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Town approves proposed 54unit apartment

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore passed third reading of Land Use Amending Bylaw 24-03, in regards to 15 Bayside Place, following a public hearing, and discussion at length.

Bylaw 24-03 was brought before council during the May 1 regular meeting and was open to public discussion during the hearing which preceded council's final decision.

The bylaw was put forward in regards to the proposed development of two four-story apartment buildings, as well as a future child care facility to occupy the property.

Town administration acknowledged the proposal as meeting the town's goals to provide more housing options to current, as well as prospective residents, as well as to increase access to local childcare options.

Additionally, the proposed apartments are anticipated by administration to increase the assessed market value of the lot, which would lead to the lands generating an increase in property tax revenue for the town.

As outlined in the town's public meeting agenda about the bylaw, the housing supply throughout Strathmore is primarily comprised of single detached dwellings.

The enhancement of availability of more diverse and affordable housing options is among the town's priorities.

In total, the two apartment buildings would add 54 new units to the town's inventory of housing – something Coun. Brent Wiley explained he feels is desperately needed.

"Our inventory of attainable housing in Strathmore is quite literally zero. There are many people in this town who cannot afford to live anywhere," he said.

Continued on Page 4



Pulling for hospice

The Fire Truck Pull was one of the many events to take place during the annual Hype!! for Hospice on May 5 at Kinsmen Park. The event featured the Hike for Hospice, the Hospice Wine Raffle, food trucks, face painting, HCC Drummers and more. See Page 5 for more coverage. **John Watson Photo**

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Night market

A handful of businesses in downtown hosted the Downtown Before Dark Night Market in Strathmore on May 4. There were plenty of things to see and do – and of course shop for.

Joe Lepage Photos



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Seniors' Housing Issues

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Please provide your name and phone #

If you don't have access to e-mail, please call Elaine at 403 690 6894

Space will be limited so please register early - RSVP deadline May 20, 2024

Light refreshments will be provided

Location: Glenmore Inn & Convention Centre
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(Free Parking)

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CHARA FOUNDATION www.charafoundation.ca

DOUGLAS GLEN BUSINESS CENTER, #210, 10836 - 24 St SE, Calgary, AB T2Z 4C9 Ph. 403 690 6894





Red Dress Day was celebrated in Strathmore at the Motor Products Sports Centre, May 5, honouring and raising awareness for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The event featured speeches from local elders, a jingle dress healing dance, as well as poet and artist Jason Gordon.

John Watson Photos



Red Dress Day celebrated in Strathmore

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore celebrated Red Dress Day, May 5, raising awareness for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, hosted at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre.

Organized by Strathmore Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), the event featured speeches from elders, Metis artist and poet Jason Gordon, and a jingle dress dance.

"It's the National Inquiry for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. It's to honour and remember all of those who are missing and murdered," said Astokomii Smith, the Town of Strathmore Indigenous liaison. "I think it is really important. We have a lot of celebration type events, but this is really bringing awareness to the not-so-great things that happen to our people as well."

Similar annual events have taken place in Strathmore over the last approximately three years. Since their inception, Smith said the events have been able to attract a growing number of guest speakers and attendees.

More typically, as opposed to the Motor Products Sports Centre, the celebration of Red Dress Day would take place in Kinsmen Park, though was unable to do so this year due to another booking occupying the space.

"It is to bring awareness to missing that they are allies.

and murdered Indigenous women and girls because there are still a large amount of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and in our own community in Strathmore, we currently have a missing woman. We want to bring awareness to that. This is still happening in the past and current day," added Tiffany Carlson, special projects coordinator with the Town of Strathmore. "If you want to be an ally ... build capacity and learn more about the issues that Indigenous women and girls face. If you see racism or things going on, (take action) to stop it. Everybody has the power to make a difference, and we do need allies."

Smith added more actions allies can take would be to educate themselves on numbers and statistics regarding missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, as well as to listen to people's stories.

"There are so many people out there who have someone who they are missing. Most Indigenous people, they are very close to someone who has gone missing or who was murdered. We all have a story to tell," she said.

Additionally, as the red dress is a very feminine symbol, donning a moose hide pin is a symbol for men to show their support and awareness for the cause.

Smith explained the pin is worn by men who wish to raise awareness about violence against women and to show that they are allies.

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*see directenergy.ca for details

Legacy Farm Project announces renovations to barn venue

IOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County has officially announced their approval of the development permit for the CGC Wallboard Manufacturing Plant, which occurred at the April 9, Municipal Planning Commission meeting.

A release, distributed May 1, stated the \$210 million investment is the result of collaboration between the county, CGC, the Government of Alberta, and the Invest Alberta Corporation.

"CGC Inc. approached the county and initiated discussions in 2021 regarding the development of a wallboard plant within the Goldfinch Industrial Area Structure Plan. CGC applied to amend the Goldfinch Industrial Area Structure Plan, to adopt the CGC Wheatland Wallboard Manufacturing Plant Area Concept Plan, and to redesignate the lands to Intensive Industrial District to accommodate their proposal. These documents were approved by Wheatland County council on June 20, 2023," released the county in a statement. "The plant will feature a 220,000 square foot facility that will manufacture wallboard products for delivery throughout Alberta and Western Canada. According to CGC, the plant will create over 100 permanent jobs within Wheatland County, as well as an additional 200 jobs during the construction phase of the facility."

The planned location of the facility was described as "strategic" by the county, as the area is served by significant connections to the local trans- ble via the same document.

portation network, including the Canadian Pacific Railway, and Highways 24, and 22X. Subject lands are noted to be an approximately 20-minute drive from Calgary, and less than an hour from the Calgary International Airport.

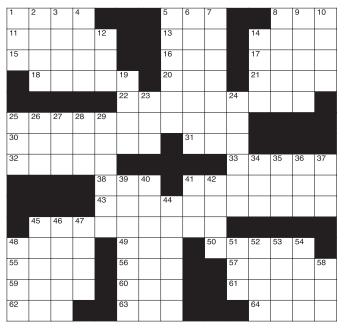
"Once the development is complete and operational, the tax revenue generated from this investment will have a very positive impact on our tax base and on the community," stated the county. "We anticipate that the additional tax revenue generated by CGC may potentially relieve the distribution of taxes on other non-residential properties. Ultimately, the approval of this development aligns with Wheatland County's Strategic Plan, aiming to foster a diverse and thriving economy. This approval opens the possibility of attracting further investment to the area, leading to increased revenue, resources, and job creation, both during and after construction."

CGC has committed to operating the facility without the use of any hazardous materials or associated odors. Further, the facility is eventually intended to be serviced by a local solar field for its power requirements.

The county added a professional wildlife biologist and/or avian specialist will be monitoring the local development region for the presence of wildlife to plan for disturbance mitigation efforts. Additional environmental considerations are outlined in the CGC manufacturing plant area con-

Further information about the project is availa-





County officially announces wallboard plant development permit approval

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Lions do it
- 5. In favor of 8. Rest here please (abbr.)
- 11. Pulpits
- 13. Leisure activity
- 14. Fertility god
- 15. Financial obligations 16. When you anticipate getting
- somewhere
- 17. Spanish river
- 18. Sporting events
- 20. Type of tree
- 21. Ceased to be
- 22. Persons 25. Synthetic resin
- 30. Relates to photochemical
- 31. Father

- 32. Former Cowboys coach 33. City in Finland
- 38. Run batted in
- 41. Got through 43. They darken skin
- 45. In a harmful way
- 48. Form of weaving 49. City of Angels hoopster
- 50. Caucasian language
- 55. Syngman ___, Korean president
- 56. Sun up in New York
- 57. Paddled
- 59. Fishes 60. Affirmative
- 61. Nimble
- 62. Doctor of Education
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic 64. A small island

CLUES DOWN

- 2. Hebrew unit of measure
- 3. Swedish rock group
- 4. College army
- 5. Favor over another
- 6. Called it a career 7. Egg-shaped wind instrument
- 9. Hurries
- 10. Slog
- 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Benedictine monk
- 19. Self-immolation by fire ritual 47. Utilizes
- 23. Family of regulator genes
- 24. Surrendering 25. Political action committee
- 26. S. American plant
- 27. Long-term memory

- 28. Bark
- 29. Breathes in
- 34. Take hold of
- 35. Everyone has one
- 36. Valentine's Day color
- 37. Drivers' licenses and passports 39. Outer walls of castles
- 40. Enters with force
- 41. One thousandth of an inch
- 42. Deceased Chinese politician
- 44. Sugary secretion of plants
- 46. Shelter
- 48 Forest resident
- 51. Fashion accessory
- 52. A sharply directional antenna
- 53. __ Kristofferson, actor 54. A bad place to end up
- 58. MLBer Gordon

STRATHMORE

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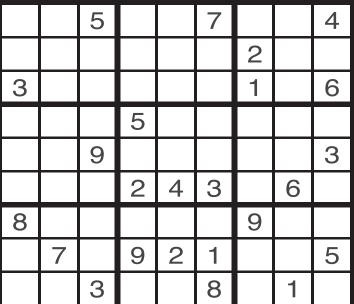
Call the Strathmore TIMES 403.934.5589



Thought for the Week

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Level: Intermediate



Clean-up crew

The Rockyford 4-H Beef Club participated in a highway cleanup on May 4 on different highways near and around Rockyford. The club will now prepare to host their Show and Sale on June 5 (10:30 a.m.) at the Rockyford Rodeo

Photo Courtesy of Timbree Desmet



Town gives first reading to land use amendment

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore has given first reading to Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw 24-07, regarding 67 Lakeside Boulevard, and has scheduled a public hearing to take place June 5.

The bylaw was brought before council and is in order to facilitate the construction of semi-detached houses on the subject plot of land.

It is noted in the town's meeting agenda and the report provided to council that the majority of housing options in Strathmore are single detached units.

The addition of the developments proposed for this plot would serve to help increase the variety, and the number of housing units available in town.

Administration also noted the proposed development is anticipated to increase the assessed market value of the subject lands and may lead to an increase in property tax revenue for the town in the long-term.

The proposed semi-detached house will require a development, as well as a building permit application to be completed prior to the start of construction, which will be required to include all of the applicable fees under the town's fees bylaw.

Administration had recommended that the town approve first reading of the bylaw and proceed to scheduling a public hearing for further discussion.

According to Section 692(1) of the Municipal Government Act, prior to holding second and third readings to a proposed bylaw amending a land use bylaw, any council must first hold a public hearing with respect to the land redesignation.

Notice will be circulated to the public regarding the meeting, and members of the community will be given an opportunity to voice their support or their concerns, respectively.

The subject lands proposed to see development are situated in the Downtown Overlay District, bordered by Lakeside Boulevard, and Village Way. This is adjacent to the Strathmore Municipal

The development proposal suggests the construction of a semi-detached dwelling and a garage on the specified

Following administration's presentation to council regarding the project and associated land use redesignation, Coun. Melissa Langmaid motioned to provide first reading to the bylaw amendment, and to schedule the public hearing for June 5.

Langmaid's motion was passed unanimously by council without further questions or discussion.

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Location Pastor - Shan Simpson Pastor - Eric Horstia

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Town approves 15 Bayside Place land use bylaw amendment

Continued from Page 3

"I was looking at basement suites before this meeting, and to have a single room, no kitchen, no bathroom, just a single room in someone's basement is \$800 (a month) in Strathmore. That would be a shared kitchenette, a shared bathroom."

He added the town is experiencing a housing crisis, and he does not wish for Strathmore to develop a reputation for putting up red tape and delaying developments when administration has proven assurances that town infrastructure is able to effectively accommodate further developments.

Concerns from residents and business owners neighbouring the lot in question included the capacity of the town's sewer systems to handle the increased volumes of use, as well as increased traffic and parking in the area.

Following council's approval of the land use bylaw amendment, the developers aim to see shovels in the ground to begin construction of the project later this year, with a construction period of approximately 16 months.

Ultimately, the land use bylaw amendment was passed by council unanimous-

More information about the land use bylaw amendment, as well as about the development project is available via the town's public meeting agenda for May 1.















Super show

The Arts on 817 concluded their sixth concert season when they hosted the husband-and-wife duo, The Charms, on May 4 at the Strathmore United Church. Local opening act Melissa Matheson and The Locals started the show strong with a 20-minute set including familiar favourites and their original Life of a Farmer and Our Last Night. Season 7 is already in the works and will be released soon.

Melissa Piche Photos



Weekend of hype

The Wheatland and Area Hospice Society hosted their Hype!! for Hospice event on May 5 at Kinsmen Park. The event featured the 7th annual Hike for Hospice, a Fire Truck Pull and the Hospice Wine Raffle. The fundraiser is to support a new hospice/lodge in Strathmore

FCSS, Tim Hortons partner for annual Smile Cookie fundraiser

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Tim Hortons locations in Strathmore have partnered this year with Strathmore Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) for this year's annual Smile Cookie Campaign.

Running from Apr. 29 until May 5, all of the proceeds which were generated through the sale of smile cookies is to be put towards flexible supports for community members.

This includes cultural events, provision of basic needs, emergency shelter, transportation, and the offer of an ID clinic for folks who may struggle with acquiring personal identification.

"The smile cookie campaign is hosted by Tim Hortons in support of our different charities in local communities around Canada, and two of our Tim Hortons locations here in Strathmore chose FCSS as their charity," said Emily Pye, community development coordinator with Strathmore FCSS.

"They have been really dedicated to picking us as their charity every year, and with this, we get 100 per cent of the proceeds from the smile cookie donations, and purchases from the public and other organizations."

Pye estimated Strathmore FCSS has been partnering with local Tim Hortons locations for approximately eight years for the annual smile cookie campaign.

She explained each year, proceeds increase by roughly 20 per cent over the previous iteration, and Strathmore boasts one of the highest per capita rates for local cookies bought in Alberta.

"We live in a really giving community and folks are very happy to buy smile cookies because they support our programs," said Pye.

"We have been partners for years now; they sell the cookies, we go over and help decorate when we can, and then at the end of the week when they have all the orders, we will go out and deliver everything to folks who have requested it."

Encouraging more participation in the campaign, FCSS ho-

sted a 'business challenge' promoting friendly competition between local businesses to purchase the highest number of cookies and challenge others to pay it forward.

This year, the goal was to breach the collective fundraising total of the last approximately eight years, and surpass an overall \$100,000 through the smile cookie campaigns.

The total had not yet been calculated by FCSS by the date of publication.

"My supervisor has actually volunteered to dye his hair blue and pink in honour of smile cookies if we are able to meet our goal of 500 cookies purchased by Town of Strathmore staff," joked Pye.

"With the increasing affordability pressures that are being experienced across the country, the Town is excited to partner with our local Tim Horton's through the Smile Cookie Campaign. The proceeds raised through this campaign will help alleviate some of the pressures our most vulnerable residents face," added Mayor Pat Fule in a statement.





It seems there is a possible link between severe headaches or migraines and secondhand smoke. This is observed in people who have never smoked before. This effect varied depending on the body mass index and the level of activity of the persons involved.

Acetaminophen is found in over 600 products like Tylenol, Midol, Robaxcet, NeoCitran and dozens of other cough and cold remedies. There is no problem if taken in normal doses but overdosing can lead to severe liver damage. About 4500 Canadians are hospitalized each year from acetaminophen overdose. Risk is higher if a person has more than 3 alcoholic drinks per day even when the drug is taken in normal doses.

When an elderly person starts showing signs of dementia (memory loss, acting inappropriately, fuzzy thinking patterns), it's important rule out causes that might be controllable. For example, the medications that the person is taking should be reviewed first before making a diagnosis of dementia. Some drugs may have side effects that cause dementia-like symptoms which can be alleviated by a dose reduction or change of medication.

The drug companies, *Moderna* and *Merck*, have been working on a new mRNA vaccine for melanoma. The mRNA technology has been researched for at least a decade and was responsible for the success of the COVID-19 vaccines. Cancer vaccines have always been the holy grail of vaccine research. The HPV vaccine to prevent colorectal cancer is one success story. It is hoped that this melanoma vaccine is another.

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



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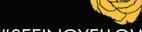
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Thunder season rolls in

The Strathmore Thunder Fastpitch Spring Into May Tournament was held May 3-5 at the Strathmore Ag Diamonds. The Strathmore Thunder U13B team lost to the eventual tournament winners Kelowna in the semifinals on May 5. The U13C and the U15B teams also took part in the tournament.

Joe Lepage Photos







Hitting the field

The Strathmore Badgers Football held a field day at Crowther Memorial Junior High on May 4. The field day was a free event to anyone ages 9-14 interested in learning the fundamentals of football. Spring Training starts May 13 and runs until June 14.

Melissa Piche Photos



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 14: Municipal Planning Commission May 14: Public Presentation Committee May 14: Committee of the Whole

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



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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.

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- First Round: Application deadline is May 17, 2024
- (Weather permitting, application will occur starting May 21)
- 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/

Inspiring people to keep fighting

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

When Kiesha Mastrodimos was 17 years old, her life as she knew it changed in the blink of an eye.

As her and a friend were driving home in the middle of the night, a moose landed on her car, paralyzing her instantly. In that moment she had to make a choice – to fight or to give in to the debilitating situation that she was in. Her story is one of determination and taking life by storm – her story is here to inspire people to live each day like it was your last.

"Obviously it's taken me years and years to get to this point and that's been like the acceptance with never being able to walk again," said Mastrodimos said. "Coming to terms with (how) this is going to be my everyday life and that it's going to be different and being ok with that."

The now 27-year-old illustrator, who took part in the Local Author Showcase at the Strathmore Municipal Library on May 4, created a colouring book Fall Down Seven Times, Stand Up Eight. Strathmore's Hope Bridges Society also hosted a drawing class with Mastrodimos on April 25 at the Hope Community Covenant Church.

"When I released the very first one, that was eight years (after) my accident, and I had posted it on my Facebook because that is where my biggest support was," she recalled. "I sold 100 in the first hour."

Her colouring books can be purchased by messaging her through her social media, Facebook and Instagram where she can mail them anywhere

As part of her healing journey, Mastrodimos said having a good foundation of people who support you is key.

"(I) also surround myself with a good support system with people that are inclusive, compassionate, understanding and all of that," she said. "Also having those people I can talk to and provide me with that extra emotional and mental support."

Mastrodimos, who moved to Calgary three ye-



Kiesha Mastrodimos was featured at the Strathmore Municipal Library's Local Authors Showcase on May 4.

Melissa Piche Photo

ars ago from Grand Prairie, is eager to connect with young students and tell her story as a motivational speaker, like she used to do.

"Back home I used to do speeches all the time, to schools and everything," said Mastrodimos. "Here I need to build my community because I don't know anybody so I would love to be doing more, but I need to find the right avenue and the right institutions.

"It wasn't something that I chose, I just had to – if I didn't, I don't know where I'd be. I've always had (a) positive attitude and I think that comes with (my) support system, my family, people on social media –everywhere I've had that full support system."

Mastrodimos is filled with passion and dreams and hopes to one day write a book. According to her, it would be a challenge, but one she is willing and able to take on. She is currently enrolled in university where she is six courses away from getting her bachelor's degree in psychology – one more thing she can add to her growing list of accomplishments.

Kiesha is actively looking for speaking engagements where she can reach her target audiences. She can be reached via email (kiesha_xoxo@hotmail.com).

"You cannot choose the hand that you're dealt, but you can choose how you play the cards," she said. "Your attitude, your everything creates your reality."

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Children's drama camp comes to town

MELISSA PICHE

Times Contributor

The Vault Cultural Collective, in cooperation with Strathmore Theatre Players' Guild and Calgary Young People's Theatre, are thrilled to be able to offer their inaugural children's summer drama camp.

Carolyn Steeves, board member of The Vault Cultural Collective, said that the board as a whole had been throwing around the idea of a way to give back to the community.

"Anyhow we can give back to the community for everybody. We want to be the arts culture corner stone for Strathmore," said Steeves.

The idea for the drama camp came about after some heavy brainstorming amongst the board members.

"We noticed that in summer programming in the community there's a lot of sports programming, there's programming for vacation bible schools and that kind of thing through the churches," she said. "There are things that happen at the rodeo grounds over the summer, but there wasn't much happening culturally. So, we wanted to give students, children, the option of doing something culturally over the summer."

Steeves said The Vault is a group of volunteers with a minimal budget, so giving back to the community in the form of programming for children had to be something with minimal overhead.

"What could we do that would be not a huge cost?" she said.

The board explored additional arts programs, such as a music camp. However, the feasibility of such endeavors hinged on various factors, including the expenses associated with instrument rentals, securing a sufficient venue, and covering instructor fees.

Unfortunately, going deeper into these considerations was not feasible, as the board's primary objective was to ensure that the program remained both affordable and on par with other summer

offerings in the community.

Having a group of diverse individuals on the board that have drama backgrounds was a key to the success of this program going forward.

"We have a lot of expertise on our board – musicians and drama people and a lot of them are ex-teachers, so we have a lot experience working with children."

Steeves said they had thought about running the camp themselves, along with the Strathmore Theatre Players' Guild, but ultimately decided on bringing in a group of experts.

Upon reaching out to the Calgary Young Peoples Theatre about the prospect of hosting the camp, "they jumped at it." Within a matter of days their drama camp dream went from a concept to, 'it's happening.'

Steeves said they are extremely excited to be partnering with The Calgary Young People's Theatre.

"They are experts in summer camps; they've been doing it for over 30 years," she said. "They do it all over Calgary – every quadrant."

The students of the drama camp will work on skills in the morning, stage combat, improvisation and even stage make up. In the afternoons they will build and create their own play.

"Exactly how they're going to do that, that's up to the Calgary Young People's Theatre," said Steeves. "By Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, they will have a production ready which they will present to their parents.

"Knowing that you're putting your child in a camp where there are experts, with people who are experts at doing this – they know how to deal with children. It will be good and we know that."

The camp is being held July 15-19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a half hour break for lunch at the Strathmore United Church.

The deadline to register is May 15 at The Vault. The cost for the camp is \$200 per child (ages 6-15) and space is limited.





Season opener

The Strathmore Scorchers U17/U19 soccer team opened their outdoor campaign with a 4-1 loss to the West Hills Titans on May 5 at the Ranch Market Soccer Field. The team played at home on May 9 (result not available as of press time) before embarking on a three-game road trip. The Scorchers next home game is June 7 (7 p.m.).

Joe Lepage Photos







Home opener

The Strathmore Spurs U15 Tier 4 team hosted their home opener on May 5 at the Ranch Market Soccer Field. The Spurs will play a trio of road games before returning home on June 2 (11 a.m.) to host the Rockies Borussia.

Joe Lepage Photos



For the first time in several years, Real Canadian Wresting will be returning to Strathmore to perform at the Ag Society grounds, May 17.

> Photo Courtesy of Steve Hurley

RCW shows returning to Strathmore

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Real Canadian Wrestling (RCW) will be bringing a show to Strathmore, May 17, at the Strathmore Agricultural Society grounds.

"RCW is a local wrestling promotion here in western Canada that travels around to a number of different venues on a regular basis. For example, we are running bi-weekly shows in Calgary, Edmonton, monthly shows in Drumheller, and now we are adding Strathmore to the tour," said Steve Hurly, whose stage name is "Steve Wilde" for RCW. "What we do is we come in and we set up a full-production wrestling show and we put on a high-energy, family-oriented pro wrestling card featuring independent pro wrestlers from all across Canada, and for this show we have former WWE superstar, Leo Rush coming in."

Hurley explained the RCW will be visiting Strathmore a total of four times this year. Following the first show at the ag society pavilion, dates have not yet been set in stone for the other three local events.

Hailing from Strathmore himself, Hurley will be performing for the show as well. He added the town has previously exhibited appealing amounts of community involvement, which sympathizes with what the show is about.

"We have not been here in about five or six years – maybe even a little longer, but the brand has definitely changed; it has been elevated to some pretty extreme levels of talent," said Hurley. "The crowd, what they have seen in the past is not what they are going to see on May 17. What we are doing is we are looking to grow our brand here in Strathmore and contribute to a number of different community organizations moving forward as fundraising opportunities."

The idea being RCW will reach out to groups such as local sports teams, kids or social groups, an agricultural group, etc. which may be interested in being involved with the show.

A portion of ticket sales prior to the event would go towards supporting the engaged group, whose members would also be invited to watch the show.

"Not only do we support local media and different types of advertising mediums, but our main focus is community involvement," said Hurley. "I have been in this business for 35-plus years, I have wrestled around the world, and it is great to be able to offer a product that gives back to the community."

More information regarding the upcoming show is available through the RCW website and associated social media channels.



RCMP reminds motorcyclists to stay safe this riding season

ALBERTA RCMP

Motorcycle season is around the corner and Alberta RCMP reminds riders and other motorists to watch out for one another on roadways. It's important that all motorists respect the rules of the road to ensure everyone gets home safely.

The Alberta RCMP encourages motorcyclists to adopt safe driving behaviours that reduce the risk of collisions. In Alberta RCMP jurisdictions in 2023, 280 motorcyclists and passengers were involved in a collision, of which 213 were injured and 18 were fatally injured.

Some safety tips for motorcyclists to ensure they have a safe summer are:

- Check it before you wreck it! Before getting on a bike, always do a pre-ride check. Look at your fluids, tires, lights/signals, chains, and overall condition of the motorcycle. Refer to the Alberta Transportation Rider's Guide for a checklist.
- Gear up! Both riders and passengers must wear helmets that meet safety requirements and show the date of manufacture. Wearing a proper coat, pants, boots that cover the ankles, gloves, and shatter-proof eyewear, also improve safety and reduce the risk of injuries in the event of a collision. Replace a helmet that has been damaged, and avoid buying a used one. A used helmet may have been involved in a crash and could be damaged in ways that are not obvious.
 - Stay bright and in sight! Being

small, it's important for motorcycles to stay in sight of larger vehicles and avoid blind spots. Wearing high visibility jackets and helmets, such as orange, yellow and white colours, instantly draws other motorists' eyes to you.

- Heads up! Not only can excess debris and sand from the winter months affect tire traction and motorcycle handling, but loose gravel or rocks may be unexpectedly thrown by other vehicles. Maintain a safe following distance to avoid flying debris.
- Mind your manners! Speeding in and out of traffic on a motorcycle is illegal and dangerous. Safe motorcycle handling, and sharing the road responsibly, ensures control and reduces the risk of collision.
- Know your limit, ride within it! Slow down on unfamiliar roadways and do not feel that you have to keep up to other, more experienced riders.

"May is often the beginning of riding season and a good time to be extra cautious if you're out on your bike," says Sergeant Darrin Turnbull, Alberta RCMP Traffic. "Last May we saw 38 motorcyclists involved in a collision. As motorcyclists make their way back onto roadways, we all need to pay closer attention to one another on the roads to ensure everyone gets to their destination safely. If you're in a vehicle, make sure to complete a full check before turning or changing lanes to ensure a smaller vehicle or motorcycle is not in your way."

For more traffic safety information, please follow us on Facebook (@RCM-PinAlberta) and X (@RCMPAlberta).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When community meetings involve heated opposition, it's time to take notice

To the Editor

Wheatland Hospice decided to build a hospice in Strathmore. Wheatland Housing Management Board became involved. WHMB has proposed a new 120-bed lodge. The two entities have joined their names when addressing the public.

WHMB was formed by the Alberta government during a province-wide initiative to build senior facilities in rural areas. WHMB's AHS mandate is to manage, not build facilities. Wheatland County pays \$300,000 each year, as well as each village, and Strathmore has a bill to operate WHMB lodges.

During WHMB planning, the Alberta government's new rural senior initiative granted the Shasta Senior Community to build on the Strathmore Health Centre land, a 54-bed supported living, 42-bed leveled senior care S1-4 and a hospice which will be ready in 2026. Shasta will oversee this facility privately as WHMB oversees the lodges, and AgeCare oversees Sagewood, all under the AHS umbrella.

I don't know if WHMB/Wheatland Hospice knew of the Alberta development when they asked the communities for support and money to start preparing their proposal, but now they do. WHMB and Wheatland Hospice are now building in competition to the Alberta government project.

The first community support and funding were given for WHMB to prepare a Class B budget which the government didn't accept. Now costs of materials have gone up; there is the federal five per cent interest rate and the carbon tax; this budget is obsolete.

WHMB is now asking us, the ratepayers of Wheatland County, to give \$900,000 to

pay for a Class C budget, with zero information; the scenario is "Just trust us."

This is why the fighting: no new financials of any sort are available. WHMB talks about "a letter of support," but it's the \$900,000 they want. WHMB is hoping that by having shovels in the ground before any grants or CMHC mortgage approval, they will convince the government to fund two new senior facilities at the same time.

WHMB first planned to sell the existing lodge in the Class B budget but have changed their minds. Therefore, Strathmore still has 95 supported-living rooms, Shasta is providing 54 supported living rooms. This is more beds than their initial 120 bed proposal. Plus, we now have more leveled care space, and a hospice.

If WHMB continues this project and keeps the existing lodge, the county's yearly bill is \$1 million and this number will keep climbing. In the Class B budget, it states there is no prevision for the Wheatland Hospice, so where do they fit in?

The fight is over Wheatland County wanting accountability. The county penned a new support letter with financial conditions to be met first. Strathmore has nothing to lose; the project is funded for the most part by their "in kind" land. WHMB wants the county's reserve money.

My position is that Alberta came through with a new facility for Strathmore. I believe WHMB is overstepping its mandate which is causing confusion and should stop their proposal and the Wheatland Hospice should work with Shasta to enhance the hospice experience.

Working together works

Cheryl Marshman Rockyford, AB

Tips for Emergency Preparedness Week

ALBERTA RCMP

Emergency Preparedness Week runs across Canada from May 5-11. This year's theme is "Be Prepared. Know Your Risks" with the intent to encourage Canadians to understand the risks in their area and learn what actions that they can take to protect themselves, their families, and properties.

Due to the geographic diversity of the province, there are a number of different emergency situations that can affect Albertans. We can experience infrastructure failures like power outages, train derailments, and oil spills, or natural disasters like floods, wildfires, blizzards, tornadoes, and heat waves. It is important to be prepared to respond to these emergencies as they arise, whether that means sheltering in place or evacuating to a safe location.

"The Alberta RCMP is committed to ensuring the safety of Albertans and their communities during any emergency situation, but it's important that you do your part as well," says S/Sgt. Rodney Koscielny, Officer in Charge of the Alberta RCMP Operational Readiness and Response Unit. "It's essential that everyone is taking steps to keep themselves, their property, and each other safe."

This Emergency Preparedness Week, your Alberta RCMP offers the following tips on how you can minimize risks during an emergency:

• Prepare an emergency kit that is readily accessible in case of evacuation. The kit should include water, food that won't spoil, manual can opener, wind up or battery-powered flashlight and radio, first aid kit, extra keys to cars and homes, cash, important family documents such as ID, insurance and bank records, and your emergency plan inclu-

ding contact information. It should also include any prescription medication, pet supplies, and baby food as needed.

- Create a household preparedness plan including emergency exists, evacuations routes, safe meeting spots, and important contact information. Make sure that all family members know your emergency plans, fully understand their responsibilities, and knows how to reach one another in case an emergency is declared and you are not together.
- Always make sure that your home and property are secured, so you don't have to worry about the safety of your belongings.
- If you have a pets, ensure you have identified animal-friendly accommodations in case of evacuation, or pet boarding and care facilities.
- For farms, create a list of equipment, supplies, and tools needed to evacuate or transport livestock. Keep records of equipment, livestock, and supplies on your premises. As well, have a plan to identify livestock in case of evacuations, i.e. tattoos, tags, etc.
- Ensure that you are following the instructions of emergency services. Ignoring emergency alerts and evacuations orders can put your life and the lives of your family in danger, and hinder the efforts of emergency services response offerts.

For more tips on how to prepare for emergencies visit the government website (https://www.alberta.ca/emergency-preparedness).

To stay informed about emergencies in your community, sign up for Rave Mobile Safety Alerts at www.ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca/l/rave and download the Alberta RCMP App and the Alberta Emergency Alert App from the Apple store or Google Play.



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Call 403-934-5589

Library kicks off May programming

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Municipal Library hosted a pair of events, May 3 and 4, kicking off their scheduled programming for the month.

Taking place May 3, the facility hosted an early Mother's Day craft program geared towards school-aged children to create picture frames.

"We try to do something different, of course, every year, but definitely if there is a Flex Friday before Mother's Day, we try to hold a program that reflects Mother's Day," said Laura Henderson, public services manager for the Strathmore Municipal Library.

Regarding the conversations which led to hosting the event this year, Henderson explained part of it ultimately came down to library staff seeing what the team had available in their stores of supplies and coming up with a craft utilizing what is already on hand.

Generally preparing to see up to 60 people in attendance for this type of event, the library more generally anticipates between 30 and 40 to show up and participate.

"For this one in particular, the kids were making their crafts out of popsicle sticks, and we just happened to have a lot, so we do say 'while supplies last,' but I do not think we have ever run out of supplies," said Henderson. "These are usually family programs, but we have seen a lot of kids just coming with

their older siblings who just bring the younger ones so they can kind of create something for mom, or (similarly) when we do our Father's Day one for dad and surprise their parents."

The following day, May 4, the library hosted a Local Author Showcase of local authors from around the Strathmore community.

A similar event was hosted by the library last year in June with approximately 12 authors in attendance. Once again, approximately 12 authors were registered to participate in this year's showcase.

"There is no expectation on what they write or even how they host their table. We provide them a table somewhere in the library and they can set up, they can sell their books, they can just talk to attendees about their books and their writing; it is an opportunity for our local authors to connect with the community," said Henderson. "It is pretty interesting to see, and they are not even the same authors we featured last year - some of them are for sure, but I think there are five new ones who were not attending last year, and they are not even all of whom I was in contact with.'

Authors attending the event feature works across a large range of genres, though Henderson added many of them do focus largely on children's

The authors' showcase is an event the library plans to continue to maintain on an annual basis.

Supporting nurse practitioners

CHANTELLE DE JONGE Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

The Government of Alberta recently announced the Nurse Practitioner Primary Care Program that will support nurse practitioners (NPs) to work independently and provide Albertans with more access to primary care clinics. Our government is committed to stabilizing, strengthening, and improving Alberta's primary health care system. Every Albertan should be able to access primary care when and where they need it.

Through this program, NPs will receive approximately 80 per cent of the compensation provided to family physicians who provide comprehensive primary care. Compensation will be determined based on panel size (the number of patients an NP sees) and the number of patient care hours provided. The program will enable NPs to practice comprehensive patient care autonomously and operate their own practices, or to practice autonomously in existing primary care clinics.

Nurses are an integral part of the solution to improving access to primary health care services and finalizing this funding model is an exciting step forward in our journey to refocus health care in Alberta. To be eligible for compensation through the \$15-million program, NPs must meet a number of requirements, including committing to provide medically necessary primary care services, having a panel size of at least 900 patients, providing after-hours access on weekends, evenings or holidays, and accepting walk-in appointments as they build a panel size of 900 patients. The minimum panel size of 900 is consistent with the British Columbia model.

Nurse practitioners interested in practicing through this program can now submit an expression of interest to Alberta Health. Each expression of interest will be evaluated, and NPs who meet the requirements will be sent an application form. The Nurse Practitioner Association of Alberta will help NPs throughout the application process, recruit NPs to participate in the program, and support them as they plan to work independently in an existing practice or set up their own clinics.

To learn more, please visit alberta. ca/nurse-practitioner-primary-care-pro-

I am also pleased to share that in recognition of the invaluable role that sport and recreational facilities play in fostering community well-being and promoting an active lifestyle, Alberta's Government announced an investment of \$30 million in new funding for these facilities.

The new Active Communities Initiative will support recreational facilities in every corner of our province. It is intended to support small and mid-sized projects, including indoor and outdoor hockey arenas, community pools, indoor turf centres, pickle ball courts, sports fields and courts, and other sport and recreational facilities. Beginning May 2024, eligible organizations can submit an expression of interest before submitting a more detailed package during the second round of applications.

As always, please feel free to contact me with your feedback or concerns at Chesteremere.Strathmore@assembly.

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

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

<u>Obituary</u> PILIKOWSKI,



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Kevin Peter Pilikowski of Strathmore, Alberta, de-

voted husband of Carlee, loving father to Jake and Amy, #1 father-in-law to his favourite daughter-inlaw Ashley, and proud Papa of Anna and Piper. Kevin made his exit suddenly, on Thursday, April 25, 2024, surrounded by his dear friends in a place he loved. Kevin is survived by his beloved sister Valerie (Gary), Mother-in-Law Alvine and Auntie Carol, sister-in-law Joyce (Tom), brother-in-law Randy (Sandy) and cherished nieces and nephews whom he loved so dearly. Kevin was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan to Peter and Catherine on August 7, 1955, and later moved with the family to Calgary. In his younger years, Kevin was a talented athlete and especially enjoyed playing hockey. He passed his love of sport on to his children, who he supported in all of their endeavours, always catching Amy's basketball or volleyball games or spending countless hours touring the southern Alberta arena circuit with Jake and committing his time to coaching minor baseball. He was always happy to offer sage advice for us all - always keep your stick on the ice and your eye on the ball. Kevin's granddaughters were his pride and joy. "Papa P" loved to support his girls at their dance recitals and in all of their activities (usually showing up with chocolate in

Kevin was larger than life. A man of enduring strength (you'd have to be, in order to survive as a life-long Saskatchewan Roughriders fan.) When he wasn't tending to his home and family or coaching his beloved Riders through the television, he could be found catching a blues hour and cataloguing his extensive music collection, or down at the Legion with his friends, where he was a long-time member.

Although he never made it to the Blarney Stone, Kevin was nevertheless blessed with the gift of gab. A spirited storyteller and purveyor of nicknames destined to stick like glue, an encounter with Kevin was certain to be anything but dull. Beneath his teasing nature was a tender and generous heart and always a helping hand at the ready.

Kevin retired from Calgary Transit in 2021, after 32 years of service. He started as a painter by trade and finished his career as Coordinator of Buildings for Calgary Transit Infrastructure - a testament to his tenacity and ability to solve any problem put in front of him. Kevin awoke long before dawn each day to commute to Calgary, always with the future of his children and devotion to his wife at top of mind.

Celebrating 45 years of marriage on April 14, Kevin remained devoted to caring for his beautiful wife Carlee until his very last breath.

Kevin is predeceased by his father Peter, mother Catherine, Father-in-Law Ernie, Uncles Stan and Danny and his fabled cousins.

Please join us in Celebrating the Life of Kevin Pilikowski on Friday, May 10, 2024, at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall #10 (Strathmore) from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. It was Kevin's wish that his life would be celebrated in full color - please wear whatever makes

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Kevin's name directly to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #10, Strathmore AB, 230 2 Ave, Strathmore, AB T1P

To send condolences, please visit Kevin's obituary at www.wheatlandfuneralhome.ca.

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A Sincere **THANK YOU** From the Strathmore **District Health Foundation Members**

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If you require more information please contact Bruce Clayton at the above email address.

NOTICES

Wheatland Athletic Association

ANNUAL GENERAL **MEETING**

Monday May 13, 2024

7 pm at the Charles Mercer Room in the Civic Centre

Looking for at least 3 new board members

HELP WANTED



The Golden Hills School Division invites applications for the following position:

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NOTICES



2024 NOTICE OF WEED CONTROL TREATMENTS

The Western Irrigation District will be controlling broadleaf weeds along it's right of ways for the 2024 irrigation season. The District will use 2,4-D, Milestone, Clearview and Glyphosate for weed control on driving banks and reed canary grass control along canals. This spray program will be starting in April of 2024 and will continue to the end of the irrigation season.

Also included in this weed control program will be the treatments for aquatic weeds. To control these aquatic weeds, the WID may be treating the Canals noted below on the approximate dates show during the 2024 irrigation season. The Canals will be treated with Magnicide H (Acrolein, Inhibited) to control the growth of aquatic weeds and algae.

YEAR 2024 AQUATIC TREATMENT LOCATIONS AND DATES

May 13-17 June 3-7 June 24-28 July 15-19 Aug 5-9 Aug 26-30 Sept 16-20

A - Main from Langdon Reservoir Outlet (SE 36-22-27) to Rge Rd 262 (NE 27-22-26) Glenmore Trail (SE 29-23-25) (application sites-3)

STRATHMORE DISTRICT

A - Main from Highway # 1 east of Strathmore (SW 18-23-24) to Namaka Rd (NE 33-23-24) (application sites-2)

A - Main from Namaka Rd (NE 33-23-24) to Twp 232 (Hammer Hill NE 9-23-23) (application sites-2)

GLEICHEN-CLUNY DISTRICT

Twp 242 (Hammer Hill NE 9-23-23) to Rougeau Pipeline (NW 2-23-21) (application

STRATHMORE DISTRICT

North A from Highway 817 (NE 27-24-25) to Rge Rd 231 (NE 26-23-23)

CROWFOOT DISTRICT

Standard lateral at the split/head gate and downstream (NW 34-24-24) Glenrose lateral at the split/head gate and downstream (NW 34-24-24) From Rge Rd 262 (SE 10-25-26) road crossing to the end of Standard and Glenrose

CHESTERMERE/ROCKYFORD DISTRICTS

- 1. NW 7-26-26
- 2. NE 27-26-26 3. SW 28-26-25
- 4. NE 18-26-24 Nightingale Road

or visit your community newspaper

5. NE 14-26-24 North Rockyford Pavement

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Upcoming Council Meetings

May 8, 2024 | 6 P.M. May 15, 2024 | 6 P.M. June 5, 2024 | 6 P.M.

Committe of the Whole Regular Meeting of Council 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

Are you looking for activities to keep your kids busy while they have days off from school? Look no further. Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre is now offering day camps on PD / School Closure Days!

Course ID	Dates	Days	Time	Cost
27482	May 3, 2024	F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$47.50
27483	May 17, 2024	F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$47.50
27484	Jun 7, 2024	F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$47.50
27485	Jun 28, 2024	F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$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	Time	Cost
Water Fun	Jul 2 to 5, 2024	Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$148
Spray and Play (Swim Lessons)	Jul 8 to 12, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$252
Sport and Explore	Jul 15 to 19, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$185
Multisport Adventure	Jul 22 to 26, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$185
Splash and Dash (Swim Lessons)	Jul 29 to Aug 4, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$252
Neon Days	Aug 6 to 9, 2024	Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$148
Balls and More	Aug 12 to 16, 2024	Mo, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$185
Olympic Days	Aug 19 to 23, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th, F	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$185
Let's Celebrate	Aug 26 to 29, 2024	M, Tu, W, Th,	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$148

Register for classes and camps at Strathmore.ca/RecSchedule



Become a lifeguard for **free** and start working **immediately.**

Up to 10 participants will receive free Lifeguard/ Instructor courses and future employment thanks to the National Safe Swimming Recovery Program (NSSRP), an initiative established through a collaboration between the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) and the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA).

The Strathmore Aquatic Centre is one of four Alberta facilities selected to participate in the program which aims to help hire, train, and certify lifeguards and aquatic professionals. Through the NSSRP, successful applicants are provided a 100% subsidy for registration fees associated with aquatic training programs and wage subsidies for quality employment opportunities.

To learn more about the program and eligibility criteria, call the Strathmore Aquatic Centre at 403-934-3325.



Free sports day at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre

Join in for a free, all-day, sports day on June 7, 2024! The Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre recently received a programming grant through ParticipACTION and the Government of Canada. Registration opens at 8 a.m. on May 1.Up to 40 kids, ages four and twelve can participate so make sure to register early.

Campers will enjoy wheeling around, ball sports, and outdoor water fun. Lunch and two snacks will also be provided.

To learn more, visit Strathmore.ca/camp or call the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre at 403-361-2121.

Land Use Ammendment

Upcoming Public Hearing

Purpose: to permit the construction of a semidetached dwelling and garage for each unit.

Bylaw #24-07

Staff received an application for a land use re-designation (Bylaw No. 24-07) of 62 Lakeside Blvd (Lot 19/20, Block 17, Plan 5894P). The proposed re-designation aims to permit the construction of a semi-detached dwelling and garage for each unit on 62 Lakeside Boulevard in Strathmore.



Lot 19/20, Block 17, Plan 5894P (62 Lakeside Blvd.)

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed bylaw can be found on the Town's website at **Strathmore.ca/ PublicHearing** or may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Strathmore Municipal Building (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB).

The Public Hearing will be held via ZOOM AND in Council Chambers at the Strathmore Municipal Building on **Wednesday**, **June 5**, **2024**, commencing at **6 p.m.** with procedures in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*, *Section 199* and the Town of Strathmore *Council Procedural Bylaw #23-17* and amendments thereto.

Any person or group of persons, or person acting on someone's behalf, who claims to be affected by any or all of the proposed by-law, may present their concerns and/or suggestions by making a submission at the public hearing. Please contact Legislative Services by email at Isadmin@strathmore.ca no later than noon on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, in order to register to speak at the public hearing.

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**, **May 29, 2024** 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 your time.



Town of Strathmore Adopts Economic Development Action Plan

During the March 6, 2024 Regular Council Meeting, Council was presented with the Town's Economic Development Action Plan.

To support Council's strategic priority of economic development, the Town of Strathmore has engaged the business community to conduct a comprehensive Business Needs Assessment and develop an Economic Development Action Plan. This Action Plan considers the six Strategic Priorities set by Council, including affordable housing, financial sustainability, intentional community development, climate resiliency, economic development, and community wellness. The Plan aligns with community goals and addresses the challenges identified by businesses, such as workforce shortages, housing issues, supply chain disruptions, broadband limitations, and high real estate costs.

"This Economic Development Action Plan is a practical, impactful resource designed for implementation over the next twelve months and strategic goal setting for the next three years," said Pat Fule, Mayor of the Town of Strathmore. "The Plan outcomes are ambitious, aiming to establish a baseline of business needs, facilitate well-informed decision-making, and develop a three-year framework supporting local businesses and attracting new investment."

Beyond the initial analysis, the Action Plan redefines economic development by focusing on reshaping perspectives, restructuring systems, and leveraging existing assets. It recognizes the need for a novel approach, concentrating on greenfield and brownfield land utilization for infrastructure development. The primary strategy revolves around retaining local businesses and residents, enhancing their overall capacity for success. As the community becomes more investment-ready, the plan envisions attracting

"The Economic Development Action Plan for Strathmore positions the town for growth. It leverages community strengths and assets,





envisions ambitious investments, and emphasizes collaboration and innovation. This plan is not just a document but a dynamic tool for Senior Administration and the Business Community to partner on, fostering a thriving residential and business community for Strathmore," said Angela Groeneveld, Senior Manager of Economic Sustainability and Investment.

The Plan identifies core goals, strategies to reach those goals, and action plans to utilize community assets and advantages that best support the existing business community and encourage new business investment. The three core goals identified include:

Strengthening economic development capacity; Enhancing the community's investment readiness to attract new investment; and

Strengthening and diversifying the local business ecosystem.

In summary, the Economic Development Action Plan is a comprehensive and actionable guide that empowers the Town of Strathmore to navigate challenges, capitalize on opportunities, and create a thriving residential and business center. There are details on when to ACT – advocate, champion, and team up for projects. The plan's success will benefit businesses and contribute to the community's overall well-being and prosperity.

For more information about the Economic Development Action Plan, please visit Strathmore.ca