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Page 4



Wildlife dinner

Fire department and HCC team up

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

For the third year running, the Strathmore Fire Department and Holy Cross Collegiate (HCC) are engaging in a friendly competition to raise donations for the Wheatland County Food Bank.

Similar to the previous two years, the Strathmore Fire Department issued the challenge to the school. Over the course of the allotted time, students could bring in any donations to the school, while the fire department distributed donation bags throughout the local community.

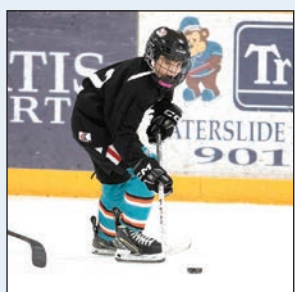
“When we pick up the bags, we weigh up the food and see who the winner is, and usually we end up hosting the students for a quick lunch as a thank you for the classes that helped contribute to the food drive,” said David Sturgeon, Strathmore fire chief. “We are planning on doing that again, and with RCMP and FCSS and there might be a few others who come out and join us.”

Instead of going door to door to canvas the community, it is decidedly more flexible and reliable to leave donation bags with community members to fill with what they may, then leave the bags on their doorsteps the following week for collection.

In 2023, the Wheatland County Food Bank indicated the competition resulted in their single largest donation ever received. This amounted to 4,667 pounds of food donated as the combined total between the Fire Department and Holy Cross Collegiate.

Continued on Page 2

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Husky Cup

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Fun in the sun!

Students of École Brentwood School held their annual French-Canadian Winter Carnival on Feb. 28. The day was filled with fun activities for the students to partake in, which was inspired by the famous Carnaval de Québec. See Page 3 for more coverage.

Melissa Piche Photo

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Fire department challenges HCC

Continued from Page 1

“Last year, we beat that by a little bit, we got 4,735 pounds, so we are hoping this year to up it again and go from there,” said Sturgeon. “It would be quite an achievement to hit the 5,000 pounds mark. So, we are handing out 2,000 bags (and) hopefully we can get a lot of donations.”

Stapled to the donation bags was a list of items suggested for donation and what the most needed items by the food bank are, as well as instructions for when and where to leave the donation bags for pickup.

Over the previous two years, the Fire Department raised more donations than the students both times. Though it didn't take place, the running joke is if the students are defeated, they would have to wash the department's trucks.

“That first year, they came over to wash the trucks and we just provided the lunch, we did not make them do it, and then last year we won again but we still provided the lunch because they contributed almost half to the final total,” said Sturgeon.

Collection bags were distributed throughout the community, Feb. 28 and are scheduled to be collected again, March 7, starting at 9 a.m.

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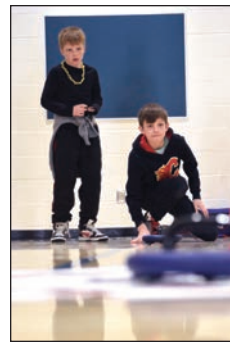
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Carnival

It was a day of fun as École Brentwood School hosted their annual French-Canadian Winter Carnival on Feb. 28.

Melissa Piche Photos



MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

École Brentwood School hosted their ninth annual French-Canadian Winter Carnival on Feb. 28.

It's a tradition that celebrates the culture, language and heritage of French Canada. As the only French immersion school in Strathmore, Brentwood takes pride in offering students a hands-on way to deepen their connection to both the language and its traditions.

According to principal Danielle Seabrook, the carnival features a variety of activities – many of which are inspired by the famous Carnaval de Québec. One of the most beloved traditions is the tasting of maple syrup, a staple in French Canadian culture. Despite the warm weather threatening to melt all the snow, the helpful volunteers were able to present the maple syrup rolled in snow on a stick: maple syrup taffy.

"Basically, because we are a French immersion school, (the Winter Carnival is) a way for us to celebrate French Canadian culture firsthand," said Seabrook. "It helps (teachers) help students deepen their connection to some of their language and traditions."

A key highlight of the event is the appearance of Bonhomme, the iconic snowman mascot of the Carnaval de Québec, which is one of the largest winter carnivals in the world. His presence symbolizes the heart of the Winter Carnival and the kids adored him.

This year's carnival had stations where the children could participate in different events. Some of the stations included a tug-of-war competition, winter-themed games including curling and street hockey, bean bag toss and a ski race similar to a three-legged race but on skis and snow. The students also had the opportunity to take fun photos with props manned by student volunteers from Crowther Memorial Junior High.

These volunteers in particular were once students at Brentwood, who took part in the French immersion program.

This is a great way for them to reconnect with their former school community and serve as role models for younger students.

Parents have also played a significant role in supporting the carnival over the years by volunteering at various activity stations.

"It has just kind of become a tradition," Seabrook said.

While the event is for students and staff, Ecolé Brentwood is eager to increase awareness of its French immersion program within the wider community.

"We are the only French immersion school in Strathmore and there are sometimes misconceptions about what that entails," said Seabrook.

Brentwood operates as a dual-track school meaning families can choose between French immersion and English programs.

With a mix of cultural immersion, school spirit and fun winter activities the French-Canadian Winter Carnival continues to be a cherished tradition at Brentwood School.

"We hope the students engage with French Canadian culture in a meaningful and memorable way," said Seabrook.

For those interested in learning more about the program, the school will host an open house on March 6 from 6-7p.m. Visitors are welcome to tour the school and ask questions about the programs offered.

Thanks for the great run!



Strathmore Times **PLAYER OF THE GAME**

Feb 26 **March 2**
Luke Nottveit **Joel Romano**

See you next season!

YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

Even a little exercise may help slow the progression of Parkinson's Disease. Medications do help with the symptoms of the disease. However, studies have shown that it's never too late for Parkinson's patients to embrace regular physical activity to improve the course of the disease. Even gardening, walking, or even dancing can help, but consistency and regularity are the keys.

Stretching promotes health of the muscles. There are two types of stretching: *Dynamic* are stretches that gently put the muscles through their range of motion. It gets the blood flowing through them so they'll be pliable and won't tear. *Static* stretches are positions you hold for 10-30 seconds once the muscles are warmed up. Stretching is an important part of all exercise programs.

The internet is full of bogus cures. One of them is the "liver cleanse". The liver does not need to be cleansed. It does that job itself. A good analogy is that soap doesn't need to be cleansed either. To be a friend to your liver, reduce your alcohol intake. That's a great first step.

Canada's suicide helpline (dial 988) was launched on Nov. 30/23, and since that time, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health says responders have fielded more than 300,000 calls and texts. For those having suicidal thoughts or other mental health problems, this service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, no matter where you live in Canada.

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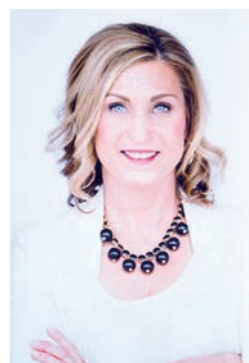
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Thought for the Week
~
Could it be that the best gifts we can give each other are the memories we are making?

SDOKU

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Wildlife dinner

The Wheatland Conservation & Wildlife Association hosted their annual dinner on March 1 at the Strathmore Civic Centre. The event featured a silent auction, a gun raffle and major door prizes, along with roast beef, ham and wild games dishes and appetizers.

Joe Lepage Photos



Meeting the challenge

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Last week, Alberta's government introduced Budget 2025 with the theme "Meeting the Challenge." As Alberta navigates economic uncertainty and a rapidly growing population, Budget 2025 rises to meet the challenge head-on. Budget 2025 reflects our commitment to maintaining Alberta's competitive advantage while investing in vital services.

The cost of living remains a concern for many families, and United Conservatives are taking action to ease financial pressures. Budget 2025 delivers on a promise to lower personal income taxes, implementing a new eight per cent tax bracket for income up to \$60,000 – two years ahead of schedule. This move will save individual Albertans an average of \$750 per year, with families receiving savings of \$1,500, allowing them to keep more of their hard-earned money.

With a rapidly growing population, Alberta's government is making record-breaking investments in health care and

education. Budget 2025 allocates \$28 billion for health care, including \$22.1 billion for hospitals, rural facilities, and health worker retention. Additional funding is directed toward expanding surgeries, mental health and addiction supports, and long-term care facilities.

Education also sees a major boost, with \$9.9 billion in operating expenses – an increase of 4.5 per cent from last year. These funds will help accommodate rising enrolment and hire 4,500 more teachers and support staff. An additional \$2.6 billion over three years will support the construction of new and expanded schools, creating nearly 90,000 student spaces within the next four years.

Budget 2025 prioritizes building a skilled workforce to drive economic growth. With \$26.1 billion invested through a robust capital plan, an average of 26,500 direct and 12,000 indirect jobs will be created annually until 2027-28. Hundreds of millions are being invested in new trades programs and in-demand skills training to ensure Albertans are equipped for the economy of tomorrow.

As Alberta faces economic challenges from potential tariffs, we are taking proactive steps to enhance security and protect trade routes. Budget 2025 invests \$29 million to establish an Interdiction Patrol Team within the Alberta Sheriffs to combat illegal smuggling and border threats.

Budget 2025 reflects a careful balance between investing in the future and maintaining fiscal responsibility. Alberta's plan to grow the Heritage Savings Trust Fund to \$250 billion by 2050 will ensure long-term financial stability for future generations.

Budget 2025 is about meeting the challenge – whether it's rising costs, a growing population, or economic uncertainty. By cutting taxes, making historic investments in health care and education, strengthening rural communities, and enhancing border security, Alberta's government is taking action now to build a strong and prosperous future.

In the coming weeks, I look forward to sharing more details on local announcements for our Constituency of Chestermere-Strathmore.

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)

<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 FULL GOSPEL CHURCH 50 Maplewood Drive • 403-934-2225 Lead Pastor: Rev Murray Wright Associate Pastor: Kyle Lomenda Services Sundays 10:30 am www.strathmorefullgospel.com</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>BOW RIVER ALLIANCE CHURCH 105 Main St. Carseland • 403-991-6143 Pastor: Kevin Enns office@bowriveralliance.com www.bowriveralliance.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>HOPE COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH 245 Brent Blvd, Strathmore 403-934-2424 Sunday Worship 10 am www.hopecommunity.ca</p>
<p>STRATHMORE UNITED Wheatland Trail & 3rd Avenue 403-934-3025 Rev. Maria Szabone Berces Sunday Worship Services 10:30am Services posted on-line at: www.smoreuc.com Loop System for the Hearing Impaired W/C accessible</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>HARVEST HEALING CENTRE CHURCH 102 Canal Gardens 403-901-0893 / 403-880-3171 Pastor: Elizabeth Karp Worship Sundays 10:30 am Youth Tuesdays 7 pm Come join us for a spirit-filled time of worship</p>	<p>SACRED HEART CATHOLIC 221 4th Ave, Strathmore 403-934-2641 www.sacredhc.ca Pastor: Fr. Cristino Bouvette Masses: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 10 am</p>
<p>C3 STRATHMORE C3 CHURCH NORTH CALGARY 3812 Marbank Drive N.E., Calgary, AB 403-273-0494 www.c3connect.ca Lead Pastor - Bill Olson Location Pastor - Shan Simpson Pastor - Eric Horstia Sunday at 10:10 a.m. C3 Prayer - Tuesday at 7 p.m.</p>	<p>RCCG PECULIAR PEOPLE ASSEMBLY (1 PET. 2:9) 322 A 2nd Avenue, Strathmore 403-714-2283 www.rccgstrathmore.com Pastor: Sunday Adeola Sunday Worship: 10:30 am Wednesdays Bible Study: 7 pm Youth Fridays: 7:30 pm Last Friday of every Month - Hour of Dominion: 10 pm</p>

Women on Wings to host High Tea fundraiser

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Women on Wings Society is hosting their third annual High Tea fundraiser, this year taking place at the Four Sisters Farm in Strathmore.

The objective of the fundraiser is to raise money to aid women leaving domestic violence situations by providing emergency financial assistance, money for trauma release therapy and divorce coaching, and by providing food hampers to women in need for their families.

“We solely rely on our fundraisers to assist these women who we provide assistance to. We do pay

for all the trauma release therapy, the divorce coaching, (and) any women who are in need of emergency financial assistance,” said Maj

Osmond, president and founder of the Women on Wings Society.

“Leaving

domestic violence is just the first step to their healing, but it is in providing all the other assistance that we do provide to them that gets them on their stepping stones from one step to another.”

Osmond added many women who leave domestic violence situations do not take necessary steps to heal the traumas they have endured.

Women on Wings aims to provide more than simple band-aid solutions for trauma and associated symptoms, but rather to provide opportunities for women to leave their situations and be able to thrive.

“The first fundraiser that we did out there raised (approximately) \$8,500, and last year, we raised \$6,600,” said Osmond. “It goes a long way – we are very careful with how we spend our money. All our board members are volunteers, so everything we raise goes right back to the community.”

Similar to the High Tea, Women on Wings also hosts a masquerade gala fundraiser annually in October.

The idea to host a fundraiser as a high tea was to suggest a fun idea for women to spend an afternoon out with their girlfriends, mothers, daughters, in support of a good cause. Men are also welcome to get dressed up and be in attendance.

“It is just a really nice day to be out on an acreage and sharing that with a bunch of women who want to support our cause and we find a lot of women just really enjoy getting dressed up and feeling good and enjoying an afternoon out, especially on Mother’s Day it is a great way for them

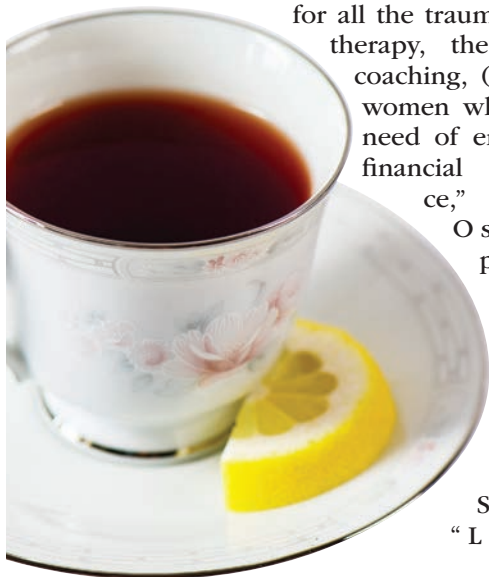
to celebrate their moms and the women in their lives,” said Osmond.

Tickets are sold on Eventbrite, and a link can be found on their website (www.womenonwings.ca).

Women on Wings is also seeking donations of silent auction items to list during the high tea fundraiser. For any individuals or businesses interested in supporting the organization that way, they are encouraged to reach out via email (info@womenonwings.ca).

The high tea will also feature a 50/50 raffle, sale of flowers, a fashion show, and a keynote speaker.

Though any and all donations are greatly appreciated, Osmond said her overall goal is to raise \$10,000 over the course of the event.



Financial sustainability – sustaining growth, strengthening Strathmore

MAYOR PAT FULE
Town of Strathmore

In tough economic times, making smart financial choices is essential – in households, businesses, and at every level of government. Inflation is driving up costs, oil and gas revenues are projected to decline, and looming U.S. tariffs continue to threaten economic stability. Strathmore residents are adjusting, stretching their budgets further, and making careful decisions about where every dollar goes.

Last week, the provincial government released Budget 2025, reflecting the realities of a shifting economy – prioritizing spending restraint while managing rising costs. As Alberta takes a measured approach, local governments must do the same, balancing financial prudence with the needs of a growing community. Inflation has made it more expensive to maintain roads, operate facilities, and deliver services. In response, council has worked hard to find efficiencies in the operating budget, ensuring your tax dollars go further. Because of this careful planning, the town’s 2025 budget includes a decrease in overall operating costs.

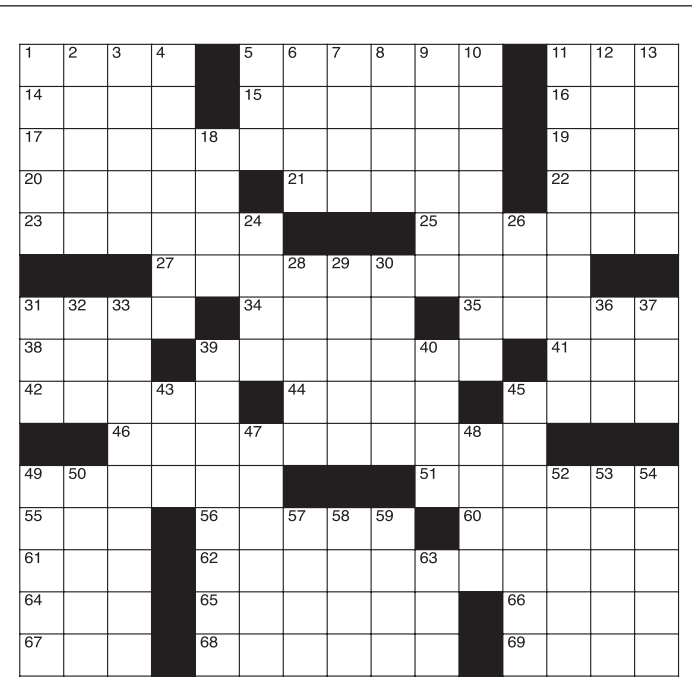
Alongside these cost-cutting measures, council has prioritized long-term financial sustainability through responsible spending, effective debt management, and long-term investments that provide real value for residents and businesses alike. This year, council will introduce a Long-Term Financial Plan to help manage the town’s money responsibly and make sure today’s spending benefits Strathmore’s future. At the same time, work is underway on a debt policy to ensure borrowing is done wisely and supports important projects. For example, the portion of the town’s yearly re-

venue used to pay off debt went down from 7.3 per cent in 2023 to 6.6 per cent in 2024. Over time, lowering this number means more money can go toward maintaining roads, recreation facilities, and essential community services instead of paying off debt.

Just like any family sitting around the kitchen table balancing their budget, council and administration must make thoughtful decisions about where resources go. Financial responsibility means stability – it keeps tax rates predictable, ensures essential services run smoothly, and allows us to make long-term investments. At the end of the day, it’s about keeping life in Strathmore affordable so families can put down roots, businesses can grow, and we can all continue to enjoy the community we’re proud to call home.

Council is confident in our approach – making strategic financial decisions today that will keep Strathmore on solid footing, ensure continued investment in the services residents rely on, and create new growth opportunities. By prioritizing financial sustainability, we are not just balancing budgets – we are strengthening our ability to adapt, invest, and thrive, ensuring Strathmore remains a great place to live, work, and do business, no matter the economic climate.

(At the beginning of each term, council sets the course for the future by adopting a Strategic Plan – a guiding blueprint that charts priorities and directs resources. This plan outlines six key strategic priorities that influence decision-making throughout the term. In the coming weeks, Mayor Pat Fule will provide insights into each of Strathmore’s strategic priorities, reflecting on both achievements and challenges along the way.)



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Cut a little bit off
- 5. State with confidence
- 11. River in NE Scotland
- 14. Not narrow
- 15. Lacking social polish
- 16. Amount of time
- 17. Frame
- 19. Automobile
- 20. Toadstools
- 21. High school dances
- 22. Utilize
- 23. Challenged
- 25. One-sided
- 27. Showing extreme greed
- 31. Potted plants
- 34. Everyone has one
- 35. Lake in Botswana
- 38. E.T. rode in one
- 39. Juniors’ parents
- 41. Small amount
- 42. Mother of Perseus
- 44. Ornamental box
- 45. Gov’t investigators
- 46. Uncertain
- 49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- 51. The vast grassy plains in S. America
- 55. Your consciousness of your own identity
- 56. Noted consumer advocate
- 60. Spanish sports club
- 61. Body part
- 62. Tractability
- 64. Woman (French)
- 65. Ready and willing to be taught
- 66. Muslim ruler title
- 67. Depressed
- 68. Gradually gave way
- 69. Clear-thinking

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Brushed aside
- 2. Water sprite
- 3. Ones to look up to
- 4. Monetary units
- 5. A number everyone has
- 6. Marine invertebrate
- 7. One who takes you to court
- 8. Indicates outer
- 9. Parallelograms
- 10. Strains
- 11. Cross
- 12. A way to remove
- 13. Some pages are dog-__
- 18. Ukraine city
- 24. A citizen of Denmark
- 26. Summer month (abbr.)
- 28. Hindu queens
- 29. Jewelry brand
- 30. Fictional rider of Rohan
- 31. Wet dirt
- 32. Russian city
- 33. Observed
- 36. Furious
- 37. Drivers’ licenses
- 39. Musical composition
- 40. Auction
- 43. They __
- 45. Women
- 47. Inspire with love
- 48. Japanese ankle sock
- 49. Appears
- 50. Old World lizard
- 52. The leading performer
- 53. Type of protein
- 54. Pennsylvania town
- 57. Art __: around 1920
- 58. __ Blyton, children’s author
- 59. Abnormal breathing
- 63. A place to sleep

STRATHMORE TIMES

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

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STRATHMORE WHEATLAND
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Upcoming Meetings

March 4, 2025 | 9 a.m. Council Meeting
 March 11, 2025 | 9 a.m. Municipal Planning Commission
 March 27, 2025 | 9 a.m. Committee of the Whole
 Council and committee meetings are open to the public in person and via teleconference. To join the call, dial 403-917-1764 and enter the PIN 47001 when prompted. You can also watch the meetings later on YouTube. Agenda packages are available on our website. For public hearings, it is best to attend in person.

Public Hearings

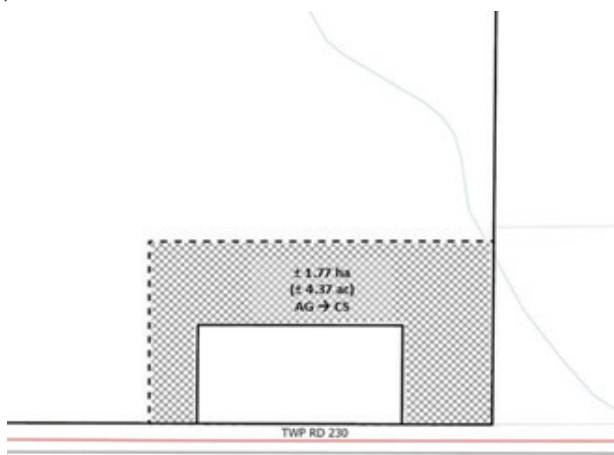
Wheatland County Council Chambers April 1, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.

Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the regular Council meeting on Tuesday, April 1st, 2025. The following public hearings begin at 9 a.m. and proceed until all applications have been heard:

Bylaw #: 2025-03 (LU2024-016)

Legal Description: A portion of SE-2-23-25-W4M & SW-2-23-25-W4M

Proposal: To redesignate a ± 1.77 hectares (± 4.37 acres) portion of SW-2-23-25-W4M from Agriculture General (AG) to Community Service (CS) District to allow for a boundary adjustment resulting in a ± 2.58 hectares (± 6.38 acres) parcel and a ± 59.29 hectares (± 146.76 acres) remainder.



Bylaw #: 2025-04 (LU2024-018)

Legal Description: Plan 249B; Block 3; Lots 8-9 in the SE 13-22-23-W4M (Gleichen)

Proposal: To redesignate Lots 8-9, Block 3, Plan 249B from Hamlet Commercial (HC) to Hamlet Mixed Used (HMU) District to allow for the development of commercial businesses (restaurant and laundromat) and a residential suite within the units.



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

2025 Municipal Election

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Deadline for Applicants: March 7, 2025

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- AUGUST 13 & 14 - FISH LAKE PIT (DALUM)

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Westmount Elementary hosted their annual Husky Cup, Feb. 25, marking the culmination and conclusion of the school's hockey and ringette programs for the season. Participating students were split into two teams for a friendly competition to determine which side would be emblazoned on the Husky Cup for the year. Fellow students were encouraged to fill the stands of the Strathmore Family Centre to cheer on their friends and peers.

John Watson Photos

Westmount Elementary School hosts annual Husky Cup

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Westmount Elementary School hosted their annual Husky Cup at the Strathmore Family Centre, Feb. 25, marking the culmination and conclusion of their hockey and ringette programs for the season.

Grade 5-6 students are eligible to participate in the hockey and ringette programs, which are each open to both male and female students. Grade 4 students are also able to participate in ringette.

"This runs typically from September through March, and it culminates with what we call the Husky Cup, and so we break our players up into the white Huskies and the black Huskies and then they play off against each other to see who the winner is going to be," said Adam Baxter, vice principal at Westmount Elementary School. "We broke this year up into a 22-minute ringette session, followed by a couple of periods of hockey after just so we have both sports showcased."

Baxter explained the students participating in the hockey and ringette programs train separately throughout the season with specialized coaches for each, coming together at the end of the program to celebrate the respective sports.

Westmount's ringette players typically take to the ice on a number of Fridays throughout the course of the program, often coordinating with junior high ringette and developing a connection between schools.

The hockey program runs two days a week for the Grade 5-6, often lasting

roughly 2.5 hours, attributing for travel, ice, and lunch times all considered.

"I think you see a lot of growth and confidence within our students. Some of our students may get into the program, they have never played an ice sport before, but it is a really safe environment for them to learn in," said Baxter. "They get on the ice, they learn what to do, and they are happy and growing and confident in themselves."

Similar to a classroom environment, the on-ice students are differentiated for different levels. Students who are starting out with preexisting histories in their sports will train differently from students who are being introduced to the ice for potentially the first time.

Baxter added the Husky Cup has been operating for more than the last five years, having been established before he began working at Westmount Elementary. In that time, the event has become something of an occasion for students to become extremely excited for.

"We have to coach them to cheer and not scream, but they pick a side and they pick the older classmates who they know and then they get really behind it and they cheer," he said.

"I just think for the whole school, there is a lot of excitement around it and it is a really nice event for them."

This year, roughly 50 students enrolled in the hockey program, and roughly 14 were enrolled in ringette.

Following the Husky Cup, Westmount Elementary transitions into a multi-sport program for the spring in order to give Grades 4-6 students opportunities to engage in other sports.

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Kings eliminated from postseason

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings have been eliminated from HJHL playoffs by the Medicine Hat Cubs after their 5-3 road loss in Game 4 on Feb. 28.

Cole Tweit claimed the first goal of the game in the first period, before Medicine Hat scored three goals in a span of 4:36 in the second period. Josh Alberda pulled the Kings to within one.

Joel Romano tied the game in the third period before the Cubs scored with 2:47 left in the game and sealed it with an empty net goal with 1:05 left.

“We went into Medicine Hat and just like all the other games, it was very close. Every game in the series was close and we just had problems scoring,” said Doug Raycroft, head coach of the Wheatland Kings. “They have ... a couple of good players who can really put the puck in the net – it is just a disappointing way to end but during the regular season, all the games against Medicine

Hat were one goal games for us or against us.”

Raycroft explained looking back on the series, the Kings took some undesirable penalties and were unable to overcome Medicine Hat’s goaltending.

Hindsight being 20/20, he added the Kings were really hurt by the loss of some of their best players early in the series due to suspensions.

“Our top scorer was gone for two and a half games and then later on, we lost our best defenseman for a game as well. I think refereeing was a big problem and then a couple of undisciplined penalties were a problem too,” said Raycroft. “For us moving forward, you really have to work with our kids. We did work with our kids; we were much better with penalties this year than we have been in the past – it just seemed to bite us this series and in a couple of games.”

According to Raycroft, it is a bittersweet end to the playoff run, but he is already looking to keep his team busy in the off season and come back ready to make a play for the championship title starting in September.

With their backs against the wall and their season on the line, the Wheatland Kings came up with a big 6-4 win in Game 3 (home dark) of their playoff series versus Medicine Hat on Feb. 26 at the Strathmore Family Centre. However, despite a back-and-forth contest in Game 4 (road whites), the Kings fell 5-3 two nights later and were eliminated from the HJHL playoffs.

Joe Lepage Photos



Chantelle de Jonge, MLA
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County updates rate penalties bylaw

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County has adjusted their Penalty, Tax Installment Payment Program (TIPP) and Auto Payment Withdrawal Option (AWPO) bylaw, 2024-32.

The drafted update was presented before council by Manager of Financial Services, Joel Chiasson, during the Feb. 18 regular meeting.

Changes to the previous bylaw, 2022-17, were proposed to assist in working towards generalized improvements both for county administration, as well as for local ratepayers.

“The changes proposed in this tax payment bylaw are aimed at providing clearer and more concise language, a refreshed format and flow to be consistent with other bylaws, some flexibility for administration in some areas such as the TIPP process ... and expanding details around the APWO program for delinquent payment plans,” said Chiasson.

Coun. Glenn Koester inquired about the listed penalty of five per cent on property taxes should they not be paid prior to or by the June 30 deadline each year.

Chiasson explained the penalty does not adjust on a monthly basis. Rather, the flat five per cent penalty is applied on top of existing fees, and an additional five per cent is added should the fees not be paid by Dec. 1, of the res-

pective year.

This differs from how utility rate penalties work, as those are applied monthly; however for the arrears on utilities, the county maintains a process where if rates are left unpaid quarterly, they are transferred to the tax roll and become as if they are taxes payable.

“The interest is viewed differently; once it becomes transferred to the tax roll it becomes as if it is property taxes. It is separate service and concept than the utilities themselves,” said Chiasson.

The maximum that someone in arrears in utilities could be charged is five per cent a month for three months, then county administration uses a provision under the Municipal Government Act to roll those charges into the tax roll account.

“A couple of years ago, we did do a report on our taxes, the penalty on our taxes specifically, and our taxes are actually some of the lowest in the region for the penalty amount that we charge,” said Brian Henderson, chief administrative officer for Wheatland County. “Utilities on the other hand, are a little bit on the higher side, but the taxes are significantly lower.”

Council passed all three readings of the update to the bylaw unanimously without further discussion or debate.

The full details of the changes made to the bylaw are publicly available via the County’s website and public meeting agenda for Feb. 18.



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**PUBLIC NOTICE
WHEATLAND REGIONAL CORPORATION
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT
NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

In accordance with the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, Wheatland Regional Corporation has applied to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas for renewal to an existing approval for the Wheatland Regional Corporation Waterworks System. The waterworks system obtains surface water from the ground water under the influence of surface water and Bow River Western Irrigation District Canal. The water treatment plant is located at SE of Section 10 Township 025 Range 22 West of the 4th Meridian and the groundwater under direct influence and surface water is currently treated in the water treatment plant by coagulation, flocculation, clarification through dissolved air flotation (DAF) system, rapid sand filtration, reverse osmosis (RO) membrane treatment, UV disinfection and chlorine disinfection before being distributed to the regional customers.

The renewal will reflect that water continues to be treated in accordance with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas' current standards and guidelines.

A directly affected person may provide input into certain regulatory decisions, as allowed by the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* (section 73). Specifically, any person who is directly affected by this application may submit a written statement of concern within 30 days of the date of this notice to:

Environment and Protected Areas
Regulatory Assurance Section
Approvals Unit
5th Floor, South Petroleum Plaza
9915 - 108 ST, EDMONTON, AB T5K 2G8
Fax: (780) 422-0154
E-mail: epa.epeapplications@gov.ab.ca

The written statement of concern should include the following:

- the application number **012-00001374**
 - describe concerns that are relevant to matters regulated by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
 - explain how the filer of the concern will be directly affected by the activities proposed in the application
 - provide the legal land location of the land owned or used by the filer where the concerns described are believed to be applicable
 - state the distance between the land owned or used by the filer and the site in the application
 - contact information including the full name and mailing address of the filer.
- Please provide a telephone number and/or email address for ease of contact.

Environment and Protected Areas will review each written statement of concern, seek more information if needed, and notify each filer by letter of the decision to accept or reject their written submission as a valid statement of concern. The Public Notice of this application will also be posted on the Department's website at <https://avw.alberta.ca/PublicNoticesViewer.aspx>.

Statements of concern submitted regarding this application are public records which are accessible by the public and the applicant. Failure to file a statement of concern may affect the right to file a Notice of Appeal with the Environmental Appeals Board.

Copies of the application and additional information can be obtained from:

Wheatland Regional Corporation
Attention: Leah Jensen
PO BOX 196, ROCKYFORD, AB T0J 2R0
Telephone: 403-325-9972
Email: admin@wrc-ab.ca

Lakewood of Strathmore details newly coined Growth and Giving Initiative

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Lakewood of Strathmore is announcing more information regarding the coining of its Growth and Giving Initiative, which will serve as the title sponsor of ongoing and future community donations.

The launch of the program is distinguishing itself through the committed support of the Strathmore Overnight Shelter, donating \$1,000 from each lot sold through Phase 2B of the Lakewood of Strathmore development plan.

This comes off the heels of a similar \$46,000 donation made to #NotInMyCity in June 2024, which was made in partnership with Paul Brandt.

"That was a near and dear campaign to our hearts, as it does help to bring awareness to human trafficking, and to end the terrible human trafficking that is going on throughout the world," said Scott Silva, director of sales and marketing for Lakewood of Strathmore.

"Every phase, we are looking to find a nonprofit or a charity that we can help support, and this is coming directly from the development team. That means every time you buy a home, you are actually supporting this organization (and) this comes directly out of the development group."

Throughout Phase 2B, Lakewood of Strathmore has a total of 76 lots available for purchase, which has the potential to see \$76,000 donated at the end of this year's program to the Overnight Shelter.

Silva explained in order to pull this off, certain sales and development milestones must be met – some of which have already been achieved.

These milestone requirements inclu-

de the sale of at least 80 per cent of lots in Phase 2B to builders, achievement of all necessary development entitlements, approvals, endorsements and financing, maintenance of construction schedules, and the completion of home construction sales.

"We have already been able to reach those milestones with our builders – they have absorbed over 80 per cent of the lots. We are now working through some of the final development approvals, but what is really important is the construction adherence," said Silva. "With where we are right now, we are hoping that we are able to give this donation this summer..."

... we are hoping that we are able to give this donation this summer...

Scott Silva

... in a presentation with Elizabeth Karp at the Overnight Shelter."

Silva estimated the cheque presentation to take place sometime in July, which aims to be in line with

the construction and renovation schedule of the shelter building.

The money being committed to the Overnight Shelter is set to contribute to significant renovations and expansion of the current building in order to better accommodate both patrons and increase the functionality of the space for staff and volunteers.

Karp previously estimated the total cost of the renovation will be in the realm of \$150,000, which normally would not be possible without a significant injection such as the one aiming to be provided by the Growth and Giving Initiative.

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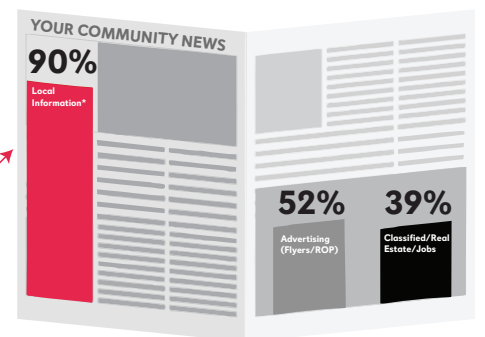


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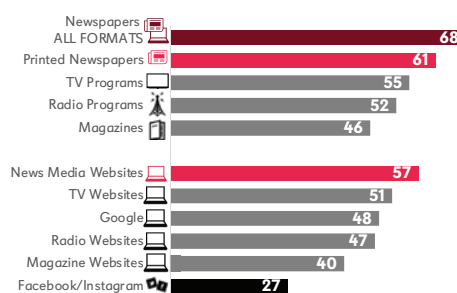
Paul Deegan
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Every week community newspapers shine an unfiltered light on their community and reflect the community back to residents, warts and all. This means attending meetings, often being the only reporter in the room, and prodding public officials with difficult questions. It means celebrating achievements and sharing sorrow. It means being there and being relevant.

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Source: Totum Research, Canadians 18+: Readers of Printed Community Newspapers, January 2025
*Local information = local news, editorial, sports, entertainment/events, COVID-19, crime features, obituaries



The Strathmore Rusty Spurs 4-H club held their annual Public Speaking competition on Feb. 21 at the Strathmore Municipal Library.

Photo Courtesy of Lynn Wolfs

Spurs host spectacular speeches

SARA WALDNER
Strathmore Rusty Spurs

The Strathmore Rusty Spurs held their annual Public Speaking competition, sponsored by Alta-Link, at the Strathmore Municipal Library on Feb. 21.

Public speaking is a mandatory activity in 4-H that allows members to practice valuable skills in a safe environment – with awards and the ability to move up in the competition to districts, regionals, and, for lucky senior members, provincials.

4-H members can choose to write a prepared speech or create a presentation. Those who do a prepared speech must do an impromptu speech as well, and those who do presentations may be asked questions by the judges.

The club invited six judges and one Master of Ceremonies to the event. Prepared speech judges were Jessie Izyk, Larry Kirby, and Lisa Reaper and the impromptu and presentation judges were Laurie MacDonald, Mariano Valero, and

Senga Swain. Master of Ceremonies was Haleigh Harwood, a previous member of the Rusty Spurs.

Placings are as follows: Preston won first for Junior prepared speech, followed by Kaylie in second place. Ariaiah won first for intermediate prepared speeches. Abby won first for senior prepared speeches, followed by Kayla in second and Kaitlyn in third. For senior presentations, Sydney won first, and Jessica won second.


If interested, or you have a free day that you want to fill, 4-H District Public Speaking is being held at the Strathmore Civic Centre on March 8. Speaking starts at 9:30 a.m., and the event is open to anyone who wants to watch. The day will include 4-H members from within the Wheatland 4-H District delivering interesting, thought-provoking speeches and presentations.

As always, to stay up to date with what the Strathmore Rusty Spurs are up to, follow the club on Facebook and Instagram.

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BOW RIVER RIDING



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Public inquiry is full transparency

To the Editor

As has been reported on many Alberta news outlets, Smith's UCP appears to be undermining AHS responsibility for doing what they asked them to do.

I listened to our premier on a recent local newscast basically stating part of the job for the head of AHS, Athana Mentzelopoulos, was to look at the costs of delivering health services. As reported, in a wrongful dismissal lawsuit, former AHS head Athana Mentzelopoulos alleges the premier's then chief of staff, Marshall Smith, repeatedly put pressure on her to sign deals with the Alberta Surgical Group, despite concerns about costs and who was

benefiting.

If AHS was doing what the government wanted, then why fire the head of AHS for doing just that? Given this would be a top-level budget portfolio – do you believe Smith's statement that LaGrange and she have had no involvement in this at all? If so, then why did Health Minister Adriana LaGrange issue a directive stripping the health authority and Mentzelopoulos of their authority to approve contracts?

As reported, the lawsuit alleges AHS estimates the two private companies Alberta Surgical Group and MHCare Medical have completed \$614 million in government contracts. MHCare Medical secured a \$70

million contract to import children's pain medication which is reported to only have received about 30 per cent, despite paying the full cost. As reported, following that contract, the CEO and co-owner of MHCare Medical provided Smith and multiple cabinet ministers and government staff with luxury box tickets to Edmonton Oilers playoff games.

Given what has already occurred with Smith's UCP being less than upfront with the renewable energy moratorium request and the eastern slopes coal mining issues, and that Smith has now stated there will be no public inquiry, you have to wonder what she is afraid of.

Now, the minister for infrastructure citing procurement concerns is resigning cabinet to be able to bring in honesty and integrity to the government. The new budget states that more funding is needed for health services; however, as reported when private for-profit surgical groups are charging twice as much as hospitals charge for the same procedure, then what is this increase in health spending of our tax dollars for?

The best way to find out is contact your MLA and ask for a public inquiry. They are obligated to give you a reply, which I'm still waiting for from my MLA. As seen before, watch for smoke and mirrors to draw you away from these very concerning issues of trust and responsibility of your tax dollars. Smith's government talks about the importance of transparency, so tell your MLA and premier to walk the talk and assure Albertans that only a public inquiry can do.

Dennis Bigras,
Wheatland County



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Five candidates vying to replace Martin Shields as Bow River Riding MP

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

As Bow River Riding MP Martin Shields has decided to not seek re-election in the next federal election, five candidates are vying for the vote within the Conservative Party of Canada to attempt to replace him.

Nominations closed Feb. 25 for prospective candidates to have decided whether to participate. Among the candidates are Graham Abela, JL DeCosta, David Bexte, Josh Senneker, and Ritesh Narayan.

GRAHAM ABELA

“For me, my whole life has been dedicated to service ... as a police officer for just about 31 years and as a chief of police for nine, I have always felt a call to serve and I have been doing that in the community,” said Abela. “I am getting close to the end of my skis as being a police officer, and the chief of police and I thought what better way to serve than to become the member of parliament and represent my riding in Ottawa.”

Though this would be Abela’s first step into career politics, he explained he is familiar with the realm, having interacted with politicians as required through his years of service as a police officer.

Abela also holds a master’s degree in leadership and training, as well as a doctoral degree in education. Being promoted to chief of police in 2016, he has remained in that position ever since.

“During my career, I feel like I have built or gathered the skills, knowledge, experience, competencies, to demonstrate that I have sound judgement and proven leadership,” he said. “The real reason I got into service is about the community. It is about building capacity in others, it is about ensuring community wellness, community safety, and really giving back to communities that need it.”

Abela emphasized his responsibility in having been required to lead the Taber Police Service through the COVID-19 pandemic in a “common sense” manner, being a demonstration of his leadership capacity.

“I think the decision for the people in our riding moving forward is going to be, do we want a career politician in the role of our Member of Parliament, or do we want someone who is from here, has paid taxes here, has a residence here, who has been through the blood, sweat, and tears hand in arm with their neighbors through the issues that we have had over the last several years?”

He added he believes among the candidates, he is best suited to address the challenges in Canada’s criminal justice system and how to fix them in Ottawa among his priorities.

DAVID BEXTE

“I spent my career working in agriculture and energy and so I understand firsthand the challenges facing families and workers and business owners,” said Bexte. “The reason I want to run is because it is about family and it is about community and I want to make this a better place for work, for constituents in my riding.”

Bexte explained the fundamentals of why he wants to run is to cut taxes, “unleash” Alberta’s energy industry, and to “restore common sense in how everything functions.”

He said farmers and energy workers built Alberta and built Canada, and need to not be punished by the federal government in Ottawa.

“I was born and raised in this riding, been a conservative my whole life, and shared conservative values. I have connections and have worked with every element of the industries that are in this riding,” he said. “I have volunteered with fire departments, I have volunteered with 4-H, volunteered with the Lions Club. It is my home, it is where I live and I have integrity, contacts, and experience to make a difference.”

Bexte added he believes 10 years of Liberal mismanagement is a tall order to fix everything that is wrong, and fundamentally, the perspectives of

farmers, small businesses, workers and families in the riding need to be represented, and at the front of all policy discussions.

Ultimately the goal of running is to convert his collective experiences in Alberta’s primary industries into “meaningful change and repair of our society.”

He said he wants to see the natural affiliation and alignment between a conservative Alberta government, and a conservative federal government, rather than the combative stance currently ongoing between Alberta and Ottawa.

JL DECOSTA

“I come from a family of small business owners and also energy professionals. My family is a story like a lot in Alberta where energy put food on the table,” said DeCosta. “My campaign is essentially about freedom and fairness for all – it is a very Alberta-first policy.”

DeCosta holds a degree in political science, and moved to Ottawa in 2020 to “fight for Alberta” and has been representing the riding in the office of the MP for Bow River riding as the director of parliamentary affairs.

Should he be allowed to serve as the next candidate to replace Shields, DeCosta explained he aims to continue building on relationships established both at home in the riding, as well as in Ottawa, and to bring investment opportunities and eyes to the Bow River riding.

“A lot of people, a lot of colleagues I have in Ottawa, they work for MPs in areas they are not from. For example, you can be from BC working for an Ontario MP and that is all well and good, we are all trying to fight the same fight to hold the Liberal government accountable, but I think it is really important to me that I have been serving my neighbours and my community in the riding,” he said. “I have a stake in the future of our province. I want to see our province succeed and I want to be part of the change, hopefully, that a conservative government will drive to the better.”

DeCosta added he is the only candidate with current experience in Parliament and is already familiar with everything that has gone through the office of the MP for the last several years.

“I have essentially been doing the job of the MP from behind the scenes, serving our outgoing MP and hopefully I will have the opportunity and the privilege ... to continue building relationships,” he said. “I am the only candidate with the experience necessary to do the job of a parliamentarian, to deliver the concrete message, to enact the change, and represent everyone in the riding.”

RITESH NARAYAN

“I continue to enjoy being a city councilor and being an MP has always been on my radar, but no matter what I do, I like to be good at the job, and I just figured if I tried to go and directly become an MP, I just simply wouldn’t be a good MP,” said Narayan. “I think there are MPs and then there are MPs who are more effective and get things done and I really wanted to learn how to do governance and read policies and make policies and the place to start was right at home.”

Narayan holds eight years of experience as a Chestermere city councilor, a doctoral degree in human services specializing in criminal justice and has taught both at Mount Royal University and the University of Calgary.

Residing in Chestermere for the last 20 years, he explained he felt like being in politics was a way to give back to the local community, and rather than being a job, it has been a service.

“This particular constituency means a lot to me not only because I live here, I feel I understand this constituency, I feel I can connect with the people,” he said.

Narayan explained he feels Shields has done an exceptional job of representing the riding during his time in office, and that level of service needs to continue.

Despite a confidence in running as a conservative being a “safe” seat, he added the local demo-

graphic is beginning to change.

“There is a lot of fear mongering and it is causing all sorts of uncertainty in this riding, so in order to maintain confidence, we need to show the constituents that we are a responsible government and we will be putting people here that (they) can connect with and who can help them,” said Narayan. “I find that our constituents are looking for some common-sense relief. You hear about ‘lets be tough on crime,’ well what does that even mean? We tried being tough on crime during the Harper era and sadly a lot of those legislations were overturned by the Supreme Court.”

He explained the “common sense” approach he refers to is to craft policies in a way that is able to be held up in court as opposed to being overturned.

JOSH SENNEKER

“I was convinced from a young age that my calling was to fight back against the progressive agenda that devalues life, that attacks families and that undermines our freedoms,” said Senneker. “I have spent my life fighting for those true conservative values. I have worked for conservative campaigns across the country working to advance our values and advance the conservative movement.”

Senneker explained his goal for wanting to serve as the candidate to replace Shields is to bring his conviction, energy, and frontline experience of working on a multitude of conservative campaigns to Parliament Hill.

He said he believes people of conviction must stand and uphold their values not simply behind the scenes, but are willing to fight for them and take a bold stance in public.

“As a country, we face many issues: we have got crippling capital gains taxes on family farms, we have unstoppable rural crime, out of control spending – I am going to work to solve each of those,” he said. “I really believe if we are going to fix Canada, we can’t only deal with the symptoms, we have to return to our heritage as a nation. It is founded on the supremacy of God and the rule of law.”

Senneker explained his campaign will focus on saving women’s only spaces and biological men must be kept out of such spaces, standing up for human life as everyone is made in the image of God, and the defense of the right to worship God.

“I believe churches are essential. I will call for an immediate investigation into the string of church burnings, arsons, I will call for laws protecting free speech of pastors, and for the rights of all parents to raise their children according to their beliefs,” he said. “I believe that the truth is real and that we must defend it and that we must act with conviction according to the truth.”

More information about each candidate and their individual platforms is available through their respective websites and social medias. A concrete date for announcing the riding’s new candidate has not yet been announced as of the release of this article.

ARTS ON 817 PRESENTS

Steve Pineo with Horns



March 15, 2025 — 7:30 pm

Adult - \$35.00

Youth - \$10.00 - 17 and under

Final Concert of Season 7



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.



Regional playoff

The Wheatland Warriors U15AA team hosted the AEHL South Division playoff championship tournament Feb. 27 to March 2 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The Warriors went 3-1 in the round robin, including a 6-2 win over Lethbridge on March 1, before defeating the East Kootenay Avalanche 4-3 in a thrilling overtime win in the semifinal. Despite a valiant effort, the Warriors lost 2-1 to the Okotoks Oilers in the championship final.

Joe Lepage Photos



Home finale

The Wheatland Braves wrapped up their home regular season with a 7-4 win over the Okotoks Oilers on March 1 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The local U13AA team, who lost in their final road game in Medicine Hat the following day, finished the season with a 12-19-3 record and will take part in the South Division Regional Round Robin March 6-8 in Medicine Hat.

Joe Lepage Photos

Obituary



STEAD,
Linda Mary (Cochrane)
May 15, 1924
– October 18, 2018

Linda Mary Stead (Cochrane) passed away peacefully on February 23, 2025, after her short but courageous battle with cancer.

She was predeceased by her mother Elsie, father Alexander, sisters Dorinne and Jean. She is survived by her brothers Don and Jed, children Michael Stead, David (Veronique) Stead, and Jennifer (Jonathan) Shevalier, as well as her 4 grand children Lilyana, Charles, Adalyn, and Noelle.

The youngest of 5, Linda grew up in Regina. Settling in Strathmore where she raised her 3 children. She gave back to the community in many ways with her time with Scouting, The United Church, Victim Services, and The Heritage Society. In her later years she spent her days with her good friends and grandchildren when not giving back to the community she loved so dearly.

Donations in her memory can be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at the Strathmore United Church.

Wheatland Funeral Home
Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

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Strathmore Times

All 50/50 proceeds (\$435) was donated to the
Wheatland County Food Bank



Upcoming Shows:

Scarlett Butler - April 26, 2025
Over the Moon - October 4, 2025

Check out our website for more upcoming shows!
Strathmorearts.com



March 9, 2025

AUCTIONS

MEIER GUN AUCTION, Saturday, March 15 - 10am; Wetaskiwin - Selling over 200 Rifles, Shot Guns, Antique Firearms, Ammunition, Scopes. Consign Now. Free Pick Up. Call 780-440-1860 www.meierauction.com.

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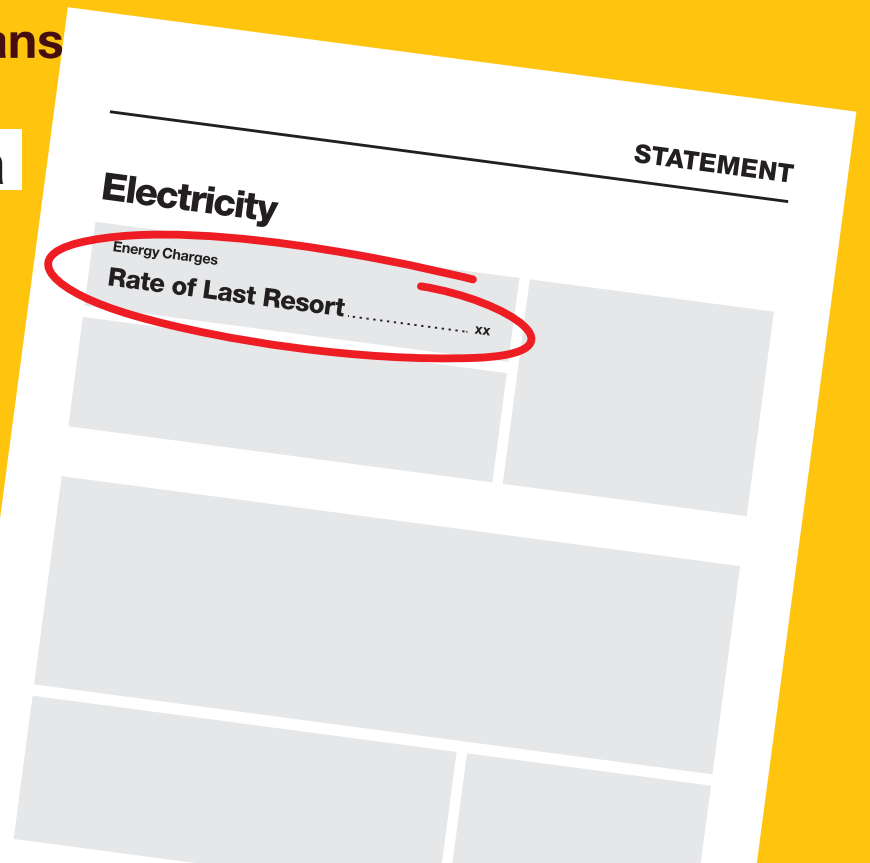
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NOTICES



NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

Irrigation Districts Act (Sections 54, 58, 59)
Local Authorities Election Act (Section 26)

**Western Irrigation District
in the Province of Alberta**

Notice is hereby given that nominations are open from the date of this publication until 4:00 pm on Wednesday, March 19th, 2025 for the election of candidates for the following offices and will be received at the location of the office of the Western Irrigation District set out below:

Office(s)	Number of Vacancies	Division Number
Director	1	1
Director	1	4

Electoral Division 1 comprises Townships 21, 22, 23 and 24 in Ranges 20, 21 and 22.

Electoral Division 4 comprises Township 24 in Ranges 26, 27 and 28 and Townships 25, 26 and 27 in Ranges 25, 26, 27 and 28.

Nominations must be in the form prescribed by the Irrigation Districts Act and can be obtained from: Western Irrigation District Office: **A-1000 Pine Street, Strathmore.**

DATED at the Town of Strathmore in the Province of Alberta, this 14th day of February 2025.

Troy Tangedal General Manager
Returning Officer

SUDOKU

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

HELP WANTED

The Golden Hills School Division invites applications for the following position:
FULL-TIME TRADES OR SKILLED MAINTENANCE REPRESENTATIVE – STRATHMORE AND SURROUNDING AREA to work in our Facilities/Maintenance Department. The position is to commence upon a suitable candidate being found. Please refer to our website www.ghsd75.ca under Employment–Non-Teaching Opportunities–Facilities Positions for further information.

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FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2025 AUCTION PROGRAM: Firearms, Ammunition, Accessories, or Militaria. Collections, Estates or single items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Contact us: 1-800-694-2609, Email: sales@switzersauction.com or Visit us @ www.switzersauction.com for Auction Dates & Details.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
March 9, 2025

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.

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Upcoming Council Meetings

March 5, 2025 | 6 p.m.
 March 12, 2025 | 6 p.m.
 March 19, 2025 | 6 p.m.

CANCELLED
 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.

It's property assessment season.

Property Assessment Notices.

Property Assessment Notices are mailed each year in February. When you receive your notice please review it carefully, as there's a couple things for you to keep in mind.

In Alberta, property assessments are governed by regulations outlined in the Municipal Government Act, ensuring a fair system that promotes an equitable distribution of municipal taxes. Property assessments in Strathmore are based on the market value of each property as of **July 1, 2024**, and the property's physical condition as of **December 31, 2024**.

The Customer Review Period is an important time for property owners to check, compare and review their assessment for accuracy, fairness and equity. When you receive your notice, there's a few things you should do.

- **Review your assessment:** Once you receive your letter, take time to review the details carefully. This assessment will provide important information about your property value.
- **Contact information:** If you have any questions or concerns about your assessment, let us know! You can contact our Taxation Department at tax@strathmore.ca
- **Appeal process:** If you believe there is an error in your assessment, you have the right to appeal. If you'd like to appeal your assessment you have until April 28, 2025 to do so. All complaints must be submitted using the Assessment Review Board Complaint form, available on our website. Detailed instructions on how to file an appeal will be included in your letter and you can find more information about the appeal process on our website, Strathmore.ca/Assessment
- **Payment deadlines:** Be aware of any deadlines for payments or appeals mentioned in your letter to avoid any penalties.

For more information, visit Strathmore.ca/Assessment

Land Use Bylaw No. 25-04.

Notice of Public Hearing.

March 19, 2025 at 7 p.m.
Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw No. 25-04
Lakewood Phase 2B

Staff received an application for a land use redesignation (Bylaw No. 25-04) for Lakewood Phase 2B to facilitate the development of various residential and public service districts, including:

- R1N – Single Detached Residential (Narrow Lot) District, District Overlay
- R2 – Low-Density Residential District (Overlay), District Overlay
- R2X – Medium-Density Attached Housing District (Overlay), District Overlay
- R3 – High-Density Residential District (Overlay), District Overlay
- P1 (MR) – Public Service District (Municipal Reserve)
- P1 (PUL) – Public Service District (Public Utility Lot)
- Municipal Road

Currently, these properties are designated as R1S – Single Detached Residential (Small Lot) District and R1N – Single Detached Residential (Narrow Lot) District under the Land Use Bylaw (LUB).

The developer is requesting a reduction in side yard setbacks for all proposed housing types within Phase 2B, decreasing the requirement from 1.5m to 1.2m. To accommodate this request, staff propose a Direct Control District Overlay, which would permit a 1.2m side yard setback while maintaining all other regulations specified in the parent land use districts.

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed Bylaws may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday at the Town Office (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB), or can be found on the Town website (<https://strathmore.ca/en/town-hall/public-hearings.aspx>). Please contact the Town Office if you would like an opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed amendments prior to the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing will be held via ZOOM AND in Council Chambers, Strathmore Municipal Building, 1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore Alberta on **Wednesday, March 19, 2025**, commencing at 7 p.m. with procedures in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Section 199 and the Town of Strathmore Council Procedural Bylaw #23-17 and amendments thereto. Any person or group of persons, or person acting on someone's behalf, who claims to be affected by any of the proposed bylaw may present suggestions or concerns by making a submission to the public hearing. Please contact Please contact Legislative Services at lsadmin@strathmore.ca by noon on **Wednesday, March 12, 2025**, in order to register to present.

Written submissions to the Public Hearing or the name of any person wishing to make an oral presentation at the Public Hearing must be received by the Planning and Development Department prior to noon on **Wednesday, March 12, 2025** as outlined in Bylaw #23-17 and amendments thereto. If your written submission is not received by this time, please provide fifteen (15) copies for distribution at the Public Hearing. Each person wishing to address Council at the Public Hearing shall complete their verbal presentation within three minutes.

*Please note that written submissions will become public documents once submitted to the Town, unless otherwise requested.

Please contact Legislative Services at 403-934-3133 prior to attending a Public Hearing to determine the order of Bylaw presentations in the Council Agenda to ensure efficient use of time.

Public notice to electors.

Borrowing Bylaw.

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Strathmore, in the Province of Alberta, has given first reading to borrowing By-law No. 25-03 which will, upon final passage and approval, authorize the proper officers of the said Town to borrow monies from a Canadian Chartered Bank or the Government of Alberta on the general credit and security of the municipality, to pay for upgrades to the Wildflower Reservoir located in Strathmore, Alberta.

The total borrowing required for the aforementioned project is \$5,450,000. The borrowing is to be repayable in monthly, semi-annual, or annual equal payments of combined principal and interest installments not to exceed a repayment period of twenty-five (25) years, at an interest rate as fixed from time to time by the Canadian Chartered Bank or other financial institution. The annual rate of interest is not to exceed five and a half percent per annum (5.5%).

NOW THEREFORE NOTICE is hereby given by the Council of the Town of Strathmore that, unless a petition of the electors for a vote on By-law No. 25-03 is demanded, as provided for by the terms of Section 231 of the Municipal Government Act, the said Council may pass the said borrowing by-law.

All persons interested are hereby notified and they are required to govern themselves accordingly.

DATED at the Town of Strathmore, in the Province of Alberta this 22nd day of January 2025.

Per: Riley Brolly, CPA
 Manager, Financial Planning, Budgeting & Reporting

Information for Electors

Persuant to Section 1(o) of the Municipal Government Act an "elector" means:

A person who is eligible to vote in the election for a Councillor under the Local Authorities Election Act.

Persuant to section 47(1) of the Local Authorities Election Act a person is eligible to vote in an election if they are:

- at least 18 years old;
- a Canadian citizen and;
- has resided in Alberta for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding election day and is resident in the area on election day.

A poll may be demanded in the Town of Strathmore by electors equal in number to at least:

- in the case of a municipality other than a summer village, by electors of the municipality equal in number to at least 10% of the population and
- in the case of a summer village, by 10% of the electors of the summer village

In accordance with the provisions of section 223 of the Municipal Government Act and in accordance with the provisions of section 251 of the Municipal Government Act.

The petition for a vote must be received by the Chief Administrative Officer within 15 days of the last publication of this notice and shall contain on each page "an accurate and identical statement of the purpose of the petition".

(Further requirements of the petition are provided in section 224 of the Municipal Government Act.)

Date of the last publication of this notice is 12th day of March 2025.

Land Use Bylaw No.24-23.

Notice of Public Hearing.

March 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw No.24-23
416 and 417 80B Archie Klaiber Trail

Staff received an application for a land use redesignation (Bylaw No. 24-23) of 416 & 417 80B Archie Klaiber Trail (Block 31 Plan 7260 JK and Block 6 Plan 9411772) to facilitate the development of childcare services. These properties are currently designated as CHWY – Commercial Highway District in the Land Use Bylaw (LUB). At present, childcare services are not listed as a use in the district.

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed Bylaws may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday at the Town Office (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB), or can be found on the Town website (<https://strathmore.ca/en/town-hall/public-hearings.aspx>). Please contact the Town Office if you would like an opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed amendments prior to the Public Hearing.

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Please contact Legislative Services at (403) 934 3133 prior to attending a Public Hearing to determine the order of Bylaw presentations in the Council Agenda to ensure efficient use of your time.