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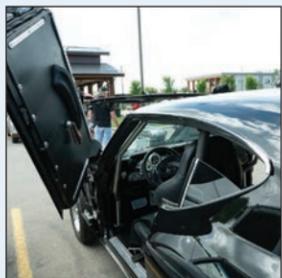
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Page 6



Fun Runners fun

Page 7



Provincial hosts

WHMB remains confident

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The new seniors lodge project set to be developed in Strathmore will be subject to delay as the Wheatland Housing Management Board (WHMB) was unsuccessful again in their application for provincial funding.

Board Chair Glenn Koester explained though the board was disappointed, ultimately there were over 100 applications submitted to the province for a finite number of resources which had been made available for housing projects this period.

“When we got the letter from the Alberta Government, they said that we can contact them and they will go over our application and how we can change it up,” he said. “We will take them up on that; that will be their call when we can meet with them ... there were just more applications than they have money (for), but I think we have a good application.”

He explained the WHMB will seek support again from the province in the fall when the next round of funding becomes available for application.

In the meantime, the board will seek support from other sources and continue to accumulate funding towards the tender of the project.

As election season approaches, Koester added there is a possibility the WHMB will see a shift in members once the new Wheatland County council is determined.

“We will have to get everybody up to speed. It is going to take time – it always takes time. You just have to sit down and discuss it and go through everything we have done,” said Koester.

Continued on Page 4



What a ride!

The 2025 Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer rolled through town for the third time July 19-20 at the Strathmore Agricultural Grounds. The two-day cycling challenge drew 1,800 cyclists and raised an impressive \$9.4 million in support of cancer research. The Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer has become one of Alberta's largest fundraising events for cancer research, with millions of dollars raised each year. See Page 5 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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What does 'affordable housing' really mean for Strathmore?

COURTNEY HELFRICH
Executive Director, True North Society

Everyone deserves a safe and violence-free home. It has been both encouraging and eye-opening to see our community talking about affordable housing and sharing their concerns and hopes for their neighbours and friends. As the Executive Director of True North Society, I want to respond

not just as a service provider, but as your neighbour who has long-standing connections to this community and cares deeply.

Stable and affordable housing is a cornerstone of social well-being, impacting safety, health, and overall quality of life for individuals and families. We know how important safe housing is – we cannot heal unless we have our basic needs met first, housing being one of them. Housing shapes how safe we feel, how connected we are, and the kind of future we can build; it has the power to create long-lasting change, stability and resiliency.

At True North, we support people doing the hardest thing they've ever done – leaving an abusive situation or environment, often with nothing but their children and a backpack. However, once a survivor's stay in emergency shelter ends, the options available to them for sustainable, long-term housing are becoming more and more limited and less and less affordable. Many survivors are forced to move away from Strathmore entirely to start all over again in new communities, forcing children to leave schools and friends behind. Some have had to wait months on waitlists only to find themselves moving in with family or friends temporarily, surviving in environments that may not be best for their long-term healing.

That's why we've been developing and designing a 36-unit affordable housing project right here in Strathmore: "Finding Your True North," a long-term housing solution with on-site wrap-around supports for individuals and families rebuilding after violence. It's a rural solution built for rural realities. It's designed to keep families connected, supported, and provided with care, to mitigate the risk factors that are unique to rural communities. Those who need it most are our friends and neighbours, seniors on fixed incomes, single parents working in our community, and survivors trying to stay close to the only support systems they know.

Finding Your True North – a model of prevention, intervention, stability – is grounded in the belief that no single service can end gender-based violence on its own. With the support of our local and provincial representatives, federal grants, and donors, we will reach our vision of a safe and affordable housing solution. As many of you may be aware, True North Society recently received \$3.5M from the Government of Alberta, through the Ministry of Assisted Living and Social Services' Affordable Housing Partnership Program, to go towards building. Real change happens when services are coordinated, communities are engaged, and systems work together.

Strathmore has always been a community that cares, especially when it matters most. Housing isn't just a policy issue: it's a safety issue, a community issue, a human issue. We all have a role to play. Visit www.truenorthab.com or follow us on Facebook to stay up to date. Reach out to True North via email (general@truenorthab.com).



Chantelle de Jonge, MLA
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County ASB discusses shelterbelt and eco-buffer project challenges

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland County Agriculture Service Board (ASB) addressed challenges related to the shelterbelt and eco-buffer demonstration project during the July 9 meeting in council chambers.

George Bloom, agricultural fieldman, explained the project has encountered challenges related to irrigation and future planting.

In order to advance the project, approvals related to Alberta Transportation, pipeline agreements, and Fortis were required.

These, respectively, regarded buffer distance regarding proximity to Highway 24, agreements over where pipes are to be planted, and tree planning near to power lines.

“Initially, three areas on the site were identified for demonstration planting: two areas west of the lagoon near the firehall, and one rectangular area north of the lagoon and south of Highway 24,” said Bloom. “Following a detailed site assessment, two areas west of the lagoon are deemed unsuitable due to the significant presence of pipelines, powerlines and other infrastructure, as well as the potential for current and future conflicts with county operations around the infrastructure.”

He added, while the proposed north area also contains decommissioned pipelines and a utility easement, it remains suitable for the demonstration planting.

The project aims to provide data on species’ hardiness and survivability under dryland conditions. It will help to identify which tree species are better for the area and provide insights into practices such as using mulch and weed management for tree health.

Prior to the ASB meeting, all necessary approvals and signed agreements had been obtained from the respective organizations and were pending the county’s signature based on ASB recommendations.

“Some of those challenges include the higher irrigation costs connecting to the proposed planting site to the adjacent fire hall’s municipal water supply was quoted at over \$50,000 and excluding the irrigation infrastructure such as the piping and sprinkler heads, estimates at another \$8,000,” said Bloom. “Using treated wastewater from the lagoon was considered, but it is not significantly less costly, and it presents additional challenges including pipe length, operational concerns regarding low pressure nutrient loading, environment approvals, and potential interference with county operations.”

Options presented before the ASB included to either proceed with planting on the three-acre area between Highway 24 and the lagoon using drought-tolerant species without installing irrigation or removing the Carseland lagoon site entirely from the shelterbelt and eco-buffer demonstration project.

Concerns persist about planting trees without irrigation, as there remains notable potential for high loss rates and the creation of negative public perception of wasted taxpayer money if the project trees die.

The board carried a motion to amend the scope of the project, directing administration to proceed with planting the Carseland shelterbelt and eco-buffer demonstration site, including an irrigation component as allowed by the budget.

County reviews subdivision development appeal board bylaw

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County is looking to remove redundancies in its subdivision development appeal board bylaw, as well as improve ability to secure enough members for the body to fulfil its functions.

Amendments to the bylaw were presented before council during the July 8 regular meeting. Stefan Kunz presented that several sections of the bylaw mirror the content of the Municipal Government Act, while others require clarification.

During his presentation to council, he drew specific attention to areas of the bylaw regarding telecommunications, signing, membership, flexibility, and having an ad hoc membership.

Amendments to the bylaw were initially introduced before the Committee of the Whole, Nov. 19, 2024. At the time, proposed changes focused on revising board membership criteria, as well as board compensation.

County administration was directed to further explore adjustments related to residency requirements and the minimum number of board members required for the body to function.

Among the proposed amendments, the revised bylaw would broaden membership eligibility from exclusively landowners to also include residents of Wheatland County.

As the Province of Alberta has removed municipal codes of conduct through Bill 50, the section of the bylaw referencing the code of conduct is

now irrelevant and unenforceable. Administration recommended simply removing it from the document to further reduce redundancy.

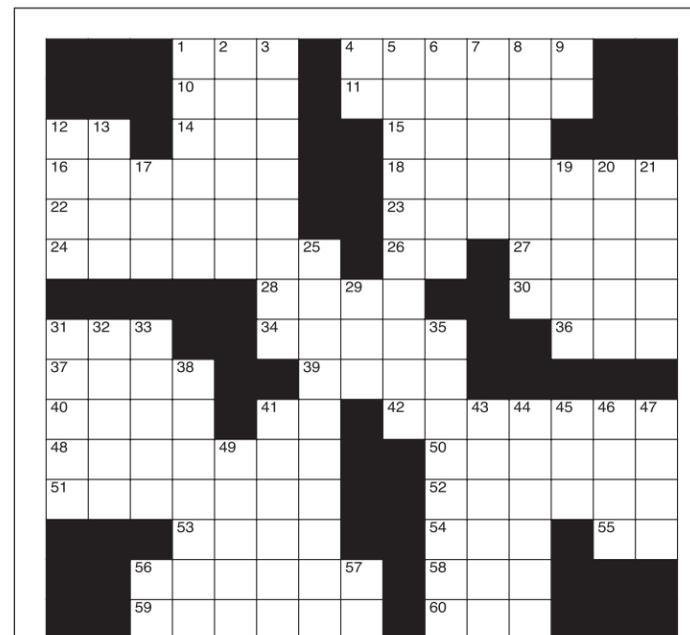
As land developers are technically eligible to serve on the Subdivision Development Appeal Board, Coun. Rick Laursen raised a concern that while not explicitly excluded, ethically they should remove themselves from any hearing involving their own interests in order to prevent a conflict of interest from arising.

Similar concerns were noted during the meeting regarding potential bias from realtors, who would also be expected to exercise the same discretion.

The subdivision development appeal board, under the amended bylaw, would maintain an absolute minimum membership requirement of three. In an instance where this is not able to be met, or during a hearing, if enough members to drop the board below three would have to excuse themselves from the discussion due to a conflict of interest, ad hoc members or “pinch hitters” to fill requirements would be required to be on standby to fill in when necessary.

Chief Administrative Officer, Brian Henderson, added the bylaw amendments are not pertinent for council to pass immediately, and administration is not in any particular haste.

Council voted to pass first reading of the bylaw amendments and directed administration to bring further revisions of the bylaw before council again in August to receive second and third readings. No specific date was set during the July 8 meeting.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Pacific standard time
- 4. Extracts through heating and melting
- 10. Express delight
- 11. More curvy
- 12. Expression of uncertainty
- 14. Indicates before
- 15. Daughter of Hera and Zeus
- 16. Southwestern CA city
- 18. Unified
- 22. Less attractive
- 23. Base of jellies
- 24. A large and noisy party
- 26. He was traded for Luka
- 27. Wolverine genus
- 28. “Happy Days” actress Moran
- 30. Root of taro plant
- 31. Student environmental group (abbr.)
- 34. Silk garments
- 36. Unique power
- 37. Ray Liotta cop film
- 39. Leak slowly through
- 40. Notion
- 41. Atomic #55
- 42. Fixed in one place
- 48. About heat
- 50. Type of baseball pitch
- 51. Seedless raisin
- 52. Large wading birds
- 53. Similar
- 54. Time zone
- 55. Atomic #34
- 56. Program
- 58. Old world, new
- 59. Contrary belief
- 60. “To the ___ degree”

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Plain-woven fabric
- 2. Classed
- 3. Suppositions
- 4. Midway between south and west
- 5. Tropical American trees
- 6. Leveled
- 7. Published false statement
- 8. Adolescent
- 9. Junior’s father
- 12. Aurochs
- 13. Not low
- 17. Boxing’s GOAT
- 19. Short musical composition
- 20. Small immature herrings
- 21. Eavesdropper
- 25. Parcels of land
- 29. Anger
- 31. Irritations
- 32. Hindu holy man
- 33. Wicker basket for fish
- 35. Natural object
- 38. Transporting in a vehicle
- 41. A dog is one
- 43. Smaller portion
- 44. Sew
- 45. Belonging to a thing
- 46. Horsley and Greenwood are two
- 47. Scottish language
- 49. Producer
- 56. Exclamation of surprise
- 57. Russian river

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Thought for the Week

~

Could it be that mistakes are not usually as important as what we can learn from them?

SUDOKU

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Affordable housing project in Strathmore

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Rising costs and limited housing options can make it difficult to find an affordable, suitable place to live. Finding a safe and affordable home shouldn't feel impossible and that's why Alberta's government is stepping up in a big way.

On July 11, our government announced the latest grant recipients of the Affordable Housing Partnership Program, a made-in-Alberta solution that commits more than \$203 million to build over 2,300 new affordable housing units across the province.

It's a plan to help Albertans, families trying to get ahead, seniors on fixed incomes, and young adults who need that first opportunity to begin the next chapter. Everyone deserves the stability and dignity that comes with a place to call home.

These new projects are being built where housing is needed the most. Our government is proud to represent nearly every rural community in Alberta and we understand the impact affordability has on rural families because they're our friends and neighbours. That's why communities like Okotoks, Jasper, Banff, Strathmore, and Olds are receiving support to expand housing options outside our two major cities.

I am pleased to announce that the True North Society has received a \$3.5 million investment for its "Finding Your True North" project in the Town of Strathmore. True North currently provides short-term housing for women and children fleeing domestic violence. Their new project is a 36-unit transitional and affordable housing community designed to address a critical gap in support by offering extended housing options (ranging from six months to two years) alongside a comprehensive range of long-term support services; creating real pathways to independence. This funding is a win for our community and a clear demonstration of our government's commitment to accessible housing for all.

Since launching the Affordable Housing Partnership Program in 2022, Alberta's government has invested more than

\$386 million to support construction of over 4,000 affordable homes and shelter spaces. And we are not slowing down.

Budget 2025 commits another \$655 million in funding over the next three years for thousands more homes. That's a \$250 million increase from the previous year, because we know demand is growing.

Albertans know that a top-down, bureaucratic structure won't solve our problems. To build housing, our government is teaming up with non-profits, municipalities, and the private sector. We know the people closest to the problem are the best equipped to solve it.

While other provinces see a reduction in housing starts, Alberta is leading the country. From January to March 2025, Alberta was responsible for more than 25 per cent of all housing starts in Canada. The Affordable Housing Partnership Program is a critical part of maintaining our lead and providing more places to live for Albertans.

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

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

WHMB application for provincial funding denied

Continued from Page 1

"(Additional fundraising) will be up to the new board to discuss. That will be something we will bring up next November if we want to try and sweeten the pot for the province, make it more tempting for ... it to be our turn to get the grant money."

The project being proposed to the province is a 120-bed congregate living space, which is to include six dedicated hospice areas. The last two applications for funding from the province presented the project with a Class B Budget.

Previous ambitions for the application aimed to see it reach a Class A Budget, which has a greater likelihood of being approved by the province. Koester added this is something that has previously been out of reach due to the costs associated with being able to achieve it.

"A Class A is ready to go to tender, and it costs us a couple million dollars to get that. We are just kind of waiting. It takes two months to get it, and in that time, it takes us that long to get a Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) loan," he said. "CMHC said we can work in tandem. It is much the same information (as the province) that they want, and they need it over two months, so we can do it together. Then, when the two months is over, we get the loan secured, then we are off."

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Enbridge hosts third Tour Alberta for Cancer fundraiser in Strathmore

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Over 1,800 cyclists took off from Strathmore, July 19-20, participating in this year's Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer event in support of the Alberta Cancer Foundation.

The two-day event has been operating annually for 17 years, and throughout its history, has raised over \$110 million to improve cancer care in Alberta.

This year marked the third occasion Enbridge has hosted the event in Strathmore. Max Chan, senior vice president of operations and engineering for liquids pipelines at Enbridge, explained the event has become the single largest fundraising event for the Alberta Cancer Foundation.

"We have close to 2,000 riders in person at the event, but also you have a ton of volunteers ... we have probably close to a couple hundred Enbridge volunteers. It is probably the largest Enbridge and family volunteer event that we get," he said. "It has become a bit of an icon within our company as well and people sign up their families to either ride or volunteer."

In addition to the ride, which features multiple courses for participants of varying levels, the Strathmore and District Agricultural Society grounds were host to the static portion of the event.

The varying lengths of the event were only recently introduced. On the Saturday, courses ran 65 km, 108 km, and 160 km to ride. Sunday saw riders tackling 70 and 100 km rides.

"What that has done is also just – it is still a substantial amount of riding for a beginner, or a casual rider, but I think it has just made it more inclusive because where before it was just one big lengthy distance, it was a bit intimidating for folks," said Chan. "Introducing different distances has made a huge impact to that ... but I think what has actually helped too is the Strathmore rodeo grounds are a great location. You can fit everything in there."

Enbridge itself entered 158 cyclists to participate in the event and raised more than \$845,956 to contribute by its own efforts.

Chan added it is something of an

"urban legend" at Enbridge that John Osler, one of the founders of the event, was historically very skeptical of the event ever being able to succeed in a meaningful way.

Osler, who was on the board of the Alberta Cancer Foundation, launched the event with Vern Yu, who was a long-time executive with Enbridge who had a passion for cycling.

"I think [John's] exact words were: 'this will never work,' or something along those lines, and Enbridge had the courage to step up as the title sponsor and never looked back," said Chan. "This is culturally very important to the company. People look forward to this every year. The camaraderie internally, it is just really impressive to watch people come together."



Strathmore Agricultural Grounds played host to the 2025 Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer July 19-20. The event featured 1,800 riders and raised \$9.4M for the Alberta Cancer Foundation.

Joe Lepage Photos

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At least one in three women will suffer an osteoporosis fracture in their lifetime. Most people reach their peak bone mass around age 20-30 after which bone demineralization can start to occur. Risk factors for low bone mineral density include advancing age, genetics, smoking, inflammatory illnesses and any history of fractures.

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Showtime!

The Strathmore Fun Runners hosted their 30th annual Show & Shine on July 19 at the town office parking lot at Kinsmen Park. After a massive rainstorm late Friday night, car enthusiasts parked on the paved parking lot rather than destroying the park's wet grass. The two-day event opened with a Main Street gathering and parade through town on July 18.

Joe Lepage Photos



Fun-filled weekend

The annual Langdon Days took place July 18-20, bringing the community together for a weekend packed with family-friendly fun, food, and festivities. While heavy rain forced the cancellation of some events, including the anticipated baseball tournament, the highly-anticipated breakfast and parade was a big draw for the weekend.

Joe Lepage Photos

Upcoming Meetings

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

July 16, 2025 - August 11, 2025, Summer Recess
August 12, 2025, 9:00 a.m. | Regular 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.



Public Hearings

Wheatland County Council Chambers August 12th, 2025 at 9 a.m.

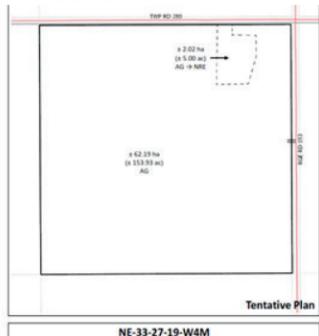
Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the regular Council meeting on Tuesday, August 12th, 2025.

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

Bylaw #: 2025-15 (LU2025-006)

Legal Description: NE-33-27-19-W4M

Proposal: To redesignate a ± 2.02 hectare (± 5.00 acre) portion of NE-33-27-19-W4M from AG to NRE in order to facilitate the development of an aggregate extraction operation.



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.

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



Register to Vote!

New for 2025 – Wheatland County Voter Registration

As of 2025, Wheatland County is required to maintain a Permanent Electors Register under the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act*. Voter information will be securely shared between Elections Alberta and Wheatland County, as outlined in the *Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA) section 49*, to help verify voter identity during municipal elections.

- To vote, you must be registered. Voter cards will no longer be mailed—you'll confirm your eligibility by signing the elector register at the polls.
- Register, update, or check your info at voterlink.ab.ca before September 2025.

Thinking About Running for Municipal Office?

Make a difference in Wheatland County by stepping up as a candidate in the 2025 municipal election!

- Why Run? To shape our future, advocate for your community, and bring fresh ideas to the table.
- Scan the QR code to learn about eligibility, key dates, and the nomination process.

Nomination Deadline: September 22, 2025, at 12:00 noon.

This is your chance to lead, inspire, and create change!



Championship season

The Strathmore Venom U13B lacrosse team capped off an outstanding season with a league championship and a silver medal finish at the Alberta Provincials.

The Venom claimed the Calgary District Lacrosse Association Championship on July 2, defeating the Calgary Hornets 7-5 in a hard-fought final. The victory marked a major milestone for the team and secured a spot at provincials, held July 11-13 in Calgary.

Strathmore stormed through the round-robin stage with a perfect 4-0 record, earning a berth in the gold medal game. In a thrilling final against the Medicine Hat Sun Devils, the Venom battled hard but came up just short, falling 6-5 in a tightly contested match.

"This group showed remarkable resilience all season – overcoming adversity, rising to every challenge, and consistently elevating their play," said head coach Travis Gauthier. "Every single player contributed and should be extremely proud of what they accomplished."

Photo Courtesy of Travis Gauthier



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Strathmore Hosts Provincial Cornhole Tournament at curling rink

The Strathmore Curling Rink played host to the Cornhole Provincial Championship, drawing players from across Alberta July 18-20. The tournament featured three tiers of play – Tiers 3, 4, and 5 – with up to 60 participants competing in both singles and doubles formats. Strathmore brothers Rylan and Skyden Becks captured the Tier 5 doubles championship title in front of a supportive hometown crowd.

Joe Lepage Photos

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What a hit

Strathmore Slopitch hosted their year-end tournament on July 18-20 at the Strathmore Ag Ball Diamonds. Thirteen teams took part in the annual event.

Joe Lepage Photos



Thunder earn silver

The Strathmore Thunder U15 (Team Clark) came within a single run of capturing the Calgary Minor Softball (Div. 1B) City Championship in a thrilling final, ultimately settling for silver after a 6-5 loss to West Hill Church on July 16. Avery was electric at the plate, going a perfect 3-for-3 with two doubles and a triple, sparking the Thunder's offense. The team opened the scoring in the first with a deep shot down the left field line. Mette continued her hot streak in the third with another RBI single. She finished the game 3-for-4 with three RBIs, pairing with Avery as a dangerous 1-2 punch in the Thunder's lineup. On the mound, Addison started strong for Strathmore, allowing just one run on five hits over four innings while striking out eight without issuing a walk. Despite Strathmore's patient approach at the plate – drawing seven walks and putting runners on throughout – the late comeback fell just short. The Thunder showed resilience, depth, and plenty of firepower en route to the silver medal.

Joe Lepage Photos



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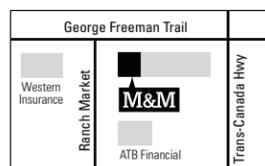
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Camp Day

Tim Hortons Camp Day kicked off bright and early on July 16 at the Tim Hortons on Ridge Road next to the Shell, with franchise owners Lindsay and Melanie Rohl welcoming the community in support of a great cause. Lending a hand were members of the Strathmore Fire Department and local MLA Chantelle de Jonge. One hundred per cent of the proceeds from every hot and iced coffee sold on Camp Day are donated to the Tim Hortons Foundation Camps to help underprivileged youth.

Melissa Piche Photos



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Looking out for seniors

To the Editor

Wheatland Housing Management Body (WHMB) was disappointed that their application to the provincial Affordable Housing Partnership Program (AHPP) was not approved in this round. Wheatland Lodge is only one of a significant number of establishments across the province dedicated to meeting the needs of congregate living for seniors, no matter their income. Alberta is facing a surge in senior population, so understandably 113 applications were made to our provincial government this time and ours was not chosen. We remain confident that our worthwhile endeavor will be successful in a future application.

Wheatland Lodge provides safe, quality housing to seniors in our community – even to the most financially in need individuals. Subsidized housing, meaning that no individual or family will pay more than they can afford for rent, has strengthened our communities by doing what rural communities have always done for each other, which is to ensure we are all okay. The Lodge continues to have a long month over month waiting list. There are currently 27 individuals requesting to move to Wheatland Lodge.

From our in-depth study we know the need will continue to grow exponentially. For that reason, WHMB welcomes new privately-funded establishments to help ease the load, but we also recognize that even these accommodations will not be enough to meet the needs of the seniors in our community – not today nor in the coming years. It is true there can be a small number of subsidized beds in some of the privately-run facilities, should they choose to apply for such, but research shows these spaces will not meet the demand of our lower income community members. This is why WHMB, WAHS (Wheatland and Area Hospice Society) will continue to work with our supportive municipalities and partners until we are

able to meet the demand.

We understand that not everyone has been on this eight-year journey with us and may not know what work has been done to date. WHMB underwent significant stakeholder consultation in the early stages of planning for the lodge/hospice project and have secured the land for the build. A 2019 needs assessment helped guide the WHMB toward plans for a new facility in partnership with the WAHS that will include accommodation for 120 people as well as up to six beds for hospice. The full needs assessment can be found online (<https://www.wheatlandhousing.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/WHMB-Seniors-Housing-Need-Assessment-and-Business-Case.pdf>).

It is important to understand that WHMB is a not-for-profit management body appointed by provincial ministerial order and is governed by the Alberta Housing Act and its regulations. This includes the use of funds and reporting of financials. In 2023, WHMB underwent a third-party Governance Review which concluded that the organization is very well operated and managed.

Because of the tremendous support from our partners and municipalities we know this build will come to fruition and have a long-term, positive impact on our community. Just like the current Lodge, it will serve our people for decades to come. WHMB will continue to work to make this a reality for the deserving Seniors of Wheatland County, Strathmore, Rockyford, Standard and Hussar.

More information about the new build can be found on our website (<https://www.wheatlandhousing.ca/reports>). We are committed to improving our communications and transparency, and our website will be evolving in the coming months.

Wheatland Housing Management Body
Board of Directors

It's time to let go

To the Editor

WAHS had a vision in 2018 for a hospice in Strathmore. WHMB joined in with an idea for a new lodge. Twice now the project has been rejected by the Alberta Government. The project plans and the projections are now outdated, and the funding projections presented to us are in 2019 dollars, before inflation, interest and now tariffs. No one had heard of Shasta.

But the boards did not really lose; they caught the attention of Alberta Health, the ones who should be building these projects. Shasta, an Alberta Health PP funded senior facility was approved for Strathmore.

This facility has 54 lodge beds, so will accommodate the WHMB wait list plus 27 more. Plus, it has what WHMB wasn't offering: Shasta has levelled care beds, dementia beds and six hospice beds. Everything WHMB and WAHS have asked for.

It is being built and staffed with no money from our local municipal or county taxes!

WHMB and WAHS have been asking for yearly funds through local taxes as well as per person levies to make their project work. There is no end to the funds needed to operate and provide staff – it's a yearly commitment, just as the lodge we have now is subsidized by us. In their risk assessment, it says that WHMB may have difficulty filling the additional 120 beds, further costing taxpayers the upkeep if the facility isn't full.

Their idea was good; the Alberta government saw the need that these boards were lobbying for. The government listened and gave us more than was asked for.

There has been animosity throughout the years with the project and if anyone wants to take the time to look into the project through the board's own literature, county minutes, town and village minutes you would find this information. You would see and hear the other side to this story, as was brought up in the Strathmore Times last week. Too much money has been spent on this proposal – it's outdated and unnecessary now.

The boards did an excellent job and succeeded in getting Strathmore what it needed. If they would embrace Sagewood and Shasta with their volunteer efforts it will be even better for all residents encompassed in Wheatland and all the seniors that come into the facilities.

To continue trying to build what is now a competing facility outside Alberta Health, one that both their own studies and the government's say would be more than we need, is a waste of our local taxes. It's time to change course and be happy Strathmore received exactly what they were looking for. We all won.

Cheryl Marshman
Rockyford

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Company name and logo on all marketing materials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tournament welcome and opportunity to speak at dinner reception	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition at dinner reception	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tournament banner	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on tournament	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Company name on golf carts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Complimentary team of four	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Complimentary table of eight at the Mental Health Dinner in November	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

For more information or to register call 403-934-5335 or 403-934-9090 or visit www.wfcss.org



It was another busy season for the Strathmore Rusty Spurs 4-H Club.

Photo Courtesy of Lynn Wolfs

Concluding a great season

SARA WALDNER
Strathmore Rusty Spurs

The Strathmore Rusty Spurs held their yearly wind-up at JSK Arena on June 10. Members of the club played games on horseback, including relay races and command classes. Club members are thankful to their instructor and leaders for an amazing year.

The club would also like to extend a massive thank you to its sponsors: The Phoenix Signs & Graphics Ltd, Cal's Construction Ltd, JSK Arena, Just Ranch Arena, Wheatland County, Cyndi's Embroidery & Sewing Services, Altalink, FCC, UFA Foundation, Ember Resources, AFSC, and the community of Strathmore for supporting out bottle drive, as well as the sponsors for our Christmas raffle: Canalta, Drumheller Co-Op Liquor, and Last Spike Brewery. The Strathmore Rusty Spurs thank you for your support.

Members of the Rusty Spurs will be headed to Red Deer on August 7 for a weekend of showing at the Calgary Regional 4-H Horse Show.



Opioids found in replica pill

ALBERTA RCMP

RCMP are issuing a critical warning about a potentially deadly supply of illegal opiates that closely resemble a prescription medication called "Xanax". Xanax is commonly used for anti-anxiety and is opiate-free. The replica pills (shown in photos) have tested positive for deadly quantities of the highly potent opioid known as isotonitazene.

"We are investigating the death of a 16-year-old youth where there is a nexus to isotonitazene. Parents, relatives, and other community members need to share this information as much as possible, and especially so now that school is out." Says RCMP Public Information Officer Cpl. Troy Savinkoff. "Yes, the drugs are illegal, but more important is that the public knows the extreme danger that this dangerous replica can pose. We are working to interdict the supply and notify the public. Please look at the photos, share them with your kids, friends, and relatives, and let them know that these pills could kill them."

The pills containing the opiate are described as grey in appearance, are rectangular shaped, have the letters ONAX imprinted on one side and the number "2" printed vertically on the other side.

Prescriptions should only be purchased from a reputable licensed pharmacist. If you have information about replica prescriptions, please contact your local police or call 310-RCMP.

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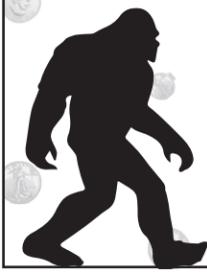
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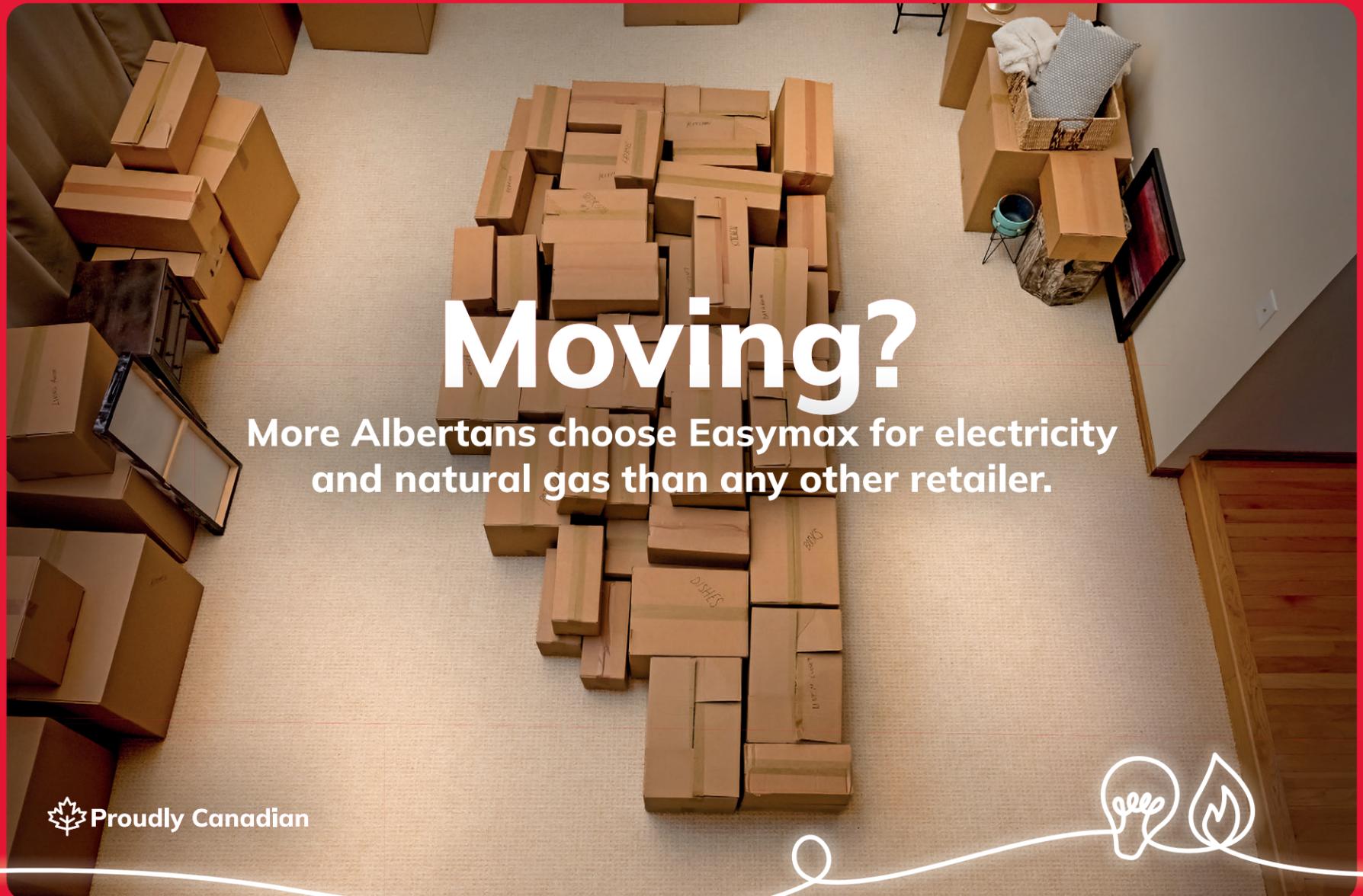
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 Sept 3, 2025 | 6 p.m.
 Sept 17, 2025 | 6 p.m.

Regular Meeting of Council
 Regular Meeting of Council
 Regular Meeting of Council

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Splash and Dash	July 28 to Aug 1, 2025	\$245.00
Neon Days	Aug 5 to 8, 2025	\$148.00
Balls and More	Aug 11 to 15, 2025	\$185.00
Olympic Days	Aug 18 to 22, 2025	\$185.00

For more information, visit Strathmore.ca/Recreation. You can register for these camps through Perfectmind.

*Please note time and pricing may vary depending on your child's age.

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/GoodFoodBox

Run. Walk. Gallop.

Join the race.
Strathmore.ca/StompingRace

Register to vote in the Municipal Election

Vote for Mayor and Town Councillors

Election Day **October 20, 2025**

Register to vote at voterlink.ab.ca