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VOLUME 18 ISSUE 22

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Rally held

County invests in health and education

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County has agreed to contribute \$10,000 to the Drumheller and Area Health Foundation (DAHF) in support of their Grow Your Own Program and E-Simulation Lab Project.

During the development of the county's 2026 budget, a \$10,000 placeholder was included with intent to see a contribution made to the establishment of the program.

The request had originated from a presentation provided by representatives from the Drumheller and Area Health Foundation, Aug. 19, during that Public Presentation Committee meeting.

At the time, it was described as being intended as a partnership between Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the University of Calgary.

The idea being to allow rural residents to receive their Bachelor of Science in Nursing in a rural location area with a service radius of 120 km.

Cohorts of eight to nine students will receive mixed instruction, both online and in person at the simulation lab. Applicants must reside within 120 km of the lab, like they do for the Wainwright Health Centre, or of Drayton Valley in order to be eligible to participate.

The Drumheller and Area Health Foundation was previously noted to be financially responsible for the renovation costs required to establish the simulation lab at the Drumheller Health Center, quoted at \$300,000 at the time of their presentation to Wheatland County.

The University of Calgary is to supply the equipment necessary for the lab – an investment approximated between \$60,000 and \$80,000.

Continued on Page 4

Page 6

Roughneck Rumble



Off the top rope

Bobby Sharp uses his high-flying offence against Jet Johnson during Real Canadian Wrestling's Battle at the Barn on May 29 at the Strathmore Ag Pavillion. The independent wrestling promotion brings its show to Strathmore roughly half a dozen times a year. See Page 2 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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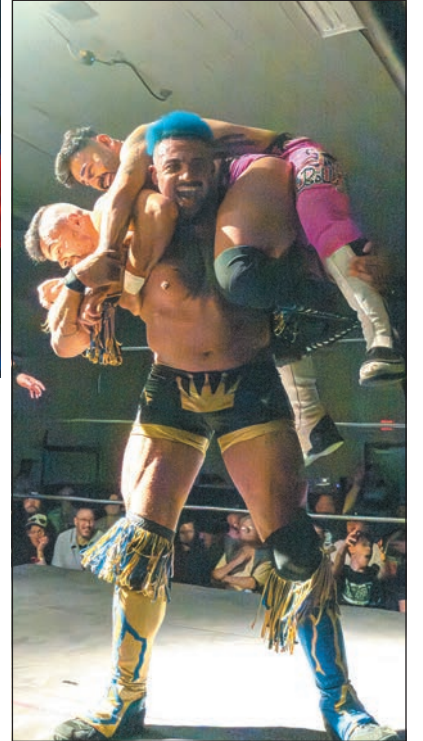
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Barn battle

Real Canadian Wrestling hosted Battle at the Barn on May 29 at the Strathmore Ag Pavillion, featuring local wrestler Steve Wilde. The action-packed card showcased the top performers in RCW and former WWE and AEW superstars the Bollywood Boys. RCW is scheduled to return to Strathmore on Aug. 28 for another high-flying show.

Joe Lepage Photos



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Local Bitcoin mining facility development approved

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Permission has been granted to redesignate nearly 11.5 acres of land within Wheatland County to facilitate the future development of a solar farm and data processing facility.

County council voted 5-2 in favour of redesignating the lands from agriculture general district to industrial general, during the May 19 meeting.

The discussion had returned to council following the May 5 meeting when it had been introduced. At the time, council voted to pass second reading, but permission to grant third had not been unanimous.

"I had trouble supporting it the first time around and the reasons are similar in that I worry about their reclamation," said Coun. Berle Hebbes. "There are some very close landowners there, some multigenerational farmers who have some concerns with it that they did not feel were addressed."

The subject lands in question are situated between Township Roads 244, 243A, and Range Road 203, east of Deadhorse Lake.

Development is proposed to consist of a 750-kilowatt ground mount solar installation, a 500 kilowatt co-located data processing facility consisting of a 40 ft by eight ft container and supporting infrastructure.

The applicant had previously proposed in December 2025 to begin construction in April, with completion ha-

ving been anticipated by October. Once construction is allowed to begin, it was noted during the May 5 meeting to require approximately three months to complete.

Use of the term "data processing" in this instance refers to bitcoin mining operations. The solar facility is intended to offset energy consumption by the mining operation, with the potential to return energy back to the grid.

Though the existing topography and abandoned railway corridor will provide some visual screening to the facility, a glare hazard assessment will still need to be submitted alongside the eventual development permit application.

"At a high level, the municipal development plan supports economic diversification, including emerging sectors such as renewable energy and technology-based uses while also emphasizing the importance of protecting agricultural lands," said Taylor Felt, senior planner, speaking on behalf of planning and development services. "The proposal essentially does strike this balance. It introduces a new form of development that supports the county's economic objectives while remaining modest in scale and compatible with surrounding land uses."

Coun. Rick Laursen and Coun. Hebbes remained in opposition to the land use redesignation when council called the vote.

A date has not yet been indicated for when the development permit application will return before council for consideration and review.

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Funding model for provincial police draws county attention

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council is requesting more information from the province about their police funding model.

During the May 19 meeting, council directed administration to draft a letter to the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services requesting a presentation including clarification on the policy model and how it applies to municipal bylaw enforcement and the RCMP.

Additionally, the county is seeing further information from the province regarding per capita cost estimates on municipalities under the new model, and how cost efficiencies can be achieved.

“When we were at the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (meeting) in Edmonton for the spring session with our face to face, 15 minutes with Minister Ellis and his deputies, we discussed policing and some of the costs and some of the new programs that ministry is bringing forward,” said Coun. Berle Hebbes. “It was (presented) as an information thing to us, and at that meeting, Minister Ellis offered to literally send his assistant down to present to us on some options for policing delivery and costs. I think we should take him up on that offer.”

Reeve Scott Klassen added representatives from the county were attending the RMA in opposition of the province downloading policing costs onto

municipalities.

The Province of Alberta introduced the Police Funding Regulation in April 2020, introducing what is now the current funding model.

Costs associated with frontline officers have been redistributed, and municipalities are now responsible for contributing significant percentages of the costs to maintain staffing and resources.

The model applies to municipalities with populations under 5,000, as well as to municipal districts and counties.

Under the five-year model, expectations were to initially contribute 10 per cent of costs in year one, 15 per cent in year two, 20 per cent in year three, and 30 per cent in years four and five.

Contributions were scheduled to reduce back to 22 per cent for 2026, with gradual increases back to 30 per cent by 2031.

“When I first got elected, there was no cost, and now it has escalated fairly substantially, and now it is becoming – maybe we have a different option here,” said Klassen. “Before, there was no need to look at it because there was no cost. Up there, they mentioned it and I said I don’t know what that looks like, I don’t know if it is even feasible.”

Council voted unanimously in support of the letter. Should a meeting be arranged with the province, the time and date will be made publicly available in a future county meeting agenda.

Regional water asset management study to include county participation

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County is taking steps to participate in an Alberta Community Partnership grant application with respect to the Wheatland Regional Corporation’s regional water asset management study.

Council voted to participate either as the managing or a participating partner, May 19, alongside the Villages of Hussar, Rockyford, and/or Standard, should they also choose to participate.

“On May 5 the WRC requested support from its municipal shareholders for an ACP grant application to complete a regional water asset management study,” said Jose Podio-Cuervo, speaking on behalf of county administration. “The proposed project intended to support the development of an asset management framework for the WRC’s regional water infrastructure.”

The application would need to be submitted by municipal partners with one municipality acting as the managing partner.

The managing partner municipality carries the administration requirements of the application and can only act as such for one ACP application program project per year.

Alberta Community Partnership Program (ACP) is a provincial grant program intended to support regional collaboration and municipal capacity building, which includes several funding components including intermunicipal collaboration.

“Although the project relates to asset management, the broader purpose is to support a municipally-owned regional water utility that provides shared service delivery to multiple municipal sta-

keholders,” said Podio-Cuervo. “This aligns more closely with the intermunicipal collaboration component than the asset management support component as the asset management support component appears to be more limited in scope and applies only to municipalities with a population of 5,000 people or less.”

The intermunicipal collaboration component is intended for partnerships of two or more local governments to develop or improve regional service delivery plans, frameworks, and efficiencies.

The Government of Alberta has not yet published the final ACP program details for 2027. County administration currently anticipates the next ACP intake will be open this fall, with the intermunicipal collaboration applications due possibly late November.

“This is a very important study for WRC. It’s something they absolutely need to do. I’m glad that administration is happy to support it and to work with the other municipalities to decide who will act as managing partner and who will be participating,” said Coun. Shannon Laprise.

“This should be relatively easy because the infrastructure that was all developed is under 10 years old and it all has engineering drawings, and everything should be there. I would suggest that anything we do in the future building something comes with an asset management plan as part of the original plan,” added Reeve Scott Klassen.

Council voted unanimously to participate in the application but left their position open ended in order to work with the other potential partner municipalities to determine which would be best suited to act as the managing partner.



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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 5. Requesting
- 11. Give temporarily
- 12. Excitedness
- 16. Armed Forces branch
- 17. Actor Harris
- 18. Middle Eastern capital
- 19. Air hostesses
- 24. Partner to “Pa”
- 25. Percussion instrument
- 26. Popular computers
- 27. Reduce light
- 28. Asian mountain range
- 29. Every one of two or more
- 30. Absence of difficulty
- 31. A public announcement of a proposed marriage
- 33. Whittles
- 34. Impact
- 38. Serviceman
- 39. A French river
- 40. Prehistoric people
- 43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 44. ___ Clapton, musician
- 45. Ancient Greek sophist
- 49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 50. Singer Hansard
- 51. A way to disentangle
- 53. Atomic #93
- 54. Manifesting approval
- 56. Indigo bush
- 58. Former AL MVP Vaughn
- 59. Off-Broadway theater award
- 60. Fencers
- 63. Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
- 64. Relating to passerine birds
- 65. Arrange systematically

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Colorless fluid
- 2. Of a main artery
- 3. Photographer’s tool
- 4. Blues Traveler hit “But ___”
- 5. Grew older
- 6. Not the leader
- 7. ___ Lang (country singer)
- 8. A driver’s license is one
- 9. Nests of pheasants
- 10. Wildebeests
- 13. Equal to one quintillion bytes
- 14. Japanese three-stringed lute
- 15. Type of cat
- 20. It cools your home
- 21. The ancient Egyptian sun god
- 22. Pouches
- 23. German trigraph
- 27. Form of Persian
- 29. Measurement unit
- 30. Body part
- 31. Bridge building degree
- 32. Indicates position
- 33. Political action committee
- 34. Snack food
- 35. Front part of a quadruped
- 36. Locate
- 37. Pitching statistic
- 38. ___, myself and I
- 40. City in Utah
- 41. They play in the trenches
- 42. “Can’t Touch This” rapper ___ Hammer
- 44. Type of tree
- 45. Performers
- 46. Slang for mistake
- 47. More open
- 48. Most slick
- 50. Needles
- 51. University of Dayton
- 52. Atomic #11
- 54. Large fish of the mackerel family
- 55. Not any
- 57. ___ and behold
- 61. Popular sports highlight show (abbr.)
- 62. “The Great Lakes State”

STRATHMORE TIMES

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

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

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Fighting back

Residents gathered in Strathmore on May 29 as part of a province-wide Day of Protest organized through the Fight Back Now campaign, an initiative supported by the Alberta Federation of Labour. The local event featured a rally aimed at drawing attention to a range of concerns about provincial government policies. The Strathmore rally was one of more than 20 events held in communities across Alberta on that day.

Joe Lepage Photo

Employment scam study

BBB RELEASE

Job hunters tricked into handing over thousands of dollars are being lured in with a new tactic: task-based scams where they are offered high pay to “like” and “subscribe” to videos online.

Over the last three years, nearly 50,000 people reported to BBB Scam Tracker after falling victim to an employment scam. Reports exploded in 2025, doubling over the previous year. BBB received hundreds of reports involving task-based scams where fraudsters impersonated popular companies.

In the new study “Employment scams soar, ‘video boosters’ left unpaid, and education needs are paramount,” BBB’s International Investigations Initiative examines patterns of reports, reviews the amount of money lost and shares stories from those caught up in the scams so consumers can avoid them.

Since 2021, the BBB has laid out ways consumers and businesses can avoid scams and significant monetary loss. Previous studies examined business scams, online gambling, vehicle purchases, identity theft and much more.

Key findings:

- More than 600 reports to BBB about employment scams were “task based.”
- Job scams conducted over text message exploded in 2025, making up half of all reports.
- Employment scams are rising, despite extensive public information about this type of fraud.
- Median losses shrunk since 2023 but remain high at \$1,000.

What are the red flags of an employment scam?

- Unprompted job offers.
- Jobs offered without an interview.
- Too-good-to-be-true salaries.
- High-pressure offers to take a job immediately.
- Interviewers refuse to turn on camera.
- Payment to like or subscribe to videos online.
- Charges or taxes to withdraw money already earned.
- Upfront costs to begin work.

How can I avoid employment scams?

- Do research on companies offering jobs. If someone reaches out to you out of the blue, attempt to find a posting for the job on the company’s official website.
- Never pay money to get your paycheck. No legitimate job will ask you to pay taxes or any other fee to “unlock” funds you have already earned.
- Avoid jobs paying you to watch videos, like them or subscribe to a channel. In nearly every case, this will be a scam.
- Always use video in an interview if possible. If an employer offers you a job without an interview, be wary.

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DAHF simulation lab to receive \$10,000 county investment

Continued from Page 1

Once established, the program will be financed by AHS, as well as by incoming tuitions and fees from students.

“I think that’s a unique thing where hopefully people who live in the area will continue to nurse in the area once they get their degree,” said Coun. Shannon Laprise. “This is a really good initiative on behalf of Drumheller and Area Health Foundation.”

As one of the requirements to participate in the program, resident nurses will be required to live in the local community for a set period of time following their completion. The exact timeline of this had not been specified during the August presentation to the county.

At the request of Coun. Berle Hebes, it was clarified that that contribution from Wheatland County would be a one-time stipend intended to support the establishment of the program and would not be a regular occurrence for its maintenance.

One of the goals of the foundation was to gather \$10,000 contributions from each respective municipality within the catchment area, or an amount they were comfortable with providing. The \$300,000 target aims to be achieved by early 2027.

Classic Canadian tale takes the stage at Rosebud Theatre

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

One of Canada's most beloved literary characters is set to hit the stage this summer as Rosebud Theatre & School of the Arts presents *Anne of Green Gables*, running from June 5 through Sept. 5 at the Rosebud Opera House.

Based on the classic novel by Lucy Maud Montgomery, the production features music and lyrics by Nancy Ford and Gretchen Cryer.

The story follows Anne Shirley, a spirited and imaginative orphan who longs for a place to belong. Upon arriving in Avonlea, Anne's vibrant imagination and determined spirit soon win over the hearts of those around her.

Leading the cast is Rayanne Laycock in the title role, alongside Elinor Holt as Marilla Cuthbert and Christopher Hunt as Matthew Cuthbert. They are joined by Hannah Kerbes-Anson, Joel Stephanson, Mark Kazakov, Rosebud graduate Glenda Warkentin, and current Rosebud School of the Arts students Kate Corrigan, Jack Loney, and Amelia Bradford.

The production is directed by Calgary theatre artist Valerie Pearson, with Terrah Harper serving as pianist and band leader. The creative team also includes lighting designer Becky Halterman, music director Aليxandra Cowman, costume designer Robyn Ayles, and set designer DeNeane Osmond. The production also features 15 original musical numbers that help tell Anne's timeless story.

Performances of *Anne of Green Gables* will be held Wednesday through Saturday throughout the summer season. Tickets are priced at \$105 for adults and \$70 for youth, with senior and children's rates also available. Admission includes Chef Mo's renowned buffet meal, a signature part of the Rosebud experience.

Also new for this season is Friday Night Lite, a special Friday evening package that combines the show with a smaller themed buffet at a reduced ticket price. For June and July, guests can enjoy a Mexican-inspired buffet, while saving approximately 20 per cent off of the regular priced tickets.

For more information on this show or to order tickets, visit their website (rosebudtheatre.com).



Strathmore's own Rayanne Laycock will play the role of Anne Shirley in Rosebud Theatre & School of the Arts performance of *Anne of Green Gables* playing June 5 to Sept. 5.

Photo Courtesy of Rosebud Theatre & School of the Arts



Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS) is characterized by an irresistible urge to move the legs. It is worse when sitting or lying down. Some possible causes include iron deficiency. It can also occur during pregnancy, especially in the third trimester and by some medications including antidepressants, older antihistamines, high alcohol and caffeine intake as well as nicotine. Try massage and warm compresses, get regular exercise, and relax before bedtime with yoga or meditation.

Some Canadian doctors are prescribing *Nature* to their patients. They actually give them a prescription to encourage better compliance. This began in 2020 and is called *PaRx* and it recommends at least 2 hours a week spent out in Nature in periods of no less than 20 minutes. The healing power of Nature goes all the way back to Hippocrates in 400 BC.

Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome is still occurring in Canada. Although inclined sleeping devices and hammocks are illegal for sale in Canada, parents should be aware that any product that inclines the baby more than 10 degrees is unsafe leading to the baby's head top all forward and restricting airflow. For crib sleeping, back-sleeping is safest.

Early immunization is important to prevent diseases. Childhood vaccines often contain multiple vaccines to reduce the number of shots a child receives. Getting multiple vaccines at the same time has been shown very safe.

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Super kicks

The Ranch Soccer Fields were filled with energy and excitement as members of the U6 boys and girls soccer club gathered for their weekly practice on May 30. The players took part in skill-building drills before putting their abilities into action during friendly matches, usually scheduled for Thursdays.

Joe Lepage Photos



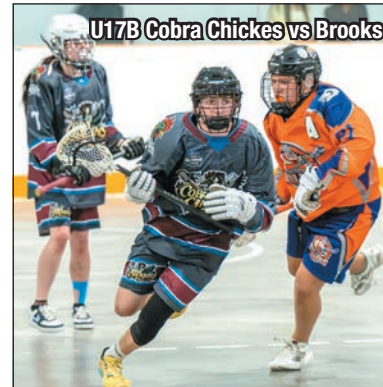
U15B vs Olds



U17B vs Lethbridge



U17B Cobra Chickies vs Brooks



U17B Cobra Chickies vs Brooks



U15C vs Edmonton



U17B vs Lethbridge



U15C vs Edmonton



U15B vs Olds

Venom strike

The Strathmore Lacrosse Club hosted their annual Redneck Rumble from May 29-31 at the Strathmore Family Centre. There were three Strathmore Venom teams playing in U15B-1, U15C-1 and U17B-1, plus the Strathmore/Foothills blended U17B Cobra Chickies, who took part in the tournament.

Joe Lepage Photos

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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.

- June 9, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission**
- June 16, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting**
- July 7, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting**

For call-in details, access links, and agenda packages, please visit our website.
<https://wheatlandcounty.ca/agendasandminutes/>

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If the opportunity to become part of Wheatland County Fire Services interests you, please email: fireservices@wheatlandcounty.ca to find out how you can become a Paid on Call or Volunteer Firefighter.

OPEN HOUSE

Nightingale Community Hall
 254040 RR245, Wheatland County
 JULY 7, 2026 | 7:00 P.M.

Wheatland County residents are invited to attend an upcoming community open house in Nightingale.

The evening will include project updates, opportunities to ask questions, and time to connect directly with County representatives. While the open house is taking place in Nightingale, all Wheatland County residents are encouraged to attend and take part in the conversation.

We look forward to seeing you there and hearing from our community.

Evening Agenda

- 7:00 P.M. Presentations and Community Updates Begin
- 8:00 P.M. Formal Question & Answer Period
- Following Q&A Informal Discussion and One-on-One Conversations with Council and Administration

GRAVEL SALES

Wheatland County's 2026 Gravel Sale Schedule is now available, with three scheduled sale dates:

- June 10-11
- July 8-9
- August 12-13

Crushed gravel and pit run will be available for purchase at designated County pits.

Tickets must be purchased in advance through the Wheatland County Administration Office, and materials are for personal use only.

View sale dates, locations, materials, and purchase details:

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.



County, Hussar assessing viability of splash park development

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County is discussing whether to assist the Village of Hussar with gauging the viability of, and overall interest in the potential development of a local splash park.

A request had been submitted to the county to assist in spreading the word and gathering engagement for a survey of local residents.

"The Village of Hussar is planning several centennial projects in 2028, including a proposed splash park and campground upgrades, as well as the development of a grain elevator project in partnership with the Hussar Historical Society," said Dave Rimes, speaking on behalf of community services. "These projects are intended to enhance local amenities and provide recreation and cultural benefits for both the village and county residents."

Rimes added the county had been approached by the Village of Hussar to work with their CAO as a community engagement partner on a survey of residents in surrounding areas to gauge potential interest.

The survey the county is being requested to participate in circulating is singularly gauging interest in the potential development of a splash park in Hussar.

"I understand that Hussar is looking for ways to attract visitors and residents to the area by having amenities, but I think a splash park is too great of

an investment in terms of the ongoing operating costs," said Coun. Shannon Laprise. "They don't know exactly, I think, what that cost will be, and I don't think residents know that when they are completing a survey. They might have been given a range, or maybe they were not given anything, I do not know."

As presented to Wheatland County, the Village of Hussar estimated annual operating costs for a splash park to be between \$5,000 and \$30,000 annually. Should a recirculation system be set up, costs are estimated to be between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Laprise added Hussar's annual tax revenue from its residents and businesses currently sits at approximately \$200,000, with much of that going towards full-time staffing.

"They noted that the Village of Empress is a comparable community with a splash park, but I note that Empress is currently undergoing a viability review, and so that is not a great comparable," said Laprise. "We could send a survey to Wheatland County residents, but unless they understand the implications of it, I think they would be responding in a theoretical way without really understanding the cost implications."

Council voted to direct administration to gather more information about the project from the village, as well as to accept the current report as information only. At this point, council has not voted whether to support participation with the survey.

New Blackfoot language sign unveiled

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Members of the Gleichen RCMP joined Siksika Nation Elders, Knowledge Keepers, leadership and community members on May 22 to unveil a newly revised detachment sign featuring Blackfoot language.

The ceremony, held outside the Gleichen RCMP detachment, marked a collaborative effort between the RCMP and Siksika Nation aimed at promoting reconciliation, cultural respect and stronger community relationships within Treaty 7 territory.

The project began after members of the detachment questioned the meaning and origin of wording displayed on the previous sign.

"I was sitting in the lunchroom one day and looked out at the sign and asked what it said. We weren't even sure it was in Blackfoot, and nobody really knew its meaning," said Sgt. Joshua Argue of the Gleichen RCMP. "It became clear something wasn't right, and that we needed to address it."

The detachment then worked closely with the Siksika Nation Elders and Knowledge Keepers to develop wording that was accurate, meaningful and reflective of Blackfoot language and values.

Staff Sgt. Carl Dinsdale, detachment commander for the Gleichen RCMP, said the sign represents a commitment

to building stronger ties within the community.

"We're going to create a culture of change here in Gleichen," said Dinsdale. "I'm hopeful members of the RCMP here will be known by their name, not just by their uniform. This is a one day at a time relationship that we must build, but we're dedicated to making that happen, and this sign is a reflection of that commitment."

Francis 'Butch' Wolfleg, speaking on behalf of the Siksika Nation Elders Advisory Committee, said Elders worked together carefully to find the proper wording for the sign.

"We all put our heads together," said Wolfleg. "We had a lot of work to do, and we needed to find the right phrasing for the sign. What we came up with was something that all the Elders agreed upon, and we believe it reflects what we hope our relationship with the RCMP continues to be."

Wolfleg explained the new wording translates to, "Looking out for people. Working toward peace and harmony."



Speakers at the event highlighted the importance of preserving and honouring Blackfoot language, noting that language carries history, values and identity. Community members also expressed hope that the new sign will stand as a lasting symbol of partnership, understanding and mutual respect between the RCMP and Siksika Nation.

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Permissions granted for local Hutterite Colony to update local facilities

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Hutterian Brethren Church of Springvale (Springvale Colony) is being granted permissions and means to expand and update their local housing facilities.

Wheatland County council voted, May 19, to redesignate approximately 303 acres of land from Agriculture General District to Direct Control District in order to facilitate such an expansion.

“This is normal practice for colonies. We do direct control because ... there are so many different varieties of land use there. It helps us out and helps with planning.” said Reeve Scott Klassen.

Direct control district allows for a variety of land uses within the Springvale Colony such as for schools, dwellings, churches, and agriculture – among several others.

Currently, the Springvale Colony is developed with approximately six multi-unit dwellings, accessory structures, storage buildings and granaries.

Also established on their subject lands is a multi-species confined feeding operation which supports local livestock.

“The redesignation and the process that we are in now is just to replace our house and we would like to move forward with that as quick as possible,” said Daniel Gross, minister and president of Springvale Colony. “This is a plan to rebuild all of the housing, starting with the five units that we proposed, and eventually we will have probably

25 units total to house what we had before. We have 87 members now, and 25 units will probably be good for 125 to 150 people.”

According to county administration’s report to council, the colony is proposing to construct a townhouse dwelling to support its residents.

Details and requirements for such a development will be assessed once it reaches the development application stage.

Prompting the discussion, the Springvale Colony had sent the county a letter requesting the permission of the redesignation process.

Indicated in the letter, alongside the Colony’s 108-year history within the region, are concerns regarding their access to water via the Rosebud Creek, as well as local wells.

Though the letter does not necessarily indicate the initiation of drilling new wells, it does discuss the registration of local wells, the colony’s willingness to comply with provincial regulations and processes, and notation regarding the wastewater lagoon developed approximately 40 years ago.

County administration noted assessments and technical studies of the existing lagoon will be required in order to demonstrate its continued feasibility come the development stage of the proposed new lodgings.

Council voted unanimously to approve all three readings of the required bylaw to redesignate the agricultural general district lands, supporting the Springvale Colony’s request. At the time of the meeting, no further development or scheduling information was made publicly available.

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Protecting communities

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Every strong community starts with the places where people feel safe, come together, and find their path forward.

Our government is investing in each of those foundations: stronger tools to protect communities from organized crime, support for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo to host the Alberta Summer Games 2028, and hands-on opportunities that help young Albertans discover careers in the skilled trades.

As our communities grow, we are prioritizing the safety of Albertans. Our government is investing nearly \$8 million to strengthen the fight against organized crime, extortion and gang activity across Alberta. The funding will support the Edmonton Police Service, Calgary Police Service, Alberta RCMP and ALERT with specialized investigative tools, including surveillance, intelligence and digital forensic equipment. Criminal networks do not stop at city limits, and this investment helps law enforcement respond with the coordination, tools and speed needed to protect families, businesses, and communities.

In northern Alberta, that starts with the return of a major provincial tradition. Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo has been selected to host the 2028 Alberta Summer Games, bringing about 2,600 athletes, coaches, and support staff to the region. With a \$1.15-million grant from our government, the games will support event planning, transportation, promotion, and delivery, while creating economic activity for local businesses and tourism operators. For young athletes, it is a

chance to test themselves, represent their communities and experience the kind of event that has helped launch more than 50 Alberta Games alumni to the Olympic or Paralympic stage, including amazing athletes from our constituency.

Curiosity can be the first step toward a career, especially when young people get to build, test and try things for themselves. That's why Alberta's government is investing an additional \$300,000 to support BLUprint at TELUS Spark Science Centre through 2027. The program gives children and youth hands-on exposure to skilled trades through try-a-trade activities, exhibits, simulators, and STEAM-based learning. With more than 100,000 visitors already taking part, including more than 40,000 students, BLUprint is helping young Albertans see the trades as a first-choice path to a rewarding future in the industries that build our homes, roads, energy projects and communities.

Finally, I am pleased to share that this past week, I hosted an information session in partnership with Invest Alberta Corporation for our local elected municipal leaders, economic development officers, and chambers of commerce. The session was hosted in Strathmore and was focused on learning more about Invest Alberta's work and exploring how municipalities can partner together to strengthen investment attraction,

support economic growth, and create new opportunities in our communities.

A province is shaped by the opportunities young people have, the events that bring communities together and the safety people feel when they go to work, open a business, or raise their children. Our government continues to invest in those foundations, because Alberta's future is something we build, protect, and pass on.

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)

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Safe Kids Week tips

PRIMARY CARE ALBERTA

As a parent or caregiver, you play a key role in keeping your children safe in your community. Parachute is a national charitable organization dedicated to injury prevention. Safe Kids Week, June 1-7, is one of their annual initiatives. This year as part of Safe Kids Week, Primary Care Alberta (PCA) is encouraging parents and caregivers to think about ways to stay safe while outside with their kids this spring.

Walking and cycling are fun and healthy ways for children to stay active. Kids get to explore the world around them and make their own decisions. But it's important to keep safety top of mind. In Alberta, transportation-related injuries are the third leading cause of emergency department and urgent care center visits, and the second leading cause of hospitalization for children birth to age 14.

As a parent or caregiver, here are some ways you can help your kids stay safe:

- Check their ride. Make sure your child's bike is adjusted correctly for their height. Have them do a bike check before riding to ensure tires are inflated and brakes are working.
- Role model and teach your child how to cross streets following pedestrian safety rules. Practice looking and listening for oncoming traffic, crossing once cars have come to a full stop, and crossing at corners or marked crossings together.
- Travel with your younger children. The skills to navigate more complex environments develop around the ages of 9 to 11. Ensuring your younger children are with you or a trusted adult when they are moving outside or in a vehicle can help them learn safe habits.
- Avoid e-scooters for children under 16-years-old. E-scooters are dangerous for children because they go fast, need physical strength to control and need emotional and critical thinking abilities to ride and make decisions. It's safer for children to develop these skills by riding a bicycle or using a non-electric kick scooter.

As a driver:

- Follow the speed limit. Driving at posted speeds can prevent crashes. In lower speed collisions, people involved are less likely to be severely injured or killed.
- Keep your distance. Ensure you give cyclists and other road users space on the road. When parking on the street, always check for cyclists before opening your door.
- Be alert. Manage distractions before getting on the road. Be patient and expect kids to be kids. Be alert for child pedestrians and cyclists darting between cars or moving suddenly onto the road.

To learn more about road safety for children and teens, visit myhealth.alberta.ca/injury-prevention-safety/road-safety.

Care is a lifelong commitment for Primary Care Alberta. We plan, fund and support primary healthcare across the province, improving access to care providers and offering front-line services through Health Link 811 and public health teams. Throughout the health journey, we are by your side – managing, preventing and reducing illness. Along with our partners, we nurture the connections our communities need to thrive and strengthen the health of all Albertans.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time to call it out

To the Editor

A suggested thought on the separatist movement: Contact your MLA and state we want a provincial election vote, not a referendum on a referendum. Tell your MLA that if they're truly not a separatist party, then show it by telling the separatists to run like any other party should in our democracy.

Separatists need to stop hiding under the UCP brand and create their own party - elect a leader and state their mandate. This Oct. 19 referendum will drag out the uncertainty as it is doing now, at a time that Canada needs to show national stability. Large investors always plan years ahead and instability will either put commitment on hold or go elsewhere like is being seen by renewable investors.

A statement from Deborah Yedlin, President and CEO of Calgary Chamber of Commerce on Alberta Prime time program on separatist movement: "This is not something that results in an increase for Albertans and anybody that tells them that's the case is lying."

So, ask yourself which side would have more factual business knowledge to an investment outcome? Albertans need a leader to "lead and not leave."

Danielle Smith states she's a majority federalist while supporting the minority separatist - is that leadership in a democracy? Is it truly about Alberta-strong in Canada or keeping her job?

She on one hand states she doesn't want judges to tell her

government what they can do under the current laws, but on the other hand she has stated that judges need to step-in on the decision on respecting the aboriginal rights to consult ruling.

The judgment stated it was the government's job to do the consulting and not the petitioners. That in itself highlights her inability to lead, but to deflect responsibility which has been noted as typical in her leadership in representing the majority.

My invitation to speak at the Fight Now rally on what people can do in talking with their MLA was well received and a wakeup call to action. I also stated, for those that don't send a simple phone call, email, message to their MLA about what they want, then they are part of the problem and are giving their MLA and government a free pass on accountability.

Let's stop the spending of tens of millions of taxpayer dollars on an ongoing question that has the potential hit on investment and jobs for years. Let's have one election vote on who should lead "our Alberta" and get on with it, now.

Question: What would the new Alberta boundaries look like with factoring in Treaty rights and Canadian Parks and other assets? Think about that. I have a saying that guides me "You are what you do."

It is truly the under-70 year-old generation that will have to live with the result, your/our choice is now - send the message.

Dennis Bigras
Wheatland County

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary



**HEBBES,
Lois (Berg)**
September 4, 1939 - May 24, 2026

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Lois Helen Hebbes from Carseland, AB, who went to be with her Lord and Savior on May 24, 2026. To express condolences and share memories, please visit: www.mountainviewmemorial.ca.



Obituary



**KOLTUSKY,
Randall**

It is with broken hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved hero. Randy passed away on May 22, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family after a short but hard-fought battle with cancer.

He leaves behind his wife of 42 years, Dorie, whom he adored; his son, Lukas (Heather), and their children, Michael, June, and James; his daughter, Jenna-Lee; his mother, Winnifred; as well as extended family and many dear friends.

Born in Calgary, Alberta, Randy spent part of his childhood in Manitoba before eventually returning home to Calgary. He graduated from Forest Lawn High School in 1980 and married his high school sweetheart, Dorie, on September 17, 1983. Randy went on to build a successful construction company, which he proudly owned and operated for over 30 years.

Eventually deciding it was time to leave city life behind, Randy and Dorie purchased an acreage just outside of Strathmore, where they spent the next 30 years enjoying the country life they loved so much. Together they shared countless adventures, memories, and a life filled with love.

Randy loved the simple, meaningful things in life. He enjoyed travelling to tropical destinations and taking motorcycle road trips with friends. He loved camping (or "glamping") at the family cottage, boating, sitting around campfires, feeding and watching the hummingbirds, and admiring golden sunsets.

He also enjoyed model railroads, train trips, vintage cars and trucks, and old western movies. Above all else, Randy cherished time spent with the people he loved, especially his grandchildren.

Randy had so much more life he wanted to live, and he will be deeply missed every single day. His kindness, humour, and love for his family will stay with us forever.

At Randy's request, no formal service will be held. His family asks that he simply be remembered in your own way, and that you hold your loved ones a little closer.

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The family of Gordon Hilton would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended his funeral, sent flowers and messages of comfort, delivered food, or reached out with support during this difficult time.

We are deeply grateful to Father Cristino Bouvette at Sacred Heart Church and Francis Van Bussel and staff at Wheatland Funeral Home for their guidance and support.

Special thanks as well to LaRue Kiemele and Kathy Zakresky for leading the music for mass and to the CWL for providing lunch following the service.

We also extend our sincere thanks to his caregivers at Sagewood for their exceptional dedicated and attentive care.

Words cannot fully express how much we appreciate the compassion and kindness shown to our family

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

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OSOYOOS LAKESHORE VILLA: Executive villa in Osoyoos, BC, breathtaking lake views, just 3 minutes from town. Vacation in Canada's warmest destination. Or warmer weather, two luxurious 5-star resort units in Phoenix, Arizona. Doug 306-716-2671 or visit osoyooslakevilla.com.

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FORAGE SEED FOR SALE: Organic & conventional: Sweet Clover, Alfalfa, Red Clover, Smooth Brome, Meadow Brome, Crested Wheatgrass, Timothy, etc. Free Delivery! Birch Rose Acres Ltd. 306-921-9942.

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BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only \$269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach 75 weekly newspapers. Call NOW for details. 1-800-282-6903; www.awna.com; email classifieds@awna.com.

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

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Upcoming Council Meetings

June 3, 2026 | 6 p.m.
 June 10, 2026 | 6 p.m.
 June 17, 2026 | 6 p.m.

Regular Meeting of Council
 Committee of the Whole
 Regular Meeting of Council

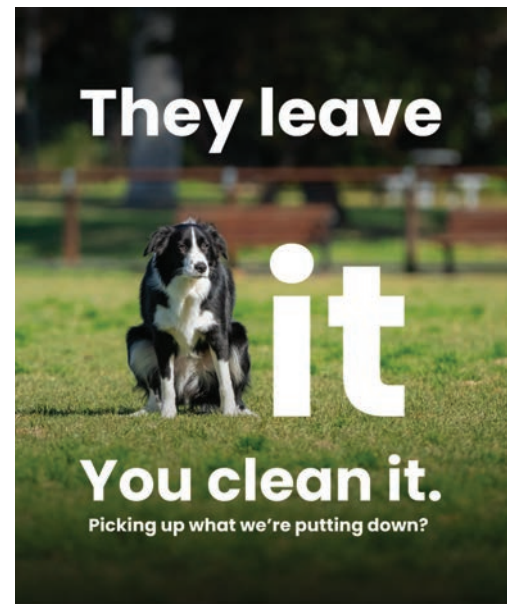
Come Say Hi

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.

Celebrating 40 years of Alberta Seniors' Week June 1 to 7, 2026

Stay connected with what's happening at Strathmore FCSS. For registration and more information, visit Strathmore.ca/FCSSEvents

Day	Events List
June 1, 2026	Seniors' Week Kickoff - Hosted by Strathmore FCSS & The Legion. Takes place at the Legion from 4 to 6 p.m.
	Chair Yoga - Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre from 10 to 11 a.m.
	Lane Swim - Aquatic Centre from 6 to 8:20 a.m.
June 2, 2026	Zectangle - Wheatland Society of Arts from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
	Line Dancing - Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre from 10 to 11 a.m.
	Seniors Tea Party - The Vault from 1 to 3 p.m.
	Public Swim - Aquatic Centre from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.
	Shred-It Truck - FCSS hosted at Strathmore Library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
June 3, 2026	YOU Power Workshop - Strathmore Civic Centre from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
	Aquasize - Aquatic Centre from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
	Free Walking Track Entry - Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
	Bridge Tournament - The Happy Gang at 9 a.m.
June 4, 2026	Hike and Prehistoric Plants - Royal Tyrrel Museum at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
	Acrylic Lighthouse Painting - Wheatland Society of Arts from 1 to 3 p.m.
	Tethered Running - Aquatic Centre from 7:35 to 8:35 p.m.
June 5, 2026	Free Seniors Matinee - Joyland Theatre at 12:30 p.m.
	Lane Swim - Aquatic Centre from 12 to 1 p.m.
	Artist Demonstration by Elaine Wheeler - The Vault from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
June 6, 2026	Crib Tournament - The Happy Gang at 1 p.m.
	"Mrs. Quakers" Art Session - Wheatland Society of Arts, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. or 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
June 7, 2026	Free Walking Track Entry - Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Public notice. Proposed lease extension.

In accordance with Sections 70 and 606 of the Municipal Government Act, the Town of Strathmore is providing public notice of a proposed lease extension with Delta Force Paintball Canada Limited for lands legally described as a portion of the SE ¼, 12-24-25 W4M.

A copy of the proposed lease agreement is available for public inspection at the Town of Strathmore Municipal Building, 1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, Alberta.

Pursuant to section 606 of the MGA, the proposed lease extension will be advertised in the May 27 and June 3, 2026 Strathmore Times at minimum. The date of the last publication of this notice is June 3, 2026 and Council will be meeting to further discuss the lease agreement on June 24, 2026.

As per Section 231, electors may require a vote on this matter by submitting a petition in accordance with Sections 219 to 226 of the MGA.

Petition overview:

For a petition to be sufficient, it must:

- contain signatures from electors equal to at least 10% of the population of the Town of Strathmore;
- contain on each page "an accurate and identical statement of the purpose of the petition"; and

Additional petition requirements are outlined in Sections 219 to 226 of the MGA.

Please contact Legislative Services at 403-934-3133 or LSAdmin@strathmore.ca if you have any questions.

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
- Lead Facility Operator (Arena)
- Parks Operator
- Senior Lifeguard

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



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.



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
Let's Celebrate	Aug 24 to 27, 2026