented.

Coun. Brent Wiley inquired as to whether delaying in signing the agreement was possible and whether it would be possible to appeal for more grant funding from the province.

Kara Rusk, speaking on behalf of town administration, clarified that the grant funding being made available to the town is already the maximum which would be allowed by the province.

Further, Rusk explained if the town did not approve signing the agreement during the special council meeting, they would not proceed in time for the province's deadline, and would simply not receive any grant funding.

Continued on Page 4



Hawks looking to soar

Irelyn Kent of the Holy Cross Collegiate Hawks drives past a Bearspaw Glizzlies defender during the first game of the HCC Sr. girls' basketball tournament on Dec. 1. The Hawks played four other teams during the tournament and finished with a 1-3 record to open their new season.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Fighting hunger with hockey

Crowther Memorial Junior High hosted their annual Hockey for Hunger Dec. 1 at the Strathmore Family Centre. Students were encouraged to bring a nonperishable food donation for the Strathmore and Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society. Team Red came away with a 6-5 shootout win over Team Black. The goal this year was to fill an ambulance with donations, which they came very close to accomplishing.

Melissa Piche Photos



Buzzing performance

The Arts on 817, featuring the Buzz Brass along with the opening act "All of the Other Reindeer," performed to a sold-out crowd on Dec. 1 at the Strathmore United Church. The date marked the exact date from the band's first concert 22 years ago. Buzz Brass was met with not one, but two standing ovations as they graciously thanked the community for coming out to support the arts.

Melissa Piche Photos

Calgary Canucks assist Siksika Minor Hockey

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

An Alberta Junior Hockey League (AJHL) game was hosted at the Deerfoot Sportsplex between the Calgary Canucks and the Brooks Bandits, Nov. 29.

"A partnership was initiated between the President and Chairman of the Calgary Canucks and Chief Crowfoot back in the summertime before the Every Child Matters day in September," said Richard Running Rabbit, recreation team lead with Siksika Health Services. "We had started to prepare for an event, an AJHL showcase at the Max Bell Arena, which was a hugely successful event in promoting our culture, honouring our elders and spreading awareness."

As a further commitment from the Calgary Canucks organization, a regular season game was hosted at the Deerfoot Sportsplex with all proceeds going towards the Siksika Minor Hockey Association.

Siksika Health Services has previously hosted hockey games at the Deerfoot Sportsplex featuring the Calgary Hitmen, and are proud to boast their experiences working in partnership with the Calgary Sports Entertainment Corporation (CSEC).

The Nov. 29 game marks the first occasion that AJHL teams have competed at the Deerfoot Sportsplex.

"This partnership that we have with the Calgary Canucks has its own feel and flavour to it. They are also going to be providing seven camps for Treaty 7 Indigenous youth throughout the year, which we are going to help coordinate with them," said Running Rabbit. "That is going to be a partnership with Kakatosiiks Association, which is a Blackfoot word for 'stars.' They are a non-profit, and they serve Indigenous youth for initiatives like this, along with



The Calgary Canucks and Brooks Bandits hockey teams were hosted at the Deerfoot Sportsplex, Nov. 29 for a regular season game. Following the defeat of the Canucks, both teams were treated to a traditional meal and experience at the facility.

John Watson Photo

Siksika Health Services, and the SN7 group, which is a youth peer counselor group. Siksika family service department is also involved."

Both teams were invited for a cultural showcase and traditional meal following the game, which featured traditional singers, dancers, food and a host of local leadership personnel, the idea being to break down barriers and provide a well-rounded cultural experience.

The Calgary Canucks were ultimately defeated by the Brooks Bandits by the end of the game.

"What we are hoping to see is a life-long partnership with the Canucks ... this past month, they asked me to be a part of their board, which I gladly accepted, and I attended my first board meeting, Nov. 27," said Running Rabbit. "These partnerships have helped us to develop and grow as an organization and have strengthened our abilities to be able to host an event like this, and also to work with our neighbours and the surrounding communities."

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PIZZA 73

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Handi-bus petitions county for MoU to support operations

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Representatives from the Strathmore Handi-Bus Association presented to the Wheatland County Public Presentation Committee, Nov. 14, requesting the county's consideration to continue grant funding their organization.

In a letter addressing county council, the Handi-Bus Association declared its intent to establish a funding formula with the county, much like what has been established with the Town of Strathmore as a Memorandum of Understanding.

"The intent for us being here today is to establish a memorandum of understanding with the Wheatland County, similar to what we have had in place with the Town of Strathmore for the last several years," said Mark Gibeau, chairperson of the Handibus Association. "We feel as a board and as an association that having a varied, stable funding base to continue operations for the long-term is imperative."

Contributions from the county to the Handi-Bus Association have varied. Throughout the majority of the 2010's, the organization stated the county contributed \$35,000 per year, as well as paying for vehicle inspections. In 2020, the base funding amount was reduced to \$10,000.

The Handibus Association is estimating support from the county to be in the realm of \$40,500, plus the costs of vehicle inspections, should the county vote to issue grant funding as requested.

"The memorandum of understanding was a brainchild of several people within the town and our association, and in a nutshell, it substantially contributes to the operating costs of the Handi-bus Association," said Gibeau. "If there is ever any leftover operating money out of there, that goes back to the municipality every year. With the numbers that we see on the increase, that is probably not likely."

As of the end of 2022, following a review of clients using the handi-bus services, there were roughly 300 different individuals recorded to be clients, with 73 identifiable as county residents, or former residents and ratepayers.

The operating deficit for 2023 from current revenues for the Handi-bus Association is estimated to be in the realm of \$280,000.

Current revenues for the association include roughly \$193,000 from the Town of Strathmore, \$20,000 from donations, \$20,000 from interest, and \$50,000 from casino funds.

It was also described by Brian Grier, who also serves with the Handi-bus Association, that depending on actions made by the Town of Strathmore regarding land which the Handi-bus Association garage sits on, the organization may be either out of a storage facility, or their operating expenses could see an increase.

The County Public Presentation Committee voted unanimously to have the matter brought to a future regular meeting of council where it can be further discussed and voted upon.

Several local businesses hosting clothes, food drive for overnight shelter

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore Dodge, Royal LePage, Rocking Horse Industries, and the Co-operators have partnered to host a food and clothing drive to support the Strathmore Overnight Shelter.

Shawn Kisling, general manager for Strathmore Dodge, explained it is a practice he used to do prior to living in Strathmore, and aims to jumpstart the idea in town.

"Before I lived in Strathmore, I used to live in the Okanogan and I started a local clothing drive. It started really small, but within seven years, I went from getting one U-Haul box, to having two U-Haul trucks full of clothing," he said. "What I would do is I would go out every Christmas Eve and I would hand out to the homeless or those who are less fortunate in Kelowna. I know it has been a really tough year for a lot of people and I see it on a daily basis. People will come in looking for vehicles, and one of the big things right now is just the affordability of things."

Speaking with Natasha Fyfe, with the Strathmore Wheatland Chamber of Commerce, Kisling was hoping to get connected with other businesses who would be open to also engaging with his idea.

This led him to get connected with Royal LePa-

ge, Rocking Horse Industries, and the Co-operators, which now all host donation boxes at their respective business locations in Strathmore.

"We have boxes at all (the) locations; we are collecting any kind of clothing and it does not have to be new, it can be gently used, and non-perishable food items," said Kisling.

The drive started Nov. 27, and within the first 48 hours, Kisling said over 30 winter coats had been donated at the Dodge location alone.

He also challenged any business in Strathmore and Wheatland County to put a box out to collect clothing and food donations for the overnight shelter.

Donations will be accepted until Dec. 23, at which point all donations will be taken to the overnight shelter.

"It is all just a tremendous help. I would love to be able to fill at least two or three of my Ram trucks full of clothing and the donations," said Kisling. "It is not just clothing and food. Another huge thing is hygiene products – soap or deodorant or toothbrushes, all those things."

He also directed any who are curious about items which the overnight shelter may need, there is a posted list on their website, as well as more information about the operations of the overnight shelter.

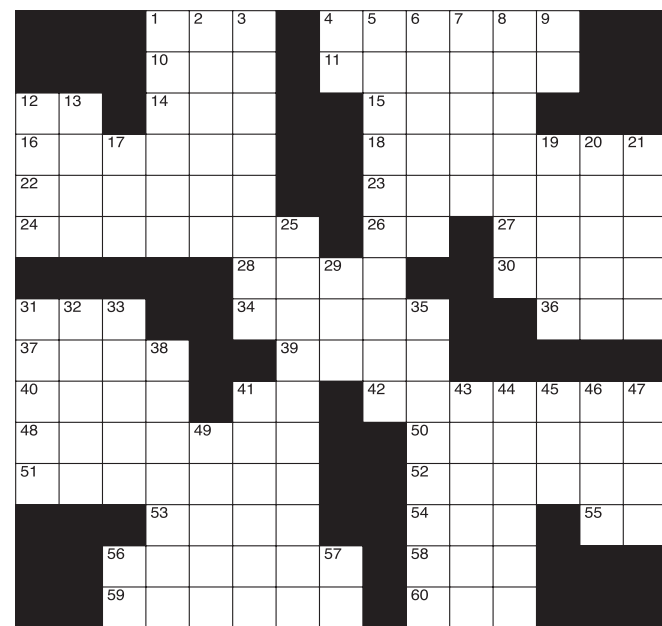


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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Beats per minute
- 4. Hindu deity
- 10. Polynesian garland of flowers
- 11. Not chained to
- 12. Metric ton
- 14. Tall, rounded vase
- 15. Musical composition
- 16. St. Francis of ___
- 18. Discover the location of
- 22. Compact group of mountains
- 23. Mend
- 24. Not current
- 26. Atomic #64
- 27. Young hawk
- 28. Or ___
- 30. Pouches
- 31. Southern Thailand isthmus
- 34. Mends with yarn
- 36. Downwinds
- 37. One of two equal parts of a divisible whole
- 39. Italian archaeological site
- 40. Cold appetizer
- 41. Yes
- 42. Peninsula
- 48. Of that
- 50. A way to divide
- 51. Relating to the physical senses
- 52. One who makes money
- 53. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 54. Inconvenience (abbr.)
- 55. South Dakota
- 56. Snow sport
- 58. The products of human creativity
- 59. Change mind
- 60. Born of

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Similar to the color of a clear unclouded sky
- 2. Former name of Iran
- 3. Made smaller
- 4. Type of meter
- 5. Revolt
- 6. Killed with rocks
- 7. Gregory __, US dancer
- 8. Nullifies
- 9. Home to the Flyers
- 12. Female parent
- 13. Pre-1917 Russian emperor
- 17. Outsourcing (abbr.)
- 19. Regal
- 20. Line
- 21. Hermann __, author of "Siddhartha"
- 25. Clearing up
- 29. No seats available
- 31. Leaves of an Arabian shrub
- 32. Groove in organ or tissue
- 33. Not of this world
- 35. Cooking device
- 38. Forget
- 41. Operational flight
- 43. Actress Danes
- 44. Poke holes in
- 45. A way to discolor
- 46. Shouts of welcome or farewell
- 47. Pharrell's group
- 49. Red fluorescent dye
- 56. Jr.'s dad
- 57. Electronics firm

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Celebrating the Reason for the Season

Strathmore United Church:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m. – Advent Four Worship
 Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. – Candlelight Service

Strathmore Alliance Church:
 Dec. 24, 10 a.m. – Regular Worship
 Dec. 24, 6 p.m. – Candlelight Service

Hope Community Covenant Church:
 Dec. 24, 10 a.m.
 Dec. 24, 5 p.m. – Christmas Eve

St. Michael and All Angels Anglican:
 Dec. 24, 2:30 p.m.
 – Christmas Eve celebration

Lord of All Lutheran:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m. – Children’s Service
 Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. – Candles and Carols
 Dec. 25, 10:30 p.m. – Communion Service

RCCG Peculiar People Assembly:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.
 – Christmas Carol Service
 Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m. – Christmas Service

Harvest Healing:
 No morning service on the 24th.
 Dec. 24, 4 p.m.
 – Christmas Eve celebration

Sacred Heart Parish (HCC Gym):
 Dec. 24, 10 a.m./5 p.m./8 p.m.
 – Christmas Eve
 Dec. 25, 12 a.m. (Midnight Mass)/10 a.m.
 – Christmas Day
 Dec. 31, 10 a.m./5 p.m. – New Year’s Eve
 Jan. 1, 10 a.m. – New Year’s Day

Bow River Alliance Church:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.
 – Brunch and Carol Sing
 Dec. 31, 6 p.m. – New Year’s Eve
 Potluck and Game Night

Strathmore Full Gospel Church:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.
 – Christmas Sunday Service




Christmas tunes time

The Piano Studio of Melissa Wiley, RMT held its annual Christmas piano recital at the Strathmore Alliance Church on Dec. 2. Thirty-two students each performed a Christmas piece and then they had refreshments following the show. The families of the students donated gift cards in support of True North, formerly the Wheatland Crisis Society.

Manny Everett Photo

Livestock permit needed for travel outside of Alberta

ALBERTA RCMP

The RCMP Livestock Investigations Unit would like to send a friendly reminder to people who intend on transporting horses and cattle across the border during the upcoming winter months. It is law for all livestock leaving the province of Alberta to be accompanied with a livestock permit. The inspection of livestock is pertinent for ownership identification, theft prevention and traceability.

Lifetime Horse Permits cost \$30 + GST and allow horses to be transported out of Alberta for the lifetime of the horse, or until there is a change of ownership. To request livestock inspection, please contact your location brand office.

Enjoy the holiday season safely

ALBERTA RCMP

The holiday season is upon us, and that means lots of time celebrating with family and friends. While the holidays are often a time of indulgence, it’s important to still keep safety in mind.

On Dec. 2, in support of National Impaired Driving Enforcement Day, officers were out conducting traffic enforcement initiatives and check stops, removing impaired drivers from our roadways. Together, we can all do our part to keep Alberta roadways safe.

The Alberta RCMP asks motorists to remember the following:

- Driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs is never okay. Impaired driving is both criminal and dangerous.
- Mandatory Alcohol Screening is used by 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.
- Individuals with a Graduated Driver’s Licence must abide by the zero-tolerance law (Government of Alberta, 2023).
- Impaired driving is always preventable and can always be avoided. Call a taxi or rideshare service, use a designated driver, or stay the night.
- If you are attending a party and have consumed drugs or alcohol, do not drive. Find a safe ride home, or a safe place to spend the night.
- Party hosts aren’t off the hook. If your guest have been drinking or using drugs, make sure they have a safe place to stay, or a sober ride home.
- Call 911 immediately if you witness or suspect impaired driving.

“This December, and always, remember to enjoy the holidays responsibly. If you are attending a party, make sure you have a sober ride home, or a safe place to spend the night,” reminds Sgt. Darrin Turnbull. “Last year, in Alberta RCMP jurisdictions, we responded to 233 fatal collisions, of which approximately 25 per cent involved alcohol or drugs. Alberta RCMP also removed 7,573 impaired drivers from Alberta roadways; that’s the equivalent of more than 20 impaired drivers per day.”

For more traffic safety information, follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta and Twitter @RCMPAlberta, along with the hashtag #DecemberToRemember.

Town to receive provincial grant to support local policing

Continued from Page 1

The town voted unanimously in favour of authorizing the mayor to sign the grant agreement in order to meet the province’s deadline.

As defined in the grant agreement, the town, being the recipient, will use the grant, including any accrued interest, solely and entirely to ensure it has adequate and effective policing and policing oversight, to assist in the implementation of provincial policing initiatives and priorities, to enhance policing services, and to offset the costs of employment of police officers.

The province has stated following the signing of the agreement, funds will be distributed to the town within a “reasonable time,” which was not otherwise specified.

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Shania's twin ready to shine

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

Donna Huber (aka Shania Twin), who is the main act for the Shania Twin Tribute, will be singing all of Shania Twain's hits as well as some familiar Christmas favourites during her "Shania's Christmas" concert Dec. 8 at the Strathmore Golf Club.

"People were saying 'you look like Shania Twain' and I had no idea who she was," said Huber, who began performing in 1996.

She explains that life was busy and she had never really paid attention before. Once she saw Shania's picture in magazines, she could see the resemblance. Prior to this realization, Huber had never stepped foot on stage professionally or as an amateur singer.

Huber's childhood was not a typical childhood in the sense that her father's career had the family moving and traveling a lot. Because of constantly being on the move, Huber considered this to be normal for her and she continues to travel, except now it's to perform as Shania Twin.

"It's busy into next year, we just keep going," she said of the bands extensive touring schedule.

Next year they are planning to travel to California, Las Vegas, Europe and New Mexico.

Huber recounts the one-time Shania actually commented on her performance. Shania was on a talk show doing an interview and they pulled out a poster of Huber dressed as Shania Twin.

"I thought, 'What is going on?'" She explained that the interviewer told Shania who was on the poster was and Shania said "Yes, I saw her."

"She (Shania) was very gracious," said Huber, who commented that the experience left a lasting impression on her as a performer.

Huber is excited to be playing in Strathmore.

"(We'll play) all the hits! Lots of energy, lots of hits. I'm gonna be dancing with the crowd and dancing with myself. We're just gonna have a great time," she said. "I just want them (citizens of Strathmore and area) to come out and party because Shania Twain music speaks for itself."

Tickets to this family show are \$55 each on Dec. 8, starting



The Strathmore Golf Club is pleased to present "Shania's Christmas" featuring Donna Huber as Shania Twin on Dec. 8.

Photo Courtesy of Donna Huber

with cocktails at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. The show will begin at 8 p.m.

Reservations can be made by emailing ddancey@strathmoregolfclub.com or by calling 403-934-2299.



Ice give back

The Strathmore Minor Ringette U14 Ice collected food donations for the Strathmore and Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society on Dec. 3 at the Calgary Co-op and Sobeys locations in Strathmore.

Melissa Piche Photo

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YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

One of the fastest growing segments of the beer industry is non-alcoholic beer. It is slightly ahead of the strong beer market while the regular strength beer consumption is flat. More and more people are making the decision to drink less alcohol. This holiday season is a good time of year to make that decision. The quality of these non-alcoholic beers is getting better all the time so if you are a beer drinker, give it a try.

Speaking of beverages, it seems that sparkling water is becoming more popular in recent years. People are drinking less sugar-sweetened carbonated drinks in favour of those containing no sugar, light carbonation and some flavour. These drinks provide the same hydration for the body and the any mineral content can be beneficial to health as well.

Doctors who study cognitive decline in seniors suggest there are six ways to slow memory decline. These are lifestyle choices that anyone can practice with a bit of determination and discipline. These are the six:

healthy diet; cognitive activity (reading, playing games); regular physical exercise; not smoking and abstaining from alcohol.

After meals? Before meals? With water or milk? Will it make me drowsy? Can I have a glass of wine with this medication? These are just a few of the questions you deserve the answers to when you receive a new prescription. Pharmacists have the answers. Ask them anything.

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Coping through the Holiday!

The holiday season can bring joy & excitement, and also stress & anxiety. Let's share, ask questions, and have a dialog regarding the stresses and challenges we may have during this time of year and hopefully learn a few strategies to help ourselves and others.

Tuesday, December 12 | 1:30-3:30 pm

Strathmore Municipal Library, Program Room
85 Lakeside Blvd., Strathmore

Guest Speaker **Joanne Simpson** AHS - Addiction and Mental Health
Free event for all ages (18+) | Snacks and refreshments provided

Register by December 11
Register at resources@swwellness.ca | 403-361-0268

Strathmore Wheatland Wellness Resource Project
resources@swwellness.ca | www.swwellness.ca

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Upcoming Meetings

Council and committee meetings will now be open to the public and via teleconference.

For public hearings it is strongly encouraged that you attend in person.

- December 12: Municipal Planning Commission**
- December 12: Committee of the Whole**
- December 19: Council Meeting**

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

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Available opportunities include:

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DATE: **December 19, 2023** | **TIME:** **5:00 - 9:30PM**
 Holiday Train arrives at 8:35pm

LOCATION: **Gleichen, Alberta**
 CP tracks at 3rd Avenue & Crowfoot Street

Join CPKC and celebrate the holidays by listening to great music and donating to help your local food bank.

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cpkcr.com/holidaytrain



WHEATLAND COUNTY INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR 2024 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/cefb

Deadline:

Applications must be post marked on or before January 31, 2024.

Please note that eligibility for 2024 funding is dependent on filing all previous funding reports with Wheatland County by January 31, 2024.

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



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



Public Hearings

Wheatland County Council Chambers December 19th, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the regular Council meeting on Tuesday, December 19th, 2023.

The following public hearings begin at 9 a.m. and proceed until all applications have been heard:

Bylaw #: 2023-17

Legal Description: Parcel F, Plan 1141FQ, and portions of LSD 4 & 5, all within SW-7-22-25-W4M (Carseland)

Proposal: To redesignate a ± 0.10 hectare (± 0.26 acre) portion of LSD 4 & 5 within SW-7-22-25-W4M from AG District to HC District in order to allow for a boundary adjustment between the subject lands, resulting in two parcels ± 0.26 hectares (± 0.65 acres) and ± 18.64 hectares (± 46.07 acres) in size.



Bylaw #: 2023-24

Legal Description: A portion of SE-18-24-25-W4M

Proposal: To redesignate a ± 5.67 hectare (± 14.00 acre) portion of SE-18-24-25-W4M from Agricultural General (AG) District to Rural Business (RB) District to facilitate the development of an Agricultural Support Services business.



Bylaw #: 2023-20

Legal Description: County-Wide

Proposal: To amend the Land Use Bylaw to update Specific Use Regulations and Land Use Districts. Areas under consideration include:

- Accessory buildings for Type 1 and Type 2 Home-Based Businesses, and
- Solar facilities as a discretionary use in the Industrial Intensive District.

Comments may be forwarded in writing to Wheatland County or in person at the above meeting. The application files may be reviewed in the County Office during regular office hours – Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Any comments provided will become part of the public record in accordance with Section 40 (1) of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act. Any personal information on submissions made regarding applications is collected under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 33 (c) and subsequent versions of the Act.



Weekend split

The Wheatland Kings split a pair of home games Dec. 2-3 when they hosted the High River Flyers and the Okotoks Bisons respectively at the Strathmore Family Centre. The local Junior B team earned a 6-4 win in the first game, before falling 3-1 to the league-leading Bisons the following day. The Kings will once again host a pair of weekend games Dec. 9-10 when they take on the Mountainview Colts (8 p.m.) and the Coaldale Copperheads (4:30 p.m.).

Joe Lepage Photo



Bryn Roy hosts annual football combine

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Bryn Roy's football combine returned to Strathmore for its third year, Dec. 2-3, to provide an opportunity for youth to train, hone their skills, and be noticed by the professional scene.

Roy has been hosting his camps for the last seven years, and began to bring them to Strathmore in 2020, where he got his start playing football. Over the weekend, 55 youth attended the camp, which took place at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre.

"I have a lot of close ties with this community ... my first year playing football was Strathmore's first year to have a bantam program," he said. "We started having these camps while I was still playing ball. I was helping out, helping coach different teams and seeing that there is quite a disconnect from athletes who have a desire to play, from those who had the know-how of where to go."

Roy explained when he was starting his career in football, there was very little information available to rural athletes who were looking for opportunities to play at the junior or post-secondary level.

One of the goals of the combine is to minimize some of the steps for youth and future athletes to take towards reaching their goals as athletes.

"I had no guidance. I walked on at a junior college, I intentionally sat out of my social studies exam in high school so that I wouldn't graduate and I could go to Arizona to play another year of high school football," said Roy. "My whole path was to just figure it out and it was just pure desi-

re and want to play. Because of that, I am trying to help some of these kids and erase some of the hurdles that I had and try to give them a clear vision of what is possible."

Roy's combine is a two-day camp, with the first being more of a teaching day with a host of coaches and former professional players on site to instruct the kids and help them get settled.

The second day is about performance, testing, and the kids making themselves known to recruiters, as well as to simply push themselves and measure what they are capable of.

Participation in the camps is open to youth between Grades 9 and 12. For the younger kids, they are able to get their start earlier and refine their skills, while those on the verge of graduating can get noticed to potentially play beyond the high school level.

Roy added in the seven years since the combines launched, over 80 kids have been signed to play junior football, Canadian university football, or even to the US through direct influence from the camp.

"That is tremendous to think about the fact that that many kids have come through this event and ended up being able to extend their careers, and build careers," said Roy. "The whole goal of this camp is to provide what 15-year-old me would have loved to have had."

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Chiefs on fire

The Wheatland Chiefs won their third game in a row when they defeated the West Central Tigers 2-1 on Dec. 2 at the Strathmore Family Centre. Since the calendar flipped to November, the local U18AA team is on a 7-1-2 run, which has lifted them to second place in the North Division. The Chiefs will now travel to Airdrie on Dec. 8, before returning to the Hussar Arena to host Bow Valley on Dec. 9 (7:30 p.m.).

Joe Lepage Photo



Rival game

The Strathmore Storm U18 Tier 3 team hosted the Rockyford Roughnecks on Dec. 2 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The Roughnecks pulled out a 4-0 win.

Joe Lepage Photo



Fun on ice

The Strathmore Storm U9C team hosted the Carstairs Bruins in a fun game on Dec. 3 at the Strathmore Family Centre.

Joe Lepage Photos

ACWS releases annual domestic abuse data

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Member organizations of the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters (ACWS), which includes Strathmore's True North, have published their annual data release.

Linda McLean, executive director of True North, explained data is collected throughout the year from emergency shelters across the province as a collective before being released annually in December. The data is used to "paint a picture" of what shelters observe concerning domestic abuse in Alberta.

"This year, we have actually seen a 10-year high in the sheer number of people who were seeking emergency shelter. We saw a 12.5 per cent increase in the number of calls for help, so 59,215 calls for help were received by shelters across the province," she said. "It is a very large number of them. We also saw a 19 per cent increase in the number of individuals who were served in shelter in this past year – so that includes women and children."

Regarding the shelter in Strathmore specifically, the numbers are almost identical to the data shared

by similar organizations across the province, being a roughly 19 per cent increase in people seeking support from True North.

McLean added, according to the collective ACWS data, 44 per cent of all domestic emergency calls originated from small towns or rural areas.

"One of the things that we are finding is of great concern is that the length of time that women and families are staying in shelter has increased by almost 25 per cent," she said. "That has a lot to do right now with the fact that it is exceptionally difficult right now to exit to community housing because of our housing crisis, because of the affordability, because of the very low vacancy rates, particularly in the Strathmore and Wheatland County area."

McLean explained with people being unable to safely and effectively leave the shelters into appropriate housing, it is preventing more people in crisis from being able to access services such as those offered by True North.

"We are in a bit of a perfect storm, just because of the context that we are operating in," she said. "The economic pressures on families right now, the inflationary situation related to affordability is putting a

lot of strain on people. We also believe that in the aftermath of the pandemic, we are seeing dramatic increases on the mental health and wellbeing of individuals and families, including children and youth."

Stress and strain on families and individuals regarding the housing crisis, as well as inflationary concerns are noted to be contributors to instances of domestic violence.

Overlaying those challenges, McLean added there remain societal values and norms which "normalize the abuse of women and children."

Regular grant funding that True North receives has also not increased since 2015, which continues to add to the challenges of being able to support so many who are in need, and are unable to exit into more regular, stable housing.

True North is in the process of a capital project and is seeking the support necessary to construct 36 units of affordable housing within the Strathmore community, though the project is still in its infancy and does not yet boast an estimated completion date.

More information about True North, as well as crisis lines and crisis resources can be found on their website.





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11,000-year-old bison skeleton moved to Blackfoot Crossing

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The partial skeleton of an 11,000-year-old bison were returned from the Badlands Historical Museum in Drumheller to be displayed at the Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park.

The skull, shoulder blades, spine, and ribs of a bison antiquus occidentalis, which is now an extinct species, were moved to Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park, Nov. 30.

This specimen was originally discovered in 1957 at the site of an abandoned strip mine near Taber, and has been on display in Drumheller for decades. A ceremony to mark the occasion was hosted at the Blackfoot Crossing museum on moving day.

“We are thrilled to accept the display here at Blackfoot Crossing. This has been in plans for years and we are honoured that the Drumhel-

ler Historical Society board chose us as the new home for this significant display,” said Shannon Bear Chief, general manager of Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park.

The bones will be the centrepiece of a larger new exhibit, which will also include other bison artifacts and specimens in the Blackfoot Crossing collections.

Also about the display, a stone artifact embedded in the specimen marks the earliest known evidence of human presence in Alberta, and some of their interactions with the sire species.

The artifact and markings on the skull are believed to come from an ancient axe, and present evidence of a prehistoric bison hunt by early humans.

According to information made available through Blackfoot Crossing, the bison antiquus became extinct roughly 6,000 years ago.

Continued on Page 10

County passes land use redesignation

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council has passed third reading of Bylaw 2023-14, being a bylaw to amend Land Use Bylaw 2016-01 to redesignate portions of land from agriculture general, Speargrass low-density residential, and parks and recreation, to Speargrass medium-density residential.

The bylaw was discussed during the Nov. 21 regular meeting of council, with the public, and the applicant party being able to speak to their thoughts on the redesignation.

Prior to the bylaw receiving second and third readings, a public hearing was held to gauge the public’s response, as well as to read into record letters which were sent in by county ratepayers.

Several letters from the public were read into the record, which had not previously been added to the public agenda package prior to the county’s deadline after circulating information regarding the potential land use redesignation.

In council’s public agenda package, it was written in that county administration had recommended that council approve second and third readings of the bylaw following the public hearing and question period.

The application proposal will facilitate a future boundary adjustment, allowing for the reconfiguration of the Speargrass Golf Course, as well as the construction of a driving range and practice facility.

The areas to be redesignated include a 3.8 hectare portion from agriculture general to medium-density residential, a 0.19 hectare portion from low-den-

sity residential to medium-density residential, and a 2.2 hectare portion from parks and recreation to medium-density residential.

Subject lands are on the westernmost edge of Speargrass Boulevard within the Speargrass community, and are immediately north of the Bow River, which abuts Vulcan County to the south.

Land uses in the immediate vicinity of the subject parcels include the commercial operation of the Speargrass Golf Course, agriculture, and residential use cases.

Letters from county residents to council were divided regarding the potential for the land use redesignation, with several letters both in support and in opposition being received.

Concerns from Coun. Scott Klassen and Coun. Rick Laursen prior to the bylaw passing were in regards to a lack of information and familiarity about the potential impacts to the land and community following redevelopment, as well as not having a concrete indication of what the redevelopment will look like upon completion.

Coun. Donna Biggar motioned for council to approve second reading of bylaw 2023-14. Coun. Tom Ikert followed suit, motioning to pass third and final reading of the bylaw.

County council voted to grant second and third readings to bylaw 2023-14, both in votes of 6-1 in support. Coun. Rick Laursen was the sole councillor in opposition to the land use redesignation.

More information regarding the land use redesignation, as well as maps of the sites are available in the public agenda package for the county’s Nov. 21 regular meeting.

Alberta is open for business!

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

This past week, our province witnessed a week of economic success unlike anything we have seen in recent years, starting with a very positive second quarter fiscal update.

According to the update, Alberta continues to be on a path of strong economic growth, with a projected surplus of \$5.5 billion in 2023-24, an increase of \$3.2 billion from the original forecast in Budget 2023. Despite fiscal improvements, our government remains laser-focused on reducing the province’s debt burden and will pay down a forecasted \$3.2 billion in debt this fiscal year.

“Alberta continues to stand out as a leader when it comes to fiscal stability and economic resilience amid so much global uncertainty. Our second-quarter fiscal update is another positive report, showing strength in Alberta’s finances and economy and positioning us for future growth and prosperity,” Finance Minister Nate Horner said, following the update.

While Alberta’s balance sheet is strong and resilient, our United Conservative government continues to prioritize responsible economic management in the wake of ongoing global uncertainty.

As we begin preparations for Budget 2024, our government remains focused on responsible spending and Albertans’ core priorities. We will also continue implementing business-friendly policies that help create jobs and attract investment.

This past week, we learned that, in November alone, Alberta gained 8,900 more jobs. This means that over the past 12 months, our employment has grown by 4.1 per cent, well above the national average of 2.5 per cent. This is due, in part, to our United Conservative government’s investment-friendly policies that have inspired job creators to set-up shop and expand their operations in Alberta. Our government is committed to continuing to build relationships with Alberta businesses and industry to ensure our province continues to create jobs, attract investment, and be the best place in the world to live, work, and raise a family.

With 2024 on the horizon, our United Conservative government remains focused and dedicated to creating jobs, attracting investment, and growing and diversifying the economy to better the lives of everyday Albertans.

More good news and our best days are still ahead! *(Chantelle de Jonge is the MLA for Chestermere-Strathmore and the Parliamentary Secretary for Affordability and Utilities)*

2023

Tree of Hope

For the 28th consecutive year, you have the opportunity to remember loved ones and support the Strathmore Hospital and Home Care With A Donation to the Hospital Foundation.

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Liberals cave to big-tech giants

MARTIN SHIELDS
Member of Parliament Bow River Riding

A few months ago, during deliberations on Bill C-18 at Heritage committee, the Liberal and NDP members could not make an intervention without accusing Conservatives of “standing with big tech.” Besides being entirely false, this accusation falls flat on its face when accounting for the millions those two parties dump into online Facebook advertising, as well as the pages they run on these platforms.

So, when Facebook and Google did exactly what they said they would do, that is, remove partially or entirely Canadian news from their platforms due to the Liberals’ Bill C-18, the government went up in arms! Well, just last week, the Minister of Canadian Heritage announced that the government struck a deal with Google that would see Canadian news remain on the search engine, in exchange for an annual sum of \$100 million.

Except that this deal was, again, exactly what Google had suggested they do in the first place. See, Google was always willing to work with the government in keeping Canadian news available to Canadians on their search. What they didn’t want, just like Facebook, was to have the terms dictated to them by the government about how much they would have to pay CBC for example, to host their links.

Bill C-18, or the Online News Act really is a backwards piece of legislation. It’s like approaching a store to display your product on their shelf, and having the store pay you for it.

Facebook didn’t budge, and now many small local news outlets that used Facebook as a means of connecting their publication to their community have been frozen out thanks to this government’s complete lack of transparency and foresight with this bill.

What’s worse is that Bill C-18 would have seen an overwhelming majority of the revenue distributed to big broadcasting companies like CBC, Rogers, and Bell. Despite what the former Minister of Heritage would like you to believe, C-18 was not about “leveling the playing field” because the small local weekly newspapers like many in the Bow River riding would have received pennies once the big corporations took their share.

So this brings us to the announcement. What was it? After months of negotiations and the government trying to play hardball ... the government exempted Google from C-18, and allowed them to negotiate with what is being called a “media collective” to display news on Google. Which media will be in this collective? Well, state-approved media of course. If an outlet doesn’t qualify, no Google money for you.

Read more about the Bill from Dr. Michael Geist, University of Ottawa Law Professor: Skillful Negotiation or Legislative Fail? Taking Stock of the Bill C-18 Deal With Google.

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).

A welcomed display

Continued from Page 9

“Welcoming this display to our historical park is extremely exciting and we welcome the public to come join us at Blackfoot Crossing to celebrate this significant piece of history,” said Shilo Clark, communications officer with Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park. “The Blackfoot people hold the bison very sacred.”

The special animal provides many things. “(They) provided pretty much everything we needed to survive, so food, tools, clothing, shelter,” said Sasheen Wright, Blackfoot Crossing collections manager.

Blackfoot Crossing museum is creating a collection storyline committee, which will ultimately decide how the final display will be exhibited.

No specific date has yet been noted as to when the final bison display will be open for viewing at the Blackfoot Crossing museum.

NEXT HOME GAMES

Saturday, December 9 • 8 pm vs Mountainview

Sunday, December 10 • 4:30 pm vs Okotoks

Strathmore Family Centre
- Gold Arena

Dec 2
Kage Yellowfly

Dec 3
Rhett Harten

PLAYER OF THE GAME

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary



FOX, Linda Fox
May 8, 1949 - November 27, 2023

Linda Fox of Calgary Alberta, passed away peacefully in her sleep at Southwood Hospice on Monday, November 27, 2023 at the age of 74 years.

She was the loving mother of Timothy (Karen) Syroid of Langley, BC, Tammy (David) Syroid of Surrey, BC Jennifer (Jenna) Fox of Calgary, AB; grandchildren, Kaitiin and Ella Syroid and will also be lovingly remembered by her siblings, Albert (Elaine) Therrien, Tom (Karen) Therrien and Dennis Therrien. Linda was predeceased by her parents, Donat and Ruby Therrien and sister, Beverly.

Linda was born in Brandon, Manitoba on May 8, 1949. At a young age, Linda moved to Alberta where she married and became a mother of three children. Linda attended school for hairdressing and went on to own a barber shop in Innisfail, Alberta. She later moved to Kamloops, BC where she worked in a variety of different roles. Although Linda suffered from chronic pain for several years, she was never one to complain or ask for help. She was fiercely independent and took pride in taking care of herself. Linda cared for the people in her life by cooking and baking and she always made enough food to feed an army. Over the years, Linda welcomed a number of her children’s friends into her home, sometimes for a meal and sometimes for a month. Linda was also an animal lover who never could turn away a stray. Her calm demeanor and consistent care meant that any pet in the home kept close to her. The people closest to Linda will fondly remember spending countless evenings chatting with her over a hot cup of tea. In lieu of flowers, donations in Linda’s memory would be gratefully received by The Alberta SPCA. Service to be held in the spring.

THANK YOU



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Advertisers: More Country 104.5, Strathmore Times



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Bamboo Guppies - February 10, 2024
- Shall Miller - March 30, 2024
- Tim Isberg - October 18, 2024
- The Travelling Mabels - November 23, 2024

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NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE CGC INC. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT NOTICE OF APPLICATION

CGC Inc. has applied to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) to construct and operate a Drywall Wallboard Manufacturing Facility about 2.5 KM West of Carseland, Alberta.

The LLD for the site is LSD 9, 10, 15 and Portions of 7,8 and 16-10-022-26 W4M, alongside Township road 222.

The Facility will have a capacity of over 300,000 tonnes per year of drywall boards. Raw product (gypsum) will be shipped to the site by rail.

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: aep.epeapplications@gov.ab.ca

The written statement of concern should include the following:

- the application number 001-495207
- 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:

CGC Inc.
Attention: Erin Stewart
5025 52 AVE SE CALGARY, AB T2C 4N7
Telephone: 403-975-9528
Email: estewart@usg.com

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

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Airdrie Dream Vacation Lottery Draw 2024

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All monies raised go to local charities
See website for more information
<https://airdriedreamvacation.ca>

\$35,760

Only 600 Printed Tickets \$120 ELIGIBLE FOR ALL DRAWS
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In Prizes plus 2 EARLY BIRDS worth \$3,900

FIRST MONTHLY DRAW APRIL 7, 2024

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

COMING EVENTS

Happy Gang Society
Christmas Tea & Bake Sale
 Saturday, December 9
 Bake Sale 11-3 pm
 Christmas Tea 12-3 pm • \$5
Lambert Centre
 next to Library
 For information please call 403-480-4336



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 @ 403-934-5687

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COMING EVENT

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HEALTH

HIP/KNEE REPLACEMENT. Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING? The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$3,000 yearly tax credit and \$30,000 lump sum refund. Take advantage of this offer. Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide: Expert help. 1-844-453-5372.

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RosebudTheatre.com/Careers



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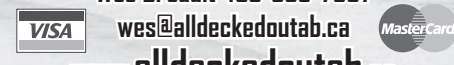
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SUDOKU

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

UPHOLSTERY

Ace Custom Sewing.com
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Not taking any new clients because of medical issues until 2024
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Upcoming Council Meetings

December 6, 2023 | 6 P.M. Regular Meeting of Council
December 13, 2023 | 6 P.M. Committee of the Whole
December 20, 2023 | 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.



Information session
Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework and Intermunicipal Development Plan

Join the conversation

What is an ICF?

It's a tool to facilitate and encourage cooperation and cost-sharing between neighbouring municipalities to ensure municipal services are provided to residents efficiently.

We're working collaboratively with Wheatland County to develop a new Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) and Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP).

Both an ICF and IDP are required through the Municipal Government Act (MGA) between municipalities that share a common boundary. Currently, the Town and County do not have an ICF or IDP in place, therefore, to meet MGA requirements these projects have been initiated.

What is an IDP?

It's an agreement between two or more municipalities, which outline how planning and development decisions will be made when they affect both sides of the boundary lines.

How can you get involved?
 For Phase 1, the Town and County will be hosting an information session on December 13, 2023 to introduce the ICF and IDP project and answer any questions the public and interested parties may have.

WHEN:
 December 13, 2023
 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

WHERE:
 Strathmore Civic Centre
 120 Brent Blvd.

QUESTIONS?
 Vicki Dodge, Project Manager, Town of Strathmore,
 vicki.dodge@strathmore.ca, 403-814-0702

Stefan Kunz, Project Manager, Wheatland County,
 stefan.kunz@wheatlandcounty.ca, 403-361-2162

Strathmore.ca



Seasonal Collection Schedule

November 01, 2023 to April 30, 2024

January 1, 2024 new collection days

● black cart/waste
 ● green cart/organic

February 2024

28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	1

December 2023

26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

January 2024

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	1	2	3	4	5

March 2024

25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

April 2024

31	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	1	2	3	4

Keep organics light and fluffy!

Avoid packing down contents in your cart. Materials may become stuck in the cart, and the truck may not be able to fully empty it. Lining and layering your cart every 30 cm (12") with newspaper, food boxes or paper towels will also reduce materials from becoming stuck. If items are stuck, it is up to you to loosen them and put them out for the next collection date.

May 1, 2024 - return to weekly garbage and compost collection.

Questions?
 infrastructure@strathmore.ca
 or 403-361-2108
 or strathmore.ca/waste-collection

Waste Collection Days – effective January 1, 2024

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hillview	Aspen	Cambridge	Downtown
Lakewood	Briarwood	Glenwood	Strathmore
Strathaven	Brentwood	Grande Point Est.	Westmount
Strathcona	Crystal Ridge	Green Meadows	Wildflower
Range Rd 254	Edgefield	Maplewood	
	The Ranch	Parkwood	
	Thornccliffe	Range Rd 250	
		George Freeman	

No Collection on Monday

waste collection questions - 403-361-2108 / infrastructure@strathmore.ca
 waste cart repair or replacement - 403-361-2126 / operations@strathmore.ca
 strathmore.ca/waste-collection strathmore.ca/question



Get on the nice list.
 Pay your non-moving violation ticket with a toy.
Nov. 13 to Dec. 11, 2023

Municipal Enforcement's Toys for Tickets is back for 2023

The Town of Strathmore is revving up its second annual Toys for Tickets program.

In the spirit of the holiday season, the Town of Strathmore will be launching the second annual Toys for Tickets campaign. Toys for Tickets gives every person who is issued a Municipal Enforcement non-moving violation the opportunity to pay the fine amount by donating a new, unwrapped toy of equal or greater value to the penalty of their parking ticket. All toys collected as part of the Toys for Tickets program will be donated by the Town of Strathmore in support of the Strathmore & Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society.

"Toys for Tickets is a wonderful opportunity to help children in our community have a joyous and memorable Christmas. Many in our community are facing challenges this holiday season, and this program allows people to turn their ticket into a means of helping our neighbours and community have a Merry Christmas," said Mayor Pat Fule.

To donate, every person who receives a Municipal Enforcement non-moving violation ticket from November 13 to December 11, 2023 can bring their ticket with an unwrapped toy in its original packaging and proof of purchase to the Strathmore Municipal Building (1 Parklane Drive). Donations of more than one toy are accepted if the value of the toy equals or exceeds the amount owing on the fine.

Didn't get a ticket but would still like to help? Anyone is welcome to bring new, unwrapped toys to the Strathmore Municipal Building as part of this campaign. All toys left under the lobby Christmas

trees will also be donated in support of the Strathmore & Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society.

"We are excited to announce our second annual Toys for Tickets campaign. Toy donations in lieu of parking tickets is a great way the Town can be innovative and make a difference in our community. Last year, participants donated over \$700 worth of toys to the Strathmore and Wheatland Christmas Hamper Society," said Mark Pretzlaff, Community & Protective Services

based on the needs of the community and evaluation criteria.

Eligibility:

Applicants must be eligible under the Family and Community Support Services Act and Regulation as well as the United Way Funding Agreement. Preference will be given to not-for-profit organizations registered under the Societies Act that:

- Sustain people as active participants in the community
- Help people to develop independence, strengthen coping skills and become more resistant to crisis
- Help people to develop an awareness of social needs
- Help people to develop interpersonal and group skills which enhance constructive relationships among people
- Help people and communities to assume responsibility for decisions and actions which affect them and others
- Provide supports that help sustain people as active participants in the community

Submit your letter of intent application today at Strathmore.ca/FCSSGrant or call FCSS at 403.934.9090 to learn more about the FCSS/United Way Funding Grant.

FCSS/United Way Grant Funding Call for Applications

Strathmore Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) works closely with the United Way to provide funding to non-profit organizations that enhance the social well-being of individuals and families.

Premised on strengthening individuals, families, and the community, FCSS/United Way funded programs build knowledge, skills and healthy behaviours, improving quality of life and building capacity to prevent and deal with crisis situations should they arise. These activities are carried out under the authority of a joint municipal/provincial program regulated by the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Act of Alberta. The Town of Strathmore allocates this funding