NOVEMBER 4, 2026



Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association

Locally Owned & Operated

STRATHMORE TIMES

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 44

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Silver winners

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Spooky night

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Alert criteria explained

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

An attempted armed robbery at the Wheatland Hotel on the evening of Oct. 24 prompted a town-wide shelter-in-place advisory in Strathmore as police searched for a suspect believed to be carrying a firearm.

Strathmore RCMP responded to the hotel at approximately 10:46 p.m. Police say a suspect entered with a firearm and demanded money but fled after an employee activated a panic alarm.

A second suspect entered the hotel at the same time and left with the armed suspect. According to RCMP, the pair drove away in a silver Chrysler 300.

The incident brought a large police response, including the RCMP Emergency Response Team, while residents were asked to remain inside their homes. Police also asked the public to follow officers' directions and avoid posting photographs of responding officers on social media.

The shelter-in-place advisory remained in effect for approximately three hours before being lifted early Sunday. In its Oct. 25 update, RCMP said the suspect had not been located but was no longer believed to be in the area.

Strathmore's RCMP staff sergeant Mark Wielgosz said the detachment followed standard practice by posting shelter-in-place updates on Facebook.

Looking back, he said, police could have focused the advisory more closely on the immediate area of the incident. He said the emergency alert system is reserved for extreme situations and that this incident did not meet the threshold for its use.

RCMP Cpl. Gina Slaney, Public Information Officer with the Alberta RCMP Media Group helped to explain the criteria they follow when evaluating situations like these called Police Initiated Public Alert (PIPA). She stated that a review of the file confirmed the incident did not meet the criteria for a PIPA through the emergency alert system.

Continued on Page 4



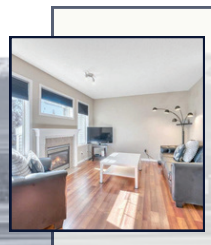
Skatemore party!

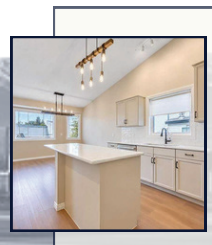
Skatemore Girls hosted an all-ages Halloween party at the Strathmore Skatepark on Saturday, Oct. 31, offering a fun community gathering for local skateboarders and families. Trick-or-treaters were invited to stop by for an evening of live music, open mic performances, games, crafts, skateboarding and candy.

Joe Lepage Photo

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Costumes on ice

Young skaters hit the ice for the town's Halloween community skate on Nov. 1 at the Strathmore Family Centre, with some wearing costumes to mark the occasion. **Joe Lepage Photos**



Cluny sewer financing scenarios show monthly charges of up to $107.51

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Replacing a wastewater line in Cluny could carry a substantial monthly cost for utility customers, according to financing scenarios included in Wheatland County's Oct. 20 council agenda package.

The illustration divides repayment for a $650,000 project among 39 utility accounts.

With a 50 per cent subsidy, the estimated charge would be $53.76 a month per account. If users covered the full repayment, that figure would rise to $107.51.

Over a year, those amounts would add approximately $645 or $1,290 to an account's costs.

The figures are financing examples. They do not establish a charge residents have been approved to pay.

The Cluny work involves the Second Avenue wastewater line. A separate illustration for work on Crawford Street in Gleichen shows monthly charges ranging from $12.27 to $20.45.

Both examples show how infrastructure costs can fall on a small customer base. In Cluny, the amount of county support would make a difference of more than $50 a month in the scenarios presented.

The potential project charges are separate from the county's 2027 utility-rate changes. Council's approval of the annual fee bylaw does not, by itself, approve the sewer-financing amounts.

As capital-budget discussions continue, the remaining questions include how much support the county would provide and how much users would be expected to repay.

Until those choices are made, the illustrations offer a measure of the potential household cost rather than a final bill.

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Wheatland faces $7.1-million gap between draft capital plan and spending cap

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County's first draft of its 2027 capital budget puts $32.1 million in projects before council, leaving councillors to decide what can wait if they hold spending to a preliminary $25-million cap.

The draft outlined in the Oct. 20 agenda package includes 68 projects. Roads and bridges account for $19.5 million, about 61 per cent of the proposed spending.

Administration brought forward the full list to give council a picture of the work identified across county departments before narrowing it down.

At the meeting, staff walked councillors through options that group projects according to factors such as cost recovery, essential services and critical infrastructure. Councillors can change those priorities as budget discussions continue.

"This is kind of just a starting point for us," Joel Chiasson Manger of Financial Services told council.

The review raised questions about more than roads. Councillors also discussed the cost of repairing county-owned community facilities and whether some equipment could be repaired rather than replaced.

One proposed tractor replacement prompted questions about the cost of fixing its engine. Staff agreed that repair could be examined.

Council accepted the capital report, leaving project selection and funding decisions for further discussion. Administration asked councillors to submit comments ahead of another report planned for Nov. 10.

A review of reserves and the operating budget is also expected to help council determine what it can afford.

For residents, the next stage will make the choices clearer: which roads, buildings and other assets receive funding in 2027, and which repairs are pushed into later years.

Albertans want their concerns heard, while remaining part of a united Canada

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Albertans have voted decisively in favour of remaining part of Canada, while also signalling support for several proposed changes to provincial immigration policies, following the Oct. 19 provincial referendum.

Official results released by Elections Alberta on Oct. 29 show that 74.95 per cent of voters supported Alberta remaining a province within Canada, compared to 25.05 per cent who supported the government beginning the legal process required to hold a future binding referendum on separation.

The referendum included 10 questions covering immigration, access to provincially-funded services, voting requirements and proposed constitutional changes.

Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Chantelle de Jonge said the results demonstrate that Albertans want their concerns taken seriously while maintaining their place in Canada.

"The referendum has highlighted that Albertans want their concerns taken seriously," said de Jonge. "They want Alberta's future to remain within a strong and united Canada, but they're also tired of federal decisions that have too often come at the expense of our economy."

Voter turnout reached 70.4 per cent on Question 10, representing more than 2.2 million ballots cast. Elections Alberta reported that turnout was higher than the 60.5 per cent recorded during the 2023 provincial general election.

While the separation-related question produced the clearest result, the other questions revealed support for several of the provincial government's proposed policy directions.

All five questions dealing with immigration, access to provincially-funded programs and voting requirements received majority support.

Among them, 54.86 per cent supported Alberta taking increased control over immigration, while 52.46 per cent supported restricting eligibility for provincially-funded programs, including health care, education and social services, to Canadian citizens, permanent residents and individuals with an Alberta-approved immigration status.

A further 53.12 per cent supported a 12-month Alberta residency requirement for non-permanent residents seeking certain provincially-funded social support programs. Another 51.78 per cent supported charging reasonable fees or premiums to non-permanent residents for their use of health care and education services.

The strongest support among the five questions came for requiring proof of citizenship to vote in provincial elections, with 58.06 per cent voting in favour.

However, voters rejected all four constitutional questions, which proposed changes involving provincial judicial appointments, abolishing the Senate, provincial opt-outs from federal programs and giving provincial legislation priority in certain jurisdictional conflicts.

Opposition to those proposals ranged from 52.72 to 57.56 per cent.

De Jonge said the results reflect concerns about the opportunities available to future generations and the province's relationship with the federal government.

"For many families, this was about ensuring that the next generation will have the same opportunities that have made Alberta a destination of choice for decades," said de Jonge. "Our government will continue to stand up for the interests of Albertans and ensure Alberta has a meaningful voice in Confederation."

She added that the government's focus will remain on strengthening Alberta while maintaining its place within Canada.

"As we move forward, our focus will continue to be on building a stronger Alberta within a united Canada," said de Jonge. "One where our contributions are recognized, our jurisdiction is respected, and our communities have every opportunity to succeed."

STRATHMORE TIMES

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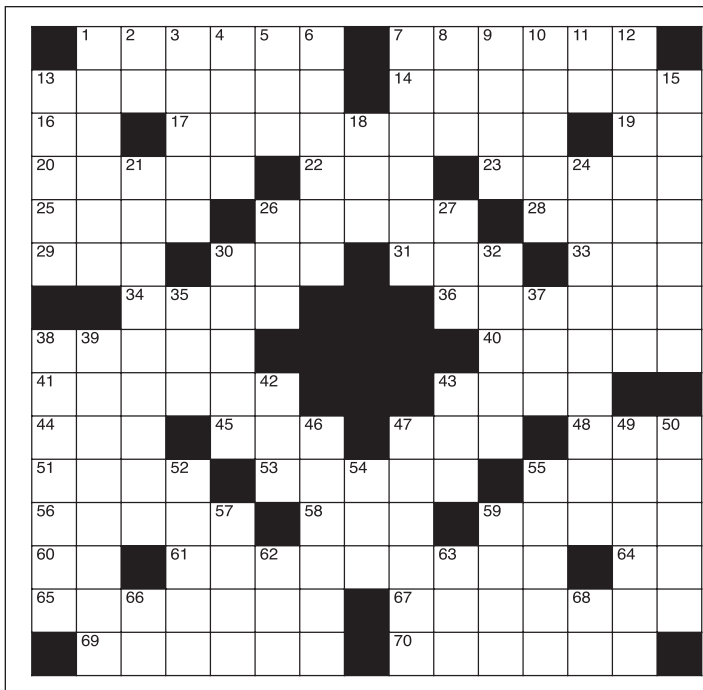
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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Local Journalism Initiative. Canada





CLUES ACROSS

1. Spiritual leaders
7. Containing salt
13. Fortified wine
14. Edible mollusk
16. Blood type
17. Make a comparison
19. Government lawyer
20. "Game of Thrones" actor Ciaran
22. 8th month of the year (abbr.)
23. Very willing
25. __ ex machina
26. Satisfies
28. New Zealand mountain
29. A doctrine
30. Popular Dodge truck model
31. Dekagram
33. Naturally occurring solid material
34. Company higher-up
40. Influential early psychologist
41. Endured
43. Servant
44. You can get stuck in one
45. __ and feather
47. Passive optical network
48. French ballet dynasty
51. Employee stock ownership plan
53. Forming a bottom layer
55. Sound
56. Yankees slugger Judge
58. Dickens character
59. Beloved late sportscaster Craig
60. "The Mount Rushmore State"
61. Sarcastic and critical
64. Atomic #79
65. Longtime Atlanta Braves pitcher
67. Humor

CLUES DOWN

1. Animal disease
2. Commercial
3. Craft supplies
4. Containers
5. A way to save for your golden years
6. Common Arabic greeting
7. Bulged downward
8. Acquired brain injury
9. Lay about
10. Intestinal
11. Not yes
12. In a way, pleased
13. Messianic figure in Islam
15. Resulting from intense conviction
18. Not in
21. Number above the line in a fraction
24. Lawn pest
26. Pouch
27. Ancient language (abbr.)
30. Start anew
32. Wild flower
35. Fourteen
37. Graphical user interface
38. Facing the same way
39. Campaigns
42. Touch lightly
43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
46. Violent seizure of property
47. One who supports the Pope
49. Malaise
50. Body fluid
52. Inauthentic person
54. Title of respect
55. Moth genus
57. Central Japan city
59. Silk garment
62. Draw from
63. Automobile
66. A male
68. Powerful government lawyer







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Tickets can be purchased in person at the Vault, online at thevaultonline.ca/collections/tickets or by etransfer smoretreasurer@gmail.com.
Online purchases must be picked up at the door the night of the concert.
Concerts are held at Strathmore United Church 410-4th St., Strathmore



Home court silver

The Strathmore Spartans junior varsity girls volleyball team hosted Canmore during their home tournament Oct. 30–31. The Spartans capped a successful weekend with a silver medal after facing Cochrane in the final.

Joe Lepage Photos

Home court action

Holy Cross Collegiate's junior high volleyball teams hosted their home tournament Oct. 30–31. The girls' division featured two HCC teams alongside Strathmore's Trinity Christian Academy.

Joe Lepage Photos





Wheatland advances $5.5-million bridge borrowing proposal

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council has given first reading to a proposal to borrow up to $5.5 million for four bridge projects, following unsuccessful applications for provincial funding.

The Oct. 20 vote moves the borrowing bylaw forward but does not give it final approval.

Administration said two of the projects had not received Strategic Transportation Infrastructure

Program funding in 2025 and two had been unsuccessful in 2026.

The borrowing would partly restore money already taken from county reserves and help cover remaining construction costs.

"The $5.5 million debt covers it repays about 2.7 million in reserves that's already spent on these bridge files to date," Joel Chiasson Manger of Financial Services told council.

A financing illustration in the agenda package estimates annual payments of $351,441 over 30 years, with approximately $5 million in total interest.

The report compares the annual payment with roughly one per cent of property-tax revenue. That comparison does not establish a one per cent tax increase.

Councillors questioned both the amount and timing of the proposed borrowing. Some wanted a fuller picture of county finances before taking on debt, while discussion also raised the possibility of a shorter repayment period.

Administration said the proposed amount would give council room to replenish reserves while completing the bridge work. Staff also explained that the county could ultimately borrow less than the bylaw's maximum.

"Budget time is here. We got to get going," Coun. Glenn Koester said during the discussion.

Administration told council that advertising and a petition period would follow first reading before the bylaw returned for further consideration.

The final borrowing amount and financing terms remain to be settled.

Two suspects sought after Wheatland Hotel robbery attempt prompts town-wide alert

Continued from Page 1

Guidelines for a PIPA set out four criteria; location, certainty, severity and urgency. The emergency must be rare or extreme, with a threat that is uncontained or cannot feasibly be contained through regular police methods. The event must be confirmed or imminently ongoing, pose a significant risk of death or grievous bodily harm to the public, and require an immediate warning beyond what normal police response or communication can provide.

Slaney acknowledged that the shelter-in-place advisory on Facebook would not have reached everyone, but said officers would have directly contacted residents facing an imminent threat.

"We sent out a shelter in place, and we understand that not everybody gets those alerts, but if anyone in a particular area was under imminent threat, then the police officers would have gone to their houses."

Slaney stressed that when the police post on social media that is just one small piece to an ever-evolving investigation with many factors affecting each individual case.

Police have since released images and descriptions of the suspects as they seek help identifying them.

The suspect carrying the firearm is described as approximately six feet tall with a larger build and a medium complexion. He wore a mask, tan gloves, a black hoodie over a red T-shirt, faded blue jeans, a black belt and black Adidas shoes with white stripes. He was also carrying an Adidas duffel or gym bag.

The second suspect is described as approximately five feet nine inches tall with a slender build. They wore a black jacket, dark pants and black shoes.

The police releases did not specify whether anything was taken from the hotel or whether anyone was injured.

Anyone with information about the incident or the suspects is asked to contact Strathmore RCMP at 403-934-3968.

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Thought for the Week

~

Maybe having faith isn't enough, perhaps we must live our faith by putting it into action daily.

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Close battle

The Strathmore Badgers bantam football team earned silver in the B pool final on Oct. 31 in Stettler, falling 41-40 to the hometown Cougars in a nail-biting finish. The Badgers brought heart and determination to a game that went right down to the wire.

Melissa Piche Photo



Late winner

The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings broke a 2-2 tie with 42 seconds remaining to defeat Cochrane 3-2 on Oct. 31 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The victory followed a 5-3 road win over High River the night before. The local junior B team will now host Sylvan Lake on Nov. 6 at 7:45 p.m.

Joe Lepage Photo







Sweet haul

Trick-or-treaters enjoyed decent weather and plenty of candy as they celebrated Halloween in Strathmore on Oct. 31. The evening offered a chance to show off costumes and collect sweet treats around town.

Joe Lepage Photos

Bottle Rock-It to headline November music show

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Strathmore residents looking for a different kind of Christmas party can enjoy dinner and live music when Bottle Rock-It takes the stage Nov. 21 for the Strathmore Musical Arts Society.

The upcoming performance at the Strathmore Travelodge will feature opening acts Chase Morgan and Brettyn Rose, with tickets priced at $60 per person for a plated dinner catered by Strathmore Station and an evening of live entertainment.

The concert series, which opened by hosting Joel Ostrom on Oct. 3, features a lineup of live performances running into 2027.

The Travelling Mabels are scheduled to perform Feb. 27, with Aaron Krabsen opening the show. The group returns to Strathmore with its harmonies and engaging musical performances.

On April 10, Maggie's Wake will take the stage, with Charlie Ewing opening the evening.

The society has also announced country performer Trevor Panczak for Sept. 25, but the opening act for that performance has yet to be announced.

All shows take place at the Strathmore Travelodge, located at 350 Ridge Road. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. and the entertainment begins at 7:30 p.m.

The venue offers elevator access and accessible seating. Guests with dietary restrictions or accessibility needs are encouraged to contact the society in advance.

The Strathmore Musical Arts Society is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization dedicated to bringing live music to the community while supporting local causes and the arts.

Tickets and information about local ticket vendors are available online (www.StrathmoreArts.com).

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New Market Opportunities for Alberta Faba Bean Growers

Phytokana Farmer Information Session | November 17, 2026

Phytokana Ingredients Inc. is building a new 30,000-tonne-per-year faba bean processing facility in Strathmore, creating new market opportunities for Alberta farmers.

Farmers are invited to attend an information session about the new facility, food ingredient applications for faba beans, and upcoming grower contracting opportunities, including variety selection, quality requirements and delivery.

Date: **Tuesday, November 17, 2026**
Time: 10:30 AM – 1:30 PM
Location: Travelodge by Wyndham Strathmore
350 Ridge Road, Strathmore, AB

Coffee and networking begin at 10:30 AM,
presentations start at 11:00 AM
Complimentary lunch provided

RSVP by November 11, 2026
Drew Sharp | VP Business Development
dsharp@phytokana.com | 403-828-6031

Phytokana Ingredients Inc.

Flu shot offers protection beyond your own household, Strathmore pharmacist says

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Getting a flu shot may be a small errand, but Strathmore pharmacist Mike Field says its benefits can reach the people residents spend time with every day.

Field, a pharmacist at Value Drug Mart in Strathmore, said vaccination is a way to help protect both yourself and others who could face more serious illness from influenza.

"It's about not just protecting yourself, but protecting your community," he said.

People with chronic health conditions, including heart and lung conditions, are at greater risk of complications, Field said. Older adults, particularly those living in congregate care settings, are also more vulnerable. But anyone can catch the flu.

While vaccination does not prevent every infection, Field said it can make a difference in how sick someone becomes. People who get influenza after being vaccinated typically experience milder symptoms, he said, and are less likely to require hospital care.

For residents looking to get their shot, Value Drug Mart accepts walk-ins.

"At our store we do walk-ins," Field said. "We find that it works just as well as appointments."

The approach gives people flexibility to stop in when they have time, although Field asks customers to be patient when the pharmacy is busy.

"If you come in and we're busy, we appreciate your patience, and we will get you done," he said.

Alberta offers free influenza immunization to people six months and older. Participating pharmacies can administer provincially-funded vaccines to those five and older, while children six months through four years should receive theirs at a public health or community health centre. Families can call Health Link at 811 for booking information.

One concern Field hears is whether the flu shot can cause influenza.

"The easy answer is, no, it will not give you the flu," he said.

Some people do experience temporary side effects, including a sore arm, chills or feeling unwell. Those symptoms can be mistaken for influenza, Field explained, but they are not the flu itself.

Alberta's vaccine information advises that side effects tend to be mild and go away within a few days. People who have questions about managing pain or fever can speak with their health-care provider.

For Field, the value of vaccination extends to ordinary visits and familiar routines: seeing a loved one, meeting a friend for coffee or sitting down for a game of bridge. Helping reduce the chance of spreading influenza can matter to someone who is more vulnerable to its complications.

"If you're not willing to do it for yourself, maybe you're willing to do it for somebody else," he said.

Residents who have questions about the flu shot are welcome to speak with the pharmacy team before making a decision.

"They can come in person. They can phone in," Field said. "We're happy to help where we can."

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 10, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting
November 17, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | MPC | COW | PPC
November 18, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | ASB Org Meeting

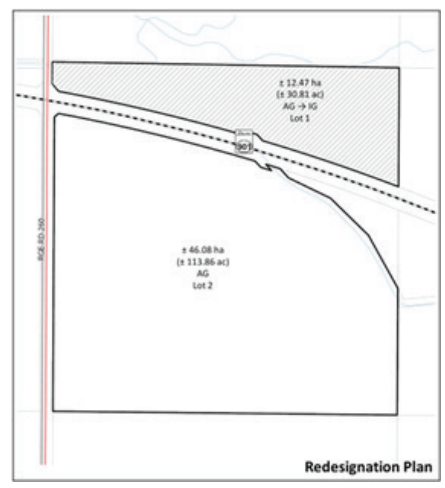
For call-in details, access links, and agenda packages, please visit our website.
https://wheatlandcounty.ca/agendasandminutes/



Public Hearings
Wheatland County Council Chambers December 1st, 2026 at 9 a.m.

Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the regular Council meeting on Tuesday, December 1st, 2026.
The following public hearings begin at 9 a.m. and proceed until all applications have been heard:

File No: LU2025-010
Bylaw #: 2025-37
Location: NW-30-22-25-W4M
Proposal: To redesignate a ± 12.47 hectare (± 30.81 acre) portion of NW-30-22-25-W4M from AG to IG District to facilitate a future subdivision and development of a Recreational Vehicle Storage business



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.

Wranglers dominate

The U15 Wheatland Wranglers female hockey team earned a decisive 9–1 victory over visiting Okotoks on Oct. 25 at the Strathmore Family Centre.

Joe Lepage Photos



Wheatland approves new rules for road approaches and driveways

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County has approved changes to its road-approach policy, adding clearer construction deadlines, inspection requirements and enforcement provisions for work within county road allowances.

Council voted Oct. 20 to make the revised policy effective immediately.

The rules address new approaches and driveways, modifications, temporary accesses, removals and changes in use. They also clarify application and written approval requirements before construction.

A one-year completion requirement is intended to address projects that remain unfinished long after an application is made.

"It's kind of been an issue in the past where we've had approaches drag on for multiple years, not get ever finished," Cody Zimmerman Manager of Operations told council.

Extensions can be granted where circumstances prevent completion, including when paving cannot be finished before winter.

The revised policy also provides a 30-day compliance process for approaches installed without approval. Owners may be required to apply, pay the appropriate fees and deposits, and bring the work into compliance.

Applying after construction does not guarantee approval.

"Submitting an application doesn't necessarily guarantee (it) will be approved because it does need to meet the standards," administration said.

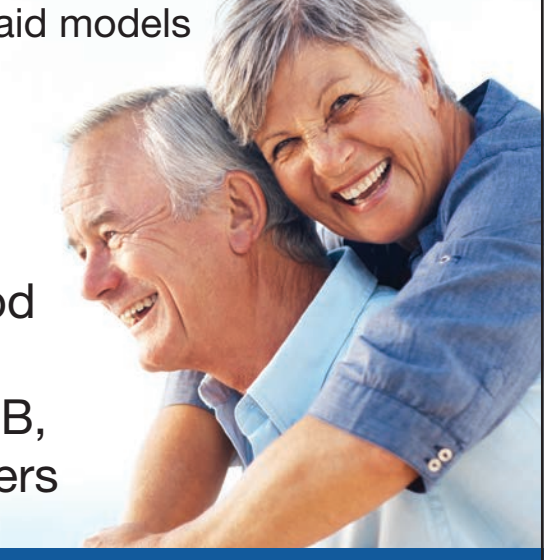
Where an unauthorized approach is not removed or brought into compliance, the policy provides for county action and recovery of costs from the landowner.

Staff said the revision also brings hamlet driveways more explicitly into a policy that has already been used to manage them.

For property owners planning new or altered access, the practical first step is to confirm the county's application, inspection and deposit requirements before starting work.

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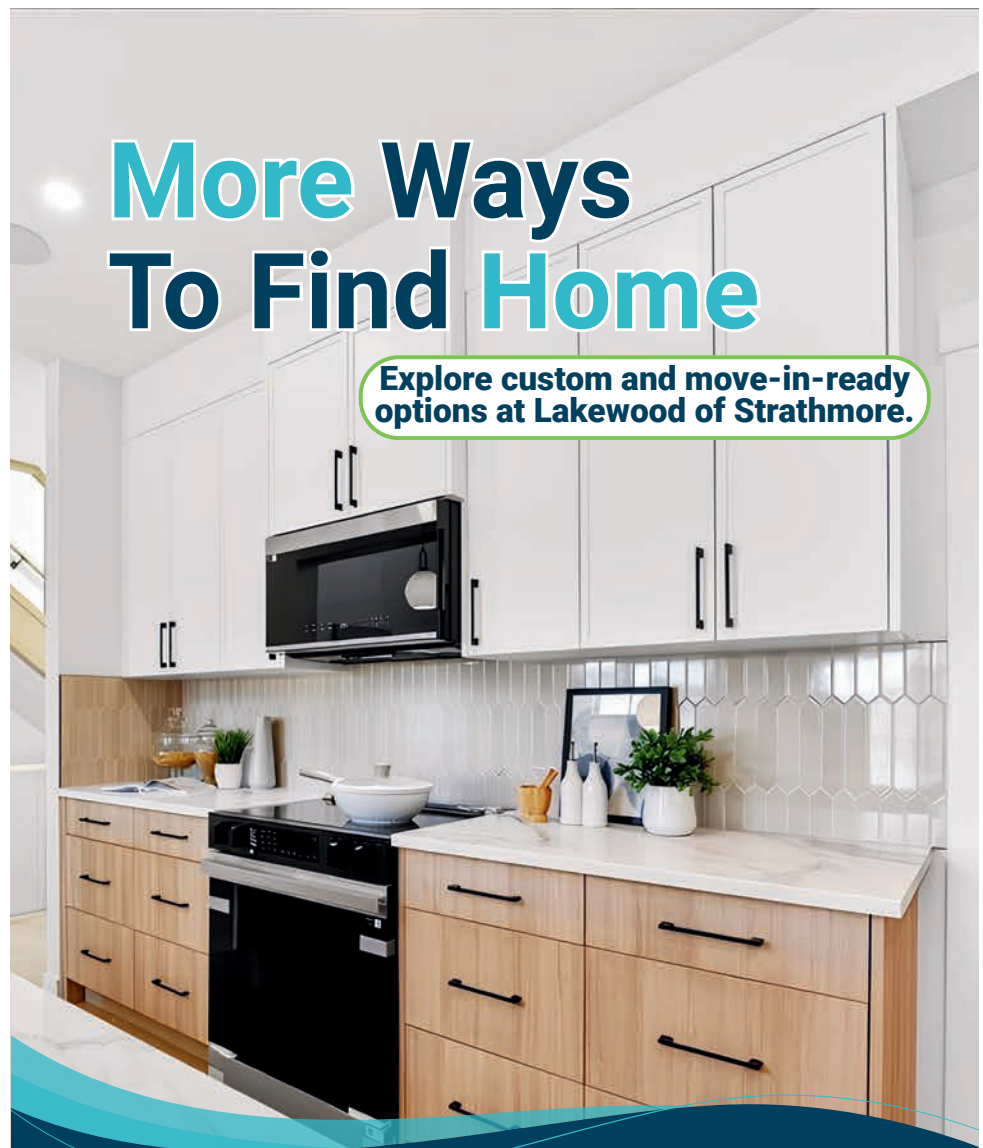
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Alberta introduces new legislation covering hiring, consumer rights and schools

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Albertans deserve fair rules, more consumer choice, and reliable services, and our government is delivering that. Last week, our government removed diversity, equity and inclusion mandates for public-sector hiring, introduced stronger consumer protections for Albertans, expanded school capacity, and prepared hospitals for increased demand this winter.

Alberta's government is taking steps to ensure hiring and promotion decisions are based on merit – not diversity, equity and inclusion policies. That's because Albertans deserve confidence that job opportunities are earned through skills and achievement alone. The proposed legislation would require public institutions, including municipalities and post-secondary institutions, to prioritise merit alone in hiring and promotion, and focus on accountability and serving Albertans, rather than meeting quotas. The legislation would also strengthen protections against intimate deepfakes, including AI-generated images, videos and audio shared without consent. This kind of abuse can seriously damage a person's privacy, reputation and well-being. Those responsible could face fines of up to $10,000, up to two years in jail, or both.

We have introduced common-sense consumer protection legislation to give Albertans more choice, more transparency and more confidence when making purchases. That includes right-to-repair measures that would give farmers, car owners and consumers better access to the tools and information needed to repair what they own. That means more options and fewer costly delays, especially for farmers who depend on their equipment during seeding and harvest. This legislation would also introduce lemon laws for defective vehicles, crack down on credit fraud, make ticket prices more transparent and create a dedicated board to help resolve property disputes.

Our government is also expanding school capacity for Alberta families while establishing clearer expectations for schools. Alberta's government is investing $25.8 million in six independent school projects in Calgary, Edmonton and central Alberta, creating more than 3,500 new student spaces. These projects will support faith-based education and create additional classroom spaces for students with disabilities and complex learning needs. At the same time, new school flag regulations will require schools to fly the Canadian and Alberta flags outside their buildings beginning January 4, 2027. These flags are symbols that unite us and reflect the values we share, while keeping the focus in schools on where it belongs: student learning and success.

Flu season is upon us, and our government is helping hospitals prepare for increased demand so Albertans can receive care sooner. Alberta now has more than 9,000 acute care beds to help meet demand and reduce wait times. Doctors will also begin assessing patients directly in busy emergency department waiting rooms so they can start tests and treatment sooner. Alberta now has a record 14,661 registered physicians, an increase of 1,244 over the past year. We are also helping patients who no longer need hospital care return home or transition into continuing care, freeing up more hospital beds for those who need urgent care.

From strengthening public institutions and protecting consumers to expanding school capacity and improving health care, Alberta's government is taking action on the issues that matter most to Albertans. Together, we are building a stronger province and creating opportunities for future generations to succeed and prosper.

As always, please free to reach out to my office with your feedback and questions

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

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Spartans close season with wins, growth and a promising young core

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

When Danny Warrack looks back on the Strathmore Spartans football season, the wins stand out. So do the players who found their confidence, stepped into unfamiliar positions and gave their team more with each passing week.

The high school recorded victories over Foothills, 33–9, Brooks, 29–20, and Olds, 15–6. For their head coach, those results were highlights in a season that also brought important gains across the roster.

The win in Olds was one Warrack pointed to when asked which moments best captured his team. The offence needed time to get going, but the defence held firm, giving the Spartans a chance to find their footing and finish the job.

That defensive effort reflected an improvement Warrack had watched develop throughout the season. Stopping the run had been a challenge early on, but players took responsibility and worked to change that.

"The guys took some initiative," Warrack said.

Their progress was evident even in the season ending loss to Cochrane. Against a team Warrack described as Alberta's top-ranked team in its classification, he saw stretches of strong football and a defence better equipped to handle the run.

There were other signs of that resilience along the way. Warrack credited the defence for strong performances against Foothills and Olds, as well as for keeping the Spartans competitive against Crescent Heights while injuries depleted the offence.

Building belief was a steady part of the work.

"At times they showed that, but it wasn't always consistent, but there was some progress made anyway, which was nice to see," he said.

Through difficult weeks, Warrack's message stayed practical: show up, practise and keep working.

"You're gonna have some weeks where you didn't like your game and you got to come back on Monday and get back to work and be mindful of some of the mistakes you made and do your best to correct them," he said.

Several younger Spartans took that message to heart.

Jacob Perkin stepped in at quarterback for a couple of games, then moved into a receiving role after a teammate suffered a season-ending broken arm.

At just 14, he earned praise for his blocking, hands and continued development.

"He's getting better and better," Warrack said.

Chase Cornett tried several positions before finding a strong fit on the defensive line. His ability to pressure quarterbacks stood out, and Warrack also saw him begin to understand how to stop the run.

Nolan Mulek and Dom Leroux gained experience with starts on the offensive line, contributing to a Grade 10 group that gave the coach plenty of reasons for optimism.

"There's a lot of Grade 10s; that surprised me," said Warrack.

For Warrack their growth came as players began to believe in themselves and understand what they could contribute. Some arrived after difficult seasons in younger age groups. Over the course of this year, they started becoming players the Spartans could count on.

The graduating class offered examples of where that commitment can lead. Warrack highlighted Jace Campbell and Liam Barnett among the players whose contributions grew through persistence. Their development came through training, regular attendance and a willingness to keep working until they earned important roles.

Those efforts matter to a coach who hopes his players leave with more than memories of scores and individual games.

"Commitment, dedication, hard work, that kind of stuff," Warrack said of the lessons he hopes they carry forward. "Make your point to try to do things right, and if you fail, keep going."

There is already anticipation for the next group of Spartans. Warrack is looking forward to the speed of the incoming Grade 9 Badgers and the continued development of the players returning.

He also hopes to welcome about 15 players who are new to football, with opportunities available for students willing to give the sport a try. Plans include introductory skill sessions in the new year and an expected spring camp in early June. Any high school student interested in playing can email manager and teacher at SHS Kristin Foldi (kdharriman@hotmail.com).

"I'm still looking forward to next year," said Warrack. "I can't wait."



The Strathmore Spartans high school football team finished their season with a 43-13 road playoff loss to Cochrane on Oct. 30.

Photo Courtesy of Patrick Price

Strathamania 3 brings cage match, support for Soup for Soldiers to Strathmore

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Steve Wilde will have a rivalry to settle when he steps into a steel cage Nov. 13, but he is also hoping wrestling fans arrive with something for Nixon Henshaw's Soup for Soldiers drive.

Real Canadian Wrestling's Strathamania 3 comes to the Strathmore Ag Pavilion for an evening of wrestling that will double as a collection opportunity for the young local fundraiser's effort to gather soup for veterans.

Wilde is offering $20 general admission tickets to fans who bring a qualifying soup donation. He is also offering one advance free ticket to anyone who brings a flat of soup to Sammich Sycles, the shop run by Nixon's father Chris Henshaw.

The partnership gives fans another way to support Nixon while taking in RCW's final Strathmore show of the year.

Inside the ring, Wilde will face former partner Steven Styles in the evening's main event. Their feud has been building for some time, and Wilde said the cage match will be the first Strathmore has seen in at least a year.

The matchup headliner will feature former All Elite Wrestling performer Marko Stunt against Mo Jabari along with the returning seven-foot Giant Orion against Raj Singh.

The Rogue Kings will defend the RCW International Tag Team Championship against a mystery team. Other announced matches include Jet Johnson against Krieger and Riley Cruz against Scotty Ace, while Hunter McAdams is set to make his debut.

For those who have never attended a live wrestling show, Wilde summed up the atmosphere in two words: "It's electric."

That energy comes from both sides of the ropes. Lights, smoke and sparks are part of the production, while the Strathmore crowd brings a level of enthusiasm Wilde looks forward to each time the promotion returns.

He described the shows as generally family-friendly, with some edgier moments that come with wrestling.

For Wilde, the community's continued support is especially meaningful as a local wrestler. RCW brings shows to town every couple of months, and he said fans have consistently turned out to support both him and the promotion.

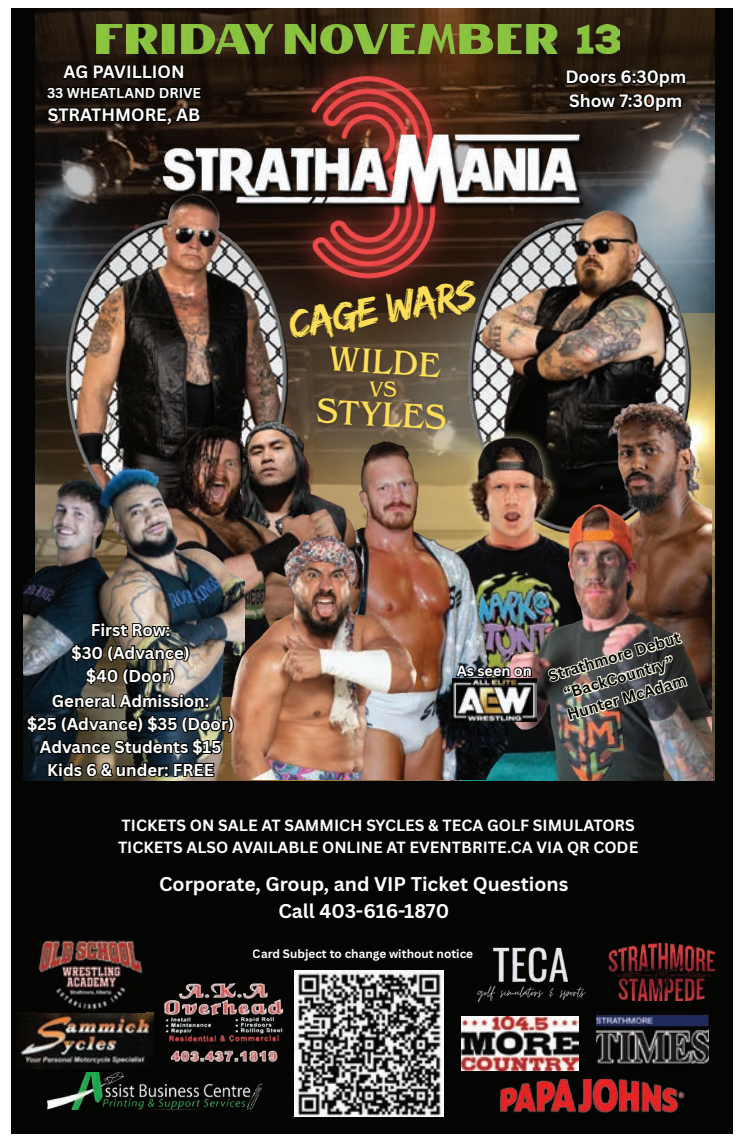
Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with wrestling starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Strathmore Stampede grounds Ag Pavilion.

General admission is $25 in advance or $35 at the door, while advance youth tickets are $15. Children six and under attend free.

Tickets are available through Eventbrite and in person at Sammich Sycles or TECA Golf Simulators and Sports.

Fans planning to take advantage of the soup donation offer can arrange their advance purchase through Sammich Sycles, helping Nixon's collection grow before the first bell rings.





Rosebud Theatre brings Christmas classic to life

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

A beloved Christmas story about hope, gratitude and the impact one person can have on a community is coming to the stage at Rosebud Theatre this holiday season.

Rosebud Theatre & School of the Arts will present *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, reimagining the classic Christmas tale through the style of a 1940s radio broadcast.

Inspired by the golden age of radio, the production brings the familiar story to life through voice acting, live sound effects and imagination, with a cast of seven performers portraying dozens of characters.

The story follows George Bailey, a man questioning the value of his life and wondering whether the world would be better off without him. His perspective begins to change following an unexpected encounter with Clarence Oddbody, an angel who helps George recognize the difference he has made in the lives of others.

The production combines the story's heartfelt message with retro charm, humour and Christmas spirit.

Making his Rosebud Theatre debut is Calgary-based actor Robert Klein. He will be joined by Rosebud veterans Aaron Krogman and Mike Theissen, along with Rosebud School of the Arts graduates Lacey Edwards and Juliet Alexander. Fourth-year acting students Kaila Martin and Amelia Bradford round out the cast.

Rosebud Theatre & School of the Arts Artistic Director Craig Hall will direct the production. The creative team includes Anton DeGroot on set design, Narda McCarroll on lighting, Joy Robinson on sound and composition, and Amy Castro on costumes.

The show runs approximately 95 minutes without an intermission.

The production is part of Rosebud Theatre's holiday offerings, with the organization also launching its first Christmas Village, running Nov. 20 to Dec. 23.

The village will feature activities including skating, hayrides, a Christmas light installation and a nativity creche, providing visitors with additional opportunities to enjoy the holiday season in the community.

Tickets for *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, including the buffet meal, are $105 for adults, $75 for youth and $65 for children.

For tickets and performance information, visit RosebudTheatre.com or call 1-800-267-7553.

Costly building repairs bring difficult choices into Wheatland budget talks

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The cost of keeping aging community buildings in service is becoming a difficult part of Wheatland County's budget discussion.

During the Oct. 20 capital-budget review, councillors questioned how much the county should invest in older facilities as it weighs competing demands for roads, bridges and other infrastructure.

"This is a really hard things to say; we have to consider the worth of investing in a 75-year-old building," Reeve Shannon Laprise said. "I don't want to see these buildings go out of the community, but holy, the costs are astronomical."

Administration said building condition assessments had been completed for county-owned facilities, including three community halls, the Gleichen library and the Gleichen arena.

The assessments examined structural components, interior and exterior conditions, and mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems.

Staff said a report planned for Nov. 10 would provide more detail on individual facilities and seek council's direction on their future.

Repair estimates had been included in the proposed capital budget because those decisions could affect spending. Administration cautioned that the figures would need further work and did not yet include engineering or design.

Separately, the agenda report says potential asset retirements or decommissioning options will be brought forward in November as part of longer-term financial planning. It does not identify a list of assets proposed for retirement.

The discussion has not established which facilities, if any, would close.

It has been made clear that council will face questions about the value of repairs, the cost of replacement and the services each facility provides before approving future spending.



TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary



AGERSKOV, Ian
July 5, 1960 – October 24, 2026

"Some love stories are simply too beautiful to ever end."

It is with profound sadness, immeasurable love, and hearts forever changed that we announce the passing of our cherished Ian Agerskov, who passed away peacefully in the comfort of his home on Saturday, October 24, 2026, at 8:52 a.m. Ian was surrounded by the love of his devoted wife, Bobbi-Jo, his children, and family, with his faithful four-legged best friend, Doug, close by.

After a courageous battle with cancer, Ian's journey here on earth came to an end, but the love he gave, the lives he touched, and the beautiful memories he created will continue to live on in the hearts of those fortunate enough to have known him.

Ian was born on July 5, 1960, at 8:25 a.m. at the Calgary General Hospital, the youngest of three sons born to Poul and Magda Agerskov, who had immigrated to Canada from Denmark in search of a new beginning. Poul and Magda built their life together on a small farm near Cluny, Alberta, where they planted their roots, raised their family, and created the foundation of the life Ian would come to know and love.

Ian grew up surrounded by the values of hard work, determination, independence, and family. Those early years on the farm, spent with close cousins and family, would shape much of the man he became. Ian spent many years farming, continuing the agricultural roots that had been such a significant part of his upbringing.

Ian discovered his love of flying after taking his first flying lesson at Springbank Airport. He earned his private pilot's licence in 1980 and went on to obtain his commercial pilot's licence. It wasn't long before he purchased his first airplane, a red and white Cessna 150, and a lifelong love affair with aviation began.

His adventures in the sky continued with a blue Bellanca Citabria, which he enjoyed flying recreationally closer to home. But his true love was his yellow and blue, star-spangled Bellanca Decathlon, which introduced him to the excitement and freedom of aerobatic flying. Some of his happiest moments were spent high above the ground, where the sky offered endless possibilities.

In 1988, Ian married Sheree (Roughsedge), and together they welcomed their two beautiful children, Emily, born July 1, 1993, and Daryl, born February 9, 1998. The family made their home on the farm until moving to Strathmore in 2006. Although Ian and Sheree later divorced, the family they created remained an important part of Ian's life.

Being a father was one of Ian's greatest joys. He was deeply devoted to both Emily and Daryl, always finding ways to be present in their lives. Whether caring for Emily's daily needs, watching movies together, taking her shopping, or simply spending time with her, Ian treasured their moments together.

He was also a dedicated hockey dad to Daryl. From early mornings and long road trips to countless hours spent at the rink, Ian was always there, proudly supporting Daryl and playing an integral role in his hockey journey.

Ian and his children spent many summers out at McGregor Lake. Days spent boating, waterskiing, tubing, swimming, and simply enjoying time together created memories that would last a lifetime.

Always curious, intelligent, and gifted when it came to technology, Ian began doing in-home computer and IT consulting in the late 1990s. What started as helping others grew into his own business. In 2000, Ian established Wheatland Computers in Strathmore, Alberta.

Ian was well known to his clients for his patience, knowledge, and willingness to help others. He had a remarkable ability to understand how things worked, and when something needed fixing, he was the person people turned to.

Ian first met the love of his life, Bobbi-Jo, in 2007. Neither could have imagined at that moment just how deeply their lives would eventually become intertwined. Over the years, a beautiful friendship developed.

Bobbi-Jo and her two sons, Dryden and Dylan, became part of Ian's everyday world. Ian became a special father figure to both boys, someone they counted on, someone who showed up, and someone who cared for them as his own.

In May 2015, tragedy changed all their lives forever with the heartbreaking loss of Bobbi-Jo's youngest son, Dylan. Ian remained a constant source of love and support, and somewhere along the way, a friendship that had already weathered so much began to blossom into an extraordinary love story neither of them could have imagined.

On September 20, 2024, Ian and Bobbi-Jo were married in the quiet stillness of their own home, just the two of them, sharing a moment that belonged entirely to their love story.

Ian and Bobbi-Jo shared a deep love of travelling and were fortunate to enjoy many wonderful adventures together. It was one of the many things Ian was always so grateful to be able to enjoy. They spent many wonderful moments jetting off to be by the ocean, a place they both felt a deep love and connection to.

But Ian's favourite trips were the ones that took them to Phoenix to spend time with their grandchildren. Nothing made him happier than being with family and making memories together.

When Ian was diagnosed with cancer in 2024, their love would be tested in ways neither could have imagined. Together, they faced a battle that demanded more strength and courage than words could ever describe.

Through it all, their love remained constant. A love that was unique, gentle, and kind, filled with laughter, partnership, and the quiet understanding that their love story would never be measured by how many years they had together, but by how much love they managed to fit into those years.

Their love story was never about having a perfect life, but about loving the life they created together. And although their time together here was far too short, the love they shared is bigger than any goodbye.

They were, and always will be, #teamian … because at the end of the day, #lovewins.

Ian will be remembered for his compassion, loyalty, intelligence, love of aviation, devotion to his family, quiet strength, and wonderful sense of humour. He had a kind heart, a beautiful laugh, a quick wit, and a way of finding something to smile about even when life wasn't making it particularly easy. He had a way of showing his love simply by being there when it mattered most.

Ian was a son, a brother, a father, a stepfather, a proud G-Pa, a loyal friend, Doug's best friend, and a deeply loving husband. But above all, Ian was loved beyond measure.

His passing leaves a space that can never be filled, but his life leaves behind a lifetime of memories, laughter, stories, and love that will never be forgotten.

Rest peacefully, our sweet Ian. Your journey here may be complete, but your story, your legacy, and the love you gave will live on forever.

Ian leaves behind his loving wife, Bobbi-Jo; his daughter, Emily; his son, Daryl (Breanna); and his stepson, Dryden (Caitlin). He was also the very proud G-Pa to his two cherished grandchildren, Radley and Aislyn.

Ian is also survived by his brother, Anthony (Geraldine), and their family, including Melanie, Julie-Anne, and Tyson, along with many other cherished family members who will miss him dearly.

Ian was predeceased by his loving parents, Poul Agerskov (July 1994) and Magda (Nielsen) Agerskov (November 1995); his eldest brother, Karsten Agerskov, who passed away in infancy (May 1956); his father-in-law, Clint Sillito (October 2023); and his beloved stepson, Dylan Penna (May 2015), along with other cherished family members who passed before him.

A Celebration of Ian's Life will be held on Friday, November 13, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Hope Community Covenant Church.

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TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

COMING EVENT



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

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Mainsprings Pregnancy and Family Support in Strathmore is a local non-profit offering free, confidential support for individuals and families navigating pregnancy and early parenting. We provide one-on-one support, practical resources, and ongoing programs in a welcoming, supportive environment. You can connect with us by visiting mainsprings.ca or reaching out to book an appointment. Strathmore

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Upcoming Council Meetings

November 4, 2026 | 6 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council
November 18, 2026 | 6 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council
December 2, 2026 | 6 p.m. 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.

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 come sin. 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.

We want to hear from you!
Coffee with Council - Budget Edition.

We want to hear from you! Join Council for a cup of coffee on Monday, November 9, 2026 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Strathmore Municipal Building (1 Parklane Drive).

Coffee with Council – Budget Edition is an opportunity for residents to meet with elected officials in an informal setting to talk all things Budget, including questions, ideas and feedback.

Ways to participate:

- Attend Coffee with Council on November 9 and share your questions and feedback directly with elected officials.
- Submit a written question to lsadmin@strathmore.ca by Friday, November 6 at noon.

We hope to see you there!

New Hours.
Overflowing Recycling Bin?

Overflowing Recycling Bin? We've Got You Covered!

Is your new recycling bin already full? Still waiting for your bin to arrive? No problem!

The Town of Strathmore Recycling Yard is open and ready to help. Mixed recycling bins are available for the same recyclable materials you would normally place in your household recycling cart.

Recycling Yard Hours:

- Wednesday to Sunday | 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Closed Mondays, Tuesdays, and all statutory holidays

Household Special Products, Paint & Take-It-or-Leave-It Area

- Available Saturday and Sunday only | 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Please note: These areas are closed Monday through Friday.

Whether your recycling bin is full, hasn't arrived yet, or you've simply got some extra recycling to drop off, the Town of Strathmore Recycling Yard is here to help keep recyclable materials out of the landfill.

From weekly to biweekly.
Green Cart/Organics Collection.

The Town of Strathmore provides residential waste collection and disposal services to over 4,500 properties, including household garbage, organic and heavy item garbage, and recycling.

Starting November 1, 2026, green cart/organics pickup will switch to biweekly service for the season (November to April). Reminder that the only holidays that affect garbage collection are Christmas Day and New Year's Day. All other collection days remain unchanged.

For the full collection schedule, route info, and other key dates, visit our website: **Strathmore.ca/WasteCollection**

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.

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**