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Art gala

Page 7



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STRATHMORE TIMES

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Town of Strathmore Municipal Notices

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Aging infrastructure needs work

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The future of five county-owned community facilities will be examined with input from operators and residents as Wheatland County weighs repair costs, consolidation and possible changes in ownership.

Council approved the review Nov. 10 after receiving building condition assessments and preliminary repair estimates.

The facilities are Namaka Hall, Cluny Community Centre, Gleichen Arena, Gleichen Community Hall and Gleichen Library.

The review will consider options ranging from priority repairs and continued operation to cost sharing, ownership transfers, consolidation, closure or demolition. Council did not approve any facility closures or a capital repair program.

Reeve Shannon Laprise said the people who operate and use the buildings must help shape what happens next.

"I think they need to be involved with the decision," she said.

Coun. Rick Laursen questioned the scale of potential spending, citing almost $2 million for Gleichen Arena and raising concerns about the cost of renovating aging halls.

"Is that building really fit for purpose as a community hall?" Coun. Laursen asked during discussion of the Cluny facility.

Reeve Laprise defended the work of local volunteers saying community groups have continued fundraising, maintaining buildings and applying for grants, but face repairs that can overwhelm their resources.

Council also directed administration to explore consolidating community services in Gleichen. Possibilities include locating library services within a renovated hall, arena or future community hub, with community engagement included in the review.

To maintain library operations while longer-term decisions are considered, council authorized administration to negotiate and execute a one-year lease extension, subject to legal review and mutually agreed terms.

Updated facility agreement templates will also be prepared to clarify responsibilities for maintenance, capital repairs, insurance and other obligations.

Administration will return to council with findings and recommendations. No official date was set for the recommendations.



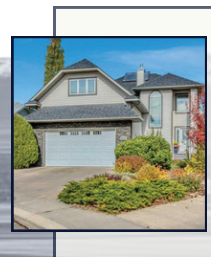
Lest we forget

An RCMP member bows her head during the Remembrance Day service on Nov. 11 at the Strathmore Royal Canadian Legion Branch #10. Local dignitaries took part in the outdoor ceremony, held on the closed section of 2nd Avenue in front of the Legion. See Page 5 for more coverage.

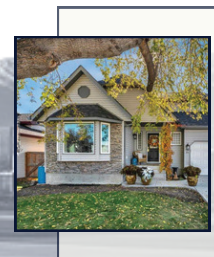
Joe Lepage Photo

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Raising funds

Guests dressed in their finest for the first Wear It Again Gala, hosted by Rescued Paws at Alpine Foundation on Nov. 14 at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 10 in Strathmore. The evening featured dinner, a silent auction and a 50/50 draw, with proceeds supporting veterinary care for rescued dogs.

Joe Lepage Photo







Gallery Gala dazzles

Invited guests browsed original artwork and handcrafted pottery at the Wheatland Society of Arts' third annual Gallery Style Art Show and Sale Gala on Nov. 13. The event featured creations by the society's art instructors, pottery instructors and members, and celebrated 40 years of providing art opportunities to the community.

Joe Lepage Photos

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Video prompts SPCA probe

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

An online video showing cattle being struck and prodded at the Calgary Stockyards in Strathmore has triggered an investigation by the Alberta SPCA.

The footage, reportedly shot by drone on Oct. 22, appears to show workers repeatedly hitting cattle with sticks or paddles and using electric prods as the animals were loaded onto transport trucks.

In several instances, cattle appear to be struck while caught in gates. In one, an animal's head appears to be hit by a closing gate.

On Oct. 28, Animal Justice, a national animal law organization, filed complaints with the Alberta SPCA and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), alleging the handling shown in the video could violate provincial and federal animal protection laws.

The Alberta SPCA confirmed it has assigned a peace officer to examine the video and investigate the complaint.

The organization said it is working to verify the allegations and determine what action may be needed, in cooperation with the CFIA and Animal Justice.

The CFIA is responsible for enforcing federal rules on the humane transportation of animals, including their loading and unloading.

Depending on what the investigation finds, possible outcomes range from education for stockyard workers to warning letters or charges.



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Phytokana plant to bring new jobs, market for local crops

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A new plant protein processing facility in Strathmore is expected to create 27 permanent jobs and give local farmers another market for their faba bean crops.

Phytokana Ingredients Inc.'s $45-million dry fractionation facility, marked by a Nov. 13 ground breaking at 84 Orchard Way, will turn locally grown faba beans into protein concentrate and flour for food and beverage manufacturers.

Mayor Pat Fule said the project will bring benefits to Strathmore and farmers throughout the surrounding region, creating construction jobs, permanent employment and, once the plant is operating and applicable incentives have run their course, property tax revenue for the town.

For growers, he said, the facility offers another crop option backed by a dependable buyer.

"They can grow this crop and they've got a consistent and a constant purchaser that will use their faba beans for their protein product," said Fule. "So, it's pretty exciting."

President and CEO Chris Theal said access to crops was a major factor in choosing Strathmore. The surrounding mix of irrigated and dryland farms gives the company an opportunity to source the beans it needs within about a two-hour drive.

The company considered five southern Alberta municipalities before selecting Strathmore, he said. Competitive incentives and support from the town, mayor and council also helped bring the project to the community.

Fule said council's enthusiasm began when Theal first presented the proposal in October 2021.

"He knew his product (and) he knew what needed to be done," he said.

The mayor credited the town's administration and planning department for helping move the project forward. He also thanked the Western Irrigation District for its work with the town to make the land available for purchase.

Fule hopes the investment will encourage other agricultural technology companies to consider Strathmore, with Phytokana's experience helping demonstrate what the community can offer.

"We hope that it'll be a catalyst," he said.

Speaking ahead of the groundbreaking, Theal said site preparation was already underway, with excavation for foundations expected to follow the next week.

"Basically, once we get going, it's about a 14-month construction cycle and then we start commissioning the facility," said Theal.

The company expects to begin producing ingredients that meet commercial specifications in late 2027 or early 2028.

Theal estimated construction would involve about 54 jobs over the course of the project. Once operating, the plant is expected to employ 27 people across three shifts.

Most major construction contracts have been filled, although additional support services will be tendered as work progresses, he said.

For farmers, the plant will create demand for an initial 30,000 metric tonnes of faba beans annually. Its layout has been designed to accommodate a second phase that would double capacity to 60,000 tonnes. Theal said the company anticipates that expansion in 2030.

Phytokana plans to offer production contracts for the 2027 growing season and pay a premium for beans that meet its requirements.



Community leaders and industry partners celebrate the ground breaking of Pytokana's new processing facility in Strathmore on Nov. 13, marking an investment in local jobs, area farmers and the town's agricultural future.

Melissa Crispin-Piche Photo

Inside the facility, beans will be inspected, cleaned and stripped of their outer hulls before being sorted to remove damaged or unsuitable beans. A microbial reduction step will prepare them for food use.

The beans will then be milled into fine flour and separated using air currents. Larger, heavier starch particles separate from smaller, lighter protein particles, producing a concentrate containing about 70 per cent protein, along with a starch-rich flour that retains some protein.

Theal said the dry separation process uses no chemicals, heat or water.

"So, it's a clean label ingredient at the end of the day, and it has a very, you know, low environmental footprint," said Theal.

Fule said the ability to turn locally grown crops into protein ingredients for use elsewhere in the world is another appealing part of the project. He pointed to the potential for those ingredients to increase the protein content of foods and help meet nutritional needs.

Automation is another significant part of the investment. Theal said the company is spending about $3 million on additional automation and machine learning to improve reliability, energy efficiency and product consistency.

The system will adjust equipment to account for changing conditions, including temperature, humidity and moisture in the beans. The goal is to produce consistent ingredients from one batch to the next, something Theal said food manufacturers identified as a priority.

The company is developing international markets for those ingredients, with particular attention to the Asia-Pacific region.

"Our customers are looking for protein and fibre solutions for the spectrum of food or beverages that they're making," said Theal.

He said the company's sales agreements extend beyond Canada, connecting crops grown near Strathmore with food and beverage manufacturers abroad.

Fule also expressed appreciation for the participation of Siksika Nation representatives Coun. Jamie Spring Chief and Elder Clarence Wolfleg in the groundbreaking, including the smudge and blessings offered at the construction site. He said the project's potential extends beyond town boundaries, benefiting neighbouring agricultural communities as well.

For nearby residents, Theal expects limited disruption from construction and the plant's eventual operation. The company has completed a transportation assessment, and major earthmoving equipment was already on site ahead of the ceremony.

As construction moves forward, Theal said the company's focus is on establishing dependable production for its customers.

"That's really the commitment that we're making with this plant is to be a stable, reliable supplier," said Theal.

Phytokana also scheduled a public information session for Nov. 17 at the Travelodge in Strathmore, with a presentation on the company and information about production contracts for the 2027 growing season.

STRATHMORE TIMES

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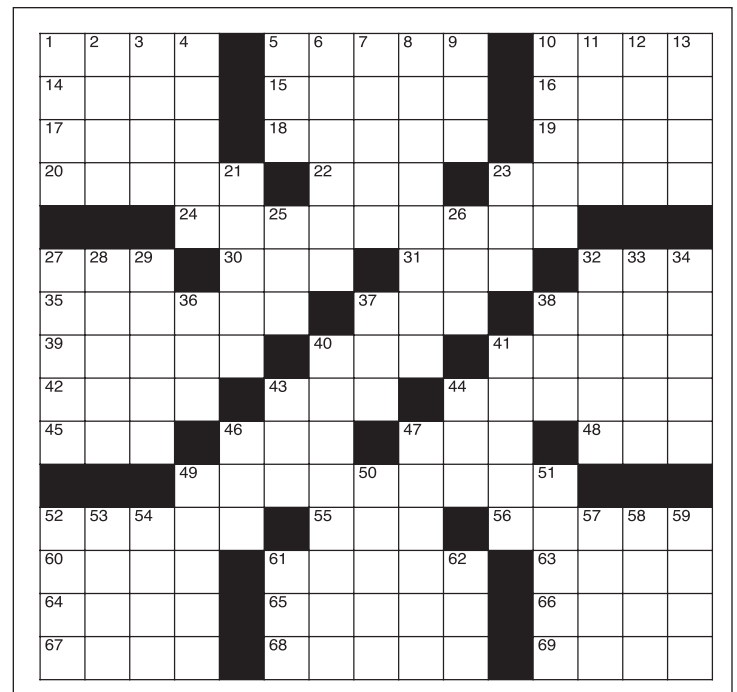
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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Local Journalism Initiative. Canada





CLUES ACROSS

1. Perceive a sound
5. Pretends to be
10. Type of guitar
14. Actor Idris
15. A citizen of Iran
16. Creative
17. Keep under control
18. Weight unit for precious stones
19. You better call him
20. Fanatical
22. Male cat
23. Jewish spiritual leader
24. One who takes risks
27. A way to nail
30. Cool!
31. Progressive policy supporter
32. "Losing My Religion" rockers
35. Step-shaped recess
37. Round globular seed
38. Somewhat
39. Butterhead lettuces
40. Color at the end of the spectrum
41. Lines where fabrics are sewn together
42. Dodgers great Hershiser
43. Floor covering
44. Traveled aimlessly
45. Rocker Stewart
46. Body art
47. Congressman (abbr.)
48. No seats available
49. Categorizes
52. Iraq-Syria border town
55. Ballplayer's tool
56. Type of sword
60. Baseball team
61. Upper bracts of grass
63. Italian seaport
64. Ancient city in Syria
65. Shoelace tube
66. U. of Miami mascot is one
67. South American nation
68. "Nebraska" director Alexander
69. Upper body part

CLUES DOWN

1. German courtesy title
2. Ancient Greek City
3. Skin care manufacturer
4. A long-legged frog
5. Photo
6. Delivered a speech
7. Lute in northern Indian music
8. Decorated
9. Take a seat
10. Bottom layer
11. Type of horse
12. Ticket part
13. Defunct currency of Guinea
21. Challenges
23. Popular BBQ food
25. Subway rodent
26. By way of
27. Shady garden alcove
28. City in Egypt
29. __ and flowed
32. Large quantities of paper
33. Eurasian wheat
34. Act incorrectly
36. Layer of water right above sediment (abbr.)
37. Al Bundy's wife
38. Ocean
40. Large, round root
41. Sound units
43. Knock
44. Soak in water
46. Hot drink
47. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
49. Rumanian city
50. Come back from being down
51. Vaccine developer
52. Canadian law enforcers
53. Wings
54. "Perry Mason" actor Raymond
57. Small fry
58. __ Clapton, musician
59. Gamble
61. Semi-liquid food
62. Consumed food



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STRATHMORE TIMES

Upcoming Concerts:

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May 1, 2027— Luminous Voices with special guests the Rosebud Choir

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Thought for the Week

~

Could it be that painful lessons are often doorways to new opportunities?

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8				1	4	2		
								9

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Award winners

Grade 10 student Zion Nelson (l-r), Abbie Skene (Grade 12) and Layal Sarhan (Grade 11) were named the Academic Achievement Award winners during the Strathmore High School Awards Ceremony on Nov. 12 at the SHS Theatre. Skene, who is currently attending the University of British Columbia Okanagan Campus with a focus in Biology, was also presented with the Governor General Bronze Medal Award.

Joe Lepage Photos

Growing Alberta

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Alberta is proving that we can grow our economy while protecting the environment and investing in the services Albertans rely on. Last week, our government built on Alberta's economic success, expanded health care and seniors housing, and stood up for the rights of law-abiding firearms owners.

There is good news for Alberta's economy. Our province's economy grew by 3.3 per cent in 2025, compared with 1.9 per cent across Canada. That's the strongest growth among Canada's provinces, ahead of B.C., Ontario, and Quebec. Alberta has now outpaced the national average for four straight years. Our government is building on that success by keeping taxes competitive, attracting investment, and advancing major projects that support jobs and growth. Through Alberta-made technology and partnerships with industry, we are creating jobs, attracting investment, and strengthening Alberta's position as a global energy superpower.

As our province grows, our government is investing $39 million to support planning and land purchases for nine new urgent health care centres across Alberta. Once operational, these centres will more than double our province's urgent care network from six to 15 locations. They will provide same-day treatment for urgent but non-life-threatening health concerns, giving families more care options closer to home. The expansion is expected to redirect up to 300,000 visits from hospital emergency departments each year, helping ease pressure on busy emergency rooms and improve access to health care for Albertans.

Alberta's seniors have contributed to their families and our province, and they deserve to age with dignity close to the people and places they know best. Our government is making $250 million in funding available to build and upgrade 850 seniors housing and care spaces across Alberta. This includes $200 million to create 550 new care spaces for seniors who need daily support and medical care, and $50 million to build or upgrade 300 affordable seniors lodge units. These investments will help more seniors access affordable housing and the daily care they need while staying close to their families and communities.

Alberta's government is investing nearly $14 million in artificial intelligence technology to help get MRI scans sooner. By using this technology on existing MRI machines, hospitals can complete scans faster while maintaining high-quality images. Once fully implemented, this investment is expected to increase MRI capacity by 20 per cent, allowing more than 41,000 additional scans each year. Since testing began in 2025, the technology has already helped deliver nearly 12,000 additional scans across Alberta. Our government is making better use of existing equipment to reduce wait times, help doctors diagnose health concerns sooner, and ensure Albertans get the care they need when they need it.

Our government is also standing up for law-abiding firearms owners in Alberta. We are joining Saskatchewan and Ontario in intervening in a Supreme Court of Canada appeal challenging the federal government's 2020 firearms ban. We believe hunters, farmers, and sport shooters who responsibly follow the law should be treated fairly. We want public safety efforts focused on violent criminals and the trafficking of illegal firearms, while respecting the rights of lawful firearms owners. By making Alberta's case before the Supreme Court, we are standing up for responsible firearms owners and ensuring Alberta's voice is heard.

From growing our economy to strengthening health care and supporting seniors, our government is focused on the priorities that matter to Albertans. We will continue building a stronger, more prosperous province while protecting the freedoms and opportunities that make Alberta the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

As always, please 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)

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Remembering our veterans

Veterans, local politicians and members of the community gathered at the Strathmore Royal Canadian Legion Branch #10 on Nov. 11 for the town's Remembrance Day ceremony, standing together to honour those who served and sacrificed.

Joe Lepage Photos









StrathMania 3

Real Canadian Wrestling delivered a thrilling night of hard-hitting action at the Strathmore Ag Pavilion on Nov. 13, as fans packed the venue for StrathMania 3. The evening's main event saw Strathmore's own Steve Wilde step into the steel cage for a highly anticipated showdown. The excitement is set to continue when Real Canadian Wrestling returns to Strathmore on Feb. 19, promising another action-packed night of high-flying moves.

Joe Lepage Photos



Building damage

A minivan collided into the Aurora Capital Partners building on Second Ave. on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 10:43 a.m. Crews cleaned up the scene, towed away the van and boarded up the damaged area within four hours of the accident. Crews returned Monday morning to begin repairs on the building.

Mario Prusina Photo

Valley Medical Clinic
STRATHMORE ALBERTA

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Mental health and wellness support is available 24 hours a day at the Hope for Wellness Helpline: **1-855-242-3310** or **www.HopeForWellness.ca**

Home tourney

The three U13 teams representing the Strathmore Minor Hockey Association hosted their annual tournament Nov. 13-15, with games taking place at the Strathmore Family Centre and Standard Arena. Pictured are games from Strathmore A (T2) versus the Brooks Bandits, Strathmore C (T6) versus Medicine Hat, and Strathmore B (T4) versus the Airdrie Lightning.

Joe Lepage Photos


Strathmore U13C


Strathmore U13C


Strathmore U13B


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WHEATLAND COUNTY

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.

November 24, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Committee of the Whole
December 1, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting
December 8, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission

For call-in details, access links, and agenda packages, please visit our website.
https://wheatlandcounty.ca/agendasandminutes/

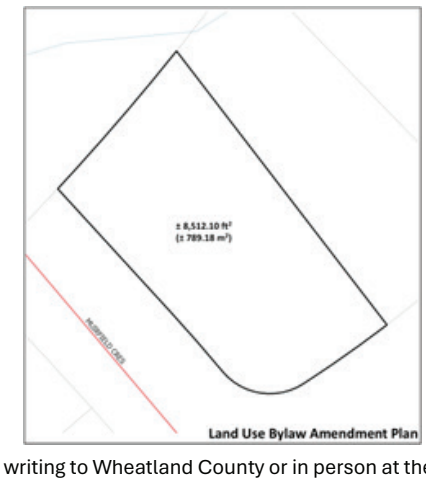




Public Hearings
Wheatland County Council Chambers December 15th, 2026 at 9 a.m.

Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the regular Council meeting on Tuesday, December 15th, 2026.
The following public hearings begin at 9 a.m. and proceed until all applications have been heard:

File No: LU2026-007
Bylaw #: 2026-19
Location: Lot 127, Block 11, Plan 2211277 – Lakes of Muirfield
Proposal: To amend Direct Control District (DC-7) within the Land Use Bylaw, allowing Parks, Minor as a permitted use on Lot 127, Block 11, Plan 2211277, in order to facilitate the future development of the lands as a playground and/or public community space.



Land Use Bylaw Amendment Plan

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 13(1) of Alberta's Protection of Privacy Act. Any personal information on submissions made regarding applications is collected under the authority of the Protection of Privacy Act, Section 4(c) that information relates directly to and is necessary for an operating program or activity of the public body.

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











Great home showing

The Strathmore Spartans senior boys and girls basketball teams hosted the 4A South Central Zone Championship Nov. 13-14. Despite already qualifying for the provincial championship as the host team later this month, the senior boys also won the zone championship as a good tune up for when they host Alberta's best teams Nov. 25-28. Meanwhile, the lady Spartans finished the zone championship in third place and need to wait to see if they can still earn a wildcard spot into provincials.

Joe Lepage Photos

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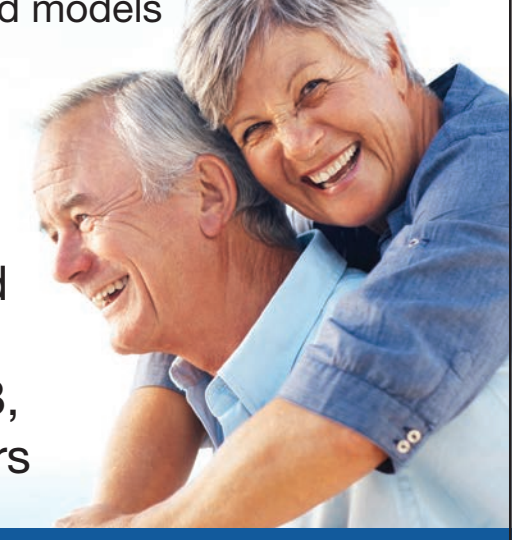
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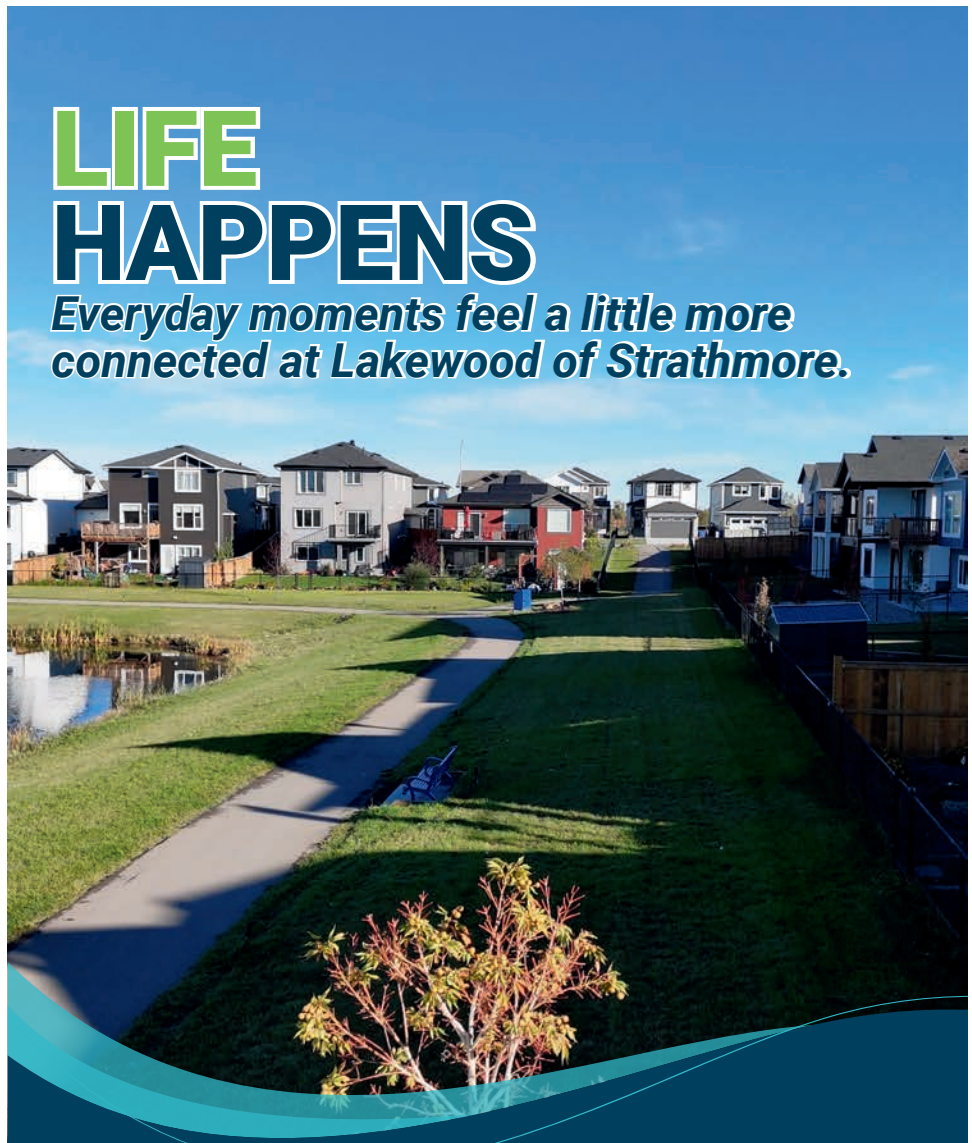
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For Katie Richardson, success in Ontario will mean more than stopping shots





15-year old-Katie Richardson anchors the defence as goalie on her all-boys lacrosse team. Richardson is getting game ready as she prepares for the Borderwars Tournament in Ontario next month.

Photos Courtesy of Terry Williams

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

When Katie Richardson heads to Ontario for the Borderwars lacrosse tournament this December, she will be thinking about more than the scoreboard.

The 15-year-old goalie, who has played with boys for most of her lacrosse career, wants to compete well. She also wants to feel she belongs.

"I think, just getting along with the team, and my teammates, and not being pushed out because I am one of the few girls on the team," she said when asked what would make the trip successful.

Richardson, a Grade 10 student at Strathmore High School, will compete in the tournament's U17 boys division. It will be her first appearance at Borderwars, joining a roster that includes both familiar opponents and players she has yet to meet.

"I know a couple of them through other teams," she said. "I played against them in regular season."

Playing alongside boys is familiar territory for Richardson, who has been in net since U11. Although she remembers little about her first game as a goalie, she recalls being the only player who wanted the position.

That willingness has carried her into increasingly competitive lacrosse. Asked whether she feels she has something to prove, Richardson said playing with boys comes naturally, though she still wants to show she can keep up.

"Well, it's kind of second nature, but I always try to prove that I'm able to play to their standards and levels," she said. "I don't worry too much about the ball - just try to worry about where it might go."

Richardson's experience also includes representing Alberta at nationals, earning two bronzes and silver in 2026.

Another highlight came this year in Kelowna, where a tournament fell during her birthday.

"Well, I think even this year, getting to go to Kelowna during my birthday was pretty good, 'cause then we did win gold in that tournament," she said.

Those opportunities come with a demanding schedule. Travel often falls on holiday weekends or during the summer, making it easier to manage around school. Training during the school year can be more difficult, with some evenings keeping her out until about 10 p.m., followed by a shower and homework.

Still, Richardson is looking beyond her next tournament. She hopes to pursue a place on Canada's women's team, a goal that would mean more work and competition in the years ahead.

For now, the sport offers plenty to keep her coming back: teammates, friendships and another game to prepare for.

Asked what she would tell another girl considering becoming a goalie, Richardson pointed to everything that comes with joining a team.

"You make so many friends, and you get so many experiences, even as goalie," she said.

And there is always something ahead to look forward to: another practice, another game, and this December, a chance to test herself with a new team in Ontario.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring Katie and her team they can email j.m.richardson@hotmail.com for more information.



Wheatland weighs future of bridges as infrastructure costs mount

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County is preparing to examine whether some bridges should be retired as it faces an estimated $19 million annual shortfall in infrastructure replacement funding.

Council voted Nov. 10 to have administration draft a major infrastructure asset retirement policy. The policy would establish how the county evaluates assets for possible retirement, including public consultation, costs and site restoration.

Staff identified four bridge assets in the draft five-year capital plan as possible candidates for further review. No bridge closures were approved.

The financial pressure is substantial. Administration said the estimated annual funding gap excludes recent inflation and is expected to grow as the county updates its asset management information. Staff also described infrastructure replacement demand exceeding $200 million over the next decade.

Coun. Glenn Koester urged council to involve residents before making decisions about bridges they rely on.

"It is a big deal closing one of them bridges," Coun. Koester said.

He recalled an earlier bridge closure in his area that still generates complaints and called for direct notice to affected residents.

Reeve Shannon Laprise said the county must confront the cost of maintaining its existing infrastructure.

"We've got an asset management plan that we can't afford," she said.

Administration said its initial screening considered traffic impacts, alternative access, existing detours and effects on farming and industry.

Possible alternatives to retirement could include local improvement taxes or other arrangements allowing benefiting property owners to contribute toward an asset's continued operation or replacement.

The policy will return to council for consideration. Decisions on individual assets would follow further review.

Notice of Application
Confined Feeding Operation

The Hutterian Brethren of Sunshine, operating as New Horizon Colony, have filed Application LA26054 with the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) to obtain an approval to construct a new confined feeding operation (CFO) on the NW 8-24-19 W4M in Wheatland County, Alberta. The application is to construct a layer barn with attached manure storage, a pullet barn, and two broiler barns for 50,000 chicken layers, 50,000 chicken pullets, and 80,000 chicken broilers.

Filing a response
Any person who is directly affected by the application may submit a written response to the NRCB. The response must be received by the NRCB on or before **4:30 pm** on **December 16, 2026**. Respondents are encouraged to use the online response form on the NRCB website as it provides a simple and convenient way to submit a response. Alternatively, submissions may also be made to the NRCB at the email or mailing address provided below. All attachments sent electronically must be in a pdf format. A copy of the responses will be sent to the applicant for comment. Responses regarding the application may be posted on the NRCB's public website, as they are public records and are non-confidential.

Your written response must include your name, the legal land description of your residence or landholdings, mailing address, phone number, and email. You must also explain how you are directly affected. For further information please refer to the fact sheet "The Permitting Process for Confined Feeding Operations in Alberta" at www.nrcb.ca.

Failure to submit a written response affects your right to apply for an NRCB Board review.

Viewing the application
A complete copy of the application and supporting documents submitted by the applicant under the *Agricultural Operation Practices Act* may be viewed on the NRCB website at www.nrcb.ca (under Confined Feeding Operations / Notice of Approval and Registration Applications). The application will also be available for in-person viewing at the Lethbridge office by appointment. If you require further information, please contact the approval officer listed below.

Subscribe for updates
Sign up on the NRCB website to receive updates about new notices of application and decisions about confined feeding operations in your area. Visit www.nrcb.ca/confined-feeding-operations and scroll down to "Subscribe for Updates".

Carina Weisbach, Approval Officer
100, 5401 1st Ave S
Lethbridge AB T1J 4V6
403-892-0408
carina.weisbach@nrcb.ca

The closing date for submissions:
4:30 pm on **December 16, 2026**

Dated at Lethbridge AB on November 18, 2026

NRCB | Natural Resources Conservation Board





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Goldfinch water project budget doubles to $3 million

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council approved a $1.5-million increase to the Goldfinch raw water supply project budget Nov. 10, with additional costs above the original construction contract value to be recovered from the project's surety.

The decision brings the approved budget to $3 million. Administration said the original contractor went into receivership in March, prompting the county to make a claim against its performance bond. Staff told council the surety had accepted liability and confirmed its financial commitment in writing.

The county remains responsible for its contractual costs, including change orders. Administration said the surety is responsible for covered additional costs arising from completion of the work.

The pipeline is already installed and supplying water to the developer. Much of the remaining work involves mechanical components for a connection intended to provide backup raw water to the Speargrass Water Treatment Plant.

Staff said the replacement civil construction contract came in about $500,000 above the amount originally budgeted. The mechanical and electrical work received no bids in an earlier tender round and was being retendered after its scope was adjusted.

Some councillors questioned approving additional spending authority before final prices were available.

"I'd feel way more comfortable not ball parking it and knowing the actual costs," Deputy Reeve Scott Klassen said.

Administration explained that the county needed an approved budget before it could proceed, even where costs would ultimately be recovered. Initial expenditures would come from existing cash and investments, followed by reimbursement.

Council carried the budget increase. Final tender prices and the eventual recovery from the surety will determine how much of the additional spending authority is used.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Investment plan repeats an old Canadian mistake

To the Editor

Prime Minister Mark Carney's push to attract $1 trillion in global capital is being sold to Canadians as the surest way to boost our lagging standard of living. Yet there is a critical flaw in this strategy that ordinary taxpayers have seen play out before: confusing foreign-funded GDP growth with income that actually stays in Canadian pockets.

Economists measure a nation's true prosperity using Gross National Income (GNI) per capita (that is, your annual income), the wealth retained by citizens after foreign investors take their profits home. While countries like Sweden maintain higher GNI per capita by keeping ownership of their major industries and pairing fierce market competition with strong public investment, Canada has repeatedly hollowed out its national income by exporting the profits from our natural resources and public infrastructure.

Canadians know this pattern well. In Alberta, taxpayer-built electric transmission lines were privatized and eventually sold to US-based Berkshire Hathaway, locking ratepayers into paying guaranteed profits to a foreign conglomerate for decades. Federally, taxpayers shouldered more than $34 billion in construction risks for the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion, only for Ottawa to plan its eventual sale to private buyers once the risky work is done.

Now, Budget 2026 promises $36 billion in corporate tax write-offs, public loan guarantees, and "asset recycling" of major public infrastructure to lure foreign buyers. While foreign capital may create temporary construction jobs, subsidizing upfront corporate risks while allowing foreign shareholders to capture long-term profits will not close our GNI gap.

If Ottawa wants to raise Canadian living standards, it should stop acting as a risk-absorber for foreign corporations and instead mobilize our own massive domestic pension funds and public equity, so the long-term wealth built in Canada stays with Canadians.

Ken Riley,
Bassano

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TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary

MCELROY, Bette-Jean
March 1962 – November 2026

Bette-Jean McElroy of Strathmore, Alberta, passed away on November 10, 2026, after a brief battle with cancer.

Bette-Jean will be reunited with her parents, Ralph and Jessie McElroy, and siblings George Anderson and Donna Sevcik.

She is survived by her nephews and niece: David (Margo), Russell, and Colleen; great-nephews and great-nieces Susanne, Luke, Jake, and Marika; and brother-in-law Marvin.

Born and raised on a farm in the Hussar area, Bette-Jean was active in the Hussar 4-H Beef Club.

She attended SAIT and, after graduation, worked as a Laboratory Technician at Core Laboratories and Alpha Dairy. Not wanting to be 40 years old and working in a lab, she became a Registered Nurse. Bette-Jean did a period of travel nursing and worked in Lubbock, Texas; Hartford, Connecticut; and Sarasota, Florida. Once returning to Calgary, she worked at the Foothills and Peter Lougheed Hospitals.

Bette-Jean had a love for travel and a curiosity about the world. After spending a year in Australia on an agricultural exchange, the travel bug had hit her. She visited some seventy countries, with the continent of Africa holding a special place in her heart. She was always at her best when planning that next great adventure.

In accordance with Bette-Jean's wishes, there will be no funeral service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Ralph McElroy 4-H Scholarship at Box 128, Hussar, Ab, T0J 1S0 or Foothills Country Hospice at www.countryhospice.org .

As Bette-Jean always said, "Sunset is my favourite colour."

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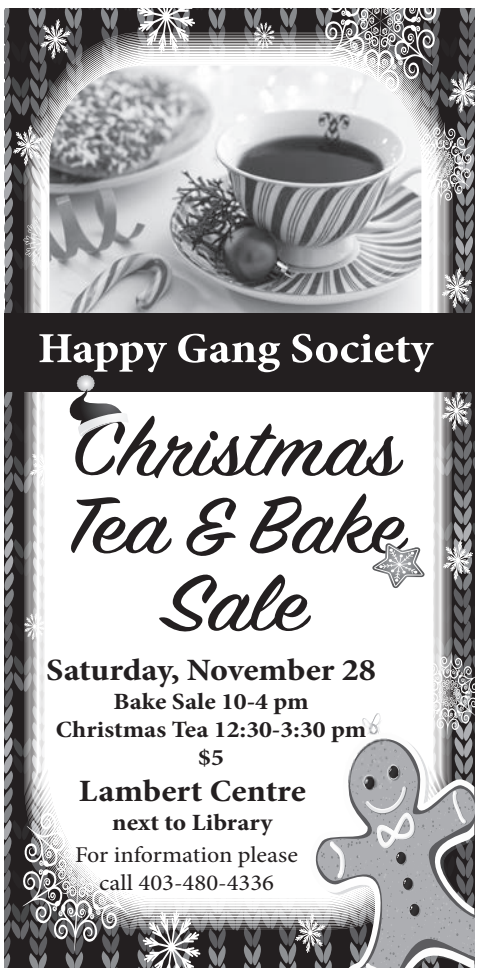
SEASONAL LABOURERS REQUIRED FOR 2027 GREENHOUSE OPERATION

Responsibilities include transplanting, watering, handling & maintenance of plant material and preparation of orders. Labourers are required to work a minimum of 40 hours per week and must be available to work different shifts, 7 days a week. Positions are available starting mid February and last until late June and/or October. No previous work experience or qualifications required. Starting wage is $18.34 per hour. Hiring for both Standard and Rockyford locations.

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Upcoming Council Meetings

November 18, 2026 | 6 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council
November 24, 2026 | 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council (Budget)
November 25, 2026 | 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council (Budget)

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.



In the arms of the (snow) angel.

Be Someone's Snow Angel.

While the winter season makes for a beautiful snowscape, it also comes with its icy challenges. Navigating icy sidewalks can be daunting, especially forthose who face mobility limitations or health concerns. Shoveling those same sidewalks is an even more daunting challenge. This is where the Strathmore Snow Angels Program comes in. Here's how it works:

- **Identify those in need.** Residents needing snow removal help are marked with a Snow Angel sign, letting you know they could use a helping hand keeping their walkways clear during the winter months.
- **Be a Snow Angel.** Spread you snowy wings and help out your neighbour by clearing their sidewalk, driveways, and paths. You don't need to register, just look for a Snow Angel sign and help out.

Need the Snow Angels help? Call FCSS at 403-934-9090 to request a sign or visit the Strathmore Municipal Building. Visit **Strathmore.ca/SnowAngels** for more information.

Join our team.

Career opportunities available.

Are you looking for a new opportunity? The Town of Strathmore is hiring! We have a variety of positions available across different departments.

Check out **Strathmore.ca/Careers** for more information about current opportunities and discover your bright future with the Town of Strathmore.

Help Keep Hydrants From Looking Like Snowmen.

Adopt a Hydrant.

Winter's heavy snowfall can quickly turn fire hydrants into snowmen lookalikes, making them difficult for firefighters to locate and access during emergencies. By adopting a hydrant and helping keep it clear of snow, ice, and other obstructions year-round, you can help emergency crews save valuable time when every second counts.

Visit Strathmore.ca/Adopt-A-Hydrant to learn more and sign up. With more than 370 hydrants located throughout town, there are plenty of opportunities to become a proud hydrant adopter and help keep the community safe.

2026-2027.

Waste Collection Schedule

The new waster collection schedule for the 2026-2027 year is available.

Black Carts: Weekly pick-up year round.

Green Carts: Weekly pick-up May through October, biweekly November through April.

Blue Carts: Biweekly pick-up year round.

For more information about our waste collection schedules, routes, and important dates, visit: Strathmore.ca/WasteSchedule.

Good food, great food.

Get the Good Food Box.

The Good Food Box is a non-profit organization offering access to quality produce while ensuring variety, freshness and affordability. It is is brought to you by your community, packed by volunteers and delivered to Strathmore through FCSS. This program is accessible for everyone regardless of income level. For more information, visit **Strathmore.ca/GoodFoodBox**

Notice of Public Hearing.
November 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Bylaw No. 26-07, Municipal Development Plan Amendment No. 3 (MDP Review - Module A)

Public Hearing Process

Please be advised that the Town of Strathmore is proposing a series of modular update amendments to the Municipal Development Plan that will collectively amount to the completion of the Town's Municipal Development Plan Review. **Bylaw 26-07** is the first modular amendment to the Municipal Development Plan and focuses on growth management, fiscal sustainability, economic development, and agricultural operations. Bylaw 26-07 also includes implementation, monitoring, and review policy updates, as well as updates to introductory sections, along with a range of technical and stylistic updates.

A copy of the proposed bylaw can be found on the Town of Strathmore website 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). 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, November 18, 2026,** commencing at **6:00 pm** with procedures in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Section 199 and the Town of Strathmore Council Procedural Bylaw No. 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 **Thursday, November 12, 2026**, 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 12:00 noon on **Thursday, November 12, 2026**, as outlined in Bylaw No. 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 five 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.

Water Restriction Notice.

Starting **November 4, 2026,** Stage 4 Outdoor Water Restrictions and indoor water conservation measures will be in effect for approximately four weeks while crews connect the new Bearspaw South Feeder Main to Calgary's exisitng water system.

Stage 4 Outdoor Water Restrictions mean no outdoor water use is permitted, including:

- No watering lawns, gardens, flowers, trees, or shrubs using City water.
- No washing down outdoor surfaces, including exterior building surfaces, windows, sidewalks, driveways or walkways, unless required for health and safety reasons.
- No water use for construction purposes such as grading, compaction or dust control.
- No washing vehicles outdoors, unless required for health and safety reasons.
- No outdoor snow or ice making.

Indoor conservtion measures include:

- Runnig dishwashers and washing machines only when full.
- Flushing toilets only when needed.
- Taking shorter showers, aiming for three minutes.

For more information, visit: **https://www.calgary.ca/water/drought/outdoor-water-restrictions.html?redirect=/restrictions#cocis-maincontent**