



Locally Owned & Operated

STRATHMORE

TIMES

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 13

ROSE ENTERPRISES STRATHMORE AB

Excavation ■ Septic Install
Snow Removal ■ Landscaping
Gravel Hauling

403-934-7120 RoseDigsDirt.com

Kevin Baldwin

exp REALTY

403-561-0037
Kevin Baldwin Realtor® / kevinbaldwin.ca

Sather Real Estate

NONIE HALL
AGENT
403-934-0420
nonie.hall@shaw.ca
104 - 3rd Avenue, Strathmore

Move in with Us!

Dixie Hartell
403.934.1034
dhartell@telusplanet.net

Brenda Sproule
403.809.8811
bsproule.realtor@gmail.com

KIC REALTY

Page 5



Spartans eye future

Page 7



Raiders earn bronze

Coun. Koester discusses county appeal

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County Coun. Glenn Koester spoke to the county's decision to appeal the Court of King's Bench ruling in the Koester versus Wheatland County, 2024 ABKB 103 case.

The county voted 4-2 in favour of the appeal during the March 15 special meeting of council, with Koester having excused himself from the vote after declaring a conflict of interest.

Through the Alberta courts appeal system, a notice of appeal to a judge's ruling may be filed within 30 days after judgement is given.

Following this, a copy of the notice, as well as a copy of the transcript order, and a completed affidavit of service proving the notice has been served on the respondent must be filed at the Court of King's Bench.

Within three months of the notice of appeal being filed, the original transcript must also be filed at the Court of King's Bench, as well as served to the respondent, and to any person(s) the court directs. If the transcript is not filed within three months, the appeal is dismissed.

Judgement from the court is not able to be enforced until the outcome of the appeal is decided.

"This is nothing I signed up for, that is for sure ... but in the same sense, I think the rate payers are owed an explanation at the end of the day (about) what is going on," said Koester.

Koester versus Wheatland County, 2024 ABKB 103 is a case which began in December 2022 about sanctions imposed by the county against Koester following an investigation into a code of conduct violation complaint.

Details regarding the code of conduct violation complaint, as well as the investigation which followed were withheld from the public by the county.

Continued on Page 4



Introducing fun on ice

The Strathmore Minor Ringette Association hosted a 'Come Try Ringette' on March 23 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The event is to introduce new participants and parents to the sport, where technical skating and game play skills are developed gradually through fun practices, dedicated volunteer coaches, and adequate ice time. See Page 7 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

Address
129 2nd Avenue
Inside the
Strathmore
Business Centre

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Look on Page 12 for
**Town of Strathmore
Municipal Notices**

Contact Us Today!
403.934.5589

info@strathmoretimes.com
www.StrathmoreTimes.com

HOUSE | LAND | LUXURY | LAKE | COMMERCIAL

**RE/MAX
KEY**

Looking is FREE

587-316-2000

the-reps.ca



MAXSPL MUSIC PRESENTS

The Strathmore Wedding Expo



Sunday April 28th 10am-4pm
1001 E Pine Road Strathmore AB
Free Entry, Family Friendly

Presented by



Brought to you by



StrathmoreWeddingExpo.com

Sign up for your free bridal bag!

METAK III DISTRIBUTING LTD

Seeking All Makes and Types of Firearms and Ammunition

Estates and Large Collections Welcome
- Inspection and Pickup Available

Fully licensed and insured, including for transportation and verification

Call **Tony** 403.519.7250 or email
info@metakdistributing.com

Book Your **CLASSIFIED AD** Today!

Call the Strathmore TIMES
403.934.5589

MPC approves Development Permit Applications

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council discussed four ongoing development permit applications during the March 12 meeting of the Municipal Planning Commission.

Development Permit 2022-002, first on the discussion, requested a time extension for the application which first became active March 30, 2022, with a completion deadline of March 30, 2024.

This request aimed to extend the deadline for the development of the 13.3 megawatt solar facility until Sept. 30, 2025, allowing an additional 18 months to complete the project.

The proposal was originally submitted for a 13.3 megawatt facility, covering 72 acres across the 160 acre subject parcel.

Development activities were being completed in parallel with a funding application to the Government of Canada, which required partnership with an Indigenous partner.

In February 2023, the Indigenous partner initially negotiated with and who had been accepted by the federal government, opted to not continue with the partnership. This caused a requirement for a new Indigenous partnership to be established, resulting in significant delays to the project.

The Wheatland County Schedule of Fees stipulates a development extension may be granted one time only. This is the first time the proponent of the application has requested an extension, and they have reported confidence in their ability to complete the project by a September 2025 deadline.

Development Permit 2023-121 is an application for a biosolids all-weather stockpile, which is a component of the Willow Biomass and Marginal Lands Pilot Project.

The stockpile is located on a 160-acre parcel which is leased from a Hutterite Colony. This same colony owns the lands adjacent to the par-

cel on all sides. The stockpile site is surrounded by willow tree plantations.

A stockpile is defined as a discretionary use in the Agriculture General District, and requires the approval of the Municipal Planning Commission.

Biosolids as an intended use are to aid in the improvement of soil quality for the purposes of agricultural use.

Development Permit 2023-179 was to address two noncompliant structures located on the subject lands detailed in the report submitted to the Municipal Planning Commission.

The buildings were identified due to a complaint the county received, stating they were moved to the property without permits and had the potential to be used as dwellings or cabins.

The landowner advised the Municipal Planning Commission the structures would be used as accessory buildings only, providing family and friends with additional space to congregate.

No septic or running water is planned to see installation within the structures, nor are they planned to be utilized as temporary, or permanent dwellings.

The two structures in question required variances in order to allow them to remain in their respective locations, as were reported in the development permit application.

Development Permit 2024-300 was to allow for six backyard hens and a coop to be allowed on a residential parcel within the Hamlet of Carseland.

The structures proposed in the development permit application are compliant with local minimum size parameters listed in the bylaw. Additionally, a fully enclosed bin will be on site for the storage of manure until it is combined with household compost.

No concerns were reported by neighbours to the applicant regarding the development application.

The Municipal Planning Commission voted to approve all applications presented.

Reducing red tape for truckers

FROM THE OFFICE OF MARTIN SHIELDS

Martin Shields, Conservative Member of Parliament for Bow River, introduced his Private Member's Bill C-385, An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Transport Act.

Conservative plan will bring lower food costs for families and increase safety for animals and drivers.

Bill C-385 would set a 240-km radius Electronic Logging Device (ELD) exemption from the point of origin and destination of an inter-provincial journey transporting livestock or insects. When the ELD was mandated in January 2023 for the purposes of tracking hours-of-service for long haul inter-provincial trucking, unintended consequences arose for the health and welfare of livestock and insects.

"Bill C-385 will not only harmonize Canadian laws with those of our American neighbours to

simplify rules and reduce red tape for our truckers, but it will also add flexibility to safeguard the welfare of animals in the event of unforeseen delays," said MP Shields.

As unforeseen delays arise during loading, unloading, or transportation of livestock, ELD hours-of-service regulations may result in several hours of forced downtime before the transporter can resume the haul, endangering animal welfare. The ELD mandate reduces Canada's competitiveness with the American agriculture industry and increases costs to the producer, the transporter, the processor, and ultimately food costs to Canadians.

"Conservatives know our Canadian agriculture industry operates at the highest standards," said MP Shields. "I look forward to continuing to work with farmers and agriculture producers to safeguard animal welfare and bring home the best quality food in the world."

FESTIVAL OF **Spice Delights**

CHECK OUT OUR FULL MENU ONLINE OR IN STORE

TANDOORI CHICKEN PIZZA

TANDOORI CHICKEN WINGS

BUTTER CHICKEN POUTINE

PIZZA 73

403.273.7373

Town approves land use bylaw amendment with intent for new daycare facility

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore voted to approve Bylaw 24-01, being a bylaw to amend the town's Land Use Bylaw No. 14-11, addressing 1016 Westridge Road.

First reading was given to Bylaw 24-01 during the Feb. 21 regular meeting of council. The public was subsequently notified about the hearing, which took place during the March 20 council meeting.

Second and third readings of the bylaw were passed following the closing of the public hearing, during which the bylaw was presented and discussed.

"Staff received a land use bylaw redesignation application for 1016 Westridge Road, Lot 9, Block 1, Plan 9611453. The application is for commercial highway district overlay," said Chuck Proctor, who spoke to the application during the public hearing. "(The application) retains that base zoning of commercial highway district, but adding a child care service into that lot."

Prior to the passing of the bylaw amendment, childcare services were not listed as a use in the commercial highway land use district.

Town staff noted in the report submitted in council's meeting agenda, this was believed to be due to industrial type land uses existing as part of that land use district.

"We do not think there is any large industrial land use conflicts adjacent to residential to the

north – the properties north of Highway 1, it is not next to our heavy industrial district," said Proctor. "Westridge Road was also recently upgraded with pedestrian upgrades, trees, and a sidewalk."

Westridge Road was noted as being currently comprised mostly of commercial highway land use, adjacent to Strathmore Lakes Estates, Wildflower Ranch, Westlake Bay, and Strathmore Lakes Bay, which are primarily low-density residential land uses.

Expanding childcare services in Strathmore was suggested to potentially address pressing needs of families within the community by accommodating the demands of working parents and guardians.

The availability of additional local childcare services not only would increase its accessibility, but would also contribute to the local economy, well-being of local families, and productivity of workforces.

The property in question consists of one acre, which would be utilized as an indoor childcare service, host a small playground, and maintain a parking area for staff, as well as for parents and guardians to drop off their children.

Members of the public who spoke during the public hearing took the time to express their support for the land use bylaw amendment. There was no stated opposition to the amendment by members of the public during the public hearing.

More information regarding the bylaw amendment and the development project is present in the town's public meeting agenda.

Town approves new basement suite development

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore voted to approve Bylaw 24-02, being a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw 14-11, during the March 20, regular meeting of council.

Second and third readings of the bylaw were passed during the council meeting, following a public hearing, during which the bylaw was discussed and debated.

First reading was given during the Feb. 21, regular council meeting, and public notice was distributed regarding the public hearing prior to its occurrence.

The application to amend Land Use Bylaw 14-11 was received by the town, Nov. 30, 2023 and was deemed to be a complete application following the submission of additional required information by the property owners as of Jan. 5, 2024.

The proposed redesignation was to permit a secondary suite located within the basement of the existing single detached dwelling, situated at 318 First Avenue in Strathmore.

Administration recommended the approval of the amendment, as the approval and addition of secondary suites to local properties would increase the availability and range of affordable housing options available to current and future residents of the town, regardless of age, background, or abilities.

"The bylaw itself would amend and redesignate the lands from R3 to an R3 Direct Control Dis-

trict, so the base zoning would remain the same, but there would be a special permission on the lands to add the secondary suite within the existing dwelling," said Glen Ferguson, senior planner with the Town of Strathmore. "This is a site specific redesignation, it would only apply to the lands at 318 First Avenue."

Following Ferguson's presentation before council, no members of the public opted to capitalize on the public hearing and speak or ask questions regarding the potential amendment to the land use bylaw.

Mayor Pat Fule inquired regarding assurances that following the development of the secondary suite, the building would maintain compliance with local construction and safety codes.

The property owner must now go through building permit processes assigned by the Town of Strathmore in order to appropriately redevelop the property. This process will also ensure the building remains in compliance with local construction and safety regulations.

It is noted in the report submitted to council by administration, the housing supply in the Town of Strathmore is primarily comprised of single detached dwellings.

Increasing the supply of more affordable housing types and built forms was noted to be representative of good land use planning.

The redesignation will contribute one additional residential dwelling unit to the town's supply of affordable housing units.

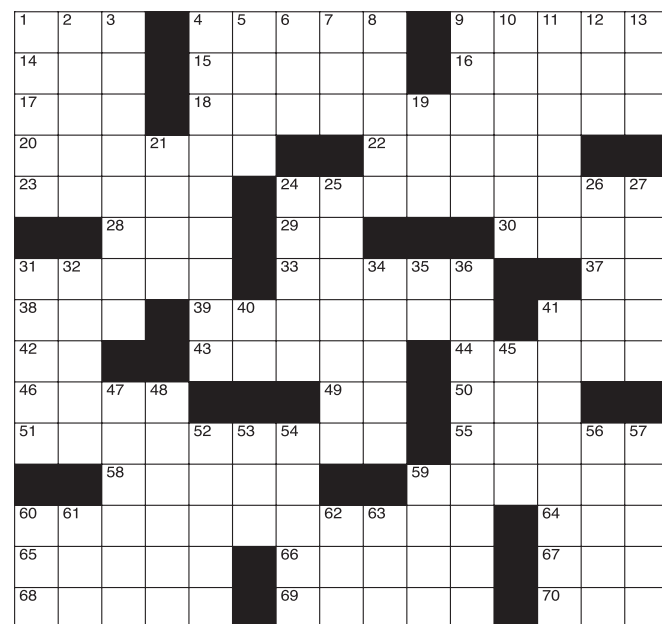


PRO WATER SYSTEMS

Water Softeners, Iron Filters & Drinking Water Systems

403-901-5512

Pentair Water Platinum Dealer

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Thick flat pad
- 4. Green regions of desert
- 9. Fill with dismay
- 14. Boxing legend
- 15. Soup
- 16. Your sibling's daughter
- 17. A long thin implement
- 18. Late ESPN anchor
- 20. Motives
- 22. Astronumerology term
- 23. Semitic Sun god
- 24. Small cigar
- 28. Promotions
- 29. Not off
- 30. Line or plaster the roof
- 31. African Indian people of Alberta, Canada
- 33. Rituals
- 37. Chlorine
- 38. Red deer
- 39. Offers a good view
- 41. Post-indictment arrangement
- 42. Blood group
- 43. Razor clams
- 44. Fleshes of animals
- 46. Nipple
- 49. Indicates position
- 50. Electrocardiogram
- 51. Can be disconnected
- 55. Tall military cap
- 58. Cape Verde capital
- 59. Not written in any key
- 60. Creative
- 64. Suffix
- 65. Stacked
- 66. One who consumes
- 67. Not he
- 68. Whiskey and milk are two
- 69. Entryways
- 70. ___ and cheese

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Marketplaces
- 2. Hawaiian greeting
- 3. Mark left by the sea
- 4. Strongly affected by something
- 5. Music and painting are two
- 6. Small coin (French)
- 7. Letter of the Greek alphabet
- 8. A gesture involving the shoulders
- 9. Grey geese
- 10. Meal in the park
- 11. Human beings
- 12. What thespians do
- 13. Allow
- 19. Third-party access
- 21. "Casino Royale" villain Mikkelsen
- 24. Painful foot problems
- 25. The very first
- 26. Lawful
- 27. Ceramic jars
- 31. Hind ends
- 32. "Virginia Woolf" author
- 34. Try
- 35. For instance
- 36. Academic terms
- 40. Article
- 41. Religious belief outside the mainstream
- 45. Sound caused by reflection
- 47. Greatly horrify
- 48. Prey
- 52. Forays
- 53. River in eastern France
- 54. Bleated
- 56. Soft food cooked from buckwheat
- 57. Pre-Mayan civilization
- 59. Assert to be the case
- 60. Inches per minute (abbr.)
- 61. "Rosemary's Baby", Farrow
- 62. Chinese philosophical principle
- 63. Simpson trial judge


STRATHMORE TIMES

Mario Prusina Publisher
John Watson Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
Kristina Bezic Financial Manager **Rose Hamrlík** Advertising **Jody Schneider** Production
 Contributors: **Lauren F. Guenther, Joe Lepage, Melissa Piche**

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

Strathmore Times is published every Wednesday by Strathmore Times Inc. and is distributed by Canada Post to Strathmore, Carseland, Cheadle, Cluny, Gleichen, Hussar, Lyalta, Namaka, Nightingale, Rockyford, Rosebud, Speargrass and Standard. We also have various pickup locations throughout our coverage area. Our 10,910 issues are printed by Star Press Inc., Wainwright, Alberta. The content in the Strathmore Times is copyright and reproduction without the proper written consent of the Strathmore Times is strictly prohibited.

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

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

ELEVATE
your e-commerce

Find out about the free Digital Economy Program for Alberta Small Businesses.
Learn more at:
dep.businesslink.ca



Coun. Koester speaks to county's decision to appeal in Court of King's Bench

Continued from Page 1

At the time of discussions in council, this was considered standard procedure. Koester and fellow councilor, Coun. Rich-



**It's not just a generator.
It's a power move.™**

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$715.

Call 888-411-0205 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply.

GENERAC

ard Laursen advocated for all information surrounding the complaint and subsequent investigation to be made public.

Ultimately, Koester was sanctioned following discussion by the county in confidence regarding the investigation report, and was removed from all municipal service boards he sat on,

representing the county.

"They sanctioned me and I took objection to it - they would not bring it out of camera so everybody would know why I got such a harsh sanction," said Koester. "I had two options: one was to visit (the Strathmore Times) and spill everything (and) break confidence, and the other thing was to go to court. I chose to go to court because I thought it would be the high road."

Information regarding the code of conduct violation complaint were made to be public record, as was included in Koester's affidavit for the proceedings, sworn July 19, 2022.

The Court of King's Bench issued their decision, February 22, which was then filed March 1, about the matter, ruling initially in Koester's favour and quashing all sanctions against him.

"I still to this day want the public to know what was in that (investigation) report and let them judge. It was not that big of a deal," said Koester. "Why all the money? Why all the time, why all the heartbreak? I do not know. I can't answer that. I am not privy to council's decisions when they are talking about me."

No timelines have yet been set regarding when proceedings will next continue to determine whether the appeal is under valid grounds, and what will become of the original judgement.

During his tenure on council, Koester has served on almost all of the committees for which the council delegates representatives.

"I fought for the ambulances to stay in Strathmore - that was a long fight, that was 10 or 15 years ago; I have seen the staff get almost parity with the province with their wages ... I have seen Sagewood advocating for a new lodge ... I was on the local water corporation here and I have seen it formed and we advocated the government since before Strathmore got water from partnerships," said Koester. "(These sanctions are) affecting my ability to advocate on behalf of the whole county to get these improved ... it strangles my ability to work on different projects."

Koester added he and his lawyer are both confident in their success in court a second time.

As court proceedings very plausibly may stretch into 2025, being an election year, Koester added he has his doubts about running again to continue his tenure on council.

"The benefit of going through court and, I guess the news that surrounds it - I am hoping that ratepayers take a good hard look at the next election and get out there and vote," he said. "If this is who you want to run your county, great, vote for them - and if you want somebody else you think could do a better job, go out and support them."

Wheatland County, via the final operating budget for 2023, recorded \$398,300 in total legal expenses. It is not stated in the public document how much of this budget was allocated for the expense of hiring Brownlee LLP to represent them in court.

The county did not respond to requests for comment regarding their decision to appeal the court ruling in the Koester versus Wheatland County, 2024 ABKB 103 case.

Pass the Salt

A STRANGE GLORY

In John's gospel, almost immediately after Jesus enters Jerusalem to the exuberant accolades of the crowds waving palm branches and shouting "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" Jesus declares that the hour has now come for the Son of Man to be glorified. It's tempting to think that this glory would be along the lines of the exaltation of the crowds, but Jesus' words go in an entirely different direction. He talks about the glory of a seed which, instead of remaining alone, falls into the ground and dies, and thereby multiplies itself. And he talks about being lifted up from the earth, a not too veiled reference to the Roman cross on which he will soon die - a form of execution designed especially to maximize humiliation, degradation and suffering - hardly a means for Jesus to be glorified.

And yet, and yet, this exactly where Jesus claims that his glory will be revealed, and when he is lifted up in this violent and cruel manner, he will draw all people to himself. John certainly recognizes

the cross as the supreme revelation of Jesus' glory, when in his heavenly vision he hears the multitude around the throne singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" And Paul recognizes the glory of the cross, despite its apparent foolishness in the eyes of the world, when he asserts that to us who believe, the cross is the both the power of God and the wisdom of God, and in response to Christ's embrace of the suffering of the cross that God raises him up to a glory beyond that of all others.

In Holy Week we are invited to look deeply at the cross, because there we see God forswearing the use of the world's tactics, and instead absorbing all the violence and cruelty of a broken world into himself, and instead of demanding retribution offers the abundant and eternal life we were created to enjoy. So take the time this week above all others to gaze intently at the strange glory that is the cross.

*Rev. Malcolm Kern, Priest
St. Michael & All Angels
Anglican Church*

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

Thought for the Week

~

"If TRUTH becomes for us a value worthy of suffering and risk, then we shall overcome fear - the direct reason for our enslavement."

J. Popieluszko
(Polish martyr)

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

SOLD

DebbieMitzner.ca

403.934.5555 c 403.804.8340

RE/MAX
LANDAN REAL ESTATE
REALTOR

<p>STRATHMORE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH 40 Maplewood Drive • 403-934-2225 Lead Pastor: Rev Murray Wright Pastor: Kyle Lomenda Youth Pastor: Rev. Kyle Lomenda Services Sundays 10:30 am www.strathmorefullgospel.com</p> <p>STRATHMORE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH Meeting in the Lutheran Church 112 Lakeside Blvd. 1-888-506-1066 ext. 101 Pastor: Donald Wright Services held every Saturday Sabbath School: 10 AM Worship Service: 11 AM www.strathmoreadventist.ca donald816@hotmail.com God's Closet Collects children's clothing and distributes Feb., May, Aug. and Nov.</p> <p>STRATHMORE ALLIANCE 325 1 Ave • 403-934-3543 Corner of 1 Ave & Wheatland Trail Lead Pastor: Mike Wiebe Associate Pastor: John Duerksen Youth Pastor: Ian Scantland Sundays 10 am Join in person or online www.strathmorealliance.com</p> <p>ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS ANGLICAN Meeting in the Lutheran Church 112 Lakeside Blvd. • 587-727-0649 Rev. Malcolm Kern Sunday Worship 2:30 pm strathmoreanglican@gmail.com tinyurl.com/StrathmoreAnglican</p> <p>HARVEST HEALING CENTRE CHURCH 102 Canal Gardens 403-901-0893 / 403-880-3171 Pastor: Elizabeth Karp Pastor: Dave Mackie Worship Sundays 10:30 am Youth Tuesdays 7 pm Come join us for a spirit-filled time of worship</p>	<p>BOW RIVER ALLIANCE CHURCH 105 Main St. Carlsland • 403-991-6143 Pastor: Kevin Enns office@bowriveralliance.com www.bowriveralliance.com</p> <p>HOPE COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH 245 Brent Blvd, Strathmore 403-934-2424 Pastor: Heidi Wiebe Sunday Worship 10 am www.hope-community.ca</p> <p>LORD OF ALL (NALC) LUTHERAN 112 Lakeside Blvd. • 403-934-2374 Pastor: Dawn Nelson Sunday Worship Services - 10:30 am Join us in Praising our Lord, Jesus Christ!</p> <p>STRATHMORE UNITED Wheatland Trail & 3rd Avenue 403-934-3025 Sunday Worship Services 10:30am Services posted on-line at: www.smoreuc.com Loop System for the Hearing Impaired W/C accessible</p> <p>SACRED HEART CATHOLIC Holy Cross Collegiate School Gym 709B - 2nd Street, Strathmore 403-934-2641 Pastor: Fr. Cristino Bouvette Masses: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 10 am www.sacredhc.ca</p> <p>RCCG PECULIAR PEOPLE ASSEMBLY (1 PET. 2:9) 322 A 2nd Avenue, Strathmore 403-714-2283 Pastor: Sunday Adeola Fully resumed in-person services www.rccgstrathmore.com</p> <p>C3 STRATHMORE C3 CHURCH NORTH CALGARY 3812 Marbank Drive N.E., Calgary, AB 403-273-0494 Lead Pastor - Bill Olson Location Pastor - Shan Simpson Pastor - Eric Horstia www.c3connect.ca Sunday at 10:10 a.m. C3 Prayer - Tuesday at 7 p.m.</p>
---	--

**GET YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS
IN THE TIMES!**
Call 403-934-5589



Helping hand

The Crowfoot 4-H Club cleaned up tables and dishes as a fundraiser at the annual Wheatland Conservation & Wildlife Association dinner and silent auction on March 2 at the Strathmore Civic Center. All members did a great job helping out.

Photo Courtesy of Erik Semeniuk

WHEATLAND
Denture & Implant Centre
Do you want a beautiful smile?
Come for a **Free Consultation!**

403.901.0440
115 2 AVE Strathmore

SHS basketball sets high bar to match in 2024-25 season

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Following the conclusion of the provincial tournament hosted at Strathmore High School a resounding success for both the senior boys and girls teams, coaches Dion Galandy and Matt Laslo are already looking towards next year's season.

"We will be losing five grade 12's ... we will have a pretty significant(ly) different team going into next season. I do not know what kind of year it will be, whether it will be a transition year or whether we will compete," said Galandy regarding the girls' team. "It will all depend on ... the players who are on the team - will they work on their skills in the offseason to become better? That is what a lot of teams do is they will continue to be good because their offseason programs are very good."

Strathmore High School's senior girls basketball team concluded their regular season going into provincials as the No. 1 seed, and successfully defended their title as provincial champions this year.

Of the five graduating players, three of them were on the starting lineup, holding significant positions on the roster. Galandy said they will be difficult players to be able to replace.

"It would be pretty cool (to go for a hat trick), however, lots of things would have to go right and the players would have to improve ... for those kids to step it up for next year," he said. "It is not out of the realm of possibility, and not something they couldn't do, but they are going to have to work on the offseason for that to be the case."

Laslo explained the senior boys team has been crawling their way up the provincial ladder over the past several years, finishing fourth, third, then second in each consecutive season.

He said the boys who will be sticking around to play again next year are eager to continue their run and take the top spot in 2025.

"They recognize how close they are and they want to get back to the same spot next year and pull it off this time," he said.

The boys team will be losing six of their roster to graduation, each of the players having been recruited to play a variety of sports through their post-secondary educations.

Laslo described this season for the boys as the most successful they have ever had under his watch, winning four tournaments and placing second in two others, prior to provincials.

"It was a really successful season, and the boys have nothing to hang their heads with," he said. "They should be really proud of the way that they played and came together as a team."



The Strathmore Spartans boys and girls basketball teams, shown here playing in the provincial championship, are looking forward to the future after capturing silver and gold respectively.

Joe Lepage Photos

YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

It's good to be aware of the symptoms of cataracts. If you are noticing blurred vision, glare or halo around light, colours that are faded, or poor night vision, you should see your optometrist for an eye examination.

This bears repeating....There is **no link** between the MMR vaccine against measles, mumps, rubella and the rise in autism in children. Canadian researchers at McGill University studied 28,000 children and found **no increase** in autism in those who had the vaccine and those that hadn't. A Danish study of 500,000 children found the same results.

If a liquid dose is "one teaspoonful" and you use a normal kitchen teaspoon, the volume can range anywhere from 3ml to 10ml. This is due to the varying design of kitchen cutlery, which makes these spoons not accurate enough. One teaspoon dose is 5ml. The best way to give liquid medicine is via an oral syringe or a calibrated spoon. These will ensure you give your child the correct dose.

Drinking alcohol and smoking tobacco are synergistic. This means the negative effects of doing both are more than twice that of doing only one. An example is the risk of oral cancer is 4 times greater in a moderate smoker and drinker (less than 1 pack a day and one drink a day), than in a smoking teetotaler.

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

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

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

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

403-934-3334 - 888-934-4434

GM STRATHMORE MOTOR PRODUCTS

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1976

www.StrathmoreMotors.com

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

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED



GENUINE PARTS



Certified Service



County amends schedule of fees bylaw

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council, during a special meeting of council, discussed amendments brought forward by administration for the Master Schedule of Fees Bylaw on March 12.

These amendments were identified since the last time the bylaw was addressed, during the Dec. 5 regular meeting of council.

As presented to council, the county's utilities team has noted an increase in the cost of water meters.

The current inventory available costs \$584 per unit. Administration had suggested increasing the deposit and sale pricing would ensure the county would be able to fully recover its costs.

It was also proposed to amend the fee structure for dust control services from set rates within the bylaw to note "Material Costs."

This approach would be similar to other fees such as FOIP requests, maps, and an assortment of agri-

cultural services.

County administration noted supplier pricing for dust control services is provided annually, near to the start of the dust control planning season, which is cause for navigating the timing for updating the fee bylaw for specific rates to be difficult.

"There was essentially three overall changes here. The reason why we are bringing these forward in March was related to the dust control area, and there tends to be a little bit of a tight timeline between when we get contractual prices on the product itself and then needing to update our forms for residents to apply for the service," said Joel Chiasson, manager of financial services for Wheatland County. "When administration was discussing this, we felt it might be more efficient to amend the fee structure to be noted as Material Cost."

The statement of "Material Cost" in the bylaw provides more flexibility to county administration, without causing disruption to rate collection or service application processes.

As rate information is conveyed to residents through the county website, the Strathmore Times, and the Dust Control Order Form, administration anticipates the change unlikely to cause impact to residents' ability to be made aware of the service costs.

The third service to be impacted by the changes suggested by administration would be to snow removal, in a similar capacity being to see that the county is able to fully recuperate the costs required to provide the service.

Coun. Scott Klassen motioned for council to approve first reading of the bylaw amendment following Chiasson's presentation, without further questions or discussion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Second and third readings for the amendment were subsequently motioned for, and approved unanimously by council.

More information on the changes made to the schedule of fees bylaw is publicly available via the Wheatland County website.

Province provides health care engagement update

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Province of Alberta announced, March 21, an update on its progress for a refocused health care system through engagement with persons across the province.

Minister of Health Adriana LaGrange explained more than 2,500 people have participated in in-person engagement sessions to date, with an additional 18,000 people having provided feedback through online tools. Another 10,000 people are reported to have participated in virtual town halls.

The announcement from the province also included a commitment to host 22 more in-person public engagement sessions.

"Our goal is to build a stronger health care system informed by Albertans with real stories and real ex-

periences. These engagement sessions have highlighted the importance of ensuring the new health care system is informed by front-line health care experts, as they have the most knowledge of the current system and the challenges and gaps that exist," said LaGrange. "With Albertans' help, we will build a refocused health care system that better supports the well-being of front-line workers and prioritizes the needs of patients."

The province notes the engagement sessions are opportunities for residents to share their perspectives on how to address health care challenges faced in their communities.

Don Sharpe, a 40-year veteran paramedic registered in Alberta, expressed concerns regarding Alberta Health Services' practices regarding the use of rural ambulances, and a lack of contracts to third party sources which would provide more vehicles to aid

existing fleets.

"(AHS have) now filled this Request for Proposal (RFP) that they announced a year ago, and they have hired Medavie West ... Medavie is a good company -- they have good staff, they are all registered paramedics, they have great equipment, they have good leadership. The only problem is what AHS has done is half a job," he said. "They have hired a company who is going to supply ambulances to move non-emergent patients in the urban centres in Calgary and Edmonton, and it is not going to help any of the rural centres."

In 2023, AHS, through ground interfacility transfers, moved 7,811 non-emergent patients from 11 different facilities in communities surrounding Calgary. A total of 1,090 of these transfers were from Strathmore District Health Services.

Continued on Page 9



WHEATLAND COUNTY



Safety Codes Coffee & Chat

Join us for coffee and a chat with staff from Wheatland County and The Inspections Group Inc. We'll be discussing the updated National Building Code – 2023 Alberta Edition, which will be in effect starting May 1, 2024.

Wheatland County Administration Building
242006 Range Road 243, ECC Room

Date: Wednesday, April 10
Time: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

For more information please email safetycodes@wheatlandcounty.ca or call 403-361-2010

Public Information Session: TWP 250 Reconstruction & Paving

Join Wheatland County at our upcoming information session at 7 PM on April 11, 2024, at the Lyalta Community Club.

This information session will detail the plans to reconstruct and pave a portion of TWP 250 between RR 264 and Highway 817. The Wheatland County Reeve and Division Councillor will be in attendance with Wheatland County staff to discuss the project and address any questions or concerns the public may have about it.

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.

March 28: Committee of the Whole

April 2: Council Meeting

April 3: Agricultural Service Board

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



Community Facilities Funding Grant Program

The Community Facilities Funding Grant Program offers financial aid to non-profit groups operating community facilities in Wheatland County's hamlets and residential areas.

Grant applications are currently being accepted until April 8, 2024.

For more information, visit our website and APPLY TODAY!

<https://wheatlandcounty.ca/community-funding-opportunities/>



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

Phone: 403-934-3321

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

www.wheatlandcounty.ca @wheatlandcounty







Careers with Wheatland County

Available opportunities include:

- **Heavy Equipment Operator**
Closes March 29, 2024



Visit our website for more information and APPLY TODAY!
wheatlandcounty.ca/careers/



Raiders earn bronze

The host Wheatland Raiders claimed a bronze medal at the 16AA Provincial Championship, hosted at the Strathmore Family Centre March 21-24. The Raiders finished the round robin portion with a 0-2-2 record and faced the Airdrie Havoc in the bronze medal game on March 24. Wheatland scored a shorthanded goal to open the scoring, then scored an even strength and power play goal, before icing the game with an empty net to earn the bronze.

Joe Lepage Photos



Come Try Ringette

Rings were flying as Strathmore Minor Ringette Association hosted Come Try Ringette at the Strathmore Family Centre on March 23. It was a chance for new participants to skate with players and coaches, and ask any questions about the game.

Joe Lepage Photos



HOME BUYER PROGRAM



\$5000

TO USE ON ANYTHING YOU WANT!

Your Dream Home Awaits

CUSTOM BUILT BY 

Visit our website for details on Lakewood of Strathmore and Devmore Developments Inc's \$5000 home buyer program, applicable to new home buyers who sign a purchase agreement with our preferred builders in phase 2a between January 31 and April 30, 2024. Developer reserves the right to alter, change or remove the program at any time.

JANUARY 31, 2024 - APRIL 30, 2024

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday March 30th 11:00 am

Kinsmen Park

Egg Hunt · Easter Bonnet Contest

Prizes - 2 Bikes

Thank-you to our Sponsors

connectFirst Credit Union · Getz Collins & Associates
Aquila Homes · M & M Pumps · Value Drug Mart
Town of Strathmore · Canadian Tire Strathmore

Bring your pre-decorated Easter Bonnet
Judging begins at 11:15
Guest Judge:
MLA Chantelle De Jong
Sponsored by:
Lil Hoots Childrens Boutique



Ag Society makes significant executive staff shifts

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

In order to support further growth and development of the organization, as well as future and ongoing capital projects, the Strathmore and District Agricultural Society has announced several staff position changes.

“This is essentially about shifting the Ag Society in order to prepare us for growth that is coming, already occurred, and that is coming in the future,” explained Ryan Schmidt, general manager and chief executive officer for the Ag Society.

“We have had to grow because we have taken on new events, our current events have expanded, and we have been taking on new important capital projects, like renovating Diamond One at our baseball diamonds, construction of our new infield suites, and of course, the big one is the planned Western Events and Cultural Centre.”

Schmidt added the team felt the organization needed to shift in order to better allow its members to accomplish their

goals, as well as to facilitate further growth, organization, and relationship maintenance.

Meagan Miller has been promoted to head of operations and will now be taking on the day-to-day management of all operational aspects of the Ag Society, including sponsorship.

Haley Hawes now serves as the Events Coordinator, and Danielle Paddock is now the full-time rentals coordinator who will be overseeing building and grounds rentals, as well as baseball bookings.

Ryan Hupponen and Kelin Goebel are two new hires, serving respectively, as the new events manager, responsible for planning and executing events, and administrative/ executive assistant, operating the front desk.

“As far as permanent positions, we have done all of our changes. We do not have any more positions we are hiring right now – I think we are all set and ready for the growth coming over the coming years,” said Schmidt. “(Though) we do not have any additional positions that are open right now, we of course have our seasonal hires, which we are

doing, which include grounds staff, office staff, and baseball concession staff as we get everything ready for another busy summer.”

Schmidt estimated it is likely to take the majority of his time and efforts going forward in order to focus on procuring the capital and the plan for the Western Events and Cultural Centre over the next several years.

His duties, as usual, will also include collaboration with the board of directors, maintaining business relationships, and involvement with key organizational decisions.

More information regarding Ag Society developments, as well as the future Western Events and Cultural Centre is available online.

Alberta supporting Treaties 6, 7, 8 to keep federal funding

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Alberta government has announced its support of Indigenous efforts to keep unused federal funds from the Site Rehabilitation Program in Al-

berta.

Launched in May 2020, the Site Rehabilitation Program has been an effort to clean up and reclaim land in Indigenous regions from abandoned oil and gas sites.

“The Site Rehabilitation Program is a

tried, tested and true vehicle for economic reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples,” said Rick Wilson, minister of Indigenous Relations. “It has provided meaningful job opportunities and work experience, while also reclaiming the land so the communities can use it

again. We need flexibility from the federal government to continue this important work.”

The province has since worked alongside First Nations communities, businesses, the Indian Resource Council, and the Metis Settlements General Council to perform well, pipeline, and oil and gas site closure and reclamation work.

Through the program, the Government of Canada allocated \$1 billion to Alberta, with \$133.3 million dedicated to cleaning up inactive oil and gas sites in Indigenous communities.

The Site Rehabilitation Program saw grant funding approved and allocated to more than 500 Alberta-based companies, which resulted in the creation of, according to the province, approximately 4,135 jobs.

“We acknowledge the work that has been done under the Site Rehabilitation Program, but there is more to be done. This is a liability of the lessees, and the Alberta Government is holding them accountable through the Well Closure Program,” said Cody Thomas, chief of the Enoch Cree Nation. “However, time is not on our side. We have a very limited land base and a growing population. We must do the necessary land stewardship immediately.”

The province has released approximately \$137 million of the original \$1 billion remains unused by First Nations grant recipients, and the Government of Canada is now requesting those funds be returned to Ottawa.

Closure work was completed on 1,824 inactive well sites during the Indigenous community grant program.

Chiefs from Treaties 6, 7, and 8 territories, as well as the Indian Resource Council, have requested the federal government allocate these remaining unused funds to further site clean up on Indigenous lands.

“We are doing what we can to keep that program going to maintain the success of the initial Site Rehabilitation Program. About 350 community members received jobs and skills training,” said Stephen Buffalo, president and CEO of the Indian Resource Council of Canada. “By removing the aging wells and pipelines, we can free up land to use for housing and other purposes. This is why we need the surplus funds.”

More information about the Site Rehabilitation Program is available via the Government of Alberta YouTube channel, as well as through their website.

TRUCKLOAD SALE

10% OFF ON PARTS

APRIL 1 - 15, 2024
(SOME ITEMS NOT INCLUDED)

**GENUINE REINKE PARTS
COME SEE US. WE HAVE UNIQUE
SOLUTIONS FOR EVERY FARMER**

**DIFFERENT BY DESIGN
PROVEN BY RESULTS**

R.P.H. Irrigation Services Ltd.

Reinke
MORE RIGHT THAN RAIN

RPH Irrigation Services Ltd
2610 2 Ave North
Lethbridge, Alberta T1H 0C2
403-328-0013

RPH Irrigation Services
11 Spruce Park Drive
Strathmore, Alberta T1P 1J2
403-934-9690

RPH Irrigation Services Ltd
5202 64th Street
Taber, Alberta T1G 1Y8
403-223-8622

**GET YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS
IN THE TIMES!**
Call 403-934-5589

Debating the Alberta Pension Plan

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Since being elected as our MLA, I have had numerous conversations on the potential of an Alberta Pension Plan (APP), both in support and against. The concerns I have heard are valid and important to our government and, that is why I would like to address some of the misconceptions around this issue and I encourage you to continue sharing your feedback with me.

From the beginning, Premier Danielle Smith has been clear that Albertans will decide, whether or not to move forward with a provincial pension plan by referendum before it could be implemented. That is why our government passed Bill 2, in December 2023, the Alberta Pension Protection Act that mandates the Alberta Government to conduct a referendum for establishing an Alberta Pension Plan, taking on Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) obligations and liabilities.

The Alberta Pension Protection Act also outlines the criteria Alberta must meet if Albertans choose to establish an APP, including ensuring the plan offers benefits that are the same or better than the CPP, and maintaining contribution rates that are either the same as or lower than CPP contributions. Additionally, it ensures the entire assets transferred to Alberta from the CPP could only be used to set up a pension plan and would be operated in the best interests of Albertans.

By passing legislation ensuring that there cannot be a move to an APP unless it provides benefits that

are the same as the CPP or better, and since this is also legally required under the federal CPP Act, a provincial pension plan could only ever offer the same, or a better deal, for Albertans compared to the CPP.

If Albertans decide in a referendum to move to a provincial pension plan, pensioners will not lose any CPP benefits they have already earned. You would continue to receive your pension from the CPP until an APP is set up and then receive the same or better pension from an APP instead of the CPP.

Additionally, if you were to move away, come back to Alberta, or work or retire outside Alberta, your pension benefits would follow you. As is already the case in Quebec and the QPP (Quebec Pension Plan), Alberta's government would develop agreements which would ensure that you would eventually receive one pension when you retire and apply for benefits – a pension that recognizes the contributions you have made during your life, no matter what pension plan you paid into. These agreements – often called reciprocal transfer agreements – are relatively common, particularly amongst public sector pension plans (including those in Alberta).

The province-wide engagement on the possibility of an Alberta Pension Plan formally kicked-off when the Alberta Government released a report from Lifeworks last September. The report suggests an APP could save Albertans' billions each year, which could lower contribution rates, increase benefits, and provide stronger benefit security for families and retirees.

As the Lifeworks report shows, Albertans have contributed roughly \$60 billion more in premiums to the

CPP than they have taken in benefits, this is due to our young working population, higher employment rates, and higher pensionable earnings. In recent years this has averaged \$3 billion per year. This is more than any province, despite our modest size. When you take Alberta's accumulation of decades worth of net positive cashflow combined with the associated share of compounded positive net investment returns, Lifeworks calculated that Albertans are entitled to \$334 billion.

Upon request of the Alberta Pension Plan Engagement Panel, the Federal Government has committed to providing a comprehensive actuarial analysis of the asset transfer value Alberta would be entitled to receive, should it withdraw from the CPP. The Panel is giving the Office of the Chief Actuary of Canada some time to release findings before scheduling new public sessions. It is critical for this ongoing discussion that we have a firm asset transfer number so Albertans can make an informed decision on whether an Alberta Pension Plan is right for them.

This is an important decision for all Albertans, and we welcome robust and respectful conversations about all aspects of an APP.

I encourage you to continue submitting your thoughts on a potential Alberta Pension Plan online (www.AlbertaPensionPlan.ca).

Ultimately, it is your pension and your choice. Nothing will happen to Albertans' pensions without Albertans deciding first.

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

Rolling the dice when ambulances used for non-urgent patients

Continued from Page 6

These numbers were sourced from a FOIP request of AHS which also inquired about numbers of times third party and alternate transport methods were utilized instead of rural ambulances.

AHS did not release the requested numbers regarding alternate transport methods in the FOIP document.

Ongoing concerns surround instances when rural communities are left without their ambulances, as those vehicles are either transporting patients to facilities in other municipalities, or are not being recalled due to responding to emergent calls

outside of their native regions.

"Every time you roll the dice and use an emergency ambulance to move a non-urgent patient, you risk the lives of people in your community," said Sharpe.

Another grievance with AHS in the realm of paramedic providers regards the previous contract with Aaron Paramedical, which was cancelled Feb. 1, prior to securing a replacement to maintain transfer capacities.

The Province of Alberta is aiming to wrap up engagement sessions by mid-April. According to a release distributed by the province, more opportunities will follow at currently unspecified times to address concerns and provide feedback in regards to the AHS restructuring.

ARTS ON 817 PRESENTS
The Charms—Denis & Megan



Opening Act 7 PM— Melissa Matheson and The Locals

May 4, 2024— 7:00 pm

Adult - \$35.00
 Youth - \$10.00 - 17 and under

Tickets can be purchased at the Vault Cultural Collective or online at www.smoreuc.com. Online purchases must be picked up at the door the night of the concert.




NORTH AMERICA'S
#1 Selling Walk-In Tub
 Featuring our **Free Shower Package**

SPECIAL OFFER

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing with Safe Step Walk-In Tub's **FREE Shower Package!**

- ✓ First walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE**
PLUS \$1600 OFF
 FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY
 Call Toll-Free 1-855-795-3272



Call Today for Your Free Shower Package
1-855-795-3272

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT
 EASE OF USE CERTIFIED
 MADE IN THE USA
 BBB
 LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445



Travel tips for a smooth trip

CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) reminds travellers of what to expect when crossing the border over the Easter long weekend.

Every day, the CBSA works hard to protect Canadians, support the economy, and ensure the safe and efficient movement of people and goods across our borders. In 2023, we welcomed over 86K travellers and intercepted more than 72,200 kg of prohibited drugs, cannabis, narcotics, and chemicals, representing an increase of close to 30 per cent from 2022.

The CBSA invests significant effort planning

and preparing for peak periods, including long weekends and holidays. We monitor traveller volumes and work hard to minimize border wait times at ports of entry, including international airports, without compromising safety and security.

Here are some tips to help you plan for your trip:

- Plan ahead, expect delays and check border wait times. Travellers crossing the border by land are encouraged to cross during non-peak hours such as early mornings. The Monday of holiday long weekends tend to be the busiest, with longer border wait times.

- When travelling with children, it is recommended that the accompanying adult have a consent letter authorizing them to travel with the child if they share custody or are not the parent or legal guardian. Border services officers are always watching for missing children, and in the absence of the letter, officers may ask additional questions.

- Have your travel documents handy. Whether travelling by land, air or water, travellers can help speed up processing times by always coming prepared with their travel documents.

- Save time with Advance Declaration. You can make your customs and immigration declaration up to 72 hours in advance of your arrival into Canada at the Toronto, Vancouver, Montréal, Winnipeg, Halifax, Québec City, Ottawa, Billy Bishop, Calgary and Edmonton international airports. Data shows that using this tool can reduce time at a kiosk or eGate by up to 50 per cent.

- Be prepared to declare. All travellers must declare their goods upon entry into Canada. For returning residents, have your receipts readily available for goods purchased or received while outside of Canada. Travellers should be aware of everything that is inside their vehicle and are responsible for its contents. You are encouraged not to travel with firearms, but if you choose to do so, be sure to check the rules on importing firearms and other restricted and prohibited goods, which includes pepper spray and certain knives.

- Bringing in a food product for a religious tradition? The CBSA strongly recommends that you consult the Automated Import Reference System (AIRS) on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency website before bringing any food, plant, and animal products into Canada.

- Bringing poultry across the border? Poultry products must be for human consumption, retail packaged and labeled as a "Product of the USA." Homemade food or leftovers containing poultry cannot be brought into Canada. Check the latest Information for travellers: Restrictions on poultry and birds from the United States before bringing these products across the border.

- Know your exemption limits. Returning residents planning to make purchases or pick up online purchases across the border should be aware of their personal exemption limits, including alcohol and tobacco. You are encouraged to use the CBSA duty and taxes estimator to help you calculate monies owed on goods purchased abroad. You can bring in your Easter chocolate as long as it's for personal use and doesn't exceed a certain weight!

- Visitors to Canada may also bring gifts for their friends and family as long as they are declared: Bringing goods to Canada - Canada.ca

- Cannabis: Don't bring it in. Don't take it out. Bringing cannabis across the border in any form, including oils containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) or cannabidiol (CBD), without a permit or exemption authorized by Health Canada is a serious criminal offence subject to arrest and prosecution, despite the legalization of cannabis in Canada. A medical prescription from a doctor does not count as Health Canada authorization.

- Travelling with medication? Make sure you understand your responsibilities.

- Bringing traditional Indigenous medicines or ceremonial goods to Canada? Medicines such as sage, cedar, sweetgrass, peyote and tobacco are recognized as sacred items and can be brought across the border. However, plant materials are subject to regulations and inspections.

- If you are travelling with a pet or planning to import an animal into Canada, you will need the right paperwork at the border to meet Canada's import requirements.

- Not sure? Ask a CBSA officer. The best thing you can do to save time is to be open and honest with the CBSA officer. Be sure to follow all instructions they provide to you. If you are not sure about what to declare, don't hesitate to ask. Our officers are here to help! You may also contact Border Information Service (BIS) line toll-free within Canada at 1-800-461-9999 for more information.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday March 30th 11:00 am

Kinsmen Park

Egg Hunt • Easter Bonnet Contest

Prizes - 2 Bikes

Thank-you to our Sponsors

connectFirst Credit Union • Getz Collins & Associates

Aquila Homes • M & M Pumps • Value Drug Mart

Town of Strathmore • Canadian Tire Strathmore

Bring your pre-decorated
Easter Bonnet

Judging begins at 11:15

Guest Judge:

MLA Chantelle De Jong

Sponsored by:

Lil Hoots Children's Boutique



TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

COMING EVENT

Pints & Politics
 Tuesday, April 2
 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 Origin Brewing Strathmore
 Meet/Greet with *Chantelle de Jonge*
 Tickets \$25 for UCP members
 \$35 for non-members
 Food & drink for purchase

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice to Creditors and Claimants
 Estate of TIMOTHY WILLIAM ERNEST TIBBETT, aka WILLIAM TIMOTHY TIBBETT who died on the January 26, 2024.
 If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by April 26, 2024.
 with STRATHMORE LAW
 Attention: DAMAN K. GILL
 at #101 318 3rd Avenue,
 Strathmore, AB T1P 1V9
 If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.
 Creditors: you must include a full description and value of the debt you allege the deceased owes you and a full description and value of any of the deceased's property that you hold as security for the debt.
 Claimants: you must include a full description of your claim and why you have a right to make such a claim.

FOR SALE

SQUARE HAY AND STRAW BALES. 3 X 4 X 8. \$40 each straw, \$100 each for hay. Call 780-942-3170.

FEED AND SEED

BARLEY - *NEW-AB Standwell* Smooth AWN, High Yielding, Grain and Forage Great Lodging Resistance. 1st NITROGEN USE EFFICIENT CEREAL IN CANADA. OTHER BARLEY: Cerveza, CDC Austenson, CDC Maverick, Esma, Sundre. WHEAT - Pintail, Forage or Grain. OATS - AC Juniper, AC Morgan, AC Mustang, Derby, CDC S01 Super Oat. PEAS - Very Early Yellow Pea Forage Peas. ALSO AVAILABLE: Polish Canola & Spring Triticale. mastinseeds.com; 403-556-2609.

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

WE BUY DAMAGED GRAIN - Heated, Mixed, Tough, Light, Bugs, Spring Thrashed...Barley, Wheat, Oats, Peas, Flax, Canola. "On Farm Pickup". Westcan Feed & Grain 1-877-250-5252.

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

PRINTING

DIGITAL PRINTING EDMONTON. Over 25 years commercial printing/community publications. Selling due to retirement. No building; equipment, inventory, printing/advertising accounts involving large/medium businesses/organizations. Seriously interested? Inquiries: classifieds@awna.com.

MISC

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

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

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

COMING EVENT

VENDORS WANTED
 for
Syalkta Spring Market
 April 27, 2024
 Call 403-934-4235

Like Us on Facebook!

NOTICE

Bow Valley Propane Association AGM
 Wednesday, April 10th
 7 pm
Hussar Sundowners
 All members are welcome to attend.

HELP WANTED

The Golden Hills School Division invites applications for the following position:
SUMMER STUDENT- MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT- STRATHMORE AND SURROUNDING AREA
 to work in our Facilities/Maintenance Department. This position will commence approximately May 6th, 2024 or when a suitable candidate is found and end around August 23, 2024. Terms of employment can be negotiated. Please refer to our website www.ghsd75.ca under Employment-Non-Teaching Opportunities for further information.

GET YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS IN THE TIMES!
 Call 403-934-5589

HELP WANTED

GET YOUR MESSAGE SEEN ACROSS Alberta. The Blanket Classifieds or Value Ads reach over 600,000 Alberta readers weekly. Two options starting at \$269 or \$799 to get your message out! Business changes, hiring, items for sale, cancellations, tenders, etc. People are increasingly staying home and rely on their local newspapers for information. KEEP people in the loop with our 90 Weekly Community Newspapers. Call THIS NEWSPAPER now or email classifieds@awna.com for details. 1-800-282-6903, 780-434-8746 X225. www.awna.com.

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

WANTED

COLLECTOR/ ENTREPRENEUR PURCHASING COINS & COLLECTIONS! CASH PAID! ROYAL CANADIAN MINT COINS, collections, rare & old coins, silver & gold coins, jewelry, nuggets, bullion, sterling, gold & silver! 250-864-3521.

BUILDINGS

INTEGRITY POST FRAME BUILDINGS since 2008 BUILT WITH CONCRETE POSTS. Barns, Shops, Riding Arenas, Machine Sheds and more, sales@integritybuilt.com 1-866-974-7678 www.integritybuilt.com.

McNeill's Inc.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING

COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL

Dennis McNeill - Master Electrician
 403-934-7249
 dennismcneill@shaw.ca
 Strathmore, Alberta

NOTICE

For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.
JOHN 3:16

Check us out ONLINE!!
 www.StrathmoreTimes.com

REAL ESTATE

2021 ROYAL LEPAGE AWARD WINNER!
SHAUNA KENWORTHY
 ROYAL LEPAGE MASTER SALES AWARD 2021
 403-803-4605

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

DENTURES

Strathmore DENTURE CLINIC
 FREE Consultation
 CONTACT US 403-902-2228
 www.strathmoredentureclinic.com
 219C 3rd Avenue, Across from the Post Office
 Strathmore Denture Clinic f StrathmoreDenture

FURNACE & DUCT CLEANING

THE CARPET COP
 403-991-6192
 CARPET AND FURNITURE CLEANING
 www.carpetcop.ca

STRATHMORE'S LEADER IN HOME SERVICES!

TRUCK MOUNTED CARPET CLEANING
 FURNACE & DUCT CLEANING

THE CARPET COP
 Kelly Camden
 403.991.6192
 kellycamden@hotmail.com

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

DENTURES

WHEATLAND
 Denture & Implant Centre
 Do you want a beautiful smile?
 Come for a **Free Consultation!**
 403 901 0440
 wheatlanddenture.ca
 115 2 AVE Strathmore AB T1P 1A1

ELECTRICAL

JESCO
 ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LTD
 RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL
 INDUSTRIAL - FARM & YARD
 BUCKET TRUCK SERVICE
 MASTER ELECTRICIANS
 403-463-8616
 Email: admin@jescoelectrical.ca
 www.jescoelectrical.ca
 Serving Southern Alberta Since 1999

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

All Decked Out AB
General Contracting
 DECKS
 FENCES
 ALUMINUM RAIL
 VINYL DECKING
 Wes Breault 403-999-7097
 wes@aldeckedoutab.ca
 www.aldeckedoutab.ca

PLUMBING & HEATING

BRO-TECH
 PLUMBING & HEATING INC.
 • Hotwater Tanks • Furnaces
 • Renovations • Hydronic Heating
 • Service Work • Gas Fitting
 • New Construction • Sewer Cleaning/
 • Commercial • Sewer Camera
 PRESTON & DYLAN CARL
 LICENSED JOURNEYMAN
 OWNER/OPERATOR
 Like us on Facebook
 OFFICE 403-983-7671
 admin@brotech.ca

UPHOLSTERY

Ace Custom Sewing.com
 Repair & Upholstery
 Strathmore AB
 Not taking any new clients
 because of medical issues
 until 2024
 Business FOR SALE
 Training Available
 For more information
 Call Debi 403-901-0342
 or Text 403-324-7710

BROAD REACH at an AFFORDABLE PRICE
Advertise Province-wide \$799
 with a combined circulation of over 650,000 for only... plus GST
 Ask about the **Value Ad Network**
 Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association
 toll free 1-800-282-6903 x225
 email classifieds@awna.com
 or visit your community newspaper



Upcoming Council Meetings

March 20, 2024 | 6 P.M.

April 3, 2024 | 6 P.M.

April 10, 2024 | 6 P.M.

Regular Meeting of Council

Regular Meeting of Council

Committee of the Whole

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.



Hazard Reduction Burning

Block Priority

Priority 1 was given to areas with the most fire risk to the community. Priority 2 and 3 areas are of lower risk and may be easier and safer to complete. There are a total of 33 Blocks.

- Priority 1 RED
- Priority 2 YELLOW
- Priority 3 GREEN

Block Name	Block Priority
1.1 Hillcrest	1
1.2 Wildflower Rd 1	1
1.3 Wildflower Rd 2	1
1.4 Wildflower Rd 3	1
1.5 Westmount	1
1.6 Wheatland Wheeler	1
1.7 Kinsmen 1	1
1.8 Kinsmen 2	1
1.9 Parklane Drive	1
1.10 Edgefield	1
1.11 South Canal	1
1.12 Canadian Tire	1
1.13 Industrial Creek	1
Block Name	Block Priority
2.1 Main Canal	2
2.2 Strathmore Lakes East	2
2.3 Esso East	2
2.4 No Frills	2
2.5 Home Hardware	2
2.6 Historic Barn	2
2.7 Service Rd Ditch	2
2.8 RR 251	2
2.9 Lagoon 1	2
2.10 Lagoon 2	2
2.11 Lagoon 3	2
2.12 Lagoon 4	2
2.13 Lagood 5	2
Block Name	Block Priority
3.1 Rodeo Grounds	3
3.2 Golf Course NE	3
3.3 Hillcrest Feeder	3
3.4 Dodge	3
3.5 Canal Blvd N	3
3.6 Dog Park	3
3.7 RR 250	3

Alberta weather conditions from spring to fall can often be very dry, contributing to prime fire conditions. With the province recently announcing an early start to wildfire season, it's important for communities to have effective wildfire prevention practices in place.

We've recently finalized Strathmore's Hazard Reduction Burn Plan. This plan aims to assess grassland fuels on the landscape within the community, identify locations of high fire risk based on predicted fire behaviour, and prioritize and prescribe these areas for hazard reduction burning. Through this process, selected regions within town will undergo hazard-reduction burning treatment in March. This process will reduce the risk of wildfire, reduce the number of nuisance fires, and better prepare the community in the event of an approaching wildfire on the landscape.

What is a hazard reduction burn?

A hazard reduction burn is a planned, controlled burn of high hazard vegetation by highly trained firefighters. Typically, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry wildland firefighters use hazard reduction burns in the spring, around communities located near high-hazard areas, such as open grassy areas. Burning will reduce the risk of spring wildfires starting in this area

What's the objective?

- To assess the grassland fuels that exist on the landscape within the Town of Strathmore.
- To identify locations of high fire risk based on predicted fire behaviour during periods of high hazard.
- To prescribe training recommendations for the Strathmore Fire Department when it comes to hand ignition practices.
- To prioritize and prescribe these areas for Hazard Reduction Burning.
- Strategically remove hazardous grass around the Town of Strathmore, reducing the risk of wildfire.

What's the benefit?

- Enhance community protection by safely removing high risk areas of grass.
- Reinforce pre-planned wildfire containment lines around the town.
- Burning of the landscape is a natural process that eliminates old growth and allows new regeneration of grasses. By utilising burning, we allow nutrients to re-enter the soils and grow new life.

What's the timeline?

The hazard reduction burn is scheduled for mid to late March. Ignition will only occur when weather conditions are conducive to burning and when it is safe to do so.

Where are the locations?

Each area identified was ground truthed and inspected for risk, practicality, and safety. The areas identified were selected to reduce the risk of wildfire, reduce the number of nuisance fires, and to better prepare the community in the event of an approaching wildfire on the landscape.

Areas are marked as "blocks" and were given priority based on the risk to the community, level of difficulty, and fuel loading. Priority 1 was given to areas with the most fire risk to the community. Priority 2 and 3 areas are of lower risk and may be easier and safer to complete.

The initial plan involves 33 blocks. Areas on private property will only be burned upon approval of property owners.

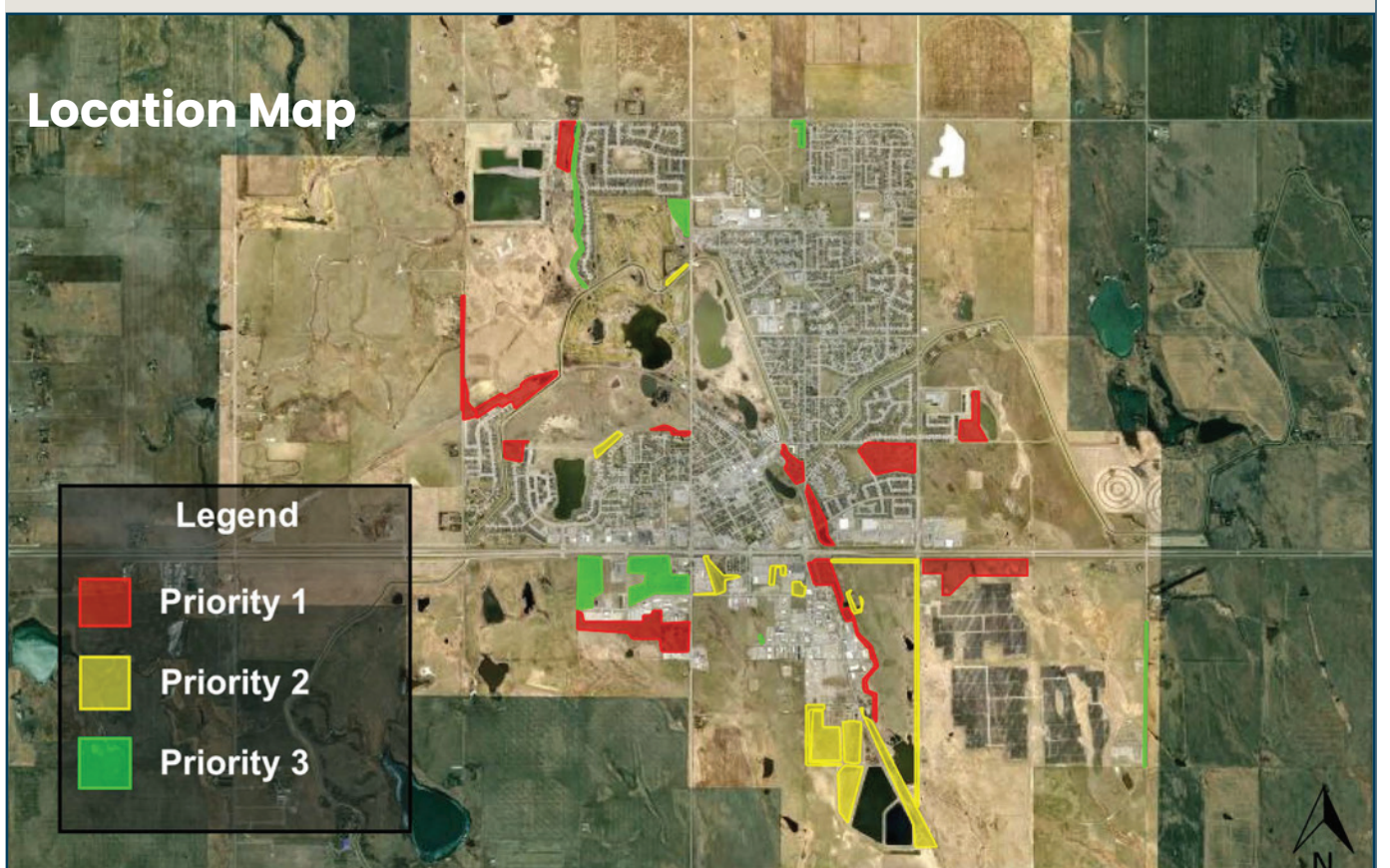
All blocks identified in this plan are to be burnt at the Fire Chief's discretion.

If you own land that poses a hazard or could benefit from being included in the hazard reduction burn plan, connect with the fire department at firehall@strathmore.ca or 403-934-3022.

Learn more about the plan at Strathmore.ca/HazardReduction



Location Map



Legend

- Priority 1
- Priority 2
- Priority 3