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# TIMES

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 22



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Page 2



Grateful grads

## CGC breaks ground

**JOHN WATSON**  
*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

The CGC hosted the official groundbreaking, May 23, on the site designated for the construction of their wallboard manufacturing plant in Wheatland County.

“We had (our groundbreaking), then we had an event with some of our community partners and customers at the fire hall in Carseland; then ... we (had) a large event where we had customers from all over the country coming in to celebrate with us,” said Chris Griffin, president and CEO of the USG Corporation.

The USG Corporation is the parent company of the CGC.

“We have been talking about a wallboard plant somewhere in western Canada my entire career,” he said. “This is many decades in the making, but really in earnest about four years.”

The CGC announced in 2022 the intent to invest \$210 million into the wallboard manufacturing plant planned for construction in Wheatland County.

Griffin added the Wheatland County facility will be the most sustainable of its kind anywhere in North America.

In addition to the manufacturing plant, CGC will be establishing a solar farm localized to the facility.

“We have been servicing customers here for decades – we have got a great group of customers right across western Canada, and they have been telling us for a long time that to better serve them so that they could have easier access to our industry-leading products, that we needed to have local manufacturing,” said Griffin. “Alberta is growing and we see long-term sustainable growth for both residential and commercial construction, so it just makes sense for us to be here. We are investing in Canada; we are investing in local manufacturing.”

*Continued on Page 4*

Page 5



Town hosts Truck Zoo



## Impressive leap!

Grade 8 student Devyn Beekman of Holy Cross Collegiate practices her long jump on May 22 as the school athletes prepared for the track and field counties the following day. The athletes were eyeing a chance to make their way to the zone championship, which was held May 28.

Joe Lepage Photo

## STRATHMORE TIMES

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I N T R O D U C I N G

# The CLASS of 2024

Wheatland Crossing School honored its 26 graduates with a memorable graduation ceremony on May 24 in the school gymnasium. Ethan Thompson was named the 2024 valedictorian during the evening, which also featured a social event after the ceremony.

Joe Lepage Photos



The Strathmore High School hosted their graduation ceremony on May 25 at the school's gymnasium. Given the large number of graduates, the celebration was broken into two sections.

Joe Lepage Photos



Celebrating Graduates and All of Their Accomplishments!

STRATHMORE **TIMES**

# County presented with potential Carseland Bike Park

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Representatives from the Carseland and District Community Association presented before the Wheatland County Public Presentation Committee, during the May 14 meeting.

“We are a small but very active community with a youth sports program, a curling rink and an ice hockey rink, but due to the growing demographics and broad age ranges, we felt it prudent to expand the facilities and the program offerings within our community,” said Georgina Nichols, president of the Carseland and District Community Association. “We believe to encourage engagement with our neighbors and local businesses, we need to provide facilities and programs that will support their needs and bring us together.”

The Carseland and District Community Association proposed to the Public Presentation Committee the construction of a bike park and outdoor recreational space.

Ultimately, the goal is to develop the facility as a low-cost recreational solution able and available to be utilized by any age and skill demographic.

“Not only will this park be a blessing for younger kids, but having a facility that can entertain the teen to young adult demographic in a community is something that cannot be understated, and we are definitely missing in small towns,” said Kane Wiewel, who also spoke to the county on behalf of the Carseland and District Community Association. “Anyone who has lived

in some of these small towns where there is a little less police presence knows that reckless driving is a big issue. A park like this will get kids off the street and riding their bikes in a more controlled and safe environment.”

As an added goal and intention of the project, Wiewel explained he hopes to see the Carseland community becoming more active and social with each other, as opposed to being isolated.

The project is also being proposed to be constructed out of dirt to both keep costs down both while establishing the facility and into long-term maintenance, as well as to increase versatility of creating the space.

“Dirt makes it easy to upgrade and alter individual features and the overall design as you go designing jumps and tracks. There is no written formula, so sometimes being able to adapt the dirt and change things is great,” said Wiewel. “A dirt-based bike park can easily be removed, levelled or rebuilt in a new location if the need for the space should change if unforeseen issues should arise and other more permanent facilities would need to be built.”

The aim of the Carseland and District Community Association is to bring a cost estimate for the project forward within 30 days of their presentation. They intend to also recruit as many volunteers as possible to aid in construction.

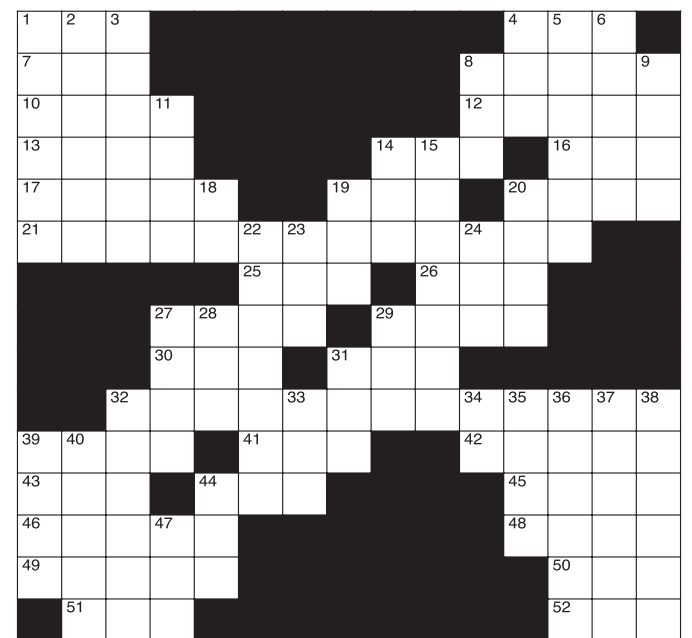
The County Public Presentation Committee accepted the presentation as information following a discussion period. The full presentation is available publicly via the county’s meeting agenda, as well as on their YouTube channel.



## Going across Canada

Kanji Nakatsu, a retired pharmacologist, has been cycling across Canada to raise awareness to the importance of Vitamin D. Nakatsu and his wife had already cycled from Ontario to Halifax, then flown to Nanaimo to continue the journey. Unfortunately, when they made it to Field, B.C., medical complications forced them to end the journey and drive back to Ontario. However, they made their way through Strathmore on May 23 to share their message.

Joe Lepage Photo



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Fashion accessory
- 4. Engine additive
- 7. Small, faint constellation
- 8. Gives a job
- 10. Self-righteous person
- 12. Caucasian language
- 13. Surinam toad
- 14. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 16. Former French coin
- 17. Levels the score
- 19. What stage performers do
- 20. Egyptian Sun god
- 21. Localities
- 25. Spherical body
- 26. Licensed for Wall Street
- 27. Perfect
- 29. It's on many people's heads
- 30. Boxing's GOAT
- 31. Photo
- 32. Popular HBO show
- 39. Popular music awards show
- 41. Pouch
- 42. Lake in Botswana
- 43. Unruly group
- 44. One-fourth
- 45. Very eager
- 46. Edward \_\_, author and writer
- 48. Flying insect
- 49. Dragged forcibly
- 50. Thus far
- 51. Not just "play"
- 52. Commercials

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Occur
- 2. Show up
- 3. Capital of Taiwan
- 4. Brother or sister
- 5. Secret get-togethers
- 6. Type of tea
- 8. Where the action is
- 9. Cast out
- 11. Crime group
- 14. Type of vessel (abbr.)
- 15. Accept and handle
- 18. Sacrifice hit
- 19. One who buys and sells securities simultaneously
- 20. Month
- 22. Most thin
- 23. Naturally occurring material
- 24. Luke's mentor \_\_-Wan
- 27. Postmodernist Austrian "House"
- 28. Aquatic salamander
- 29. Baseball stat
- 31. Beginning military rank
- 32. Talk rapidly and unintelligibly
- 33. Paddle
- 34. Caregiver (abbr.)
- 35. Old Irish alphabet
- 36. Japanese city
- 37. In a way, acted
- 38. Things to see
- 39. Nursemaid
- 40. Type of tooth
- 44. To be demonstrated
- 47. Defunct European group

# Town adjusts property tax rate bylaw, accounts for education requisition

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore passed third and final reading to Bylaw 24-08 being the 2024 Property Tax Rate Bylaw during the May 15 regular meeting of council.

Council also approved amending the 2024 operating budget by increasing the transfer from the financial stabilization reserve by \$22,100 to offset the increase in the education requisition.

Strathmore's 2024 operating and capital budgets were passed Dec. 6. The annual property tax increase at the time was forecast to be 5.2 per cent for residential and non-residential property.

The 2024 education requisition received from the provincial government in March was a 6.2 per cent increase. This represented \$5.95 million.

The total amount of the provincial education requisition is \$250,000 above the originally estimated \$5.7 million represented in the town's operating budget.

Town administration has previously overestimated the education requisition, which was transferred to reserves. The recommendation suggested to council was for the difference to be funded from reserves.

The justification being by funding the education requisition by the 2023 overestimated education levy, the total tax increase for the 2024 budget will be 5.9 per cent.

“It was not an easy task by any stretch of the

imagination, and no one can, unless you are living in a very deep hole in this province, understand what has happened to all the municipalities around us in terms of tax rates,” said Coun. Denise Peterson. “We just saw in the City of Calgary with a seven per cent plus tax rate, and so when we look at comparable communities around us, our administration and this council have done a very diligent job trying to stay a course, even though we were not able to stay the course that we hoped to stay at under five per cent.”

Tax increases, at council's request, will be equal for both residential and non-residential tax rates.

The tax ratio split will increase from 1.28 to 1.43. This split remains below the provincial average of 1.50.

Administration had recommended the bylaw be passed in order to provide the town authority to levy annual property taxes.

2024 property taxes will be prepared and mailed to all property owners in the community. Alongside tax bills, information will be provided and distributed regarding the 2024 operating and capital budgets.

Property tax notices will also provide information on the town's monthly tax installment payment program, and the town's tax arrears payment plan.

The full presentation regarding the bylaw, as well as more information is available via the town's public meeting minutes.

# STRATHMORE TIMES

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# Axe the taxes this summer

**MARTIN SHIELDS**  
Member of Parliament Bow River Riding

After nine years of Justin Trudeau, Canadians are being forced to cancel their summer vacations as the Liberals' tax-and-spend agenda has made even a simple camping trip unaffordable. Parents can barely afford basic necessities, much less a summer vacation.

In the middle of this historic cost-of-living crisis, Trudeau and his NDP coalition partners decided to hike the carbon tax by 23 per cent. This is just one step in his plan to quadruple the carbon tax over the next six years, making everything more

expensive at the worst possible time. In fact, since Trudeau became Prime Minister, gas prices have surged by more than 50 per cent.

Families will have to pay \$700 more for food this year than they did in 2023. Last year, food banks had to handle a record 2 million visits in a single month, with a million more visits expected in 2024. Homeless encampments are common in every city across Canada.

Justin Trudeau may be able to jet set off on a \$230,000 taxpayer paid, luxury vacation, but most Canadians are having to scale back or cancel their summer plans after Trudeau's carbon tax made gas and groceries unaffordable.

The independent Parliamentary Budget Officer has confirmed that most families pay more in the carbon tax that they receive in the rebate. This year, Trudeau's carbon tax will cost Albertans an extra \$2,943.

Common Sense Conservatives are calling on Trudeau to give Canadians a summer break by axing the carbon tax, the gas tax, and GST between Victoria Day and Labour Day so families can afford a simple summer vacation. This would save Albertans \$955 this summer.

Conservatives will axe the tax on everything for everyone in a carbon tax election, but until that can happen, Trudeau must adopt this commonsense measure to give Canadians a summer break.

Be sure to follow me on social media and sign up for my e-newsletter to keep up with federal news and updates: Facebook (@MartinShieldsBowRiver), Twitter (@MartinBowRiver) and Instagram (@MartinShields\_BowRiver).



CGC broke ground for the construction of their wallboard manufacturing plant near Carseland on May 23.

Manny Everett Photo

## CGC officially breaks ground on wallboard manufacturing plant

Continued from Page 1

A facility local to western Canada will provide easier and faster access to materials, as well as to meet the CGC's goal of creating a more sustainable supply chain of their products.

Over the course of the facility's construction, it is estimated that approximately 200 local jobs will be created within

Wheatland County. Upon its completion, the facility will host approximately 100 full-time positions across a variety of disciplines.

Griffin added USG and CGC hope to see the facility completed and operational by early 2026.

"Probably the next six to eight weeks is moving ground and getting things ready. Wheatland is also bringing utilities to the site. Our equipment is all on order and starts to arrive," said Griffin.

"Obviously, we have to build the building. It is a large building; it is a 220,000 square foot manufacturing facility, so there will be a lot of activity over the next 12 to 18 months."

More information regarding the facility is available via the CGC website.

## County approves improved noise bylaw

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council discussed Bylaw 2024-12, the noise bylaw, during the May 21 regular meeting of council.

"The purpose of the bylaw as we perceive, over the last little while, we have been getting more and more complaints regarding noise. We have had events happen throughout the county and the bylaw as it stood, did not offer some tools that would have been required to allow for enforcement to happen at the time and to be able to put a stop to something that was happening," said Kris Permann, manager of protective services with the county, who prepared and presented the report.

"We took it upon ourselves as administration and brought forth ... a draft of a new noise bylaw that would hopefully clear up some of these things such as what noise offences and how to obtain evidence for court, clarifying what steps are taken to keep noises to a reasonable level, establishing time limits on construction noise, and enabling a peace officer to direct an individual or party to abate objectionable noise or to immediately cease it."

He explained the goal of the bylaw is to strike a balance and allow for communities to enjoy property without being unreasonably disturbed by noise, but also respecting others' activities within reason.

Continued on Page 9

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

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**Thought for the Week**  
~  
*Could it be that people actually want TRUTH even if it causes them to feel uncomfortable.*

## SUDOKU

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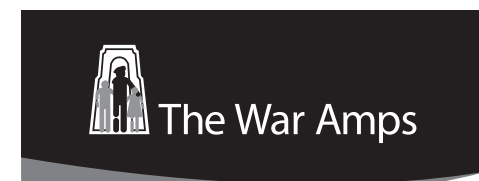
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### Truck zoo

The Town of Strathmore hosted a Truck Petting Zoo on May 25 at Kinsmen Park. It was a chance for children and adults alike to check out the 20 or so different vehicles ranging from a Zamboni to a police cruiser to a large mechanical excavator and much more.

Joe Lepage Photos

## Tour Alberta for Cancer presented race results to council

JOHN WATSON  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore received a presentation from Tour Alberta for Cancer during the May 15 regular meeting as a delegation.

Tour Alberta for Cancer hosted a two-day cycling event in Strathmore, July 2023. Their delegation to council was to discuss the impact of the event from both a cancer care perspective, as well as to present a community impact report.

“Last year we had over 1,200 riders and 300 volunteers, and we raised \$5.9 million for Albertans facing cancer. Each one of our 1,200 participants not only signed up to raise \$2,500, they each committed to cycling either 100 or 60 kilometres a day for two days,” said Krystal Clements, director of events and community outreach for the Alberta Cancer Foundation. “I am quite proud to say that our oldest rider, Dale Risden, is 84 years old and from right here in Strathmore and he has got quite a fan club at the foundation.”

Clements, as part of her presentation to council, shared several statistics about cancer among Albertans.

This included that one in two Albertans will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetimes, and one in four will pass away from that diagnosis.

“In 2024, 23,000 Albertans will face their own cancer diagnoses. That is 63 people per day in this province who will hear the words, ‘you have cancer.’ 24 per cent of all deaths in Alberta in 2019 were related to cancer,” she said. “It is not all bad news though, some positive statistics over the past 25 years, cancer mortality rates in Alberta have declined, accor-

ding to the Alberta Health Services ... by an average of 2.1 per cent per year from 2004 to 2014.”

Clements added this trend is attributed to advancements in cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment strategies.

The finances raised from the event largely stay in the province, save for the support of external clinical trials.

“The four key things that we support are patient financial assistance, patient navigation, clinical trials, and research,” she said. “We support all 17 cancer centers in the province of Alberta as a fundraising partner. For every cancer center in Alberta, we make life better for Albertans facing cancer by supporting world-class research and patient care.”

Clements said Tour Alberta for Cancer will be returning to Strathmore once again, July 20-21.

The full presentation is available via the Town of Strathmore public meeting minutes posted to their YouTube channel.



The tobacco industry has introduced a new nicotine product to help people stop smoking cigarettes. The product is a buccal pouch containing nicotine. The pouch is placed between the upper lip and gums. Unfortunately, it has become attractive to youth. Health Canada OK'd the product but says they were “duped” and are taking steps to restrict the sale of the product to pharmacy-only as Quebec has already done.

Organ transplant patients have to take medications for the rest of their lives to prevent rejection of the new organ. Some new news from England mentions an 8-year old girl, a kidney-transplant patient, who had her immune system “reprogrammed” after a stem cell transplant and her body accepted the new organ without rejection or lifetime medications. It’s exciting news and may bode well for the future of organ transplantation.

If you are a woman over the age of 35, smoke and use oral contraceptives for birth control, you should seriously think of stopping smoking. You have an increased risk of stroke and heart attack compared to non-smokers of the same age.

It takes 36 muscles to make a smile. Here’s another idea to add to your New Year’s resolution list: exercise those 36 muscles and smile more. It’s amazing how contagious a smile is.

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## Upcoming Meetings

Council and committee meetings will now be open to the public and via teleconference.

For public hearings it is strongly encouraged that you attend in person.

- June 4: Council Meeting**
- June 11: Municipal Planning Commission**
- June 18: Council Meeting**

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

### Public Hearings

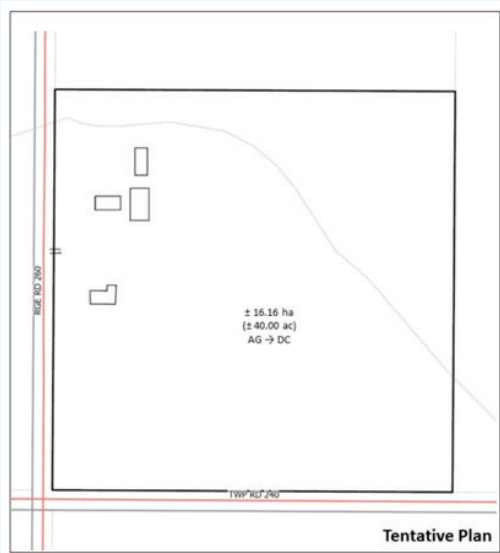
#### Wheatland County Council Chambers June 18th, 2024 at 9 a.m.

Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, June 18th, 2024. The following public hearings begin at 9 a.m. and proceed until all applications have been heard:

**Bylaw #: 2024-14**

**Legal Description:** A portion of SW 6-24-25-W4M

**Proposal:** To redesignate the subject lands from Agriculture General (AG) District to Direct Control District (DC) to facilitate the establishment of a pet crematorium accessory to an existing kennel.



**Bylaw #: 2024-10**

**Legal Description:** SW-33-24-24-W4M

**Proposal:** To redesignate a ± 4.84 hectare (± 12.00 acre) portion of SW-33-24-24-W4M from AG District to CR District, in order to create four ± 1.21 hectare (± 3.00 acre) parcels and a ± 59.58 hectare (± 147.07 acre) remainder.



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.

### Public Hearings

#### Wheatland County Council Chambers June 4th, 2024 at 9 a.m.

Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, June 4th, 2024. The following public hearings begin at 9 a.m. and proceed until all applications have been heard:

**Bylaw #: 2024-04**

**Legal Description:** Immediately east of Block 1, Plan 8710839, within NE-31-26-19-W4M.

**Proposal:** To close a ± 1.28 hectare (± 3.17 acre) portion of Range Road 195 and undeveloped road allowance to public travel immediately east of Block 1, Plan 8710839, within NE-31-26-19-W4M, to facilitate the consolidation of the road allowance into the adjacent lands.



Portions of Road Widening Plan 0212190 and the Road Allowance within NE-31-26-19-W4M  
 Proposal: To close a ± 1.28 hectare (± 3.17 acre) portion of Range Road 195 and undeveloped road allowance to public travel immediately east of Block 1, Plan 8710839, within NE-31-26-19-W4M, to facilitate the consolidation of the road allowance into the adjacent lands.  
 WHEATLAND COUNTY  
 File: RC2024-001  
 February 2, 2024

**Bylaw #: 2024-03**

**Legal Description:** Block 2, Plan 550AM, within SW-35-24-21-W4M in the Hamlet of Chancellor

**Proposal:** To close a ± 0.12 hectare (± 0.29 acre) portion of undeveloped laneway within Block 2, Plan 550AM, within SW-35-24-21-W4M, to facilitate the consolidation of the road allowance into the adjacent lands.



Block 2, Plan 550AM, within SW-35-24-21-W4M  
 Proposal: To close a ± 0.12 hectare (± 0.29 acre) portion of undeveloped laneway within Block 2, Plan 550AM, within SW-35-24-21-W4M, to facilitate the consolidation of the road allowance into the adjacent lands.  
 WHEATLAND COUNTY  
 File: RC2024-002  
 February 2, 2024

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



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



# Indigenous foods highlighted in new web series

MELISSA PICHE  
Times Contributor

Strathmore local and New York-based chef Morgan Lee is releasing a new web-based video series that will feature food practices and culture from Siksika Nation.

The web-series, which was recorded last year, will be released in early June and available on her YouTube channel (@missproduce).

This new series called Cooking in Canada, Season 2 was filmed over seven days in the Strathmore and Siksika Nation area and will feature 10 videos focusing on traditional Indigenous food.

“I wanted to really highlight Indigenous cooking because I thought it’s something that the average person doesn’t think about, doesn’t know about and doesn’t really have access to and I thought there should be more of an understanding about these different foods.”

Lee said they also learned about the history behind the different foods and the meanings behind them, also the connection between spirituality and food relationship.

“We went to Drumheller and there is this teacher in Drumheller who gifted us some Saskatoon berries and we made a dish called Berry Soup, which is a very sacred dish and we did a mini version of the prayer ceremony when you eat berry soup,” said Lee.

This special moment will be featured in one of the episodes. They also learned the significance with the shape of Bannock, which is considered a very special food.

“The circle is a really important symbol for the Indigenous people; all of that is tied together and all of that is

explained in the series,” said Lee.

She partnered with a former teacher she had at Westmount school right here in Strathmore, Heather John. The two had formed a strong bond and connection throughout Lee’s elementary school years. John and Lee stayed connected and were finally able to work together with Lees’ newest YouTube endeavor. Another neat twist to this story is the fact that John’s son is an award-winning photojournalist: Gavin John who was also eager to join in on this project.

There was a team of five that worked on this project – Lee, Heather John, Gavin John and two of Lee’s friends from Mexico – Anna and Andrea.

She has worked with Anna before and she loves these types of projects where she can bring people together from different areas and walks of life.

“Really share something meaningful over learning about each other’s cultures and learning about food,” said Lee. “I think food is such a good way to understand another person.”

John is a Cree Métis woman and having the opportunity to showcase traditional Plains Indigenous food and cooking practices was something she was eager to be a part of.

“I provided the moose nose,” John laughed. “I provided most of the ingredients and then cooked with Lee.”

John has a strong connection with Siksika Nation having been adopted into the Wolfleg family.

“They are very knowledgeable about traditional ways,” she said. “It was just a really good opportunity to showcase them as well.”

John was the connection between Lee and the Indigenous people of Siksika Nation.

Clarence Wolfleg Senior (Agar) bles-

Morgan Lee and Clarence Wolfleg Senior embrace after he performs a blessing for her project and a naming ceremony in Siksika. Clarence Wolfleg Junior was present also and played a drumming piece for the ceremony. Liana Wolfleg teaches Morgan Lee how to make traditional frybread in Strathmore.

Photos Courtesy of Gavin John



sed the whole project and his son Clarence Wolfleg Junior (Skip) did a traditional drumming piece by the river. The project as a whole was very respectful of the culture and they were welcomed into the community with full hearts.

Lee said that John was very instrumental in teaching about Indigenous culture in the school. At Westmount during that time, they had an Indigenous awareness week.

Along with the cooking aspect of her series, Lee also said they were able to visit Lisa Bigsnake.

“(She) has ... two white buffalo on her property and we were able to go and interact with the white buffalo which is a sacred animal,” said Lee.

People can visit Lee’s YouTube channel (@missproduce) to take in the newest series which will release the first week of June.

## Plant-Based Cooking Classes

- Learn new recipes that taste great and are good for you.
- Watch live step-by-step cooking demonstrations.
- Discover how easy preparing a plant-based meal can be.
- Receive recipe guides & taste all the meals prepared.

**Cost: Classes are FREE**  
**Dates & Time: June 05 & June 19, 2024 / 5:30-7:00pm**  
**Location: 112 Lakeside Blvd. Strathmore**  
 Register interest or request information by emailing [sdastrathmorechurch@gmail.com](mailto:sdastrathmorechurch@gmail.com)

Attendance by registration only. Limited space.



## Upcoming Meetings

Council and committee meetings will now be open to the public and via teleconference.

For public hearings it is strongly encouraged that you attend in person.

- June 4: Council Meeting**
- June 11: Municipal Planning Commission**
- June 18: Council Meeting**

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



## 2024 Gravel Sales Dates

Building a road approach or upgrading your driveway? Did you know, Wheatland County residents are able to purchase crushed gravel and pitrun at a reduced cost?

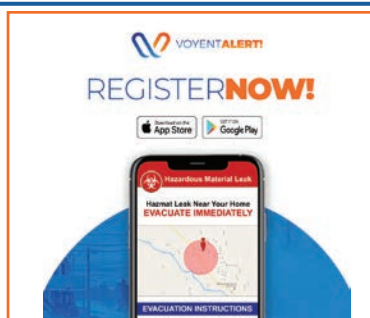
For more information and to complete a purchase application form, visit our website at <https://wheatlandcounty.ca/documents/gravel-sales/>

Residents will be able to redeem their gravel tickets between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the set days and locations as outlined below:

**June 12th and 13th, 2024**  
 Goldsmith Pit (Cluny)  
 Located at NE-8-22-21-W4M  
 7/8" Crush & Pit Run

**July 10th and 11th, 2024**  
 Christensen Pit (Carseland)  
 Located at NE-03-22-25-W4M  
 3/4" Crush & Pit Run

**August 14th and 15th, 2024**  
 Fish Lake Pit (Dalum)  
 Located at NE-28-26-18-W4M  
 7/8" Crush & Pit Run



**WHEATLAND COUNTY**

### OPEN HOUSE MEETING

WEDNESDAY  
July 3, 2024

**START AT**  
7:00 PM

**LOCATION**  
Wheatland County Administration Building  
242006 RANGE ROAD 243  
WHEATLAND COUNTY, AB T1P 2C4

The Open House Meeting serves as a platform for individuals to engage in informal interactions with Council members, facilitating discussions, and gaining insights into various County initiatives.

## 2024 Dust Control Program Now Open

Wheatland County is now accepting orders for the 2024 Dust Control Program!

Dust control is offered by Wheatland County for landowners or residents within the County who wish to reduce the amount of dust created by vehicles traveling on the gravel roads near their homes, businesses, or farms.

### Calcium Chloride:

- Second round: Application deadline is June 7, 2024 (Weather permitting, application will occur starting June 10)

### Oiling:

- Application deadline is July 5, 2024 (Weather permitting, application will occur during July)

For more information and to complete an order form, visit our website at <https://wheatlandcounty.ca/documents/dustcontrol/>



**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.  
[@wheatlandcounty](http://www.wheatlandcounty.ca)



# LORNE & JANET McNAB

## UNRESERVED HAYING & ACREAGE EQUIPMENT DISPERSAL AUCTION

### ONLINE/TIMED AUCTION JUNE 1 - 4, 2024



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**Viewing May 30-June 1**  
 Equipment Location: 274136 112 St West – Foothills, Alberta  
 From Okotoks Go West on Hwy 549 6.2 kms to 112 St West, Turn North  
 on 112 St West and Go 8.1 kms to 274136 112 St West  
 \*\*All Items Must Be Removed By Friday June 7th @ 3pm  
 — Unless Other Arrangements Have Been Made.  
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## Town approves Alberta Municipalities Resolution for equipment funding

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore council approved the draft of the Alberta Municipalities Resolution for Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System Equipment Funding during the May 15 regular meeting.

Additionally, town administration has been directed to coordinate with the Village of Rockyford to second the resolution for funding.

The resolution for Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System Equipment Funding will ultimately be submitted by administration for consideration at the 2024 Alberta Municipalities Convention.

It is noted in the town public meeting agenda, that Alberta Municipalities represents over 260 municipal government bodies.

Each of these participating municipalities supports a "vision" to be a "change agent that enables municipalities to be a fully engaged order of government with the capacity to build thriving communities."

Alberta Municipalities conducts a resolution process allowing members to identify common issues, as well as solutions for their respective boards of directors to advocate to federal and provincial governments.

The proposed resolution for 2024 is to advocate for the Government of Alberta to provide financial support for municipalities so that every community throughout Alberta may afford access to the Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System.

An outstanding barrier to accessing this emergency system is the high cost of the equipment required to participate.

"Emergency response telephone systems" are listed as an eligible cost under the new Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) Capital funding program, as laid out by the province.

Town council was presented with the first draft of the proposed Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System Equipment Funding resolution during the April 10, Committee of the Whole meeting.

During that discussion, it had been requested that administration consider requesting a letter of support from WADMSA, as well as from RMA, ensure other municipalities are prepared to voice their support during the convention in the fall, ensure a backup plan existed for other potential seconder municipalities, and to have speaking notes prepared to support Strathmore's experience within the topic.

Communications with Alberta Municipalities, including letters of support with resolution submissions was reported by town administration to be discouraged, as it would add length to the Resolution Book utilized during the convention – being a document intended to be kept as concise as possible.

Council approved the draft, as well as the directions recommended by administration without further discussion.

The full recommendations, as well as documentation are available via the town's public meeting agenda for the May 15 regular meeting.

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JUNE 22, 2024, 2PM-4PM

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& BRANDT:  
COWBOY TOWN  
PRE-PARTY



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# Strathmore Library hosts financial advice seminar

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Municipal Library hosted a financial planning seminar with Brianna McKinnon, representing ATB Financial, on May 23, to offer advice and information to the community.

A similar event has previously been hosted at the Library with ATB in February 2023.

“It was really well attended. (McKinnon) just does basic financial planning with adults ... she (goes over) tips and tricks, and then answers questions,” said Laura Henderson, Public Services Manager with the library. “We (did) a very similar program ... she has got a

really good program, and she extended it just a little bit so that she could stay and answer questions.”

The program operated in 2023 saw roughly 20 participants, which Henderson explained was well-attended for a program of that nature held in an evening.

The May 23 program was able to be preregistered for, as well as dropped in on.

“I think just in the way that the world is right now, and everything is so expensive, any tricks that we can get are useful and then it is just about making that dollar go as far as you can,” said Henderson. “I think particularly even more so than a year ago, it is even more

important now than it was then to have this information.”

She added the library’s adult literacy program also runs financial literacy programs, based on similar ideas and curriculum to McKinnon’s presentations.

The idea being that the library aims to offer both fun and informative types of sessions through its adult literacy programs.

“This one sort of falls in that informational side of things to just help educate the community and give them these really worthwhile tips,” she said.

The session was set up as a sit-down, informational opportunity, with time set aside to address individual questi-

ons from attendees. It had been scheduled to take place over the course of a two-hour block.

By design, the seminar was to be effectively the same information which was made available during the first iteration in 2023, updated for more current economics.

“This whole adult programming series is really meant to try a lot of different things and see what is important in the community for our community members,” said Henderson. “If you have a lot of people show up for a financial planning seminar, then maybe we need to do a Financial Planning 2.0 sort of thing and just gauge what the community needs.”

# Library hosts extra Twinkle Babies program with dietitian

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

On June 3, the Strathmore Municipal Library will be hosting a special session of their “Twinkle Babies” program to provide information about infant nutrition to parents.

Dietician Dabin Choi will be in attendance to present at the session, as well as to answer any questions parents may have.

The regular Twinkle Babies programs through the library have concluded for the year. This extra installment is similar in that patrons are still requested to register ahead of time, though drop ins are welcome.

“We run our early literacy programs – our Twinkle Baby program which is for babies 12 (months) and under and their caregiver, through the whole year except through the summer,” said Laura Henderson, public services manager with the Strathmore Municipal Library. “Over the years we have often brought in a dietitian to these programs to speak in the program ... they do songs and activities, they read books ... but this was something that if we have that group in the library already, we should be providing information to (others) as well.”

Twinkle Babies is a registered program at the library capped at 10 families per session.

The aim of this additional program is to make information available to the community which may otherwise have been more exclusive to the parents who had been able to register for previous sessions.

“If we are providing nutritional information to these families, and it is limited to those 10, there are others who we are missing ... and it is really valuable information, so instead we are having her come in for the scheduled program,” said Henderson. “We still called it ‘Twinkle Babies,’ because it’s at that time and geared towards the same age group, but it is open to anyone. There is registration again, and people can just drop in, but it is nice to know how many are coming so the dietitian can have enough resources for them.”

Henderson added those who participate in the Twinkle Babies programs often return for their kids to be a part of the Toddler Time, and ABC Kids programs at the library as they age up.

“We are trying to share information. That is definitely what the goal of the library is, is access to

information. This is one way that we are able to pass that on ... and to provide valuable information to parents in the community.”

The June 3 session will be taking place from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the library in the program room.

## MOVING ACREAGE SALE

Pickups near Chestermere.



**HYDRAULIC LIFT UTILITY TRAILER**

2-inch hitch, newly wired, steel side

**\$850**



**FORD 8N TRACTOR**

New tires, comes with blade, three speed.

**\$3,900**



**PULL BEHIND AERATOR**

**\$95**



**HONDA HS50 SHOWBLOWER**

Self propelled with tracks

**\$450**



**HONDA ROTOTILLER FR 800**

Gas powered, rear rototiller

**\$900**



**SIMPLICITY PLOW**

Wisconsin Robin air cooled engine, gas powered, 3 speed, new tires

**\$700**



**SMALL UTILITY TRAILER**

Pull behind tractor/quad

**\$150**



**PORTABLE OUTHOUSE**

No collection bowl, good ventilation with the wind

**\$50**

# Wheatland County passes new noise bylaw

Continued from Page 4

Court definitions and discretion are broad in determining what is considered a nuisance, and affected individuals are expected to provide evidence to the court, if an incident escalates to that.

“Some of the various changes as noted ... (include) removing the opinion of a peace officer. It is determined that we can only provide evidence rather than opinion. Only a court can actually provide and determine whether the noise is objectionable or not,” said Permann. “Adding elements of the offence that are to be taken into consideration, so time of day, nature of the event, elements of the offence that are necessary to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the noise is objectionable.”

Also under consideration are permissible activities which are expected to generate a certain amount of noise. The onus falls to the event holder creating the noise to ensure the noise created by their activities stays within a reasonable level.

County council voted unanimously to approve all three readings of the noise bylaw in a single meeting.

More information about the bylaw, and the report presented to council are available via the public meeting agenda, as well as the public meeting minutes published to the county’s YouTube channel.



**SMALL ROTOTILLER**

Briggs & Stratton engine, 4-5 horsepower, gas powered

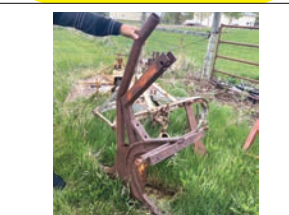
**\$120**



**TWO 3,000L WATER TANKS**

Used for irrigation

**\$1,500**



**PIPE LAYING TOOL**

Made of steel

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**DOUBLE PLOW**

Pull behind tractor

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**5FT PULL BEHIND SINGLE BLADE MOWER**

Hooks to drive shaft

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**CUSTOM BUILT BUCKET FOR TRACTOR**

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**PULL-BEHIND CULTIVATOR**

Four prongs

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**FIFTH WHEEL HITCH**

No rail

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Call **403-830-3545** for more details

# Keeping promises

**CHANTELLE DE JONGE**  
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

It's been one year since the 2023 election, and I wanted to take this opportunity to provide an update on how our government has been working to keep our promises and move Alberta forward.

In March 2024, our government announced that we had balanced the budget for the third year in a row. With this latest budget, we made choices that support Albertans' top priorities and prepare our province to meet the challenges that lie ahead – all while allocating \$1.2 billion to pay down the debt and saving \$2 billion in the Heritage Fund.

Speaking of the Heritage Fund, in April 2024, we announced that the fund hit an all-time high of \$22.1 billion. As part of the new fiscal framework passed in 2023, our government has been laser-focused on paying down the debt, keeping taxes low, balancing the budget, and growing the Heritage Fund for current and future generations of Albertans. Clearly, our plan is working!

Our government is also investing \$2.1 billion over three years to build and modernize schools for students across Alberta. Budget 2024 advanced 43 priority school projects, including 28 new schools, 10 replacement schools, and five modernizations across the province. When complete, these projects will create approximately 35,000 new and modernized spaces for Alberta students to learn, grow, and meet their full potential.

As part of our government's efforts to refocus the health care system, we announced in April that a new mental health and addiction organization called Recovery Alberta would be the first of four new organizations that will ultimately be responsible for overseeing and delivering health care services across

the province. This is a landmark initiative that firmly establishes Alberta as a leader in providing addiction and recovery services.

On the economic front, we recently announced that Alberta is once again on pace to lead the nation in job creation. Additionally, Alberta workers have the highest weekly earnings among the provinces, Alberta per capita investments are the highest in Canada, and Alberta's real GDP is projected to outpace the national average at 2.9 per cent this year.

This past year, we also continued to stand up for Alberta. In April 2024, we introduced the Provincial Priorities Act, a significant step in our efforts to push back against the federal government's ongoing overreach into areas of provincial jurisdiction. This much-needed legislation will require provincial entities to seek approval before engaging in agreements with the federal government, ensuring that federal funding we receive aligns with Alberta's priorities.

Through these initiatives, our government has shown its commitment to growing the economy, keeping life affordable, attracting investment, creating jobs, and fixing the health care system for all.

We remain committed to meeting the needs of Albertans today and for generations to come. And, as we continue working to make life better for Alberta families and businesses, we vow to remain focused on the things that matter to you, our bosses.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to build an Alberta that is forever strong and free. I look forward to sharing some local wins next week. As always, please feel free to reach out to me with your feedback/questions (Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca).

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Palliative and hospice care a major topic

To the Editor

Wheatland & Area Hospice Society (WAHS) wants to provide palliative and hospice care in the new Wheatland Housing Management Project.

According to the Wheatland & Area Hospice Society brochure, the WAHS wants 3-6 beds. WAHS is partnering with the Wheatland Housing Management Board (WHMB) to accomplish this goal. WAHS states their need also depend on the AHPP grant for WHMB building.

WAHS states "we have a shared responsibility on large projects at community, municipal, and provincial levels to diminish risk."

WAHS is asking for 100 per cent provincial funding of the estimated \$800,000 annual operating costs stating any deficit could be covered by a municipal requisition on a per capita basis. They have just asked Wheatland County for the same full \$800,000 per year levy. What happened to shared government responsibility and diminished risk?

WAHS states they want to work with the Alberta Ministry, not the AHS.

I received an email from Jason Nixon (Minister of Seniors, Community, and Social Services), the ministry that they wish to work with. It said: "Part of our long-term strategy to address affordable housing is through the implementation of Stronger Foundations: Alberta's 10-year strategy to improve and expand affordable housing ... Budget 2024 will allow us to support about 7,000 more households over three years ... Capital Plan 2024 allocates \$840 million over three years. Unfortunately, the AHPP application received from the Wheatland Housing Management Body (WHMB) was not successful."

So, the two boards know this and are

still pushing forward asking for ratepayers to fund the full building and operating costs with a hope in the future for funding.

Shasta Seniors Living Society announced they received a signed commitment letter for levelled care, including 54 assisted living beds and six hospice spaces with AHS, fully funded by AHS. The lodges are for assisted living seniors only. WHMB wanted more beds, they received 54. AHS pays the \$800,000 operating for a six-bed hospice in Shasta.

WHMB and WAHS are rejecting supporting palliative or hospice care in Sagewood and Shasta because they are AHS facilities. They ignore that our leveled care seniors are in these facilities now.

Wheatland County is being pressured to requisition \$900,000 immediately for a Class A budget and a \$1.8 million annual request with a "trust us it won't go up."

In that \$1.8 million is \$800,000 operating WAHS, \$700,000 mortgage WHMB and \$300,000 existing operating WHMB.

It is very clear to me the Alberta Stronger Foundations is not going to provide funding and I do not believe that Wheatland County should fund healthcare.

It's levelled care that sends our citizens away. Why would taxpayers fund a facility whose sole purpose is to bypass AHS when our needs are being met by AHS's levelled care and hospice?

According to WAHS, "hospice palliative care is about our place with others and making a difference for others."

Imagine how \$4.1 million could help our citizens during their palliative and hospice journeys in Sagewood and Shasta. AHS is providing the six hospice beds WAHS wanted. Strathmore and area are well-served.

*Cheryl Marshman, Rockyford*

## TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

### Obituary



**TAYLOR, Wayne**  
1947 - 2024

It is with profound sadness that we share Wayne Taylor's passing on May 23, 2024 after suffering a stroke days prior. Wayne left this world surrounded by what meant most to him, his family. He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 52 years, Terri; his daughter Crissy (Russell) and granddaughter Abby; son Tom (Kari) and grandson Logan. Also grieving the loss of Wayne are his older brother Al (Betty); his nieces Lisa (Jeff), Laura (Brett); nephews Jamie (Dawn), and Jonathan (Zoe). Other important family feeling the loss of Wayne's passing are brother-in-law John (Audrey), and sister-in-law Pat (James). He is predeceased by parents Sandy and Lorna; father/mother-in-law Bill and Ann; as well as Irene Lilja (Mother of Russell Lilja).

Born a 10lb baby to an 85lb mother, he was always a big deal. Hockey was his passion and he excelled at it, playing in the "Little NHL" in Manitoba, and finally drafted by the Detroit Red Wings and although he didn't get to pursue his passion all the way to the NHL, he continued to play, coach and pass that passion on. Wayne worked as a Journeyman electrician from 1972 until his retirement in 2010. Wayne's devotion to the love of his life Terri, children and beloved grandchildren endured to the end. Wayne cultivated an amazing life in a home he built with his own 2 hands, in Standard, Alberta for 42 years, finally moving to Ponoka to be closer to family. Wherever there was laughter, Wayne was sure to be at the center. He will be loved, missed, and remembered for time immemorial by those that were blessed to call him family and friend.

A Funeral Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 1, 2024 at Ponoka Funeral Home.

Memorial Donations in Wayne's name are gratefully accepted to Old MacDonald Kennels, or any charity of your choice.

To express condolences to Wayne's family, or to access the livestream link at service time, please visit [www.womboldfuneralhomes.com](http://www.womboldfuneralhomes.com).

Arrangements Entrusted To Ponoka Funeral Home ~ A Wombold Family Funeral Home ~

### NEW ARRIIVAL



Matthew, Julianna, Rose, Lucy and Cecilia Reeves are excited to announce the birth of **Bridget Therese Mariana** on May 22, 2024, 6 lbs 15 oz, 21 in. Proud Grandparents are Jon & Angela Reeves and Harry & Gorete Salm

### THANK YOU

#### Card of Thanks



The family of **Ron Corbiell** would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who supported us in our time of loss. We are grateful for the cards, words of comfort, prayers, phone calls, mass cards, meal deliveries and flowers. A heartfelt thank you goes to Glenn and the staff from the Wheatland Funeral Home for your kindness, patience and understanding.

Our genuine appreciation to Father Cristino Bouvette, Deacon Paul Coderre, the alter server, St. Rita's Choir, and our grandchildren for making the funeral so special and meaningful.

Our gratitude to St. Rita's CWL and all the other volunteers for making the luncheon lovely.

*With Sincere Thanks ~ Bea and Family.*



Marie Elaine Elizabeth Lochhead passed away on May 13, 2024

The family of Elaine Lochhead would like to recognize and sincerely thank the nursing staff at the Strathmore Hospital and Dr Sader for the compassion and care they showed mom in her last few days on this earth. We would also like to recognize the Wonderful staff at the Wheatland Lodge for providing our seniors with such a caring and meaningful environment. Mom absolutely loved living there.

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of MARIE ELAINE ELIZABETH LOCHHEAD who died on the May 13, 2024.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by May 20, 2024.

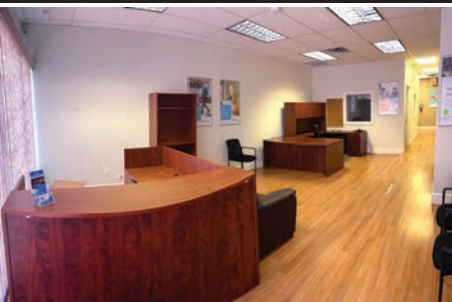
with GREG LOCHHEAD at 235068 Range Rd 254 Wheatland County, AB T1P 0R4

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.

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**NOTICES**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
Proposed Bylaw 2024-02  
Village of Standard**

Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, being Chapter M-26 of the Statutes of Alberta, notice is hereby given that the Council of the Village of Standard will hold a public hearing prior to the second reading of Land Use Bylaw 2024-02. Bylaw 2024-02 proposes to replace the current Land Use Bylaw 2012-02 with an updated Land Use Bylaw.

The Land Use Bylaw (LUB) serves as the "rule book" for the development within the Village of Standard. The LUB regulates the development of land and buildings on a site-specific basis, based on the policy directions set by the Municipal Development Plan. The LUB regulates how land can be used, including what uses are appropriate and where they can be located. The LUB aims to balance landowner's rights with the interests of the community.

Some of the key changes in proposed Bylaw 2024-02 include:

- reformatting and re-organization of the LUB to make it more user friendly;
- ensuring every term and use has a definition;
- refining the names of the uses to be more clear, concise and using more current planning vocabulary;
- meeting the new requirements of the Municipal Government Act related to development permit processing;
- removing the requirement for obtaining a development permit for development such as signs, minor home occupations, patios and solar panels;
- granting the Development Officer a 10% variance power;
- adding regulations for Accessory Dwelling Units (e.g. secondary and garden suites);
- adding Duplexes as a discretionary use to the R-1 District;
- increasing the number of uses listed as permitted uses in the commercial and industrial districts;
- including an Undermining Area Hazard Overlay to address undermined areas in the Village;
- removing the regulations for cell towers from the Land Use Bylaw, and placing them in a new proposed 'Telecommunications Structure Policy' to be adopted by Council concurrent with the new Land Use Bylaw; and
- rezoning a few Village-owned parcels to P-1 - Public Service District.

Should you wish to address council in person, a public hearing for Bylaw 2024-02 will be held at the Standard Senior Centre at 814 The Broadway, Standard Alberta, on June 12, 2024 commencing at 7p.m. Council will hear from any person claiming to be affected by the proposed bylaw.

Additionally, written comments may be delivered to PO Box 249 Standard, Alberta, T0J 3G0 or emailed to [cao@villageofstandard.ca](mailto:cao@villageofstandard.ca); submissions will be received up to Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

The proposed Bylaw 2024-02 can be reviewed online at [villageofstandard.ca](http://villageofstandard.ca), or copies may be picked up Monday through Friday at 120 Elsinore Avenue, Standard, Alberta from 9:00 a.m. - noon, and 1:00 pm - 4:00 p.m.

Published: May 29 & June 5, 2024.

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**Upcoming Council Meetings**

June 5, 2024 | 6 P.M.  
 June 12, 2024 | 6 P.M.  
 June 19, 2024 | 6 P.M.

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

**Come Say Hi**

Hearing from the community is really important to us, so you're welcome at any Council or Committee of the Whole meeting. You do not need to call ahead or register to observe Strathmore Council in action. There is ample public seating and additional standing room if needed. You can also watch livestreamed meetings online as they happen, or catch up later on YouTube.



**Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre**

**PD Day/School Closure Camps**

Keep your kids busy while they have days off from school. Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre is now offering day camps on PD / School Closure Days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.!

Course ID	Dates	Days	Cost
27484	Jun 7, 2024	F	\$47.50
27485	Jun 28, 2024	F	\$47.50

**Summer Day Camps**

Registration for 2024 Summer Day Camps is now open and we're excited to be introducing new age groups, continuing with pre-care services, and offering half-day options.

Theme	Dates	Days	Cost
Water Fun	Jul 2 to 5, 2024	Tu, W, Th, F	\$148
Spray and Play (Swim Lessons)	Jul 8 to 12, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	\$252
Sport and Explore	Jul 15 to 19, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	\$185
Multisport Adventure	Jul 22 to 26, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	\$185
Splash and Dash (Swim Lessons)	Jul 29 to Aug 4, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	\$252
Neon Days	Aug 6 to 9, 2024	Tu, W, Th, F	\$148
Balls and More	Aug 12 to 16, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	\$185
Olympic Days	Aug 19 to 23, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	\$185
Let's Celebrate	Aug 26 to 29, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	\$148

Register for classes and camps at [Strathmore.ca/RecSchedule](https://Strathmore.ca/RecSchedule)



**Council Approves Physician Sponsorship Grant Pilot Program | Pilot Program Aims to Help Ease Physician Shortages**

Council approved the Physician Sponsorship Grant pilot program at the Wednesday, May 15, Town Council meeting.

The one-year pilot program will offer three (3) grants, each worth up to \$30,000, to support local medical offices in their efforts to attract physicians to Strathmore, should they choose to take on the role of Sponsor through the established College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) program. After the one-year term, the program will be reviewed and brought back to Council for consideration.

"Sponsorships are a way to bring internationally trained physicians into Alberta. This pilot program is an innovative initiative that may assist in the recruitment of physicians to Strathmore, easing the physician shortage," shared Mayor Pat Fule.

To be eligible for the grant, applicants must have signed a sponsorship contract with CPSA before applying, agree to commit to sponsoring the internationally trained physician for up to six (6) years, including financially supporting the sponsored physician throughout the registration process, practice readiness assessment, and into independent practice, and agree to pay the grant back to the Town should the sponsored physician practice in the Town for less than five years.

The Town will start accepting applications on June 1, 2024, and will allocate them on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Council Approves Strathmore Property Tax Rates | Property tax rate increase set at 5.6%**

Council approved the Property Tax Rate Bylaw at the Wednesday, May 15 Town Council meeting.

Each year, Council approves the budget required to support Town services. The Town's 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets guide the Property Tax Rate Bylaw and the tax rates reflect the amount of tax to be paid for every dollar of assessed property value. Funds collected through property tax are split between the Town of Strathmore, the Government of Alberta, and Wheatland Housing.

Property assessments are prepared annually using mass appraisal techniques, which determine property values by grouping similar properties at a specific point in time. Assessments do not reflect a single sale price; they show the typical market value on the same date each year. This year, the average residential single-family assessment increased by 16.3%, up from \$368,600 in 2023 to \$428,700 in 2024.

To support the Town's essential municipal services, including community safety, roads and infrastructure, and essential programming, while continuing to minimize inflationary impacts on the community, Town Council has voted to set the property tax rate increase at 5.6%. From the property taxes collected, the Town of Strathmore retains 73% to support municipal operations, while 26% is transferred to the Government of Alberta to support education, and 1% is used to support Wheatland Housing. In order to offset the higher than expected requisitions from the Government of Alberta and Wheatland Housing Management Body, Council amended the 2024 Operating by increasing the transfer from the Financial Stabilization Reserve by \$202,100.

"Property taxes enable the Town to continue to deliver quality services to the community," shared Mayor Pat Fule. "During deliberations, Council was focused on balancing our need to invest in our infrastructure and fund the programs and services that our residents rely on, with our desire to minimize the financial burden on residents and businesses."

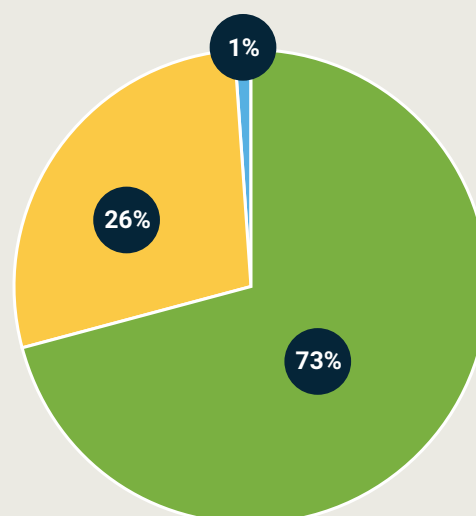
With the passing of the Property Tax Rate Bylaw, Administration will prepare the 2024 property tax bills to be mailed to property owners during the last week of May, with payments due June 30, 2024. Along with

the tax bills, information will be provided to property owners regarding the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets. The property tax notices will also provide information on the Town's monthly Tax Installment Payment Program (TIPPS) and the Town's new Tax Arrears Payment Plan (TAPP).

For more information about how the property tax rate is set, visit: <https://strathmore.ca/en/residents/taxes.aspx>.

**2024 Budget**  
 Where do my taxes go?

- Town of Strathmore
- Government of Alberta (Education Funding)
- Wheatland Housing



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