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Page 2



Hype for Hospice

Page 7



Smile time

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JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore council passed all three readings for Bylaw 25-15, being an amendment to the Council Procedure Bylaw during the special council meeting on April 30.

The Council Procedure Bylaw, 23-17, was drafted to establish rules and provisions to regulate the conduct of business in council and committee meetings.

Council Procedure Bylaw Amending Bylaw 25-15 annotates amendments to the definitions of electronic communications, provides procedural recommendations for the time of public hearings, and the order of business during public hearings.

“This amendment deals with how residents or members of the public may participate in public hearings. This is a new requirement in provincial legislation, one that many municipalities are currently trying to incorporate into their procedure bylaws,” said Johnathan Strathdee, manager of legislative services for the Town of Strathmore. “We do currently advertise how members of the public could participate in public hearings. Members of the public are able to currently join public hearings remotely as of right now and it has been that way for the last couple of years. If they do wish to participate, we just ask that they register with legislative services just so we know who to send the Zoom link to and who we can expect to be joining the meeting.”

The amendment would require members of the public to register with legislative services by or before noon on the day of the public hearing. It also details the contingency of if a member of the public loses connection to the meeting as it progresses.

Members of the public who are disconnected unexpectedly from virtual meeting attendance are already offered opportunities to rejoin the meetings. This amendment writes it into formal practice within the bylaw.

Continued on Page 4



Play ball!

Grayson Stender makes contact with a ball during the Strathmore Reds U22 inaugural home opener on May 2 at the Kinsmen Ball Diamonds. The Reds, who play out of the Calgary North Baseball League, fell to 0-2 after the 12-10 loss to CN2. The Reds, who rebounded with a 12-1 win on the road versus CN4 the following day, will now host Davisburg on May 13 (6:30 p.m.).

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Crowning of Mary

In a cherished Catholic tradition marking the month of May as a time to honour the Virgin Mary, students and staff from Holy Cross Collegiate (HCC) and Sacred Heart Academy (SHA) gathered on May 1 at the HCC gymnasium. A statue of Mary was adorned with a floral crown, symbolizing her role as the Queen of Heaven and a central figure in Catholic faith.

Joe Lepage Photos



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The Wheatland and Area Hospice Society hosted their eighth annual Hype for Hospice event, May 4, in Kinsmen Park, with the goal of raising \$20,000 for the new Wheatland Lodge. To date, the Hospice Society has raised over \$6.8 million for the new facility to be constructed in Strathmore.

John Watson Photos

Hospice Society hosts
annual Hype for Hospice

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland and Area Hospice Society hosted their annual Hype for Hospice, May 4, in Kinsmen Park, continuing to raise money for the newly planned Wheatland Lodge.

This year's event consisted of three events, being the hike around the park, a firetruck pull, and a wine raffle.

Joni McNeely, Wheatland and Area Hospice Society chair, explained this year's event was the eighth that the society has thrown in order to supplement their fundraising efforts.

"Every year, we hope for more and more. Unfortunately, there are weather issues. We were glad it was not raining, but the wind was a bit of a deterrent. It was so good to see familiar faces, people who are committed to the hospice cause, and some new faces," she said. "We have raised the total amount for the build, for the walls and floors and ceilings of the hospice, and that is \$6.8 million. So, our fundraising efforts now are moving on to furniture and fixtures which we are estimating to be about \$1.5 million."

In addition to their fundraising efforts, McNeely explained another purpose of the event is to raise awareness for the project, bring new people out to show their support, and find new organizational partners.

The addition of the fire truck pull and the wine raffle, she added, implemented more dimensions to the event and aimed to attract even more people

to come out and participate.

Strathmore and Wheatland County fire departments, as well as Badlands Search and Rescue, and the Strathmore High School Spartans rugby team came out to pull the truck in a friendly competition.

Jessica Sevick, who represented Team Canada at the Paris summer Olympics was also in attendance, flying in at McNeely's request to be a part of the event.

"Normally we raise over \$20,000 with the combination of the wine raffle and the hike pledges, and then donations, as well as the fire truck pull," explained McNeely.

Total funds raised were not tallied by the occurrence of the event, though McNeely estimated the \$20,000 target would be breached once donations are tallied.

The Wheatland Lodge is currently awaiting approval for a grant from the provincial government in order to advance the project to a Class A budget. The ongoing goal is to see shovels in the ground for the facility's construction by the end of this summer.

Within the next few weeks, seeding will begin on Farming for Hospice, and the Hospice Society will celebrate 10 years of operation this year with a gala to be hosted in November. both of which will also continue the fundraising efforts for the new lodge.

More information about the project and how to support fundraising efforts is available online through the Hospice Society website.

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Strathmore High School successfully acquires Gro for Good 2025 grant

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

Strathmore High School is among one of five schools chosen from 200 submissions for the 2025 Gro for Good Grant, provided by Scotts Canada in partnership with Communities in Bloom.

The program intends to support community gardens and green spaces across the country through the provision of financial assistance and resources.

“What it does is there is a little bit of money involved and then there is also a video contest that goes along with it. Our school, as well as four other initiatives that received the Gro for Good grant this year, they will install their projects and then there will be a video competition for these groups to share what they have achieved this year,” said Cole Hintz, who teaches at Strathmore High School. “It is the first time that we were successful with the Gro for Good grant. It is a really successful initiative and it is not just targeted for schools. Most of the recipients historically have been larger community groups. We feel really privileged to be chosen as a school group.”

Strathmore High School’s project will be to plant five feet by five feet fruit tree guilds installed on campus, as well as at other participating local schools.

The guilds will also serve to feature pest-de-

terrering species, as well as plants that accumulate nitrogen in the soil.

Having successfully been chosen for the grant, Strathmore High School will receive \$2,500 to support their project. The video contest will be for another \$2,500 towards whichever project is chosen as the winner.

“We more specifically targeted this grant less so from the financial side because we have really been supported in our community ... but the storytelling side is something that we are really interested in,” said Hintz. “I think the things that our students are doing and the things that are happening across our division, especially from a growing and sustainability (perspective) is pretty exciting, and we were looking for an opportunity to continue to tell our story.”

Applications for the grant opened in January and were required to be completed by or before the end of February. Only the first 200 applications were considered for the grant.

Following the completion of the community greenhouse at Strathmore High School, the next goal on the list was to plant fruit tree guilds, creating areas that are both healthy for the environment and are productive for the local community.

The guilds are initially to be planted at Strathmore High School prior to the end of this educational year, then in the fall, the project will spread to other interested local schools.

Hussar Agricultural Society wins \$25,000 BASF prize

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Hussar Agricultural Society was announced as the first-place winner of the Growing Home with BASF 2025 award within Alberta on April 29.

A total of 12 organizations were selected across Canada to receive portions of a \$160,000 prize fund. First place winners are to receive \$25,000 each, second place is to be awarded \$10,000, and third prizes will each be \$5,000.

These prizes are to be utilized towards projects submitted as part of the respective organizations’ applications for the contest.

“We have some upgrades to do over the summer in the local Hussar Arena, so we will use it towards that. We have some roof repairs, (and) we have some Zamboni room upgrades,” said Ashley Kirkpatrick, secretary treasurer for the Hussar Agricultural Society. “We do not know how many votes came in, just that we had the most votes for Alberta. This is the first time that we have ever applied or tried to participate, so it was pretty exciting.”

Kirkpatrick added it is unlikely the Hussar Agricultural Society will be able to apply to participate in the program again next year, having already been able to benefit from the prize money once.

BASF approached the agricultural society with the opportunity to participate based on much of the local demographic being seed and canola agriculturalists in some fashion or another. As the

agricultural society was in need of supplemental funding, it was an opportunity to take advantage of being available to them.

“It was just through word of mouth with some of the seed growers. There were three individuals within the community who all submitted for the Hussar Agricultural Society to be a nominee, and then it was pretty simple (to apply),” said Kirkpatrick. “It was an online process and then we were chosen as Top 3 out of 217 nominations in Alberta.”

Much of the renovations and updates to the local arena must be completed by or prior to September, as the facility will need to lay down its ice for the upcoming hockey and ringette seasons.

The prize money will only cover a portion of the expenses required to maintain the facility. Kirkpatrick estimated the costs for the Zamboni room alone will be in the realm of \$40,000.

In April, the agricultural society hosted a hypnotist fundraiser and will be putting together a golf tournament to be thrown in June in order to aid ongoing financial efforts.

This will mark the first year the Hussar Agricultural Society has hosted a golf tournament in order to fundraise for their local endeavors. It was estimated the hypnotist fundraiser, another first, raised approximately \$8,000.

Upgrades to the local arena are anticipated to begin near the end of June, following the conclusion of the golf tournament.



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Herring-like fish

5. Perform on stage

8. Soda

11. Small growth

13. In support of

14. Step taken when walking

15. Hollyhocks

16. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

17. Feel pain

18. San Diego ballplayer

20. Inches per minute (abbr.)

21. Fat from a pig’s abdomen

22. Create again

25. Honors once more

30. Thin coating of gold

31. Welsh river

32. Japanese novelist Mizumura
33. Husks of corn

38. Green vegetable

41. Showing guilt

43. Soldier

45. Photographers

48. Language spoken in Nigeria

49. Mimic

50. Expressed pleasure

55. Ancient Greek sophist

56. Beverage container

57. Night monkey genus

59. Lace bugs

60. Hogshead (abbr.)

61. Frameworks

62. Keyboard key

63. Greek goddess of the dawn

64. Influential Korean independence figure

CLUES DOWN

1. A place to unwind

2. Helped (archaic)

3. Razorbill genus

4. Bleached

5. Continent

6. Fruit preserved in syrup

7. Impediment to one’s freedom

8. Nocturnal rodents

9. Earthy pigment

10. Relieved oneself

12. Golf score

14. Tech hub __ Alto

19. Sportscaster Andrews

23. Records electric currents

24. Popular Hitchcock film

25. Revolutions per minute

26. NY Giants legend

27. Sports radio host Patrick

28. When you hope to get somewhere
29. French seaport

34. Thai river

35. Rocker’s accessory

36. Extra charge

37. Influential American president

39. Pain in the head

40. Great Plains people

41. Consumed

42. Soluble ribonucleic acid

44. Improves

45. Secret clique

46. Behind the stern of a ship

47. Dough made from corn flour

48. Fallow deer

51. Swiss river

52. Grayish white

53. Engrave

54. College’s Blue Devils

58. Midway between south and southeast

STRATHMORE

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**Thought for
the Week**

~

*For what
does it profit
a man if he
gains the whole
world but
forfeits
his soul.*

SUDOKU

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Lil' Roughnecks

The Strathmore Family Centre was busy the morning of May 3, as four U7 lacrosse teams faced off in a series of spirited matchups. Two Strathmore teams, Team Grey and Team Red took on two teams from Airdrie. While scores weren't the focus, the players showcased their skills in front of families and friends.

Joe Lepage Photos

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Looking to protect seniors and the environment

To the Editor

Here is a letter I sent to members of town council that I think is very important:

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed 147-unit Eagle Heights Development adjacent to Parklane Place, and to urgently request that Strathmore town council appeal the April 10 decision of the Subdivision & Development Appeal Board (SDAB).

This high-density development directly contradicts existing land use bylaws, which limit developments in this area to 40 units. The issuance of a permit for a 326 per cent increase over this limit – without mandatory notification or consultation of adjacent landowners – represents a significant breach of due process and public trust.

Parklane Place is a 24-unit senior condominium complex whose residents rely on the tranquility and environmental benefits of the adjacent wetlands. These residents, many of whom are vulnerable seniors, were not consulted nor were they given a meaningful opportunity to voice their concerns before the original permit was granted.

While we appreciate council's decision to revoke the Develop-

ment Permit on Feb. 10 upon discovering the permitting error, the subsequent SDAB ruling has disregarded the rights and voices of the affected community. Allowing this project to proceed without addressing its procedural and legal shortcomings undermines the principles of fairness, transparency, and proper planning.

This raises a critical question: given that adjacent landowners were not consulted as required, on what basis did the development authority conclude that the proposed development would cause “no undue interference with the amenities of the neighbourhood nor material interference with the use, enjoyment or value of neighbouring parcels of land”?

There remains legal uncertainty around the permit's validity. We strongly urge council to exercise its right under Section 688 of the Municipal Government Act to appeal the SDAB decision to the Alberta Court of Appeal within the 30-day window. This action would demonstrate the town's commitment to due process and to protecting the wellbeing of its senior citizens and environmental assets.

We are not opposed to development – but it must follow the rules, respect the character of existing neighborhoods, and meaningfully include those most affected.

Please stand with the residents of Parklane Place and all those who believe in responsible, community-focused planning.

Laura Matheson,
Strathmore

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Town amends procedure bylaw

Continued from Page 1

Town administration was advised April 24 by the town's legal team to include a section in the procedure bylaw regarding public participation.

It was the recommendation of town administration that council vote to pass all three readings of the bylaw during the special council meeting.

Coun. Richard Wegener and Coun. Brent Wiley made each of the respective motions for readings to be passed by council. These in turn were each passed unanimously without further discussion or debate.

Details regarding the amendment to the procedure bylaw are provided through the town's website.

Section 199 of the Municipal Government Act requires a municipal council by bylaw provide for public hearings to be conducted by electronic means in order to accommodate for those wishing to participate remotely.



After competing on the field, the Strathmore Spartans girls rugby team shared a meal and group photo with the players from Rimbey.

Photos Courtesy of Jerry Flaws

Spartans claim first 15-a-side victory of the season

MAYA MORAND
SHS Jr Reporter

The Strathmore Spartans girls' rugby team secured an impressive victory in their first 15-a-side rugby game of the season, winning 66-12 in Rimbey on May 2.

Prior to this, the Spartans had been playing 7-a-side rugby, a faster and generally less physical form of the game. In contrast, 15-a-side rugby is much more physical, as there's less space to work with and the intensity is higher.

In a thrilling display of athleticism, teamwork, and sportsmanship, the Spartans adjusted to the 15-a-side format and came out on top. Despite the shift in game style, the Spartans managed to find ways to create space and played in a style similar to 7s, which worked to their advantage.

Transitioning from the fast-paced, 14-minute 7s games to the longer and more demanding 15s format posed a significant learning curve. However, the team rose to the challenge with determination and heart. Throughout the game, there was noticeable improvement in their rucking, passing, and overall strategy as the match progressed.

Beyond the scoreline, this game marked a major milestone for the players' growth both on and off the field. After the match, both teams shared a meal, providing the Strathmore players with a warm introduction to the camaraderie that defines rugby culture. New friendships were forged, and the spirit of teamwork truly shone through.

"The team from Rimbey was incredibly kind and welcoming," one player shared. "We learned so much from this experience – not just about rugby, but about the incredible community that surrounds the sport."

With their first 15s victory now in the books, the Strathmore Spartans are excited to build on this momentum for the rest of the season. They have league games scheduled for May 6 in Calgary, followed by the largest 7s tournament in Western Canada this coming weekend also in Calgary. The Clearwater Cup will feature 72 teams, with participants traveling from as far as the Yukon, Ontario, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan.

Looking ahead, the Lady Spartans are preparing for the South Central Zone 7s Championship during the May long weekend. If they succeed, they will qualify for the Provincial

Championship in St. Albert the following weekend. Once the 7s season concludes, they will shift their focus to the South Central Zone 15s Championship in late May, with the hopes of qualifying for Provincials in Lethbridge.

As they continue to grow as rugby players and as a team, the Spartans will undoubtedly be strong contenders at both the zone and provincial levels.



**YOUR WEEKLY
HEALTH ADVICE**
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

There have been over 49,000 opioid toxicity deaths in Canada from 2016 to 2024. These are not drug overdoses per se but rather due to a toxic drug supply contaminated with potent drugs like *fentanyl*. If you want to find a silver lining in this tragedy it's that there has been an increase in deceased organ donation from those who died from a toxic overdose.

Diabetics should use caution when getting a pedicure. A minor nick during a pedicure could result in serious complications like infections and ulcers. Here are some guidelines. Use salons with stringent sanitation rules; perhaps bring your own pedicure tools to lower the risk of cross-contamination; communicate with the technician about your diabetes and request extra care in the procedure.

Many couples trying to have a child have problems. Infertility affects both men and women. About 30% of infertility is attributed to the female and 30% to the men. Infertility is diagnosed when a couple performs regular and unprotected intercourse for about a year with no pregnancy. There's a good website on this topic. Go to iaac.ca

On a similar topic, couples trying to get pregnant should *stop vaping* if they are into that habit. Vaping, besides being hazardous to your health has an effect on the quality of the female egg. Also, vaping has a negative effect on the quantity and number of male sperm available. These effects are reversible once vaping is stopped.

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Thunder take silver

The Strathmore Thunder U15 team battled West Valley during the Spring into May tournament May 3 at the Strathmore Ag Ball Diamonds. The host Thunder claimed a silver medal during the May 2-4 tournament. Meanwhile, the Thunder U13B team claimed gold, while the U13C/D team claimed silver.

Joe Lepage Photos

Badgers come out for spring camp

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

The Strathmore Badgers are set to launch their spring football camp May 12-June 6, inviting young athletes to hit the field and learn the game in preparation for the upcoming fall season.

With registration now open for Peewee (ages 10–12) and Bantam (ages 13–15) levels, the local football program is welcoming both returning players and first-time rookies to the huddle.

This year's spring session places a spotlight on skill development, team culture and unity, with practices hosted at the Crowther Memorial Junior High football field, with full gear provided.

Beyond the drills and fundamentals, the Badgers are bringing in new leadership and new energy.

One of the biggest changes heading into spring is the appointment of Anthony Young as the new head coach for the Bantam team.

"I'm very excited to work with all these kids, teach them some new stuff and hopefully win a championship," said Young. "It's going to be my first season as head coach, so there's going to be a lot of learning on the fly."

Young notes that he's been around the game a lot and he wants to be the best role model and coach he can be for the players.

"This is such a crucial time in

their lives," he said. "At 13 to 15 years old, they're growing from kids into young adults. It's a huge opportunity to make a lasting impression."

His goals for the program reflect that mindset: increased community involvement, stronger discipline and a fun inclusive atmosphere.

"I want to get more people involved in the program and make it more well-known in the community," Young explained. "We're focusing on teamwork, learning, and making sure the kids are having fun."

Meanwhile Doug Thiessen, President of Strathmore Community Football Association (SCFA), is eager to see the program continue building on its foundation especially with the first-ever joint jamboree set for early June which will bring together both Peewee and Bantam teams.

"It's the excitement of getting a new group of kids," said Thiessen. "And for the first time we're going to take both teams to a jamboree together. It'll be a combined effort to build a better group and a stronger football community."

That sense of togetherness is also showing up in how practices are being structured. Plans are in place to have shared training sessions between age groups and a common playbook helping younger players transition more confidently into Bantam.

"There's always that fear when kids move up," said Thiessen.

"They go from being the biggest in Peewee to the smallest in Bantam. But they forget – they're still playing with the same group of kids. This format will help ease that shift."

"It's a spot for everyone: boy or girl, big or small, fast or strong. There's a position for everyone to contribute."

Young echoes that sentiment.

"That's why I love the sport – it's so diverse," he said. "You need the fast guys and the big blockers. Everyone's got a role."

Beyond the field the Badgers are also working on new initiatives like securing sponsorships for brand-new jerseys for the fall season. The current ones, as Thiessen noted with a chuckle, are "probably about 20 years old."

And while spring football doesn't include a formal league, it plays a crucial role in player development and team building.

"Hopefully they walk away with a better understanding of what football's all about and a desire to come back in the fall," said Thiessen.

Coach Young agrees.

"Spring training is where you learn the game," said Young. "Don't be afraid to come out and try it."

The SCFA spring camp runs Monday to Thursday (6-8 p.m.) from May 12-June 6 at the Crowther Memorial Junior High School field. Players in the peewee (10–12) and bantam (13–15) levels can find more information online (scfabadgers.ca).



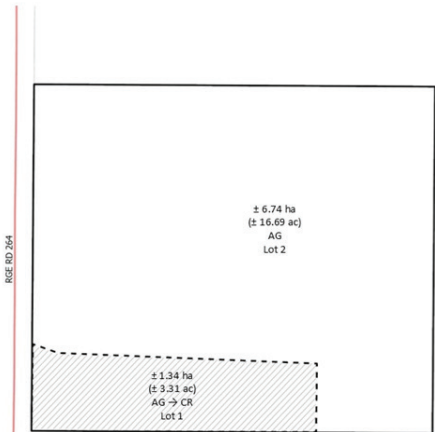
Public Hearings

Wheatland County Council Chambers June 3rd, 2025 at 9 a.m.

Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025.

The following public hearings begin at 9 a.m. and proceed until all applications have been heard:

Bylaw #: 2025-13 (LU2025-002)
Legal Description: Plan 2312058; Block 1; Lot 1 within NW-16-25-26-W4M
Proposal: To redesignate a ± 1.34 hectares (± 3.31 acres) portion of Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 2312058 from AG to CR District to allow for a proposed subdivision to create a ± 1.34 hectare (± 3.31 acre) parcel and a ± 6.74 hectare (± 16.69 acre) remainder parcel.



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.

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.

May 13, 2025, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission
May 13, 2025, 10:00 a.m. | Public Presentation Committee
May 13, 2025, 10:00 a.m. | Committee of the Whole
May 20, 2025, 9:00 a.m. | 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.

Gravel Sales

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2025 Municipal Election

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Nomination Deadline: September 22, 2025, at 12:00 noon.

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Local Tim Hortons raise Smile Cookie funds for Strathmore FCSS

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Tim Hortons locations in Strathmore participated in the annual Smile Cookie Fundraiser, which ran from April 28 until May 4 in town.

As of Apr. 30, Chris Korpi, general manager of one of the local Tim Hortons owner groups, explained his branch had breached the \$10,000 mark within the community.

This figure excluded the location attached to Shell, as it is maintained by a different owner group, though it also participated in the Smile Cookie campaign.

“The main thing with the Smile Cookie campaign is Tim Hortons runs the program across the nation. Tim Hortons donates everything, all of the products, every single cookie – we sell the cookies for two dollars, when you buy a cookie for two dollars, every single cent is (donated),” said Korpi. “We are giving (everything) to charity, so that is the big thing that we want to push to let everybody know that all the money is going to a good place. We want to keep the money in the community.”

As a local franchise, Korpi said his family’s locations began their participation in the Smile Cookie campaigns in 2013. Previously, Strathmore’s Tim Hortons locations were grouped together with those of Calgary and nearby municipalities.

Excluding this year, Strathmore’s Tim Hortons have raised approximately \$117,000 for charities across southern Alberta.

Going forward, it was decided funds raised through the campaign would be returned to the local community. This year’s campaign in Strathmore saw the fundraiser supporting the Strathmore Family and Community Support Services (FCSS).

“We are really excited about it and it does a lot of good work in the community ... it was really important for us that we had the money that we were raising was staying in Strathmore and it was staying locally,” said Korpi. “When we looked around, we felt that FCSS overall was the best charity that reached the most amount of people, and the people who needed the help the most.

“Their programs they do with seniors, they do financial literacy classes, there are a lot of mental health support groups, they work a lot with the youth, the food bank, things like that. It is stuff like that, that we really want to support and we are really happy to do so.”

The overall goal this year between the three locations was to raise \$30,000. This figure will not be calculated until following the publication of this article.

Last year, a total of \$24,000 was raised through the sales of the Smile Cookies, with each cookie costing \$1.50. This year, with the price of each being two dollars, the goal was to raise more without dissuading locals from participating.

Each year, volunteers are welcome to drop in at a Tim Hortons location to help decorate the smile cookies throughout the program. Those who are interested are welcome to speak with local store managers about doing so.

Korpi added those in Strathmore on average tend to pur-



Tim Hortons locations in Strathmore participated in the annual Smile Cookie fundraiser, aiming to breach \$30,000 raised through the sale of the iconic cookies. All proceeds raised were decided to be donated to the Strathmore Family and Community Support Services.

Photos Courtesy of Chris Korpi

chase approximately three times the national average of smile cookies each campaign period.

Once the final total for sales of smile cookies is calculated, a cheque presentation to the Strathmore FCSS will be scheduled to officially recognize the donation.



Home opener

The Strathmore Spurs U11 girls’ soccer team hosted Airdrie in their home opener on May 3 at the Ranch Market Soccer Field. The Spurs will now travel to Calgary to take on the Blizzard United, before hosting the New Frontier SC on May 24 at 11 a.m.

Joe Lepage Photos



Smashing success

Badminton players from Crowther Memorial Junior High School (CMJHS), George Freeman School, Wheatland Crossing School, Trinity Christian Academy and Holy Cross Collegiate took part in the junior high county badminton tournament on May 1. Over 250 students took part in the tournament, with games being played at SHS, CMJHS and George Freeman School.

Joe Lepage Photos



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The Strathmore Thunder 13B team won gold at their Spring into May home tournament May 2-4 at the Strathmore Ag Ball Diamonds.

Photo Courtesy of Ashleigh de Jonge

Thunder strike gold

ASHLEIGH DE JONGE
Strathmore Thunder

The Strathmore Thunder U13B team brought home gold this past weekend in a dominant display at their home tournament, held at the Strathmore Ag Grounds May 2-4. The event, which showcased 15 teams, was hosted in collaboration by three divisions of the Strathmore Thunder organization.

The U13B squad delivered an impressive undefeated run, playing five games of high-level fastpitch to clinch the championship. The team was praised not only for their skill and determination, but also for their exceptional sportsmanship and camaraderie on and off the field.

"This group of girls was tenacious, hardworking, kind, and truly embo-

died the spirit of the game," said one of the moms. "They played their hearts out."

Throughout the tournament, game MVPs were named for each of the team's games – recognizing outstanding individual efforts in a sport that thrives on teamwork. The MVPs were Harper Pierson, Khloe Cameron, Hayden Cromwell, Madilynn Shuman and Lyric Rapuano.

The weekend was a resounding success, thanks to the support and dedication of the athletes, their families, and the many parent volunteers who helped organize and run the tournament.

"A huge thank you goes out to everyone who made this event possible," organizers said. "Without our volunteers and supportive community, weekends like this wouldn't happen."



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Back Street Productions/Bobby Molina
Western Historical Society
Wheatland Housing Management Body
Community Therapy Dogs

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Jess Sevvick, Olympic Silver Medalist
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Tyler Jamieson, Rockyford Rodeo Queen
Alley Brigley music students
Carolyn Steeves music students

And a great big thank you to the many committee volunteers (and spouses), helpers, hikers, fire truck pullers, and pledge contributors. For a small group of people, you do an awful lot of good.

With your help, over \$27,000 was raised.

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A recap of the education property tax

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Thank you for your feedback to my column last week on the Education Property Tax for the Town of Strathmore. In case you missed it, I am sharing it again.

Municipalities have collected education property taxes for over 30 years, and this continues to be the case. The education property tax has historically funded one third of our education. In recent years it has fallen behind as education funding rose. The increases over the next two years will bring education property taxes back up to 33 per cent of total education funding, so that we can continue to build schools and fund enrolment growth.

By restoring the education property tax to previous funding levels, we are making record investments into education to the tune of more than \$9.8 billion to address growing enrollment pressures.

I would encourage the Town of Strathmore to clarify to their residents that the education property tax is levied by the province so Alberta's government can reinvest all of it in supporting the success of our Strathmore students in our world-class education system.

The education property tax will raise \$3.1 billion in 2025–26, helping pay for instructional costs, including teacher salaries, textbooks, and other classroom resources for Strathmore schools. Across the province, funding from the education property tax helps fund \$1.1 billion over the next three years to hire additional teachers and classroom support staff, so school authorities can manage class sizes and the growing number of students. As well as \$1.6 billion to support specialized learning needs and groups of students who may require additional support from school authorities through the learning support funding grants.

The education property tax is set by the provincial government and applies uniformly across Alberta. All municipalities collect an equitable share of the provincial education property tax in proportion to their total taxable property assessments, which are equalized across the province. The process ensures owners of properties of similar value and type across the province pay similar amounts of education property taxes.

For 2025–26, education property tax rates will increase to \$2.72 per \$1,000 of property value for residential and farmland, and \$4.00 per \$1,000 of property value for non-re-

sidential properties. For residential and farmland property, this is an increase of 16 cents from \$2.56 for every \$1,000 of property value last year.

In the Strathmore area, property values have risen more than the Alberta average. Across the province, total property values (equalized assessment) rose by 7.55 per cent this year. In comparison, Strathmore saw a greater increase, while places like Edmonton grew less and Calgary grew more. The variance in property values directly impacts how much education tax each municipality must collect and reflects the rising value of local properties and the growing demand for educational services across our province – ensuring our schools have the stable and sustainable source of funding needed to meet the demands of increased student enrollment.

Strathmore is a growing community, and schools are seeing increasing enrollment. The Golden Hills School Division is planning to rebuild Westmount Elementary, which is over 50 years old. The education property tax will help pay for the cost to operate that new school, and this funding must

be in place in order to replace this aging school.

The education property tax is fully invested back into schools in Strathmore, and in fact, it is only a small portion of the total education funding that the Government of Alberta invests in Strathmore schools. For example, in 2024, the Golden Hills Education Operating Grant was roughly \$88 million, while the education property tax requisition from the Town of Strathmore was under \$6 million.

Every single dollar of the education property tax will be reinvested into education in Strathmore to support our students, help get the new Westmount School built and enhance Alberta's ability to fund school operations in Strathmore and across the province, leading to better educational outcomes as student enrolment continues to grow.

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)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Proposed Bylaw 2025-02 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 Public Notification Bylaw 2025-02. Bylaw 2025-02 proposes the method of advertising to residents when required.

The Public Notification Bylaw requires a Public Hearing prior to passing. Motion 2025-02 will rescind the previous Public Notification Bylaw 2023-03 which was erroneously passed without a public hearing. There are no changes in the proposed Bylaw; means of communication remains as:

Any notice required to be advertised under section 606 of the *Municipal Government Act* of a bylaw, resolution, meeting, public hearing or other things may be given, in accordance with the timelines prescribed in section 606, as applicable. Other alternate methods, as per section 606.1, will be posted at a minimum of two locations as described below:

- by electronically posting a notice prominently on the Village of Standard official website.
- by electronically posting a notice prominently on any of the Village of Standards official social media sites.
- by physically posting a notice prominently on the bulletin board provided for that purpose at The Standard Post Office, and The Standard Village Office.
- by physically posting a notice prominently on Community Electronic board located at 902 The Broadway.

Should you wish to address council in person, a **public hearing for Bylaw 2025-02** will be held at the Village Office Council Chambers at 120 Elsinore Ave, Standard Alberta, **on Wednesday, May 14th, 2025 commencing at 7 p.m.** Council will hear from any person claiming to be affected by the proposed bylaw. If you wish to address council virtually, you must contact the Village Office by 4pm on Tuesday, May 13th, 2025.

Additionally, written comments may be delivered to PO Box 249 Standard, Alberta, T0J 3G0 or emailed to cao@villageofstandard.ca; submissions will be received up to Tuesday, May 13th, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

The proposed Bylaw 2025-02 can be reviewed online at 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.

Publishing in the Strathmore Times on April 30th, and May 7th, 2025.

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RCMP recommend strategies to protect against property crime

ALBERTA RCMP

As we enter the spring and summer seasons, the RCMP want to urge homeowners to consider Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles when planning to enjoy the outdoors, work on home renovations or even to take that long overdue road trip.

To improve the safety of your home, consider using CPTED principles that focus on the use of design to eliminate or reduce criminal behaviour while at the same time encouraging people to keep an eye out for one another. It can be effectively used in most environments, including businesses and residential homes.

RCMP would like to take this time to remind the public of the following CPTED tips:

- **Lighting:** Ensure your yard is well lit. Consider installing motion sensor lights at all entryways.
- **Sightlines:** Keep clear sightlines to yards, garages, and entry points so criminals have nowhere to hide. Make sure trees and bushes aren't overgrown, creating a cover for a potential thief.
- **Gates:** A locked gate can help deter a criminal who may not want to waste time trying to get past it.
- **Windows:** Keep windows covered and locked when you're not home. An empty house is a criminal's playground.
- **Alarms:** Consider installing a security system, especially on seasonal properties or if you travel often. This will help ensure that if anything does happen to your property, authorities will be alerted immediately.
- **Vehicles:** Keep your vehicles locked and remove any valuables from them. If possible, park any ATVs or other seasonal vehicles out of sight.

The safety and well-being of our community is achieved when residents work in collaboration with one another, supported by community resources. Let's work together to prevent crime before it occurs through a proactive approach.

RCMP provides safety tips for motorcyclists

ALBERTA RCMP

Motorcycle season has arrived, and your Alberta RCMP is reminding riders and other motorists to be aware of each other on roadways. By respecting traffic laws and practicing safe driving behaviours, everyone can get to their destinations safely.

Last year, in Alberta RCMP jurisdiction, there were 235 collisions involving motorcycles. As a result of these collisions, 204 were injured and 26 were fatally injured.

In order to stay safe this riding season, follow the tips below:

- **Complete a pre-ride check.** Take some time before getting on your bike to check your fluids, tires, lights/signals, chains, and overall condition of the motorcycle. Refer to Alberta Transportation's Rider Guide for a checklist.
- **Gear up.** Both riders and passengers must wear helmets that meet safety requirements and state the date of manufacture. A proper coat, pants, boots that cover the ankles, gloves, and shatter-proof eyewear can reduce the risk of injury in the event of a collision. Avoid buying used helmets as they could have defects.
- **Be bright and in sight.** Stay in sight of larger vehicles and avoid blind spots. Wear a high visibility jacket and helmet, in colours such as orange, yellow, or white in order to be noticeable on the road.
- **Maintain a safe following distance.** Stay clear of loose gravel or rocks thrown by other vehicles on roadways and be cautious as excess debris and sand may affect tire traction and overall handling.
- **Avoid weaving and speeding.** Speeding in and out of traffic on a motorcycle is illegal and dangerous. Safe handling, and sharing the road responsibly, reduces the risk of collision.
- **Don't show-off.** Just because your bike can do it, doesn't mean your bike should do it. Slow down on unfamiliar roadways and don't feel pressure to keep up with more experienced riders.

"Last May saw 37 motorcycle collisions," says Sgt. Darin Turnbull, Alberta RCMP Traffic. "Let's ensure this riding season is a safe one. If you're in a vehicle, make sure to complete a full check before turning or changing lanes to ensure smaller vehicles or motorcycles are not in your path."

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All roles are on-site in Rosebud, AB. Positions are 8-weeks in duration with possibility of extension.

Apply Today! Start Date: June 2, 2025
To Apply: rosebudtheatre.com/jobs

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Please send resume's to:
Mick@cattleland.ca or karen@cattleland.ca
or call: 403-934-7239

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Looking for responsible drivers for full-time temporary positions. Duration is approximately 3 - 4 weeks starting mid May. Drivers must be punctual, dependable, courteous and have the physical ability to load and unload trucks. Applicants must provide a driver's abstract. Please apply by phone or email.

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NOTICES



Strathmore Minor Hockey
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday, May 26 • 7 pm
Strathmore Family Centre
Upstairs
www.smhockey.com



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
May 29, 2025 • 5:30 pm
RSVP your attendance no later than
Monday, May 26, 2025
403-983-3640
coordinator@hopebridges.ca



Wheatland Wranglers
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, May 22 • 7 pm
Strathmore Family Centre
Upstairs
www.wheatlandwranglers.ca



NOTICE OF ELECTION
Irrigation Districts Act (Sections 31,54, 58, 59)
Local Authorities Election Act (Section 11, 25, 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, May 21 st, 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	2

Electoral Division 2 comprises Townships 22, 23 and 24 in Ranges 23 and 24, and Township 24 in Range 25.
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 1st day of May 2025.
Troy Tangedal,
General Manager/Returning Officer

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

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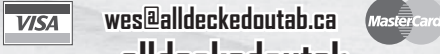
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Upcoming Council Meetings
May 7, 2025 | 6 p.m.
May 14, 2025 | 6 p.m.
May 21, 2025 | 6 p.m.

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.

Annual program returns.
Gravel Backlane Maintenance.

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

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

You can help us complete this work more efficiently by making sure your back lane is clear. This means removing objects like your black/green/blue carts, construction bins, stored materials, dirt/debris piles, and any overgrown growth that might block the lane.

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

The maintenance program goes a long ways towards improving vehicle and pedestrian travel, storm drainage, garbage collection, and even access for emergency services. It's one of the ways we work together to take care of our community. For more information, visit our website: **Strathmore.ca/Roads**. If you have questions or concerns, give us a call, **403-361-2126**, or shoot us an email, **operations@strathmore.ca**.



Are you prepared for worst case scenario?
Emergency Preparedness Week.

This week is Emergency Preparedness Week (EP Week for short), a time to highlight the importance of being ready for the unexpected. Alberta's diverse landscape and weather contributes to a wide range of hazards such as extreme temperatures, tornadoes, wildfires, blizzards, flooding and more. This year's theme encourages you to be prepared and know your risks. Whether it's extreme temperatures, tornadoes, wildfires, floods, or a particularly bad hailstorm, knowing the hazards in your community can help you decrease your risk and manage disruptions. For more information on EP Week and resources to help you get prepared, visit **alberta.ca/emergency-preparedness-week**

Speedy wifi? Yes please.
Fibre Optic Expansion.

The Town of Strathmore has partnered with Fibre Connect to expand the fibre optic main network in residential and business right-of-ways. Starting in spring 2025, Leduc Technical Services will subcontract the work to bring high-speed fibre optic access to areas of Strathmore previously without coverage. Connection to the fibre optic will be at the discretion of property and business owners. Representatives from Leducor and Fibre Connect will be visiting homes and business to seek permission. There is no obligation to connect.

For more information about this project or future availability of services such as high-speed internet, contact Fibre Connect directly at **info@fibreconnect.com** or call **1-800-503-2731**. View the construction schedule & ongoing updates on our webpage, **Strathmore.ca/FibreOptics**



Summer boredom? Not on our watch.
Summer Camps.

We have a fun, safe alternative to boredom for ages 4-12 with our summer camps. Check out the themes of each week and register your child for their favourite theme, or register in all the weeks for a fun summer of activities, friendship, and learning. Please note time and pricing may vary depending on your childs age.

For more information, visit our website **Strathmore.ca/Recreation**. You can register for these camps through Perfectmind.

Theme	Dates	Time	Cost
Water Fun	July 2 to 4, 2025	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	111.00
Splash and Play	July 7 to 11, 2025	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	245.00
Sport and Explore	July 14 to 18, 2025	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	185.00
Multi-Sport Adventure	July 21 to 25, 2025	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	185.00
Splash and Dash	July 28 to Aug 1, 2025	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	245.00
Neon Days	Aug 5 to 8, 2025	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	148.00
Balls and More	Aug 11 to 15, 2025	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	185.00
Olympic Days	Aug 18 to 22, 2025	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	185.00

Land Use Bylaw No. 25-07.
Notice of Public Hearing.

May 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
WestCreek Area Structure Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 25-07

Development Services received an application for a WestCreek Area Structure Plan Amendment (Bylaw No. 25-07), the legal land description is Lot 1, Block A, Plan 941 0061 and 4;25;24;15;NW. The amendment suggests modifications to the existing WestCreek Area Structure Plan Bylaw 08-22, which was adopted on August 18, 2010. The key changes include a revised configuration of residential districts, the introduction of multiple landscaped areas to enhance the public realm, the inclusion of an artificial storm pond to support stormwater management and community aesthetics, and the designation of land for emergency services.

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, May 07, 2025**, commencing at **6:00pm** 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 Legislative Services at lsadmin@strathmore.ca by 12:00 noon on **Wednesday, April 30, 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, April 30, 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.

June 1 – 30

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