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STRATHMORE

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 40

TIMES



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Terry Fox Run

Page 6



Opening act

Supporting the food bank

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

As families across Canada prepare to gather around the table for Thanksgiving, the Wheatland County Food Bank is reminding residents that not every neighbour has the certainty of knowing where their next meal will come from.

Demand for food support continues to rise in the community, according to executive director Lynette Aschenbrenner. The food bank recently completed its fiscal year at the end of August after packing 966 hampers.

"We're definitely seeing an increase in numbers over the last few years," Aschenbrenner said. "We had packed 966 hampers for the year, which is up from the previous year."

Those hampers supported roughly 2,789 individuals. About 32 per cent went to new families who may be new to the area or facing circumstances that have changed their financial situation.

Food insecurity is also reaching households that might not traditionally be associated with food bank use.

"A good 25 per cent of the households that we see are working families," Aschenbrenner said.

Housing and utility costs are taking a significant share of household income while the cost of commuting adds another strain.

"We're seeing people that are spending a good portion of their earnings on housing and utilities," she said. "The other that is affecting people is commuting. The price of fuel is taking another huge chunk out of people's budgets."

Thanksgiving can make those pressures particularly visible. While the holiday is traditionally centred around a shared meal, the food bank does not provide larger hampers specifically for Thanksgiving. Aschenbrenner said the goal is to ensure everyone receives equitable support regardless of when they need help.

The food bank doesn't adjust their hampers for a particular season or traditional holiday meal – they give out the same thing to keep things equal. There are practical considerations too. Some clients simply do not have the refrigerator or freezer space to store large holiday food items.

The food bank is coming off a successful community food drive that helped fill its shelves. However, some necessities are always in demand.

Continued on Page 4



Cougars host tourney

The Crowther Memorial Junior High School Cougars hosted the George Freeman Falcons during the Cougars' annual home tournament Oct. 2-3 at the CMJHS, the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre and Strathmore High School.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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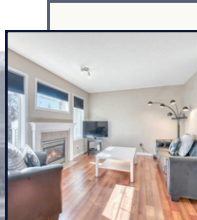
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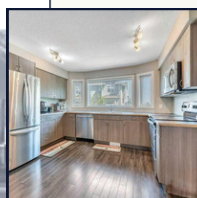


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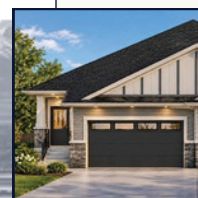
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Strathmore barrel racer Jayden Wilson heads back to Canadian Finals Rodeo

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

For Strathmore-area barrel racer Jayden Wilson, competing at the Canadian Finals Rodeo is no longer a once-in-a-lifetime experience, but that hasn't made earning a spot at the national event any less exciting. "This will be my third Canadian finals," said Wilson, 28, who grew up in the Strathmore area and will head to Rogers Place in Edmonton for four days and five performances.

The Canadian Finals Rodeo brings together the Top 12 money earners from the season in each event, meaning competitors can spend much of the year travelling from one rodeo to another in hopes of earning their place.

Wilson estimated she competed at 42 rodeos this season.

"I try to go to as many as I can," she said. "Every rodeo pays differently. Some are bigger than others. Strathmore is one of the biggest, so you definitely always want to go to that one."

At the end of the season, qualification comes down to money earned.

"It's whoever wins the most money at the end of the year," she said.

Wilson won't be the only Wheatland County competitor making the trip to Edmonton. Rockyford bull rider Griffin Koester has also qualified for the Canadian Finals Rodeo, entering the event fourth in the national standings with \$32,370 in season earnings.

Wilson and Koester will be among the competitors gathering at Rogers Place from Oct. 7 to 10 for the Canadian Finals Rodeo.

The field isn't divided by age, either. Wilson said this year's barrel racing qualifiers range from young competitors in their late teens or early 20s to a competitor in her 70s.

Wilson is no stranger to the pressure of competing on rodeo's national stage. Last year, she entered the Canadian Finals sitting first in the national standings and left as the Canadian champion.

"I went into the final sitting number one in Canada, and then we had a good final, placed in a few rounds, and I won the average, and I won Canada," she said.

Even a year later, the accomplishment hasn't completely sunk in.

"I feel like it still is pretty surreal," Wilson said. "Not expected, for sure."

She will return to Edmonton aboard Whiskey, her nine-year-old horse and regular barrel racing partner. Rather than making major changes ahead of the finals, Wilson said her focus is on maintaining the routine that carried the pair through the season.

"In the end, I'm trying not to really change anything from how I prepare for any other – like, the rest of the year," she said. "Luckily, our finals are so soon after our season ends, my horse is still fit and running."

For Wilson, reaching this level of rodeo has been a lifelong ambition rooted in a family tradition.

"My dad rodeoed, and he rode saddle bronc horses. He made the Canadian finals a few times," she said. "My mom grew up showing horses, but then she was a barrel racer. My sister also barrel races ... it's just kind of a whole family thing for us."

Her mother was also one of Wilson's earliest teachers.

"She taught us a lot," Wilson said, adding that as she and her sister progressed, they began learning from other barrel racers as well.

Wilson said the Canadian Finals represented the pinnacle of the sport to her while growing up.

"I think every barrel racer up here, you always hope to be able to go to the Canadian finals," she said. "For us, that's as big as it gets."

Now, after accomplishing that goal and becoming



Gleichen barrel racer Jayden Wilson will take part in the Canadian Finals Rodeo Oct. 7-10 in Edmonton. Wilson is the reigning CFR's barrel racing champion.
Photo Courtesy of Marci Wilson

a Canadian champion, Wilson hopes younger competitors won't limit what they believe is possible.

"I always wanted to be a barrel racer and saying I'd go and win Canada wasn't something I ever thought I'd be able to say," she said. "Don't be afraid to dream very big. It's amazing what you can accomplish with the right horse and the right support."

She also encouraged young competitors to seek guidance from the people around them.

"Don't be afraid to ask for help," Wilson said. "People are very nice and very willing to help if you just aren't afraid to reach out."

The Canadian Finals won't quite mark the end of Wilson's year. She is also set to compete at the Maple Leaf Circuit Finals in Regina at the end of November.

But first comes Edmonton and another opportunity for Wilson and Whiskey to compete for a Canadian championship.



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Strathmore High School

Marathon of Hope

After Sacred Heart Academy, Holy Cross Collegiate and Crowther Memorial Junior High School hosted their annual Terry Fox Runs on Sept. 18, the remaining schools organized their event in the days that followed. Brentwood, Westmount, Wheatland and Trinity Christian Academy each hosted their event on Sept. 24, while the Strathmore High School held their Terry Fox Run and Cake Auction the same day. George Freeman hosted their event on Oct. 2.

Joe Lepage, Melissa Crispin-Piche and Brittany Smith Photos

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Thought for the Week

~

Sometimes, a relatively minor challenge can seem overwhelming if you are already wounded or vulnerable.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Will you take the bait?

To the Editor

Since Referendum Question 10 was announced – asking whether Alberta should consider separation in a future vote – the federal Liberals have hijacked Alberta’s question and turned it into another national political campaign.

Prime Minister Carney is making announcements in Alberta, while the Liberals are spending thousands of dollars on advertisements urging us to vote to stay in Canada. Their goal appears to be not only to influence Albertans, but also to reassure Canadians in the east that Alberta’s anger is limited to a few separatist outliers. They do not want the rest of Canada to realize how widespread Alberta’s frustration with the status quo has become.

The Liberals are using patriotism, calls for national unity, and warnings about a “war” with the United States to frame Question 10 as a national emergency. But the vote itself is non-binding. It is effectively a large public opinion poll – a way for Albertans to tell Ottawa and the rest of Canada how unhappy many of us are.

A vote to remain in Canada will not make Alberta’s concerns disappear. Quebec separatists did not vanish after Quebec voted to stay, and Alberta’s separatist movement will not disappear either.

A “stay” vote would allow the Liberals to claim that only a few Albertans are unhappy and continue to ignore our concerns. The Alberta NDP has also helped shift the focus from Alberta’s legitimate grievances to patriotism and separatism by portraying Danielle Smith as a separatist. In doing so, the NDP is contribut-

ing to the same diversion: making Question 10 about defending Canada instead of listening to why so many Albertans are dissatisfied.

This is why the Liberals and the NDP are eager to influence how Albertans and the rest of Canada interpret the result. The Liberals want Question 10 to become an endorsement of Canada and the Liberal government, rather than a warning that Alberta expects to be heard. The NDP also benefits from keeping the discussion focused on patriotism and separatism instead of its record on economic issues.

Albertans should vote according to their convictions. But those who are angry with the status quo should recognize that voting with the separatists may be the clearest way to change the tone in Ottawa. The referendum may not be binding, but it can still send a powerful political message.

Cheryl Marshman,
Rockyford

Thanksgiving shines a light on food insecurity in Wheatland County

Continued from Page 1

“We are always in need of personal hygiene items,” Aschenbrenner said. “It is something that’s important for families as well, to be able to have shampoo and toothpaste and those kinds of things.”

Soup, canned fruit, canned vegetables and other non-perishable foods move quickly. Monetary donations help the food bank purchase fresh milk, eggs, cheese and fruit each week.

The organization’s work also extends into local schools through its Weekends and More program. Teachers identify children who are arriving at school hungry and food is sent home with them for the weekend.

“We purchased yoghurt and cheese strings and apples and oranges and bananas for that program as well,” Aschenbrenner said.

The program is now in approximately its sixth year and currently supports around 55 children each week.

For those who need a little extra help, the food bank also operates a drop-in pantry Tuesday through Thursday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. People can receive a couple of bags of available groceries without going through the regular application process. Proof of address within Strathmore or Wheatland County is required.

For anyone hesitant to reach out for help, Aschenbrenner said there is no reason to be afraid or embarrassed.

“Not to be scared and not to be too proud to do it. That is what we’re there for, to help people through those rough times,” she said. “Everything is completely confidential.”

As Thanksgiving tables are set across the region, Aschenbrenner hopes people will remember that hunger can exist much closer to home than they realize.

“When you’re not experiencing it, it’s hard to understand that it’s out there,” she said. “Just remember the people that are struggling and just give.”

And that help does not have to be large.

“Every little bit helps. Every can of soup, every little bit helps.”

For more information and to drop off donations or take part in the drop-in-pantry program, the food bank’s address is 122 Canal Gardens and their website is wheatlandfoodbank.ca.

Two injured in incident at CNRL plant near Standard

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Wheatland County Fire Services responded to an incident at the CNRL plant near Standard in the early morning of Oct. 2.

The incident was reported at approximately 5:38 a.m., with fire crews remaining on scene as the situation was brought under control later in the afternoon.

“As a precaution, an evacuation was initiated for residences within a two-mile radius of the site,” said Wheatland County in a press release. “Two injuries were reported. One individual (was) transported by STARS air ambulance.”

Six fire departments responded to the incident, including Dalum, Rockyford, Standard, Rosebud, Hussar and Calgary.

Wheatland County Administration said further information would be provided as it became available.

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Community weighs in on future of open court space at Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore residents have offered up plenty of ideas for what could become of the undeveloped court space at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre.

The Town of Strathmore held an open house Sept. 17 to gather feedback on the future of the concrete space, which has remained unfinished since the facility opened in 2019.

Marcie Mansbridge, the town's recreation and culture manager, said 19 people attended the open house and 18 provided feedback through a series of questions.

"The purpose behind the questions was to try and gauge the level of community support and demand if an additional court were to be developed," Mansbridge said.

Suggestions included some of the activities typically associated with a court such as badminton, floor hockey and pickleball. Residents also suggested fitness classes and the possibility of developing a fitness centre with weights and exercise equipment.

The open house was only one part of the town's effort to find out what residents would like to see in the space.

A community survey was available for two weeks from Sept. 8 to 21 and received 75 responses.

An open-ended question gave residents an opportunity to suggest other potential uses for the space.

Mansbridge said some of those suggestions were different from what the town typically hears.

"We have a suggestion box at the facility, so we

see things like the fitness centre being recommended often, specific sports like pickleball, volleyball, badminton, but a couple suggestions identified in the survey were Tai Chi, was a unique one. I've never heard that before. Lawn bowling, again, not one that has been brought up in the past," she said.

The town also met with regular user groups on Sept. 3, bringing the total to three forms of public engagement used to collect feedback.

That meeting also gave the town an opportunity to explain why the space was left undeveloped when the sports centre first opened. The space was intended for a particular user group but at that time that group didn't exist, so the space was left unfinished.

Not long after the facility opened in 2019 the COVID-19 pandemic brought another reason to put development plans on hold as recreation facilities went through repeated closures and reopenings.

"But we're now at a point where it's been quite some time and it remains concrete, so we're at a point where we should be considering development," Mansbridge said.

Although residents have offered several possibilities for the space, no decision has been made about what will ultimately be built there.

Mansbridge said the feedback collected through the user group meeting, community survey and open house will be presented to council Oct. 14.

The report is intended to provide council with the results of the engagement rather than recommend a particular project.

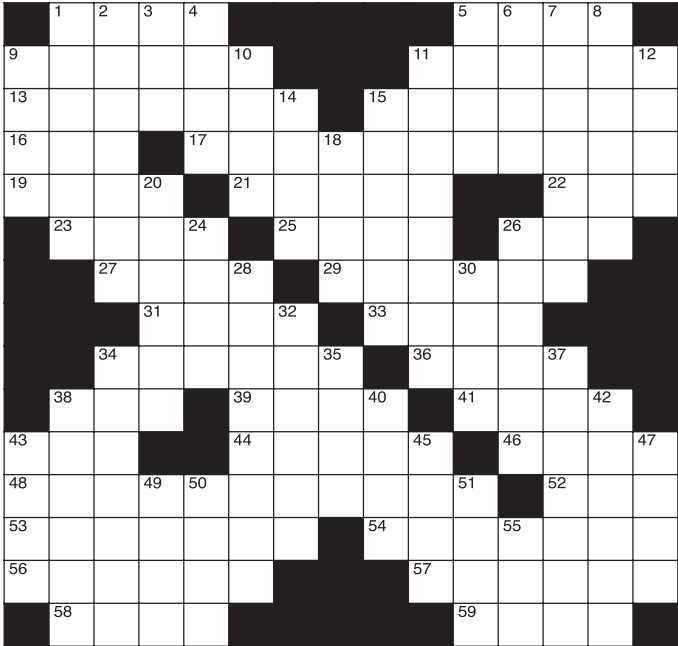
Any decision about what happens next, including a possible timeline for development, will be up to council.

"Council will decide how they want to proceed at that point," Mansbridge said.

While she did not provide specific results from individual survey questions ahead of the presentation to council, Mansbridge said the engagement showed there is interest in seeing something done with the space.

"I can say that there was a high level of community support identified with both the open house and the survey," she said.

For now, the concrete space remains as it has since the sports centre opened, but council will soon have the community's feedback in front of it as it considers what, if anything, should come next.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Difficult

5. Coarsely ground corn

9. A group of similar things ordered one after another

11. Loved Romeo

13. Something to solve

15. Pelvic areas

16. Informal debt instrument

17. Ineffective

19. A device attached to a workbench

21. Related on the mother's side

22. "Fresh Prince of __ Air"

23. Astronomer Sagan

25. C. Utah city

26. Turkey

27. Informal terms for money

29. Awakens

31. Those who favored Prohibition
33. Blabbed

34. Looked through

36. Rhode Island rebellion

38. A type of "cast"

39. One's duty

41. Where golfers begin

43. Make a mistake

44. Semitic Sun god

46. Ancient Greek City

48. Removed someone's head

52. A place to stay

53. Unwise

54. Most unnatural

56. "Dennis" is a notable one

57. Ointments

58. Examination

59. Leaked fluid

CLUES DOWN

1. Brave

2. A state of excitement

3. Jest at

4. Sandwich store

5. Chapter of the Koran

6. Dismounted from a horse

7. Small vehicle

8. Irrked

9. A disreputable man

10. Monetary unit of Samoa

11. A list of woes

12. Weight unit

14. Alone, single

15. Broadway legend Bernadette

18. Monetary unit of Serbia

20. Worn by exposure to the weather

24. A body of traditions

26. Students seek one
28. Hydrophilic amino acid

30. Nasal mucus

32. Branch of U.S. Congress

34. Swinish

35. Russian assembly

37. Grant an exemption to

38. Set up in advance

40. Satisfy

42. Felt

43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls

45. Witnesses

47. Strong insects

49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two

50. One of an ancient people inhabiting Scotland

51. Cheerless

55. Unhealthy

RCMP warn of Bitcoin ATM scam involving fake government officials

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Alberta RCMP are warning the public about an increase in fraud reports involving scammers impersonating the Government of Canada or agencies claiming to act on its behalf.

In several recent incidents, victims have been contacted by individuals falsely claiming to represent government agencies and told they are facing arrest, criminal charges or jail time.

The scammers use fear and urgency to pressure victims into transferring money through Bitcoin ATMs, claiming the payment will prevent the alleged legal consequences.

In some cases, suspects communicate with victims through messaging applications such as WhatsApp and provide QR codes to scan at Bitcoin ATMs.

Once scanned, the QR code directs the cryptocurrency payment to an account controlled by the scammer. Because cryptocurrency transactions can be difficult to trace and reverse, victims may have little chance of recovering their money.

Alberta RCMP remind residents that the Government of Canada, law enforcement agencies and legitimate government departments will never demand payment through cryptocurrency, Bitcoin ATMs, gift cards or prepaid credit cards.

They will also not threaten immediate arrest or imprisonment through a telephone call, text message, email or messaging application.

Police say residents should be cautious if they receive a communication that:

- demands immediate payment to avoid arrest, fines or legal action;
 - requests that money be withdrawn from a bank account and deposited into a Bitcoin ATM;
 - instructs the victim to keep the matter secret from family, friends or financial institutions;
 - comes through WhatsApp, text messages or other messaging applications from an unknown individual;
 - includes a QR code for a financial transaction; or
 - uses threats or intimidation to create panic and prevent the victim from verifying the information.
- Anyone who receives such a communication should not send money or cryptocurrency and should not scan QR codes provided by unknown individuals.
- RCMP recommend ending the conversation and independently verifying the caller's identity through official government or police contact information.
- Anyone who has disclosed financial information should immediately contact their financial institution.
- Fraud attempts can also be reported to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or through its official website.
- Alberta RCMP are encouraging residents to discuss these types of scams with family members, particularly seniors and other vulnerable individuals who are frequently targeted by fraudsters.

STRATHMORE

TIMES

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STRATHMORE WHEATLAND

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



A century of service

The Royal Canadian Legion Strathmore Branch 10 marked its 100th anniversary with a Charter Night on Oct. 3 with a formal gala evening for veterans, Legion members, political dignitaries and the wider community. The branch received its charter on Oct. 8, 1926, but moved the celebration five days ahead since the actual date fell on a weekday. The event was the centrepiece of a year-long centennial campaign that also included a New Year's Day levee, a Blackfoot cultural experience, a centennial cribbage tournament, a wine tasting evening, and a commemorative service for the national Legion's 100th anniversary, which was on July 17.

Joe Lepage Photo

What a night

The Strathmore Musical Arts Society kicked off its 2026-27 concert series on Saturday, Oct. 3 at the Strathmore Travelodge with Alberta country musician Joel Ostrom, joined by opening act Dallas Larsen. Guests enjoyed a delicious dinner before the show – the first of four concerts this season.

Joe Lepage Photo



Special donation

Lynne Fair and her son, Gary Fair, visited the Wheatland EMS station to thank the crew that assisted Gary earlier this year and to present a \$1,000 donation to the Wheatland and Adjacent Districts Emergency Medical Services Association (WADEMSA). Pictured (l-r) are paramedic Brendan Kearney, Lynne Fair, WADEMSA Chair Darcy Burke, paramedic Sarah Ham and Gary Fair.

Photo Courtesy of Mackenzie Payne

RCMP warn public regarding counterfeit currency

ALBERTA RCMP

RCMP is issuing a warning about counterfeit bills which are circulating in central and southern Alberta. RCMP is advising local businesses and the public to be vigilant following several recent incidents involving counterfeit Canadian currency.

Over the past couple of weeks, officers have responded to multiple reports of suspected counterfeit bills being passed in Red Deer. Banknotes are being used for purchases and can be difficult to identify without careful inspection.

Businesses are encouraged to take the following precautions:

- Carefully inspect all denominations, especially higher-value bills. Every bill should have a unique serial number;
- Become familiar with the security features of Canadian banknotes, including raised ink, transparent windows and holographic elements;
- Do not put yourself at risk – if you suspect a bill is counterfeit, refuse the transaction, and contact police;
- Retain surveillance footage and note descriptions of individuals involved, if safe to do so.

Anyone who believes they have received counterfeit currency should contact their local police department. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store. To report crime online, or for access to RCMP news and information, download the Alberta RCMP app through Apple or Google Play.



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.

October 13, 2026, 9:00 a.m. |Municipal Planning Commission
October 20, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Organizational Meeting
October 20, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

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



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If the opportunity to become part of Wheatland County Fire Services interests you, please email: fireservices@wheatlandcounty.ca to find out how you can become a Paid on Call or Volunteer Firefighter.



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Girl power

The Female Athlete Sport Talk (FAST) event was held Oct. 3 at the Strathmore Civic Centre, bringing athletes, families and community members together for a free event focused on educating and supporting female athletes of all ages. The event featured guest speakers, a panel of female athletes sharing their experiences, local sports associations, vendors, food trucks and door prizes.

Joe Lepage Photos



Hawks host

The Holy Cross Collegiate Hawks hosted Rundle Academy during the senior girls home tournament Oct. 2-3 at the HCC gymnasium.

Joe Lepage Photos

Preventing cyberbullying and sextortion

ALBERTA RCMP

Last month, the Alberta RCMP shared online safety tips with youth. Youth today can be put in vulnerable circumstances due to the internet, at times becoming victims to cyberbullying or sextortion, but by learning safe online practices, youth can better protect themselves and others.

In the digital age, youth can protect themselves by learning more about the following:

- **Sextortion:** A form of online blackmail in which someone threatens to share a sexual image or video of you unless you pay money or provide more intimate content. Offenders often pretend to be someone your age and manipulate victims into sending explicit media. They may use fake or incomplete social media profiles, quickly express strong feelings, or pressure victims to move conversations to private platforms where they can request intimate content.

- **Cyberbullying:** The use of computers, smartphones, or other digital devices to embarrass, threaten, harass, exclude, or harm someone online.

If you are a victim of sextortion:

- Stop all communications with the offender.
- Do not comply with any threats and do not send money, images, or additional content.
- Save evidence, including screenshots of messages, usernames, profiles, and any images involved.
- Deactivate, but do not delete, your social media account.
- Do not accept new friend requests after disengaging – this could be the of-

fender using a new profile.

- Reach out to a trusted adult, parent, guardian, Elder, or another support person.

- Report the incident: For example, Cybertip.ca allows you to report online child sexual exploitation incidents anonymously. Get help removing pictures from the internet at NeedHelpNow.ca, report the incident to the platform where it occurred and contact your local police department.

If you are a victim of cyberbullying:

- Do not respond to bullying messages or posts.
- Save messages, screenshots, or other evidence.
- Block and report the individual responsible.
- Talk to a trusted adult, parent, guardian, Elder, or another support person.
- Report the behaviour to your school or the website/app where it occurred.
- Contact the police if you feel threatened or believe a crime has been committed.

“If you are a victim of sextortion or cyberbullying, remember that you are not at fault, and help is available,” says Cst. Scott Sterling, ALERT Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit. “Youth can support one another by being active bystanders. If you witness cyberbullying or sextortion, speak up, offer support, and help connect victims with trusted adults and available resources.”

For more information on online safety, visit Public Safety Canada’s Help for Youth, follow us on Facebook @RCMP-PinAlberta, Instagram @RCMPALBERTA-GRC, X @RCMPAlberta, and on YouTube @RCMP-GRC Alberta.

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Online safety tips for youth

ALBERTA RCMP

Last month, the Alberta RCMP provided information to youth about online safety. Youth today may encounter risks online, including grooming and luring. By understanding these risks and practicing safe online habits, fewer young people will become victims.

Grooming occurs when an individual builds trust with a young person online to manipulate, exploit, coerce, or abuse them. This may be for a sexual purpose, to facilitate criminal activity, financial exploitation, luring, or other forms of control. Offenders often use flattery, attention, gifts, or emotional manipulation to gain a young person's trust. Grooming can take place on social media apps, dating apps, online communities, text messages or online chats, online games, and livestreaming or video apps. Exploitation may take place online, in person, or both.

Youth today can avoid grooming by practicing the following:

- Avoid sharing personal information, including your full name, age, phone number, address, school, daily routines, usernames and passwords, and photos or videos.

- Block anyone who is making you uncomfortable. If someone makes you uncomfortable online – whether they're asking too many personal questions, sending sexual messages, or harassing you – you don't have to participate.

- Tell a trusted adult. If you ever feel unsure or unsafe about something online, talk to a trusted adult, parent, guardian, Elder, or another support person.

It is critical that parents and caregivers:

- Monitor online activities;
- Promote online safety practices;
- Maintain open communication about the dangers that exist online;
- Become familiar with the apps and platforms your children are using;
- Foster an open dialogue and empower your child to approach you in the event they or someone they know are being targeted or victimized;
- Never judge; approach situations calmly, with support and understanding;
- Be aware of signs indicating your child is possibly being exploited online, including emotional changes, social withdrawal, unexplained gifts, increased secrecy, as well as concerning relationships; and
- Use community resources if you suspect something is going on with your child, whether that be through school, family physicians, community groups, or your local police.

"Adults play a vital role in helping young people stay safe online," says Cst. Dustin Frick, St. Paul RCMP. "Offenders often rely on secrecy and manipulation to target youth. Parents, caregivers, and other trusted adults can help by talking openly about online risks, recognizing warning signs, and creating an environment where young people feel safe asking for help."

If you believe a young person is being groomed online, report concerns to your local police immediately.

For more information on online safety, visit Public Safety Canada's Help for Youth, follow us on Facebook @RCMP-PinAlberta, Instagram @RCMPALBERTA-GRC, X @RCMPAlberta, and on YouTube @RCMP-GRC Alberta.



Tough weekend

The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings dropped both home games this past weekend at the Strathmore Family Centre, falling 3-0 to Coaldale on Oct. 2 and 4-0 to Mountainview the following day. The Kings, who are 2-2 on the season and third in the HJHL South Division, will now host the Medicine Hat Cubs on Oct. 10 at 8 p.m.

Joe Lepage Photos



Season windup

The Authentic Equine stable ended their first gymkhana series on Sept. 26 with a day filled with fun, games and awards, followed by a family-style potluck. Nicole Lamoureux, owner of Authentic Equine and Dusty Riders Gymkhana Club, expressed sincerest gratitude to all the sponsors for this series. As the dust settles on another summer of excitement, Lamoureux is eager to start planning for next year's gymkhanas.

Melissa Crispin-Piche Photos

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Election Day

Monday, October 19, 2026

You have three ways to vote:

1. **Vote during Advance Voting** from October 13 to 17, 2026, at an advance voting place in your electoral division.
2. **Vote on Election Day, October 19, 2026** at your designated voting place.
3. **If you've already requested a special ballot**, it must be received by mail at Elections Alberta by 5:00pm on October 16. Canada Post recommends you mail it no later than October 9.



Scan to find your voting place

Find everything you need to be referendum ready at elections.ab.ca



Alberta referendum: What Strathmore and Wheatland County residents need to know

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Albertans will head to the polls on Oct. 19 to answer 10 referendum questions covering immigration, provincial powers and Alberta's future in Canada. Here is what local residents need to know before casting their ballots.

Residents of Strathmore and Wheatland County will have an opportunity to weigh in on several significant issues facing the province when Alberta holds its referendum.

With 10 questions on the ballot and changes to how and where people can vote, Elections Alberta is encouraging residents to familiarize themselves with the process before heading to the polls.

The referendum is non-binding. That means the results will provide the provincial government with an indication of voters' views, but will not automatically change provincial laws or Canada's constitution. Some proposals would require negotiations with the federal government and other provinces before they could take effect.

The referendum includes five questions about immigration and eligibility for provincial services, four about proposed constitutional changes and one about Alberta's future in Canada.

Here are the 10 questions you will be asked:

1. Immigration: Do you support the Government of Alberta taking increased control over immigration for the purposes of decreasing immigration to more sustainable levels, prioritizing economic migration and giving Albertans first priority on new employment opportunities?

2. Provincial services: Do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law mandating that only Canadian citizens, permanent residents and individuals with an Alberta-approved immigration status will be eligible for provincially-funded programs, such as health care, education and other social services?

3. Residency requirements: Assuming that all Canadian citizens and permanent residents continue to qualify for social support programs as they do now, do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law requiring all individuals with a non-permanent legal immigration status to reside in Alberta for at least 12 months before qualifying for any provincially-funded social support programs?

4. Health care and education: Assuming that all Canadian citizens and permanent residents continue to qualify for public health care and education as they do now, do you support the Government of Alberta charging a reasonable fee or premium to individuals with a non-permanent immigration status living in Alberta for their and their family's use of the healthcare and education systems?

5. Proof of citizenship: Do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law requiring individuals to provide proof of citizenship, such as a

passport, birth certificate or citizenship card, to vote in an Alberta provincial election?

6. Judicial appointments: Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to have provincial governments, and not the federal government, select the justices appointed to provincial King's Bench and Appeal courts?

7. The Senate: Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to abolish the unelected federal Senate?

8. Federal programs: Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to allow provinces to opt out of federal programs that intrude on provincial jurisdiction such as health care, education, and social services, without a province losing any of the associated federal funding for use in its social programs?

9. Provincial authority: Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to better protect provincial rights from federal interference by giving a province's laws dealing with provincial or shared areas of constitutional jurisdiction priority over federal laws when the province's laws and federal laws conflict?

10. Should Alberta remain a province of Canada, or should the Government of Alberta commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada?

Option 1: Alberta should remain a province of Canada.

Option 2: The Government of Alberta should commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada.

Each question will appear on a separate ballot. Elections Alberta says voters will receive the question about Alberta's future in Canada first followed by the remaining nine questions.

Elections Alberta began mailing Where to Vote cards to registered voters in late September.

The cards provide information about advance voting locations and each voter's assigned polling station for Oct. 19. Residents who requested electronic delivery when registering may receive their information by email instead.

Anyone who has recently moved should check that their voter registration contains their current address.

Those who do not receive a card can still vote. They can confirm their registration and find their polling station online or contact Elections Alberta directly.

Advance voting will take place Oct. 13 to 17 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Referen-

dum Day is Monday, Oct. 19 with polls open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Residents can also find their voting location by entering their home address at map.elections.ab.ca.

Eligible voters must be Canadian citizens who are at least 18 years old on Election Day and ordinarily reside in Alberta.

Voters must provide identification confirming their name and current physical address. An Alberta driver's

licence showing both can meet this requirement. Those without suitable government-issued photo identification can use two accepted pieces of identification. Both must show their name and at least one must show their current address.

For residents who have questions about voting locations, registration or identification, Elections Alberta can be reached at 1-877-422-8683 or through their website (elections.ab.ca).

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International Day of older persons

BBB RELEASE

Oct. 1 marked International Day of Older Persons, and the Better Business Bureau salutes these valued citizens.

“The BBB works with many groups across Alberta and East Kootenay that include older persons,” says Mary O’Sullivan-Andersen, President and CEO of BBB serving Alberta and East Kootenay. “We offer free services that include education around financial fraud, identity theft and much more. What we discover is both individuals and groups are open to new ideas and remain resilient. We know older citizens can be vulnerable to scams, but our research indicates that individuals in every age group can unfortunately be defrauded. The best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from fraud is to safeguard your personal and financial information and learn how to spot scams.”

WARNING SIGNS THAT FRAUD MAY OCCUR

- Frequent junk mail and spam calls. Incoming junk mail (illegitimate sweepstakes offers, etc.) or receiving frequent calls from people offering valuable rewards or asking for charitable donations are signs that fraud could easily occur or may have already occurred.
- Unfamiliar payments are being made. Cheques written or payments made to unfamiliar or out-of-province companies should be a red flag.
- Acting secretly about phone calls or messages. When someone hides or acts secretly about phone

calls and messages, it could signify that they have engaged a scammer.

- Sudden problems paying bills or buying food and other necessities. A sudden lack of funds could mean an individual’s money is being drained in some form of scam activity. The cause should be investigated to rule out fraud.

TIPS FOR HELPING YOUR LOVED ONE AVOID FRAUD

- Become familiar with common scams targeting older adults. Knowing the most common tactics used to target older adults can help you more quickly identify when scams occur.
 - Emphasize the criminal nature of telemarketing and email fraud. Help your loved one learn how to identify it and help them understand that these tactics are illegal.
 - Encourage the person to ignore phone calls and messages that appear suspicious. Don’t reply to or click links within emails or text messages they are unfamiliar with.
 - Have a calm discussion about securing accounts and monitoring finances. Helping older adults monitor their finances can be a great way to prevent scam activity and identify if it has occurred.
 - Help the person change their phone number. If constant calls continue, changing the person’s phone number may be worth it. Registering the number with the Do Not Call list is a great first step.
- The BBB offers community groups free community education and outreach services. Call the BBB at 403-531-8784 for more information.



Big home win

The Strathmore Spartans high school football team defeated Brooks Composite 29-20 on Thursday, Oct. 1, in their final home game of the season.

Joe Lepage Photos



Tough battle

The Badgers show true road grit under the stadium lights, refusing to back down against a tough Drumheller Titans lineup on Oct. 3. The Badgers succumbed to the Titans with a final score of 38-14, but the score doesn’t reflect the fight of the Badgers. The team will now travel to Rocky Mountain House on Oct. 17 for their next game.

Melissa Crispin-Piche Photos

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Strathmore Municipal Library welcomes fall with new programs and community supports

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Municipal Library is heading into the final stretch of September with a new children's program, an indoor food pantry and preparations for its annual costume exchange.

Among the new additions this fall is Curiosity Club, which held a session Sept. 25 and is designed to give school-aged children a chance to explore different ideas, experiments and activities.

Assistant Director Laura Henderson said the program grew partly out of the success the library saw during its STEAM programming over spring break.

"We did all sorts of STEAM activities over the week, and they were just hugely successful and very much the type of thing that we want to focus on at the library," she said. "It was very literacy based, educational based, that sort of thing."

Rather than offering a different themed program for each of Golden Hills School Division's Flex Fridays, the library wanted to create something that could continue under one name while still leaving room to explore a wide range of subjects.

"What I love about it is that you can be curious about anything and everything," said Henderson. "That's really what the function of the program is, just to be curious and share that curiosity and learn and be inspired by different things."

Although the program is aimed at

school-aged children, younger children are not necessarily left out. Henderson said families often attend the library's Flex Friday programming together, and preschool and kindergarten-aged children can participate with some help from a parent.

Additional Curiosity Club dates are scheduled for Oct. 9 and 23, and Nov. 20 and 27.

The library is also looking ahead to Halloween with its annual costume exchange, taking place Oct. 2 from 3 to 6 p.m. and Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Costume donations are already being accepted.

Henderson estimated the exchange has been running for roughly 12 or 13 years, though she said she would have to check the library's records to confirm the exact number.

"It really just came from a place of wanting to serve the community. Costumes are really expensive. It's once a year that you're really getting all done up," she said. "It was just a really great initiative that happened many years ago and we just have kept it going."

People with costumes they no longer need can bring them in and select another. Those without a costume to exchange can still take part by making a small donation.

For families with growing children, the exchange can help solve the problem of costumes that no longer fit. But Henderson said it also gives children an opportunity to simply try something different from one Halloween to the next.

Members of the Wheatland Youth Network, the library's teen leadership group, will volunteer during this year's exchange.

Another initiative at the library is intended to meet a much more immediate need.

An indoor Little Free Pantry and Kitchenette is being launched to give patrons access to food and a place to prepare it during library hours. The space includes a microwave and minifridge, with plans to keep easy to prepare or ready to eat foods such as soup, oatmeal, cup noodles and fruit cups available.

The project builds on the Little Free Pantry already located outside the library, which Henderson said receives heavy use. "We can stock it in the morning and by evening, it's empty," she said.

Library staff have also encountered people coming inside looking for something to eat or needing help preparing food they already have. The libra-

ry staff have been willing to provide things such as boiled water or access to a microwave, but Henderson said the indoor pantry is intended to give people a more independent option.

"This is just a little bit more of a self-serve option, with a little bit more autonomy, so you can just go and see what we have available, heat it up," she said.

A volunteer will check the kitchenette on Thursdays to clean the space and replenish supplies as needed. Its continued operation, however, will depend largely on community support.

All these events, along with the library's September Artists of the Month, Joanne Giesbrecht and Jane (Style) Groenen, will keep the library busy for the foreseeable future.

More information about Curiosity Club, the costume exchange, the Little Free Pantry and Kitchenette and other upcoming programming is available through the Strathmore Municipal Library's website and Facebook page.

Through the lens: photographers showcase prairie life

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Two local photographers are inviting visitors to slow down and take another look at the prairie landscape through their featured exhibits at the Strathmore Municipal Library.

Darlene Hooge and Emily Newman both find inspiration in southern Alberta's landscapes and unexpected details. Though their paths into photography differ, both are largely self-taught and share an interest in capturing moments others might pass by.

For Hooge, photography is closely tied to her rural roots. Born in Manitoba, raised on a small farm in eastern Saskatchewan and now living in Carleton Place, she describes herself as a "prairie girl at heart."

"I like things fairly simple," Hooge said. "I like to be able to appreciate what's around me."

Photography became a greater passion when her children began having children of their own. Following her grandchildren to sporting events gave her opportunities to practice and develop her skills through experience, courses and online resources.

Photography has also changed how Hooge sees her surroundings. Once, while photographing a deer near the water, she later discovered she had unknowingly captured a fish jumping completely out of the water.

"I'd never even seen the fish in the picture when I was taking that deer," she said.

Those unexpected discoveries encourage Hooge to notice small details, from dew-covered spider webs to changes after rainfall. She will also revisit locations at different times and perspectives to find the image she wants.

Among her most meaningful photographs is a candid shot of three grandchildren having a snowball fight.

"Nothing was posed," she said. "We were walking down the road and these kids started having a snowball fight."

Hooge shows her work under Country Roots Photography and at The Vault Cultural Collective. For her, exhibiting

is less about technical perfection than creating an emotional connection.

Newman shares that desire to draw attention to what can easily be overlooked.

A Strathmore resident for about five years, Newman's interest in photography began in childhood, inspired by her grandfather, a talented amateur photographer. In high school she even built a working camera from a shoebox and developed the photographs in a darkroom.

Growing up around Vancouver Island's rainforests, waterfalls and beaches encouraged her to explore. After moving to Alberta, weekend drives with her family became opportunities to discover back roads, historic buildings and unexpected subjects.

One drive led her to an old school bus sitting in a field north of Strathmore. She returned to photograph it, and the image became a favourite and part of her library exhibit, Weathered on the Prairie.

"There's so much around us in Strathmore that's so fascinating," Newman said, adding that people can overlook places because they seem mundane.

Her outings rarely unfold exactly as planned. On one trip to photograph a barn, Newman instead encountered hawks lining a road and spent her time photographing them.

Like Hooge, Newman is largely self-taught, learning through trial and error, online courses and videos.

"Just keep doing it," she advises other photographers. "It's absolutely okay to make mistakes because you can just keep taking more pictures."

With Weathered on the Prairie, Newman hopes viewers consider the history held within the region's aging structures; a barn, for example, may have stood for a century and represents generations of people who came before.

For both photographers, the library exhibits offer different perspectives on a shared idea: familiar landscapes do not have to be ordinary. Sometimes a camera, and a willingness to stop and look, is enough to reveal what has been there all along.

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Wheatland County prepares for move to Calgary 9-1-1

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County residents shouldn't notice much of a difference when they call 911 later this year, despite a significant change happening behind the scenes.

The county is preparing to move its 911 call answering and fire dispatch services to Calgary 9-1-1, with the transition currently targeted for Dec. 8.

For residents, however, the process of getting help in an emergency isn't expected to change.

"The user experience will not change; still call 911 and get help," said Amy Zaluski, general manager of Community and Development Services.

The transition hasn't happened yet, so there aren't any real-world results to point to at this stage. Much of the work right now involves getting the system ready, including testing radio coverage, channel scanning and communications ahead of the December changeover.

Once the switch is made, 911 calls from Wheatland County will be answered through Calgary 9-1-1.

As the call taker speaks with the person calling and gathers information about the emergency, that information can also be passed along to a dispatcher and responding fire crews. That means firefighters can be dispatched while the call taker is still gathering details.

One of the obvious questions with moving dispatch services to Calgary is how well a city-based 911 centre will be able to deal with rural locations.

Finding an emergency in Wheatland County isn't always as simple as entering a street address. Callers may give a range road, township road, legal land description or even a landmark that is better known locally than it is outside the community.

According to information provided by the county from the City of Calgary, Calgary 9-1-1 uses digital mapping incorporated into its dispatch system with mapping information supplied by local municipalities.

Location information can also come from the caller's phone. Cellphone GPS data can help estimate a

caller's location, while a landline provides the address associated with that telephone number.

That information is then combined with the knowledge of local firefighters responding to the call.

The county says rural addressing, including legal land descriptions and range and township roads, is accounted for within the system. Calgary 9-1-1 also already handles dispatching for a number of rural communities.

According to the county, Calgary has more than 20 years of experience dispatching rural fire departments and currently provides the service for 11 rural departments and communities. Those include neighbouring Rocky View County as well as Beiseker, Crossfield, Chestermere, Cochrane, Canmore and Kananaskis County.

Many of the departments Calgary 9-1-1 works with are volunteer or paid-on-call operations.

That's particularly relevant in rural areas because the number of firefighters available at any given time can change. Response plans built into the dispatch system allow neighbouring departments to be brought in when additional help is needed.

The system also uses predetermined response plans to identify which crews and equipment should be sent depending on the type of emergency.

Another concern the county has tried to address is whether Wheatland calls could be delayed when Calgary is experiencing a high volume of emergencies.

The county says that won't be the case. Calls are handled according to the urgency of the emergency rather than whether they originate in Calgary or one of the rural communities served by the centre.

Backup capacity was another consideration when the county selected its new provider. Calgary 9-1-1 operates two centres at the same time, allowing operations to continue if one location is affected by a power outage, technology failure or another problem.

Calgary 9-1-1 was selected following a request for proposals process. According to the county, proposals were considered based on several factors, including

cost, technology and the provider's ability to maintain service if equipment or facilities fail.

The county has not released a comparison of what competing providers bid because those proposals are confidential, although information presented during public council meetings remains available as part of the public record.

The change also won't affect which ambulances respond to emergencies in Wheatland County.

EMS dispatch is separate from Calgary 9-1-1. When someone calls 911 for a medical emergency, the call is transferred to the provincial EMS dispatch system which determines the ambulance response.

Local fire departments will also continue responding to medical calls where they currently provide assistance. That's especially important in rural communities where firefighters can sometimes reach a patient before an ambulance arrives.

Residents won't have to do anything differently when the new system goes live. There is no new emergency number to remember and no changes need to be made to a phone.

There will be one new number residents may want to keep handy. Non-emergency fire matters, including questions about burn permits and fire bans, will be handled through 403-264-1022

Residents could also see "Calgary 911" appear on their caller ID after the transition.

That can happen if someone accidentally hangs up while calling 911 or the call is disconnected. Calgary 9-1-1 may call the person back to confirm they're safe or gather information that was lost when the call ended.

Residents are being asked to answer if they see Calgary 9-1-1 calling. With the transition still scheduled for December, it remains too early to say what difference the new system will make during actual emergency calls.

For residents, though, the county's message is simple: if there's an emergency, call 911 just as you do now.

Strathmore tax arrears auction set for Oct. 15

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Residents will have an opportunity to bid on properties with unpaid taxes, but potential buyers should understand the process before taking part.

The Town of Strathmore is preparing to hold a public tax arrears auction on Thursday, Oct. 15, giving interested buyers an opportunity to purchase properties whose owners have fallen behind on their property taxes.

The auction is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the Strathmore Municipal Office, located at 1 Parklane Drive.

For anyone unfamiliar with tax arrears auctions, the process can seem a little confusing. Unlike a regular real estate sale, these auctions are held by municipalities to recover unpaid property taxes.

When property owners fail to pay their taxes for an extended period, municipalities can begin a tax recovery process under Alberta's Municipal Government Act. This includes notifying property owners and giving them opportunities to pay what they owe before their property is offered for sale.

Even when a property is advertised for auction, the owner can still prevent the sale by paying the outstanding taxes and required costs before the property is sold.

Strathmore town council approved reserve bids for five properties in July, with prices ranging from \$42,000 to \$203,250.

The approved reserve bids are \$42,000, \$47,250, \$162,532.50, \$169,882.50 and \$203,250.

A reserve bid is the minimum amount the municipality will accept for a property at auction. It is not necessarily the amount of unpaid taxes.

The municipality is required to set reserve bids as close as reasonably possible to the properties' market values.

Although five properties were initially identified, that does not mean all five will be available on auction day. Properties may be removed from the auction if their owners pay the outstanding amounts beforehand.

Members of the public can attend the auction and bid on the properties available that day. Each property has a reserve price, and bids must meet that minimum for a sale to take place.

If the reserve price is not met, the property will remain unsold. The town may then become the owner of the property.

Successful bidders must pay the balance of their purchase within 30 days of the auction. Payment must be made by certified cheque or bank draft, and GST will apply where required.

If the winning bidder fails to complete payment within the 30-day period, the town has the right to offer the property to the next-highest bidder.

Buyers should know the risks. While a tax auction may attract people looking to purchase property, there are some important differences from a traditional

real estate sale.

Properties are sold on an "as is, where is" basis. This means buyers are responsible for understanding what they are purchasing, including any potential problems with the land or buildings.

The town does not guarantee the condition of a property, the availability of services, soil conditions or whether the land is suitable for a buyer's intended use.

Buyers also cannot make their bids conditional on obtaining financing, completing a home inspection or meeting other requirements.

Anyone considering bidding should research the property beforehand, review its land title and make sure they have the money available to complete the purchase.

Property owners can still prevent a sale. For property owners whose land is scheduled for auction, there is still an opportunity to stop the sale.

Under Alberta's tax recovery rules, owners can prevent their property from being sold by paying all outstanding tax arrears and associated costs before the sale takes place.

This means the list of properties available on Oct. 15 could change, even shortly before the auction begins.

Residents interested in attending or purchasing a property are encouraged to contact the Town of Strathmore ahead of time to confirm which properties remain available and review the conditions of sale.

Fake gold bar scam

BBB RELEASE

There have been recent reports to the Better Business Bureau's ScamTracker about the fake gold bar scam.

"The criminals who carry out this scam are opportunists who take advantage of unsuspecting citizens," says Mary O'Sullivan-Andersen, President and CEO of BBB Serving Alberta and East Kootenay. "This scam often starts out as a fake pop-up message on an individual's computer screen with a warning that their financial accounts have been hacked. This is the beginning of the scam with the person then urged to

call a number where they are then told they need to convert their accounts into gold bars and then hand them over so their assets can be protected. What sounds absurd can take on an air of believability and lure people in because there is an urgency to the message that can cause costly, and in some cases, financially devastating mistakes to happen. In one report to BBB, the individual suffered losses of more than \$700,000."

TIPS

- Do not call a number provided in a pop-up, text, or email.
- Never allow anyone you don't know remote access to your computer.
- Never transfer large amounts of money out of

your bank account at the urging of someone over the phone.

- If someone claims there is an issue with your bank account, hang up and contact your financial institution at a verified number.
- This scam can be effective because the scammer creates a sense of urgency, pressuring the victim into making spontaneous decisions and then demanding the interaction be kept secret.
- The best way to combat this scam is to not engage. Turn off your computer and hang up the telephone.
- Contact someone you trust and let them know your situation.
- Report these encounters to the police using the non-emergency line.

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Alberta's government is also taking action to protect private property and make those who illegally dump waste face the consequences. Our government plans to introduce legislation this fall that would set fines for individuals who engage in illegal dumping between \$10,000 and \$100,000 and allow courts to impose jail sentences ranging from 30 days to six months. Corporations that participate in illegal dumping would face fines of up to \$1 million. These proposed changes are intended to deter illegal dumping while ensuring

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

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

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EDMONTON COIN SHOW - October 17 & 18, 2026. Saturday 10 am - 4:30 pm; Sunday 10 am - 3 pm. Lions Centre 11113 - 113 Street, Edmonton. Family friendly! Displays * Auctions * Free market evaluations.* Dealers from across Canada.* Visit www.edmontoncoinclub.com/shows

[illegible]

Call 403-934-5589

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICES

Strathmore & District Curling Club
ANNUAL FALL 'SEASON OPENER' MEETING
Wednesday, October 7th
 6:30 p.m. Refreshments
 7:00 p.m. Meeting
 (Proposed Bylaw changes to be reviewed)
Everyone welcome!



Do you need help cleaning your home in Strathmore?

For 20 years, I've come alongside busy families and seniors with cleaning help. Thorough. Attention to detail. Please call **236-457-1336** for an introduction appointment.

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEATLAND COUNTY CHASE PIT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

INFORMATION ONLY

Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA) Registration No. 00015676-03-00 was issued on January 16, 2020, to Wheatland County for the construction, operation, and reclamation of a pit in the NE 10 & NW 11-022-21-W4M.

Reclamation certificate 00510422-00-00 has been issued by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas on September 11, 2026. The EPEA Registration No. 00015676-03-00 is no longer required for the above mentioned pit.

In accordance with the EPEA and the regulations, the Director has canceled EPEA Registration No. 00015676-03-00.

TRAVEL

OSOYOOS LAKESHORE VILLA: Executive lakeview villa in Osoyoos, BC, breathtaking lake and mountain views; just 3 minutes from town. Vacation in Canada's warmest destination. Or warmer weather, two luxurious 5-star resort units in Phoenix, Arizona. Doug 306-716-2671 or visit osoyooslakevilla.com

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HELP WANTED

Ritchie Stairs Inc. is in need of a **SHOP FOREMAN** starting at \$25/hour. Must have knowledge of hand tools and experience is preferred but will train. Resumes can be sent to ritchiestairs@gmail.com

LIVESTOCK

PASTURE WANTED:

Cow/Calf Pairs. Quiet, quality cattle. Checked regular. Managed well. Don't overgraze. Contact Travis @ Redline Livestock **403-994-1065**

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Request a copy of the RFP email: codellverweire@gmail.com or text 403 816 1303 **ONLY QUALIFIED** respondents to the RFP will be considered. Your text message must contain individuals contact name. **Submission cut off 3 pm November 16, 2026** Successful RFP candidate will be notified November 30, 2026.

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Upcoming Council Meetings
October 7, 2026 | 6 p.m.
October 14, 2026 | 6 p.m.
October 21, 2026 | 6 p.m.

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

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

New Addition Blue Recycling Carts Are Here.

The new program features single-stream recycling, which means there is no sorting required. Simply place accepted recyclable materials in your blue cart and set it out for collection!

Questions? Answers! Visit, CircularMaterials.ca/Strathmore or Strathmore.ca/BlueCarts, 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.

- Contract Group Fitness Instructor/Personal Trainer
- Casual Sports Centre Attendant

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

Fall Registration Open!
Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre Fall programming is now open!

Looking for ways to stay active, learn something new, or keep the kids engaged this fall? We've got something for everyone!

- Registration opened on August 4 for our exciting lineup of fall programs, including:
- Cardio & Strength
 - Seniorcise
 - Stay & Play
 - School Closure & PD Day Camps
 - Mini Sport Adventure
 - Mini Movers
 - Yoga & Stretch

Whether you're looking to build strength, improve flexibility, stay connected with your community, or keep your little ones active and having fun, our fall programs are designed to help you make the most of the season.

For more information about programs and activities, visit: Strathmore.ca/SMPSportsCentre

Holiday Safety Reminders.
Thanksgiving Weekend

Thanksgiving is a time for family, friends, and feasting, but it's also important to prioritize safety during the holiday festivities. Here are some essential safety tips to ensure a joyful and accident-free Thanksgiving:

- Kitchen Safety:** Have a fire extinguisher and know how to use it, cut away from your body when handling knives or sharp utensils and use a cutting board to prevent slips and injuries.
- Food Safety:** Ensure that all food is cooked to the appropriate temperatures. Using a meat thermometer can help avoid food poisoning. Remember to be cautious with leftovers; refrigerating within two hours of serving, and eating them within three to four days.
- Road Safety:** When driving to spend some quality time with family or friends, make sure to buckle up and avoid distractions. Planning your route ahead of time and leaving early can help you avoid heavy traffic and driving in the dark.
- Emotional Well-being:** The holidays can be stressful, and it is essential to take breaks and practice self-care. Remember to enjoy and cherish the time spent with loved ones.

Happy Holiday season!

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.

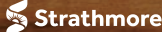
Blue Carts: Biweekly pick-up year round.

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





Whenever you can, shop local.
It might sound cliché, but it really matters.



Notice of Public Hearing.

October 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw No. 23-13 (126 Westdale Street)

Public Hearing Process

Please be advised that the Town of Strathmore has received an application for a land use redesignation for 126 Westdale Street (Lot 9, Block 3, Plan 0815612). The proposed re-designation from 'R1 – Single Detached Residential District' to 'R2 – Low Density Residential District' aims to permit the development of a semi-detached house.

The Public Hearing will be held via ZOOM and in Council Chambers, Strathmore Municipal Building, 1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore Alberta on **Wednesday, October 21, 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 Wednesday, October 14, 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 Wednesday, October 14, 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.



Hey dogs, keep your owner on their leash.

You don't want them getting lost, right?