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TIMES

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 23



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Page 6



Métis learning

Page 7



SHS Class of 2026

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Look on Page 12 for Town of Strathmore Municipal Notices

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Funding decrease

JOHN WATSON
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Emergency and domestic violence shelters across Alberta, including True North, located in Strathmore, are experiencing significant funding cuts by the provincial government.

The Ministry of Children and Family Services announced May 19, the new Emergency Family Violence Services program, which notes an investment of nearly \$62 million in services throughout Alberta.

Courtney Helfrich, executive director of True North, explained the new funding model most significantly impacts rural shelters in communities without access to resources common to urban centers.

“This is a result of the Women’s Shelter Renewal Project that was wrapped up this year and essentially it is a sort of reset of the funding model for family violence shelters, and an update to the funding agreements,” she said. “It is not reflective of the needs in the community, nor the validity of the work, but just sort of an update to this funding model.”

The Alberta Council of Women’s Shelters (ACWS) noted via a release, nearly \$1 million has been removed from the budgets of rural shelters and redistributed, despite the confirmed net increase to sector-wide base funding overall.

Strathmore’s True North is facing a funding cut of \$70,000 under this new funding model. Helfrich explained the team does not yet have an understanding of the extent of the impacts this will have for the local team.

“The board of directors and I will carefully review our organizational capacity, our programs and service delivery to mitigate the impact of this funding change,” she said. “I do really want to emphasize we are still here and our focus does really remain on maintaining our essential services and ensuring support continues for those who need it most.”

Continued on Page 4



Banner night!

The Holy Cross Collegiate girls 2A basketball team was recognized for their Sportsmanship Award during the school’s Athletic Awards Ceremony on June 3. The event recognized the achievements, dedication, and sportsmanship demonstrated by student-athletes throughout the 2025-26 school year. See Page 8 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo



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SHS Awards Night

Students, families, and staff gathered at Strathmore High School on June 4 for the school's annual Awards Night. The ceremony recognized students for their academic achievement, leadership, citizenship, athletics, fine arts, and contributions to school life throughout the 2025-26 school year. Many of the awards were sponsored by local families and businesses, including the *Strathmore Times* Class Act Award.

Joe Lepage Photos



FTG Foods hosted the grand opening of their new facility in Strathmore, June 6. Local dignitaries were offered a tour of the building and MLA Chantelle de Jonge presented the team with a certificate of congratulations. Over the next few years, FTG Foods aims to triple their output, as well as dramatically increase the size of their staff.

John Watson Photos

FTG Foods opens new meat processing plant in Strathmore

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

FTG Foods hosted the grand opening of their new meat packing facility in Strathmore, June 6, after nearly a year of preparations.

Trini Crvantes, speaking on behalf of FTG foods, explained the team sought out Strathmore, deeming it the perfect location due to its proximity to Calgary, as well as being able to effectively triple the size of their operations.

"We were fortunate that we were able to find this location, this property on sale ... we also got to know the Filipino community members of Strathmore. We feel the support from the community so that's why we built the facility here," she said. "We are starting to move all our machinery from Calgary, and we are going to get a trial run going. By the beginning of next month, we are going to have a start on full production."

Crvantes explained several of the challenges the team encountered while setting up the facility included acquiring approval from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency – ensuring standards compliance and the ability to mass produce their products.

With the expansion of their capacity, the team is also looking to expand their employee base from its current 20-person

staff over the next five years based on their revenue streams.

FTG Foods specializes in bringing the taste of the Philippines to the Canadian market, with their original goal being to be able to provide their community with a taste of home since their inception in 2015.

With the advent of the new facility, FTG is aiming to expand their wholesale customer base and make themselves more available internationally.

"It is very hard as immigrants to leave your country behind, start fresh, acclimate to the lifestyle in a foreign land. Just having something as a comfort food is a very big thing to get you through the day, to get you through the struggles or just missing back home," said Crvantes. "Not a lot of Filipinos are fortunate to go back home, especially now with this economy."

Before the facility is officially up and running, the team is aiming to stockpile extra supplies in order to weather the transition as they reset operations.

Crvantes estimated they will be able to have full time operations up and running at the new facility by the beginning of July.

As part of their grand opening ceremony, FTG Foods had invited local dignitaries including Mayor Pat Fule, several members of local council, as well as MLA Chantelle de Jonge.

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THANK YOU

The Planning Committee of the 2026 Women's Conference would like to thank everyone who came out to participate this year!

Dr. Shafeena Premji- our keynote speaker brought us key information with her wisdom and knowledge on Menopause.

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 Bella Amberiadis - Bella Amberiadis Homeopathy
 Julie Meier - Full Circle Fitness
 Diana Rose - Strathmore FCSS
 Lindsay Desrosiers - Community Future Wild Rose
 Meghan Pollock - Prairie Martial Arts Association

We also want to thank Shannon Laprise for emceeing and keeping us on track! Hope Community Covenant Church for the use of their wonderful facility, Kickstand Youth Volunteers, and Kim's Katering for the wonderful lunch and snacks.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2028!



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Town piloting adjustment to municipal enforcement service hours

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore is piloting a new iteration of municipal enforcement services, relating to hours of operation and officer to population ratio.

Previously, local municipal enforcement services were provided from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The pilot is now to have operations be between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

“In addition, the municipal enforcement officer to population ratio was listed as one officer for every 5,000 residents initially and it should be one to every, approximately, one to 3,750,” explained Mark Pretzlaff, director of community and protective services.

“It also should be noted that after following our presentation from the admissible enforcement service department, the staff there will be augmenting their hours for July and in August for two members to start from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.”

He explained town administration aims to conduct research over the course of the summer as to what volume of calls and services were requested, and how local services levels can be augmented.

Pretzlaff added administration intends to return before council following the conclusion of the pilot with the results of the approach. This is likely to take place during the fall.

“There is also overtime hours associated with this department to augment Strathmore Stampe and other items as necessary,” he said. “If we identify an issue that is being addressed, we have overtime hours available to the peace officers and municipal enforcement team as well as contracted services for a private security company.”

Among the town’s goals for its municipal enforcement is to largely prevent officers from being required to be on shift alone.

Coun. Brent Wiley inquired whether it would be possible for the town to consider a model where some officers would be on shift Monday to Friday, with others working a Tuesday to Saturday week.

“Right now, we only have those four officers. In some capacity and with the summer vacations, you are now looking at individuals that may be working alone on an evening shift throughout,” said Pretzlaff. “I think there is eventually going to be merit to adding additional resources. It may not be our recommendation yet, but that is something that we, once we gather some additional information based on this pilot project, that we can present back to council.”

CAO Kevin Scoble added the idea is effectively meant to aid in building the town’s budget for the next year.

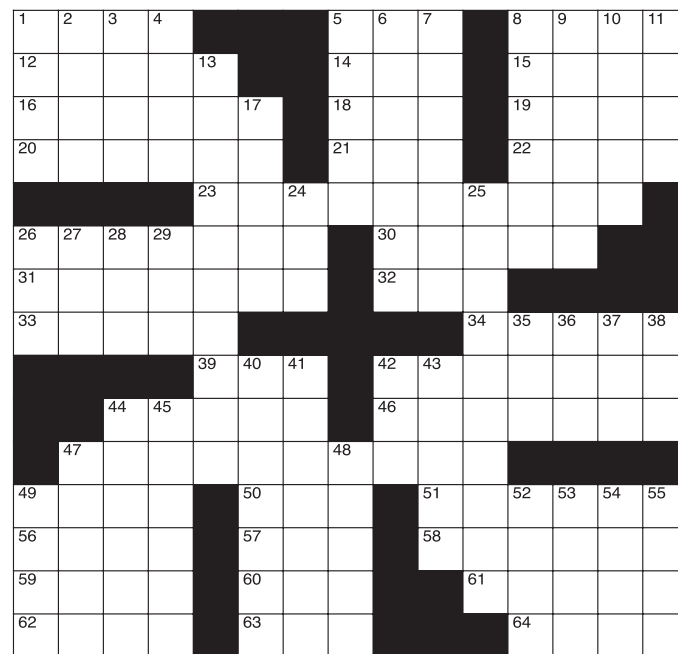
Instead of the project being tied to the corporate business plan, it was suggested that it more so be looked at in isolation, as it focuses on implementing this council’s strategic priorities.



Investing in Alberta

MLA Chantelle de Jonge hosted an information session in partnership with Invest Alberta on May 29 in Strathmore. It was a chance for local elected officials, economic development officers, and chambers of commerce to discuss investment attraction and regional economic growth opportunities. Representatives from the City of Chestermere, Town of Strathmore, Wheatland County, and Rocky View County attended the session.

Photos Courtesy of the Office of MLA Chantelle de Jonge



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Sealed with a kiss
- 5. Large sandwich
- 8. Swiss city
- 12. Japanese persimmons
- 14. When you hope to get somewhere
- 15. Wings
- 16. A name of God
- 18. Elected official (informal)
- 19. Abnormal breathing
- 20. “Seinfeld” character
- 21. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 22. Something for sale
- 23. Gets rid of
- 26. One who touts
- 30. Blemished
- 31. Less than exciting
- 32. Born of
- 33. N. German town
- 34. Notes
- 39. Move away from land
- 42. Vulcanite
- 44. More ignoble
- 46. Child actor Kirk
- 47. Written works
- 49. Sea vessel
- 50. Residue
- 51. Engraved
- 56. Having sufficient skill
- 57. One and only
- 58. Erase
- 59. Broad inlets
- 60. Nightmarish street
- 61. Play again
- 62. Formerly (archaic)
- 63. Add a color to change the color
- 64. Move swiftly and lightly

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Scottish island
- 2. River in the Netherlands
- 3. Asian people
- 4. Fuzzy fruit
- 5. Ninth month (abbr.)
- 6. An idealistic social reformer
- 7. What you owe
- 8. Colorless mineral
- 9. Overjoyed
- 10. Rattling breaths
- 11. Tropical Old World tree
- 13. A citizen of Senegal
- 17. Greek mythological beauty
- 24. Wrath
- 25. Instrument to measure wind speed
- 26. Luxury carmaker
- 27. Bitterly regret
- 28. Not or
- 29. Google certification
- 35. Midway between northeast and east
- 36. Space station
- 37. Relating to the ears
- 38. Congressman
- 40. Yelled at
- 41. Rudely assertive
- 42. Defunct European money
- 43. Shared one’s soul
- 44. Onion rolls
- 45. A way to state clearly
- 47. Relating to a lobe
- 48. Underlying message
- 49. Hollywood pig
- 52. Indicates pitch
- 53. Filament of a feather
- 54. Small ornamental ladies’ bag for small articles
- 55. Diminish

Jennifer Fraser takes first ever golden buzzer for dog act

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Jennifer Fraser and the Acro Crew team have become the first dog act ever to receive a golden buzzer on America’s Got Talent.

The latest season premiered on NBC, June 2, finally allowing Fraser to discuss her achievement alongside the rest of the team.

“It feels amazing. It feels that it is well earned. I have spent years and years training my dogs and this concept came together beautifully thanks to Supernova and the acro dancers,” she said. “We were really able to showcase both the dogs and the girls’ skills. We put on one of the greatest shows that a dog act has ever done on the program.”

In addition to the prestige of the accomplishment, receiving a golden buzzer means the team is guaranteed to continue on with the season and will be immune to the first round of cuts made by the judges.

Fraser, having trained the dogs and produced the show, then reached out to Supernova in Edmonton and their choreographer to include a team of dancers to supplement the act.

“I spent several months researching a lot of different dog acts. I went to a lot of dance competitions – I was looking at what style I wanted

and whatnot, and then I realized I wanted an acro team,” she explained. “I reached out to the acro teams in Alberta, and there are not a lot of them. Supernova was the one who got back to me and said they were very interested in this concept.”

Fraser returned to America’s Got Talent after her initial run was cut short as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This time around, she is aiming to see exactly how far she can go with Supernova and her team of dogs.

Being guaranteed a spot on the show, she will spend the next few months training and assembling her act for the next time they are to take to the stage.

“We don’t have to stress about anything; we have an in, and we are going to work hard to deserve that live spot,” said Fraser. “I have half a dozen acts in mind. We are preparing; right now, we have got one act written, the next two acts are getting written, and we are starting rehearsals on that first act.”

Fraser intends to meet up with the Supernova team in Edmonton regularly in order to ensure enough time is allocated to practicing their routines.

Though an exact date was not provided as of the writing of this article, fans can expect to see Fraser, her dogs, and Supernova take to the live stage again in August.

STRATHMORE TIMES

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

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Season ending celebration

The 903 Strathmore Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron marked the culmination of another successful training year during its Annual Ceremonial Review (ACR) on June 3 in Strathmore. The ACR is the highlight of the cadet training year, providing cadets with an opportunity to showcase the skills, leadership, discipline, and accomplishments they have developed throughout the season. The formal parade also serves as a celebration of achievements and recognizes outstanding cadets through a variety of awards and presentations.

Joe Lepage Photos

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Thought for the Week

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D-Day

D-Day was commemorated at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 10 on June 6, as community members gathered to honour those who served on Juno Beach. Eighty-two years on, attendees paid tribute to the sacrifices of those who fought, died, or were injured in the campaign that helped secure freedom. The ceremony served as a solemn reminder of the cost of peace and the importance of remembrance.

Photo Courtesy of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 10

True North recoils from provincial funding cuts

Continued from Page 1

Despite the cuts, True North intends to continue with the development of its transitional housing project in order to meet the needs of those moving out of the shelter.

The ACWS adds the reductions disproportionately affect communities which consistently have the highest rates of gender-based and domestic violence.

"We don't close rural police stations because they serve fewer people per dollar," said Cat Champagne, executive director of ACWS. "Access to safety should never depend on a community or organization's ability to fundraise. Women's shelters are public safety infrastructure, and they need to be funded like it."

ACWS has launched a public advocacy campaign urging Minister Searle Turton to delay the funding reductions until the next fiscal year, as well as for the province to release the full methodology behind the new funding model.

For those who are interested in supporting the campaign, they are able to do so online (acws.ca).

"Our biggest call to action with the government right now is to delay this implementation of the funding model change even for another year," said Helfrich.

"That allows us to have more time to evaluate this, seek out other funding and fundraising sources to really mitigate the impact... Now more than ever, we really need the support of our community, whether that's to call our MLAs to advocate for shelter funding, be it transparency through these funding discussions, or a delay in implementation."

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SORAH hosted the official groundbreaking for the 60-home Erin Woods development on June 8. The project, budgeted at \$21 million, will serve as low-income housing for Indigenous families with an estimated opening in 2028. **John Watson Photos**



Affordable housing breaks ground for off reserve residents

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Siksika Off Reserve Affordable Housing (SORAH) hosted the official groundbreaking for the Erin Woods Indigenous Housing Development, June 8, in Calgary.

“This project, which is going to see the construction of 60 town homes and a welcome centre here in Erin Woods, is the continued hard work of the people of Siksika Nation, my very supportive board members from the City of Calgary Indigenous Housing Committee, and the urban Indigenous here in Calgary,” said Max Lloyd, general manager of SORAH. “In most cases, they are going to be forever homes. Some people will be living here for a short period of time by their choosing, and maybe they are going to be transitioning to other housing which would better suit their needs.”

Lloyd added he views the project as being able to set the framework for future developments and partnerships directly relating to Indigenous housing.

Cost estimates for the complex budgeted the build at approximately \$21 million. SORAH has secured funding from federal partners, the Province of Alberta, the City of Calgary, and from Siksika Nation itself.

“Housing is a basic need for anybody – for everybody. We know that across Canada, even across the world, housing is a need that is getting harder and harder to fill. Affordable housing is a need that I think everybody, no matter where you are from, can identify and see the importance of,” said Samuel Crowfoot, chief of Siksika Nation. “We want to be able to provide, give our people a place where they can raise their children in a safe environment that they can afford, and they do not have to worry so much about the struggles of life.”

Crowfoot added in the Blackfoot language, there is no word to cede or surrender. The treaties have always been about sharing the land and creating access for all.

Currently, nearly half of Siksika Nation members live off reserve, many of whom take up residence or are experiencing homelessness in Calgary.

The layouts of the new construction aims to incorporate Blackfoot culture of togetherness as opposed to more commonplace designs prevalent throughout the city.

In addition, culturally relevant programming will be made regularly available at the paired welcome center.

“Now that we have an established history, a proven history, and we have relationships building, it will be easier to pool our resources to make sure that we all have our housing needs met,” said Crowfoot.

Reid Hendry, chief housing officer with the City of Calgary, added this project, though not the first by SORAH, is the first through the greater Indigenous housing program, Maa'too'maa'taapii Aako'iyii'piaya.

“We see Calgarians all across the city who are deep in need of access to housing, specifically when it comes to Indigenous groups. We see the city in about 17 per cent housing need – if you are Indigenous, you have 26 per cent housing need,” he said. “If we speak about the homeless population, three per cent of Calgarians are Indigenous, meanwhile, upwards of 40 per cent of our homeless population are Indigenous. This is an extremely important program as we work not only for reconciliation but reconcile-action.”

The projected completion date of the 60-home complex is to be sometime in 2028, falling in line with the 20th anniversary of SORAH's operations in Calgary.

Chantelle de Jonge
MLA, Chestermere-Strathmore

129 2nd Avenue
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Strathmore, AB

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Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca

YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

Before 1990, if you had an ischemic stroke, the outlook was bleak. But cardiac research produced a procedure called *endovascular treatment (EVT)*, where large blood clots can be removed from brain vessels using a catheter-guided stent which removes the clot and restores blood flow to the brain.

More is not better when it comes to certain vitamins. Vitamin D supplements have become very popular in recent years. For most people, 400 units daily is enough. Those with osteoporosis and those in longterm care facilities: 800 to 2000 units daily. Megadoses don't work here. Studies done on bone densities showed that those taking higher doses had a significant decline in bone density.

Quitting smoking is difficult. There is one product you might want to try that was approved by Health Canada for smoking cessation in 2017. It's called *cytosine* and is available in Canada under the brand name *Cravv*. Some pharmacies do carry this product or it is available directly from the manufacturer.

June is *National Spina Bifida Awareness Month in Canada*. Spina bifida is the #1 physically disabling birth defect in newborns. The purpose of this awareness month is to help getting the message out to everyone of childbearing years of the importance of taking a multivitamin that contains *folic acid* which is the only preventative measure in preventing spina bifida.

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

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Independence Day

Filipino Independence Day was celebrated at Kinsmen Park, June 6, with food, speakers, dancing and more. This year marks 128 years of independence from Spain. The actual day marking the occasion is June 12, however, it was decided to be celebrated early due to scheduling concerns.

John Watson Photos



Sharing Métis culture

Holy Cross Collegiate (HCC) welcomed Jory Proft and Les Skinner from the education branch of the Rupertsland Institute on June 2. The two guests shared teachings about Métis heritage, including stories rooted in community history and traditional knowledge. Students tried traditional soup and Bannock, while learning about the importance of preserving language, culture, and identity within Métis communities.

Joe Lepage Photos

Farm fun

As part of Calgary's annual Terroir Symposium, Christina Stender of EH Farms welcomed an international group of chefs, food writers and culinary leaders to her rural Wheatland County farm for a private retreat celebrating the connection between food, place and people. The Terroir Symposium, now in its 20th year, brings together Michelin-starred chefs, restaurateurs, producers and industry innovators from around the world to explore the future of food through workshops, discussions and collaborative dining experiences. Stender became involved after supplying Mangalitsa pork for symposium events and has since joined the organizing committee. The June 1 farm gathering was not dampened by the rain. The event offered guests a firsthand look at Alberta agriculture, including a tour of a nearby Hutterite colony and an immersive farm experience showcasing the journey from farm to table. Visiting chefs collaborated with local culinary talent to prepare a traditional pig roast cooked in the ground using traditional methods, with the ceremonial unveiling serving as the centerpiece of the afternoon. Stender said the event highlights the importance of connecting consumers and culinary professionals with the people who produce their food while showcasing Alberta's agricultural and tourism potential to an international audience.

Melissa Piche 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.

June 16, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

July 7, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

July 8, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission | ASB

For call-in details, access links, and agenda packages, please visit our website.

<https://wheatlandcounty.ca/agendasandminutes/>



Public Hearings

Wheatland County Council Chambers July 7th, 2026, at 9 a.m.

Wheatland County Council will hold the following Public Hearings at its regular Council meeting on **Tuesday, July 7th, 2026.**

The following Public Hearings will begin at **9:00 a.m.** and proceed until all applications have been heard:

File No: RC2025-001

Bylaw #: 2025-25

Legal Description: The intervening road allowance between NE-8-22-26-W4M and NW-9-22-26-W4M, immediately south of the intersection of Township Road 222 and Range Road 264
Proposal: To close a ± 1.60 hectare (± 4.00 acre) portion of Range Road 264 to public travel between NE-8-22-26-W4M and NW-9-22-26-W4M, to facilitate the consolidation of the road allowance into the adjacent lands.



File No: PL2025-005

Bylaw #: 2025-32: Amendments to the Goldfinch Industrial Area Structure Plan (GIASP)

2025-33: Diode Ventures Data Centre Area Concept Plan (ACP)

2025-34: Land Use Redesignation from Agricultural General (AG) District to Industrial General (IG) District

Legal Description: Lot 3, Block 4, Plan 2312026 within NE-7-22-26-W4M;

Lot 2, Block 4, Plan 0412931 within NW-8-22-26-W4M;

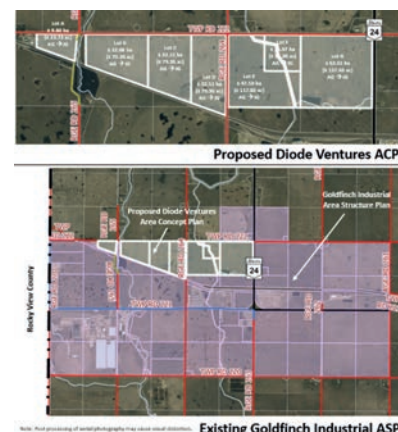
Blocks 2 & 3, Plan 0012457 within NE-8-22-26-W4M; and

N-9-22-26-W4M

Proposal: To amend the Goldfinch Industrial ASP, adopt a new ACP, and redesignate the subject lands from AG District to IG District in order to facilitate the future development of a data processing facility.

Further details are available on the County's website at the following address:

<https://wheatlandcounty.ca/projects-under-review/>



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.



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 13(1) of Alberta's Protection of Privacy Act. Any personal information on submissions made regarding applications is collected under the authority of the Protection of Privacy Act, Section 4(c) that information relates directly to and is necessary for an operating program or activity of the public body.

Class of 2026 CONGRATULATIONS!



Graduates of Strathmore High School celebrated a major milestone during commencement ceremonies held June 5 at the Strathmore Family Centre. Family, friends and staff gathered to honour the Class of 2026, as students crossed the stage to receive their diplomas and mark the completion of their high school journey.

Joe Lepage Photos



Strathmore United Church
THRIFT Celebrates it's **50th**
year

This Sale will be held
September 24, 25 & 26

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- Linens- clean and in good condition
- Garage sale items for our outside compound sale
- Tools, items, bikes, sporting items, etc. All in a condition that you would consider purchasing them
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- Books and puzzles

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IF YOU ARE ABLE, PLEASE HOLD ON TO YOUR ITEMS UNTIL
EARLY SEPTEMBER AS OUR FACILITY CAN ONLY HANDLE
A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF ITEMS.
PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DONATIONS OUTSIDE THE SHED
AT THE WEST SIDE OF THE CHURCH. **THANK YOU**



class of 2026 CONGRATULATIONS



Canada Day **Bike** parade

hosted by **REMAX KEY**

Wednesday, July 1 2026 12:30 pm Start Kinsmen Park

FREE Family Fun!

Bring your pre-decorated Bike or Stroller - Meet at 12:15pm
Popcorn & prizes for all, 3 winners (1 in each age group)
Helmets are mandatory for all riders
No Registration Required



Cross town rivals

The Strathmore Reds U10 red team and the Strathmore Reds U10 white team competed against each other on June 6 at the Hillview Ball Diamond. Both teams showed their high competitive level and sportsmanship during the afternoon contest.

Joe Lepage Photo

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Athletic awards

The Holy Cross Collegiate (HCC) gymnasium was filled with school spirit on June 3 as students, staff, coaches, and families gathered for the school's annual Athletic Awards Ceremony. The school also recognized the senior and junior high male and female Athletes of the Year, along with Joshua Jalbert, who was presented the Award of Merit for the South Central Zone by School Sport Alberta.

Joe Lepage Photo

Making investments in Alberta

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Alberta's government is delivering practical investments that show up in everyday life – shorter waits for surgery, more affordable paths to education, and simpler access to the services people rely on. These are the kinds of results Albertans can see and feel – and together, they're helping ensure Alberta remains the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Improving our health care system means helping Alber-

Local Abbeyfield Committee announces formation

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Abbeyfield Steering Committee is officially announcing their establishment following the signing of a memorandum of understanding.

Debbie Wakelam, who spoke on behalf of the organization, explained its inception marks a step towards exploring "Abbeyfield-style" seniors' housing in Strathmore.

"The Strathmore Abbeyfield location will be for independent seniors. The Abbeyfield mission and philosophy is and always has been, to alleviate loneliness and provide a sense of community for older adults," said Wakelam. "Houses are designed to be homely and friendly, and foster social interaction and shared meals. Volunteers and staff play a crucial role in maintaining this environment."

Abbeyfield was launched in 1956 in the United Kingdom to create low-income housing, similar in function to a bedsit.

The committee aims to bring another option to the local community for seniors to be able to maintain a sense of community and remain active while still living with some degree of independence.

Abbeyfield homes will look to combine private suites with shared spaces. The committee's immediate timeline indicates their intent to engage with stakeholders, gather information, and effectively gauge the viability of the living style in Strathmore.

"There is a need and there is room for different models and people should be able to choose ... we are a dedicated group of local people, we all have the same shared vision of creating seniors housing," said Wakelam. "The Abbeyfield model is not-for-profit charity, two meals a day, house-keeping, common area, organized social occasions, a small staff – one manager, one housekeeper. One step up, to put it that way, would be the Wheatland Lodge."

Being a registered charity, the team is looking for possible partners, land, and developers to talk about furthering their initiative, as well as to educate the public about their goals.

Wakelam noted specifically they do not intend to compete with the Wheatland Lodge, rather to provide an additional option for local seniors.

"Abbeyfields are built by charity work and so they are done with fundraising and a lot of donations. Typically, there is a land donation or in some city centres, they actually do a house," she said. "We are not looking for an existing building; we are looking to start fresh. The house can have an upstairs area and that can either be rentals above it or a house manager that works there."

The team does not yet have a domain set up but is encouraging those who may be interested in helping to reach them through social media channels for the time being.

tans get the care they need, when and where they need it – including shorter waits for surgery. That's why our government is investing \$809 million to expand surgical capacity and help even more people get the procedures they need sooner. This includes adding operating room time, using specialized surgical centres for routine procedures, and upgrading hospitals and equipment. A new patient-focused funding model, already in place at 12 Alberta hospitals, means funding will follow the patient – supporting up to 50,000 additional surgeries and helping more Albertans get treated faster.

Our government is focused on student success, investing more than \$1 billion to make post-secondary education more affordable and accessible. Applications for government loans and grants opened June 3 and include more non-repayable support like scholarships and awards – helping Alberta students reduce debt and stay in school. Eligibility rules have also been updated to better reflect each student's financial situation, ensuring support goes to those who need it most so more Albertans can build new skills, finish their education, and create better opportunities for themselves and their families. For more information or to apply, visit studentaid.alberta.ca.

Alberta's government is making it easier to ac-

cess important services by combining your driver's licence or ID card with your health number and a citizenship marker, starting July 2. This means less to carry and fewer steps when you need to verify your identity or access care. The new cards feature a modern design and stronger security to help prevent fraud, while reducing the need for paper health cards over time. When you renew or apply, your information will be securely added – making everyday services faster, simpler, and more convenient for Albertans.

Last week marked the 40th anniversary of Seniors' Week in Alberta. It was an honour to join many local seniors' groups in recognizing the outstanding seniors whose wisdom and contributions built our province and help strengthen our communities every day.

Our government is building momentum and an Alberta that works even better for everyone. We're doing that with a clear plan: focusing on what matters most to Albertans and strengthening the province for what comes next.

As always, please 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)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

One party – with federal and provincial representation

To the Editor

Alberta has some major issues: its worthless MOU with Carney, the apathy toward repealing bills C69 and 48, the money pit that will be the pathways project, a prime minister who continually uses disingenuous rhetoric when he speaks of his “new world order,” and his now infamous “a strong Canada will help Make America Great Again” – all while the country plunges into recession.

It's little wonder Alberta seeks separation and independence from confederation. Compounding an already duplicitous situation is Carney's questionable association with Brookfield Asset Management (BAM), a massive corporation of which Carney was CEO. No surprise that BAM and its subsidiaries seem to be at the core of almost every “major project” on the federal books, including the Pathways Project.

When scrutinized, the toothless MOU between Alberta and Ottawa leaves Alberta teetering on the edge of a very steep cliff. The Pathways Project and its carbon pricing will see Albertans (not industry) pay more and more carbon taxes. The only winners will be Brookfield Asset Management, Mark Carney and any inside trader politicians who invest in this divisive

venture. Anyone who thinks industry will pick up the \$20 billion dollars plus tab is delusional.

Perhaps It is time for Alberta to unite under one big blue tent and a establish a two front political party that has both federal and provincial components and is named “Alberta Agenda Party.”

The UCP and the separatist movement must unite under new leadership. They are, at their core, one and the same. Unification as a single party with a singular distinct mandate – to represent Alberta federally and provincially with likeminded MPs and MLAs all rowing in the same direction.

This would be the voice needed to progress a purely “Alberta Agenda” at home and in Ottawa, like Quebec promotes a Quebec-first agenda. No more sending lame duck MPs to sit in federal seats; let's send bon a fide UCP/APP/Conservative representation to Ottawa, a path Quebec has successfully parlayed into true representation.

Small steps lead to bigger strides. Liberal appointed judges aside, there are alternate ways to meet aims and objectives.

*Ken Pirie
Medicine Hat*

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PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

NOTICE

Notice of Preparation of 2025 Assessment Roll used for 2026 Property Taxation Year for Village of Rockyford within the Province of Alberta

Notice is hereby given that the 2025 Assessment Roll for Village of Rockyford used for 2026 Property Taxation, completed under the provisions of Municipal Government Act, has been prepared and is open for inspection Monday to Friday during business hours of 8:30am to 4:30 pm MST at Village of Rockyford Administration Office located at 110 Main Street, Rockyford, AB T0J 2R0.

If you have any questions or concerns about your assessment, please contact the Village of Rockyford at 403-533-3950.

Any person who desires to appeal the assessed value placed upon their property must, on or before 4:00pm of **August 10, 2026** lodge their complaint(s) in writing, with the fee of \$60.00, to the Clerk of the Assessment Review Board, Village of Rockyford, Box 294, 110 Main Street, Rockyford, AB T0J 2R0.

Combined 2026 Assessment and Tax notices have been mailed June 4, 2026.

If you have not received your combined notice, please contact the Village of Rockyford at 403-533-3950.

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

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Upcoming Council Meetings

June 10, 2026 | 6 p.m.
 June 17, 2026 | 6 p.m.
 July 8, 2026 | 6 p.m.

Committee of the Whole
 Regular Meeting of Council
 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.



And we're back!

Annual backlane gravel maintenance.

Every year, the Town of Strathmore invests in maintaining gravel lanes to improve mobility and conditions for the public. The Town inspects the gravel lane network and schedules repairs in a priority order. Typical repairs include:

- Lane grading to improve drainage and surface condition
- Compaction of lane (as necessary)
- Vegetation management (strip back overgrowth and widen driving lanes to, ideally, 5 meters and a height clearance of 5 meters)
- Alley re-graveling on a 10-year cycle (contingent on year-to-year budget approval)

You can help us complete this work more efficiently by making sure your back lane is clear. This means removing the following objects that might block the lane.

- Black or green garbage carts + blue recycling carts
- Construction bins
- Stored materials
- Dirt or debris piles
- Low-hanging branches/overgrown growth

Please remember, Bylaw 22-06 prohibits any kind of obstruction in or above an alley. Keeping alleys clear of parked vehicles, trailers, equipment, garbage carts, and overgrowth doesn't just make things look better - it also keeps the space safe and useable for everyone. As well, under Bylaw 21-04, garbage carts must be returned to your property once collection is done. This helps prevent them from being used by others or going missing in weather events.

The maintenance program goes a long ways towards improving vehicle and pedestrian travel, storm drainage, garbage collection, and even access for emergency services. For more information, visit Strathmore.ca/SeasonalPriorities. If you have questions or concerns, give us a call, **403-361-2126**, or shoot us an email, operations@strathmore.ca.

Join our team.

Career opportunities available.

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

- Casual Lifeguard/Instructor
- Contract Group Fitness Instructor/Personal Trainer
- Lead Facility Operator (Arena)
- Manager, Financial Services

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

Enjoy them safely. Storm pond safety.

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

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

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

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

The Good Food Box is a non-profit organization offering access to quality produce while ensuring variety, freshness and affordability. It is brought to you by your community, packed by volunteers and delivered to Strathmore through FCSS. This program is accessible for everyone regardless of income level. For more information, visit Strathmore.ca/GoodFoodBox

Bored? We can fix that.

Join a board.

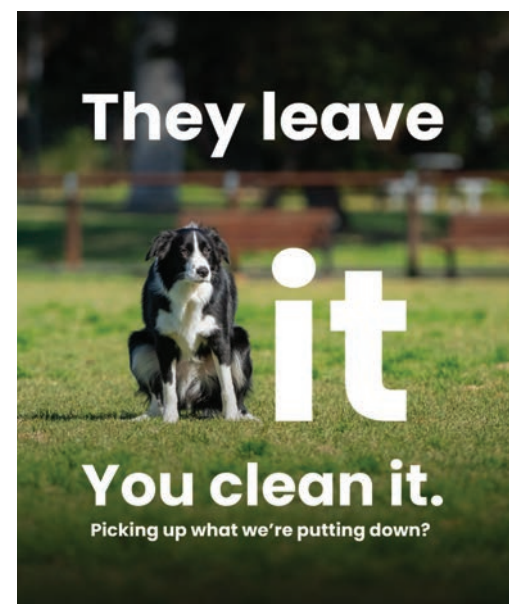
Boards and committees have always played an important role in our community. If you're looking for a way to make an impact, this is your chance to get involved. The Town is currently accepting applications for Family and Community Support Services Advisory Board - 1 position open.

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



Hey dogs, keep your owner on their leash.

You don't want them getting lost, right?



They leave

it

You clean it.

Picking up what we're putting down?



Register today! Summer Camps.

We've got some fun and safe alternatives to boredom for ages 4 to 12 with our summer camps! Check out the themes of each week and register your child for their favourite theme, or register in all the weeks for a fun-filled summer!

For more information, visit our website Strathmore.ca/Recreation. For registration, you can register for camps through your PerfectMind account. Got questions? Give us a call at **403-361-2121**.

Theme	Date
Water Fun	June 29 to 3, 2026
Splash and Play (Swim Lessons)	July 6 to 10, 2026
Sport and Explore	July 13 to 17, 2026
Multi-Sport Adventure	July 20 to 24, 2026
Splash and Dash (Swim Lessons)	July 27 to 31, 2026
Neon Days	Aug 4 to 7, 2026
Balls and More	Aug 10 to 14, 2026
Olympic Days	Aug 17 to 21, 2026
NEW* Fencing Camp (Ares Pentathlon & Fencing)	Aug 24 to 28, 2026
Let's Celebrate	Aug 24 to 27, 2026



Back with a bang.

July 1, 2025
 Kinsmen Park, Strathmore

