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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 42

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Page 3



Last home game

Page 5



Business minds gather

Fee increase

JOHN WATSON
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore Committee of the Whole discussed the proposed fees and charges schedule for 2025 during the Oct. 9 meeting.

Town administration was seeking feedback from council on the proposed schedule. Any changes recommended during the meeting would be consolidated and returned before council during the Oct. 16 regular meeting.

Approximately 30 per cent of the town's revenues are derived from fees and charges authorized in the annual rate bylaw. These are reviewed annually and adjusted in order to better reflect changes in levels of service, increased contributions to reserves, or to recover costs of delivering programs.

Additionally, inflation rates are also taken into consideration when adjusting local fees and charges.

The proposed recommendation contains a four per cent increase to all water, wastewater, and storm rates for property and business owners.

"The other big public facing item is our rec centres – so the family centre, aquatics, (Strathmore) Motor Products Sports Centre – most of these had larger increases in 2024, like a four per cent increase, and for 2025 we are recommending a lot of them to stay as is," said Riley Brolly, speaking on behalf of administration. "There are some rentals we are recommending to increase for inflationary purposes."

Town administration is also recommending to add a 1.5 per cent additional charge for those who decide to pay for town bills and user fees via their credit card.

"This is no different than if you go to a small-time vendor or small business or something like that who, if you pay on debit or cash there is no charge, but if you are paying on credit, they ask you to pay a small fee to cover that cost," added Brolly.

Continued on Page 4



Spartans shine

Strathmore Spartans quarterback Carter Kent was on target with his passing as he guided the high school team to a 26-17 win over Bowness High School on Oct. 11 at the SHS field. The Spartans will hit the road to take on Foothills on Oct. 18.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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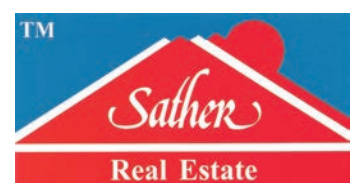
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Kickoff concert

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributors

The Strathmore Musical Arts Society is kicking off their season with born-and-raised Albertan Tim Isberg accompanied by his five-piece band on Oct. 19 at the Strathmore Travel Lodge.

Isberg is a singer, songwriter and storyteller who is eager to share his many adventures through song with audiences Canada-wide. The show he is bringing to Strathmore is based on his album *Prairie Fire*, which was released in March of this year. The album draws the audience in with Isberg's brilliant storytelling set.

Isberg explains that the album and show are more than just songs – they have a theme.

"The theme (of the concert) is songs of the late 19th century Canadian prairies. I wrote *Prairie Fire* as a history-ba-



sed theme album of original songs about the people and events of the late 19th century Canadian prairies and Western plains."

Isberg explains that he has a deep passion for drawing the audience into his songs and hoping he can spark a bit of curiosity encouraging people to dive into their own family history.

His music is described as alternative country with notes of roots of contemporary folk songs mixed in. "Not only does each song in the show tell a story, but my hope is also that each song educates and inspires audiences to learn more of the fascinating Western history that surrounds us and is part of our heritage," said Isberg.

The opening song "Chasing Memories" sets the theme for the show and hopefully captures the attention of the audience.

"It's meant to take the listener, that's sitting there listening, and watching this incredible band that I have around me, to take them for a ride on a musical and sort of lyrical journey through some of the historical moments and emotions of the time," he said.

Isberg is also a published author and soldier. In the book *Everyday Heroes*, Isberg has a chapter where he recounts his many experiences in the line of duty; the book is a national best seller.

"I'm hoping that the audience becomes a bit motivated to be interested in learning more about the rich tapestry and history that's around us that they may not even see, but it's there," he said. "There was so much going on in those 30 or 40 years in the mid to late 19th century in and around present-day Alberta and Saskatchewan. I'm hoping that the show inspires them to leave the theatre or the venue Googling a little bit about history that they didn't know about or thought they knew about."

Isberg's rich background and his years as a veteran soldier shine through his words.

"For me personally, I find it fascinating," he said.

Doors for the evening open at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Opening act Lewis Frere and Isberg's concert begins at 8 p.m. Tickets to the adults only dinner/concert are \$60.

People can visit the Strathmore Musical Arts Society website (strathmore-arts.com) to purchase tickets.

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Town discusses future of local water services

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore Committee of the Whole discussed the town's potable water source and storage facilities during the Oct. 9, meeting in council chambers.

Administration presented before councillors to summarize both the current situation, as well as into the future, allowing for input on both current and future water projects.

"The Bow River is the source of water for the Town of Strathmore, as well as many other municipalities in the area. Cochrane is the first major withdrawal point downstream of a mountain reservoir system," said Ethan Wilson, manager of infrastructure with the Town of Strathmore. "For the town specifically, water from the river is treated and delivered via the East Calgary Regional Water Line. There are pros and cons to this; however, the regional efficiencies in treatment are significant."

Prior to the East Calgary Regional Water Line, water was delivered to Strathmore via the Western Irrigation District.

The Town of Strathmore itself does not currently employ qualified professionals trained in water treatment. Epcor currently provides water services for the town, though none of their members are located in Strathmore.

Bringing the topic of water demand to council now serves to allow time for administration to plan for future population growth of the town,

which would lead to increased water demands.

Volumes of water delivered, stored, treated and used on a daily basis will have to be accounted for as the population increases.

Following the decommissioning of the Westmount reservoir, the two remaining reservoirs in Strathmore are the Wildflower, which is operating at 100 per cent capacity, and Brentwood, which is currently operated at 50 per cent capacity.

"When we look at the town over the last four years, we see an average day demand of 3,920 cubic metres, and a maximum day demand of approximately 7,800 cubic metres. Converting this to storage requirements, the town is required to have two times our average day demand of storage," said Wilson. "With our current capacity of 14,500 cubes, we are well over the requirement. With the plan of decommissioning of Brentwood in 2026, we today have free storage of approximately 32 per cent."

Wilson added the town's master servicing study contemplates an expansion of the Wildflower reservoir storage capacity, which would be separate from the pump upgrades currently in progress.

A project of this size, he explained, is anticipated to cost between \$12 million and \$15 million. Capacity of the Wildflower facility would be increased to 17,700 cubes.

The full presentation and debate are available via the recorded Committee of the Whole meeting posted to the town's YouTube channel. The topic was not specified at the time regarding when it would be returning before council.



Home finale

The Strathmore Spartans girls soccer team played their final home game on Oct. 8, falling 2-1 to the Foothills Composite High School. The Spartans will cap off their season with an away game to conclude their season.

Joe Lepage Photo

County to adjust support for 4-H clubs

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland County Agriculture Service Board (ASB) discussed support of the five local 4-H clubs operating within county borders during the Oct. 2 meeting in council chambers.

The Wheatland County ASB has traditionally supported the Rockyford 4-H Beef, Standard 4-H Sheep, and Hussar 4-H Beef sales. Historically, the ASB has purchased two steers and one sheep annually from the respective 4-H clubs.

Following the purchases, one steer and sheep are resold "on the rail," according to administration, and one steer is sent for butchering to be donated to the Wheatland County Food Bank.

Throughout the county, there are five operating 4-H clubs, including Rockyford Beef, Standard Sheep, Hussar Beef, Crowfoot, and the Strathmore Rusty Spurs.

A survey distributed by the ASB to the various clubs in July suggested mixed opinions regarding the avenues which the county has taken to support the clubs.

"The report is very interesting – there are unintended consequences for every action that you take. We really were trying to do the best thing for our community, and I can see from some other perspectives, it may not have been the right way to go," said member Shannon Laprise.

Members of the ASB proposed various new avenues for continuing to support the 4-H clubs in a more balanced, fair, and fiscally responsible man-

ner.

Suggestions included splitting funds allotted to supporting the clubs five ways in consideration of direct equity, basing funding to each club on the number of members and their goals, and by potentially having each club present before the ASB their goals and justifications for receiving funding.

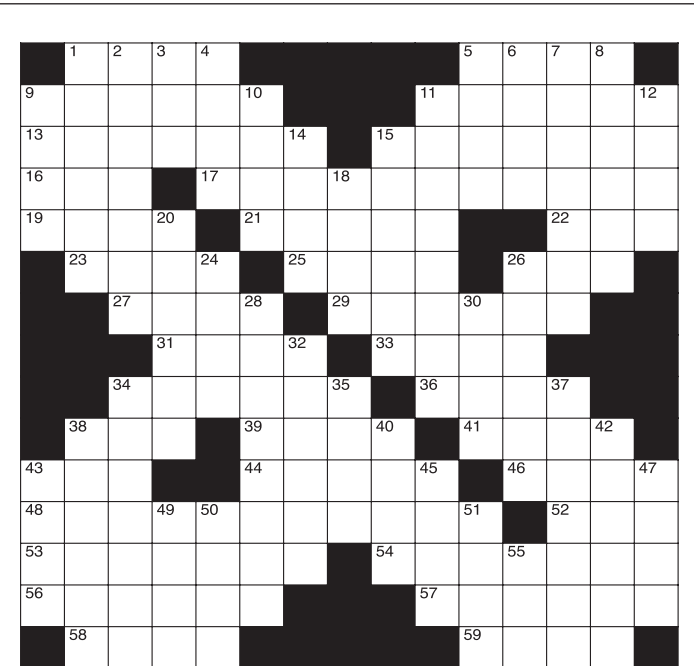
"I did hear perspectives around – it might be nice to do it split equally between the clubs. There would be some flat costs regardless of how many members you have, and ... fundraising can be more challenging with smaller membership," said member Amber Link. "This could really contribute to the sustainability, especially of those smaller clubs and maybe even help them grow."

A motion was introduced that the ASB divide their funds between the five 4-H clubs within the local region, and a request made that each club send representatives members to present before the ASB.

Coun. Rick Laursen suggested specifying within requests for presentations that the ASB aims to hear what projects and activities each respective club takes on and participates in.

It was also put forward that the ASB consider increasing their budget for allocating to support the 4-H clubs to \$15,000 annually in order to have an even, round number divisible for each of the respective local clubs.

The motion was approved unanimously by the ASB.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Tall, upright post on a boat
- 5. Basics
- 9. Used to refer to cited works
- 11. Folds
- 13. Former UK PM May
- 15. Cold region of Russia
- 16. Standard operating procedure
- 17. Separating
- 19. Particles
- 21. A way to map out
- 22. Referee declares
- 23. Beginner
- 25. Water (Spanish)
- 26. Gov't lawyers
- 27. Non-reproductive parts of an organism
- 29. Spanish friends
- 31. A type of tree
- 33. Walk heavily
- 34. About a wood
- 36. Free-swimming marine invertebrate
- 38. Political action committee
- 39. SB19 hit song
- 41. Scorch the surface of
- 43. Moved quickly on foot
- 44. Sacred state for a Muslim
- 46. Growl
- 48. Pearl Jam frontman
- 52. Irritating person
- 53. Something requiring a solution
- 54. Firing
- 56. Hazards
- 57. Taiwan capital
- 58. Impudence
- 59. Rock frontman Durst

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One who rides an elephant
- 2. Absence of bacteria
- 3. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 4. Men's fashion accessories
- 5. "Honey" actress Jessica
- 6. Round red root vegetable
- 7. Latin term for "charity"
- 8. Doesn't smell good
- 9. Mental health issue
- 10. Millisecond
- 11. Hairstyle
- 12. Edible starch
- 14. Middle Eastern military title
- 15. Protein-rich liquids
- 18. Indian musical pattern
- 20. Cancer and Capricorn
- 24. Country along the Arabian peninsula
- 26. A bend
- 28. Fishes of the herring family
- 30. Antelopes
- 32. Chaos
- 34. Popular music app
- 35. Cooking material
- 37. Musical instrument
- 38. San Diego ballplayers
- 40. Small amounts
- 42. Poured
- 43. Fabric
- 45. Food option
- 47. Finger millet
- 49. The U. of Miami mascot is one
- 50. Alberta, Canada river
- 51. Canadian flyers
- 55. Dry white wine drink

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Thought for the Week
~
Do we live life looking forward but understand it only by looking back?

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Library hosts October gallery

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Municipal Library is hosting Lyle Johnson as their artist of the month throughout the month of October. "We have had our art gallery for many years, and in the last little while we have been restructuring the way that we do it. Now, we are offering artists a month or two months place on the wall," said Laura Henderson, public services manager with the Strathmore Municipal Library. "Lyle is in for the month of October and his art is just bright and vibrant and refreshing. It is such a neat gallery, and this is his first gallery hanging."

Johnson largely is displaying acrylic paintings on canvas, as well as several spray-painted pieces.

Henderson explained the library's previous operation of changing up the gallery every month almost did not feel fair to the artist on display, with not enough time in one month by itself to share the gallery with the community.

On her end, Henderson added it is sometimes easier depending on the size of the display for the library having greater amounts of time between taking down a gallery and setting up another.

"For some, they only want that one month gallery as well, so we are offering them one month or two ... a lot goes into this gallery and this time around we hung 29 pieces. It does not sound like a lot, but it really fills those walls, and we want it to look lovely," she said. "I actually have some experience in art galleries ... I love the process of hanging the art and making those displays pop a little bit and highlighting those artists in the way that their art is displayed."

By allowing a two-month period and having the option to have it as only a month, the team at the library is granted more time in order to better display the art coming into the building.

Currently, the library is booked with artists until March 2025; however, the team is always seeking more and new artists to feature displays at the gallery.

Returning artists who have previously displayed are also still welcome to schedule themselves with the library again.

Any and all mediums are welcomed into the gallery, including three-dimensional art such as pottery and needle felting.

"Art can come in so many formats so I like to find a way to display that art as best I can ... I do not even know the limitations; I want to talk to the artists and see what we can do to make that gallery work for them," said Henderson.

All of Johnson's paintings are for sale through the library, ranging in prices from \$250 to \$1,000, according to Henderson. Purchases will net the library a 10 per cent commission, with the rest returning to the artist.

RCMP member charged

ALBERTA RCMP

In October of 2023, the Alberta RCMP's Southern Alberta District General Investigation Section began an investigation into the on-duty conduct of an RCMP member.

As a result of the investigation, Cst. Anthony Jacobs (40) of the Gleichen RCMP has been charged with one count of perjury and one count of Breach of Trust.

Jacobs is suspended with pay and has now been released on an Undertaking. His next court appearance is scheduled for Dec. 12, at the Siksika Nation Court of Justice.

Jacobs has been with the RCMP for nine years.

Town discusses proposed fees and charges bylaw update

Continued from Page 1

"What is happening right now with the Town of Strathmore is we effectively eat the cost of all the credit card fees charged to us by vendors; it was about \$66,000 last year and it is trending to be even higher this year."

This fee is similarly implemented in municipalities such as Medicine Hat, Chestermere, and Lethbridge.

The Town of Strathmore spends in the realm of \$2 million per year to subsidize recreation in the local community so that residents are able to have regular access.

From 2023 to 2024, a significant cost increase was implemented on all-access family passes for Town recreational services. From 2024 going into 2025, another increase was not recommended in the updated fees bylaw by administration at this time.

No changes were ultimately recommended by the committee during the meeting. The proposed fees and charges bylaw will return before council Oct. 16.

<p>STRATHMORE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH Meeting in the Lutheran Church 112 Lakeside Blvd. 1-888-506-1066 ext. 101 Pastor: Donald Wright Services held every Saturday Sabbath School: 10 AM Worship Service: 11 AM www.strathmoreadventist.ca donald816@hotmail.com God's Closet Collects children's clothing and distributes Feb., May, Aug. and Nov.</p>	<p>STRATHMORE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH 50 Maplewood Drive • 403-934-2225 Lead Pastor: Rev Murray Wright Associate Pastor: Kyle Lomenda Services Sundays 10:30 am www.strathmorefullgospel.com</p>
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<p>ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS ANGLICAN Meeting in the Lutheran Church 112 Lakeside Blvd. • 587-727-0649 Rev. Malcolm Kern Sunday Worship 2:30 pm strathmoreanglican@gmail.com tinyurl.com/StrathmoreAnglican</p>	<p>HOPE COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH 245 Brent Blvd, Strathmore 403-934-2424 Pastor: Heidi Wiebe Sunday Worship 10 am www.hope-community.ca</p>
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who won the second annual "New Smile" give away at the recent trade show. We enjoy the opportunity not only to meet possible future patients, but meet other local business leaders and give back to the community.

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Strathmore Business Association hosts debut meeting

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Business Association met for the first time in Town of Strathmore council chambers, Oct. 8, to discuss cooperation and collaboration between local businesses.

The Town of Strathmore aims to create a network of businesses that may work together and aid each other, as well as to provide information regarding the Town's Municipal Development Plan.

Angela Groeneveld, representing the Town of Strathmore, explained the Oct. 8 meeting aimed to be a sort of brainstorming event between local businesses in the downtown core to discuss what a Strathmore Business Association could look like and how it may be able to operate.

"We are here to be stronger together and we want to do more with less. We want to be fiscally responsible as government, we want to be efficient of our time, and we always want to be supporting sufficiently," she said. "Having one organization versus 17, makes us more fiscally responsible, gets us more done, and you get a larger impact on government money supporting events that are majority owned and separate."

The Strathmore Business Association, as it becomes established, aims to speak directly with local businesses broken down into groups based on their locations within the town, starting with the downtown area.

Directly, the aim would not be to compete technically with operations of the Strathmore Wheatland Chamber of Commerce, rather to be an organization comprised of local business owners to serve local business owners. In fact, it could be subsidiary of the local chamber of commerce.

Topics addressed through the Strathmore Business Association may range anywhere from advertising and signage, to events such as street markets and parades, which would require collaboration to create and host.

Similarly, it creates an additional avenue to encourage business owners to speak with each other and create mutually beneficial ways to promote and benefit each other.

"The Town of Strathmore's objective is to start centrally with the businesses in the downtown core ... We as an administration and economic development need to have a conversation in the different land use areas, we need to have a conversation with every single person, every single business in (each) area," said Groeneveld.

Throughout Strathmore, she added there are 277 local business owners, each of whom are sporting different needs based on their unique business, location, and catered demographics.

More information regarding the development of the Strathmore Business Association is available through the town, including how future meetings will be set up, scheduling, and how business zones will be broken down in order to organize attendance.



A newly forming Strathmore Business Association hosted its inaugural meeting in Town of Strathmore council chambers, Oct. 8, to discuss what the association would look like as it develops. Business owners operating throughout downtown were invited to the meeting. Several similar events will take place later, inviting business owners from different areas of town.

John Watson Photo



Take a swing

The Town of Strathmore hosted a Girls at Bat, a free intro-level baseball program for girls on Oct. 7 at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre. The four-week camp is held every Monday from Sept. 30 to Oct. 28, excluding Oct. 14 for Thanksgiving. The camp is presented by the Toronto Blue Jays incentive, the Jays Care Foundation.

Joe Lepage Photo

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In Australia and the UK, a new synthetic lab-produced opiate drug is flooding the illicit drug market. Users think they are getting cocaine, a stimulant drug, but get this new opiate class of sedatives call *nitazenes*. Nitazenes are deadly synthetic opioids which are 40 times stronger than fentanyl and hundreds of times more potent than heroin. Nitazenes have already been infiltrating the underground drug supply in Canada.

Some people are addicted to their lip balms. But all lip balms are not created equal and some may be making the chapped lips problem worse. Our lips don't have the protective layers to protect against moisture loss like our skin does. Try to avoid licking your lips because that makes things worse. Avoid lip balms containing beeswax, salicylic acid, menthol or camphor. Choose balms with petrolatum as the main ingredient and layer it on the lips at night.

Are you a *doom-scroller*? Doom-scrolling is the act of continuously scrolling through negative or distressing news and social media content. The subjects can be disasters, crises or other troubling events. Over-exposure to these events can lead to feelings of anxiety, stress and even depression. It's important to set boundaries around media consumption so you don't suffer from doom-scrolling side effects.

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www.bridgingthegapalberta.ca

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Chantelle de Jonge, MLA
Chestermere-Strathmore

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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 12: Council Meeting

November 19: Municipal Planning Commission

November 19: Public Presentation Committee

To join the call, dial 403-917-1764 and enter the PIN 47001 when prompted.

Agenda packages can be found on our website.

Public Hearings

Wheatland County Council Chambers November 12, 2024 at 9 a.m.

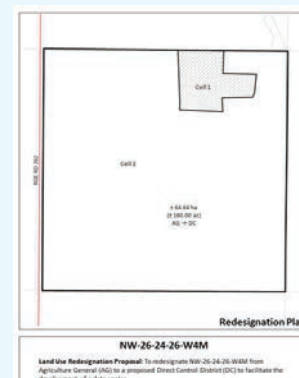
Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the regular Council meeting on Tuesday, November 12th, 2024.

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

Bylaw #: 2024-31 (LU2024-010)

Legal Description: NW-26-24-26-W4M

Proposal: To redesignate the subject lands from Agriculture General (AG) District to Direct Control District (DC) to facilitate the establishment of a data centre.



Comments may be forwarded in writing to Wheatland County or in person at the above meeting. The application files may be reviewed in the County Office during regular office hours – Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Any comments provided will become part of the public record in accordance with Section 40 (1) of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act. Any personal information on submissions made regarding applications is collected under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 33 (c) and subsequent versions of the Act.



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Southern Alberta – October 21st to 25th

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BARNWELL
Tues., Oct. 22
Independent Crop Inputs Inc.
N.W. of 27-9-17 West of Hwy. 4, 94035 Range Rd. 17-3, TOK OBO

BARONS
Thurs., Oct. 24
South Country Co-op Ltd.
123014 Range Rd. 234, TOL OGO

BENALTO
Fri., Oct. 25
Benalto Agri Services Ltd.
38531 Range Rd. 2-4, TOM OHO

BROOKS
Fri., Oct. 25
South Country Co-op Ltd.
7th St. and Industrial Rd., T1R 1B9

CARSELAND
Mon., Oct. 21
Cargill
263026 Township Rd. 221, Corner Hwy. 24 & Agrium Rd., TOJ OMO

DRUMHELLER
Mon., Oct. 21
Kneehill Soil Services Ltd.
700 South Railway Ave. W., TOJ OYO

DUNMORE
Thurs., Oct. 24
AgroPlus Inc.
2269 - 2nd Ave., #22, T1B 0K3

FOREMOST
Wed., Oct. 23
AgroPlus Inc.
199 1st Ave. W., TOK OXO

FORT MACLEOD
Wed., Oct. 23
Nutrien Ag Solutions
250 Boyle Ave., TOL OZO

HANNA
Wed., Oct. 23
Hanna UFA Farm & Ranch Supply Store
601 1st Ave. W., TOJ 1P0

HIGH RIVER
Fri., Oct. 25
Nutrien Ag Solutions
498012 - 122 St. E., T1V 1M3

HUSSAR
Tues., Oct. 22
Richardson Pioneer
151 Railway Ave., TOJ 1S0

INNISFAIL
Thurs., Oct. 24
Central Alberta Co-op
35435 Range Rd. 282, T4G 1B6

LETHBRIDGE COUNTY
Tues., Oct. 22
Parrish & Heimbecker
Wilson Siding
75006 Hwy. 845, T1K 8G9

LOMOND
Mon., Oct. 21
South Country Co-op Ltd.
115 Railway Ave., TOL 1G0

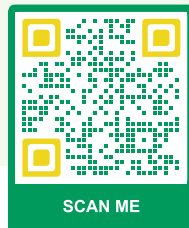
OLDS
Wed., Oct. 23
Olds UFA Farm & Ranch Supply Store
4334 46th Ave., T4H 1A2

OYEN
Thurs., Oct. 24
Richardson Pioneer
1 mile East on Hwy. 41, TOJ 2J0

THREE HILLS
Tues., Oct. 22
Richardson Pioneer
503 - 3rd St. S.W., TOM 2A0

VETERAN
Fri., Oct. 25
Richardson Pioneer
400 Waterloo St., TOC 2S0

WARNER
Mon., Oct. 21
Nutrien Ag Solutions
Junction Hwy. 4 & Hwy. 36, 1/2 mile N. on the Access Rd., TOK 2L0



• Next Cleanfarms collection in these areas in 2027.
• For collection dates elsewhere, go to: cleanfarms.ca/materials/unwanted-pesticides-animal-meds/



Cleanfarms.ca
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STAFFED PREVIEW: OCT. 19, 21, 22 10AM-5PM • 1475 WHEATLAND TRAIL, AB.

DAY 1 BIDDING OCT. 15-22, DAY 2 BIDDING OCT. 16-23



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1991 RESURFACE ST95



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2022 YULIN MANURE



KUBOTA F3680 4WD



2021 24' BUMPER PULL



2019 CANTA DUMP



2007 HONDA TRX 500



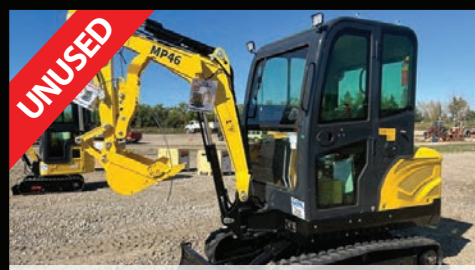
RC-G200 E-VEHICLE



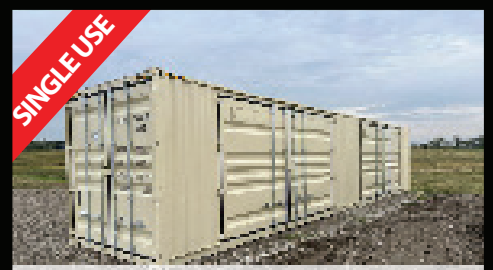
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RC-G4.0 E-GOLF CART



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Agra Risk Wheatland Kings take pair of losses over Thanksgiving weekend

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings lost their most recent pair of games, Oct. 12 and 13, having squared off against Okotoks and Sylvan Lake.

Kings head coach, Doug Raycroft, said these were the two best teams in the league last year and was anticipating some tough competition going into the weekend.

“I think if I was to summarize the weekend, we had some penalty trouble on Friday ... they had four powerplay goals and then (on Saturday), we were not very clean on our passes and some of our play,” he said. “To be honest it is still pretty early. We played some of the weaker teams and I think we had some young guys who you could tell when we were four-and-o, everybody thought we were doing amazing, but some of the coaches and older players

knew we had not really played some of the tougher teams yet.”

The Kings lost 5-2 against the Okotoks Bisons, and 4-1 against the Sylvan Lake Wranglers respectively.

Raycroft explained the two games served as a sort of “litmus test” to gauge where the Kings are in the current league standings and how they perform against two of their strongest competitors.

“Okotoks has a lot of talent – we took some penalties and they got four power play goals against us on Friday night and then (on Saturday), it was a close game; we just came up against a good goalie and we fell on the wrong side of the score on that one too,” he said. “I was not upset with our performance, playing two really good teams; you can tell that we are going to get better and these are some of the best teams in the league. Mostly, I was happy with the way that the boys competed and I think going forward, we are just going to try and refine some of

our systems and keep improving as we go forward.”

Raycroft added he is eager to see two of his stronger defensemen, Kyle Provencher and Tegan Skehar return to the ice as soon as possible.

Provencher was out on a shoulder injury which disallowed him from participating, and Skehar was absent and out of province due to family circumstances.

Going forward, Raycroft explained the team will aim to focus on refining their penalty-kills. At the moment, however, due to being still early in the season, the goal is to continue experimenting and give players many chances to play and discover where their strengths are best showcased.

The Kings will play a home-and-home series with the Coaldale Copperheads on Oct. 18-19. The local Junior B team will open the series at home before traveling to Coaldale the following night. Both games will start at 8 p.m.

Province announces rural health incentives

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Government of Alberta has announced an initiative to increase incentives for medical practitioners and EMS personnel to operate in rural and remote areas of the province.

Adriana Lagrange, minister of health, said the Rural Health Action Plan is a three-year plan designed to guide government efforts in improving rural and remote health care, and close the gap in health care access between Albertans in urban centers and surrounding areas.

“Albertans living in rural and remote communities face unique challenges and health care challenges, which require tailored supports and approaches to ensure that these communities have the resources and infrastructure they need to provide quality care,” she said. “It should not matter where you live, all Albertans should have access to the health care services that they require and deserve.”

Focal points for the Rural Health Action Plan include community care, prevention and wellness, access, workforce, and creating innovative care models and solutions that serve the unique needs

in rural and remote communities.

The province will provide up to \$16 million over the next two years for a remote family medicine resident physician bursary pilot program to support family medicine resident physicians who want to practice in remote communities.

Up to \$8 million will be available for each of the two years to qualified medical students. In return, the bursary recipients will commit to delivering comprehensive patient care in eligible communities for three years after completing their residency.

“In addition to the bursary program, we are also implementing two new grant programs including an \$800,000 medical first responder grant program, and then a \$600,000 emergency medical responder education program,” said Lagrange. “They will help to fund the creation of new medical first responder programs in communities that have limited access to healthcare services and helping in our ongoing efforts to retain our most qualified medical personnel.”

The intent of the first responder programs ultimately aims to create a positive impact and greater capacity for EMS, as well as to utilize ambulances more effectively.

“We are hearing on an ongoing basis that we are not training enough EMS responders and so that is why we are targeting this particular area, because we have identified a need in this area. The ultimate goal is to make sure that we have access all across the province,” she said. “Even though we have had incentive programs for quite a long time for family physicians and for other areas, we are not seeing the uptake and so we are looking at how do we grow our own programs.”

Giving thanks

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends. As we shift back to our daily routines, it's crucial to address some pressing challenges that impact us all.

The federal government's overreach into provincial jurisdiction continues to threaten Alberta's economy and Canada's energy sector. Not only does the federal government refuse to give families a break from their job-killing carbon tax, but they have also doubled down in their efforts to choke our economy through the ill-conceived Impact Assessment Act (Bill C-69).

This legislation, supposedly, designed to “prevent or mitigate significant adverse effects within federal jurisdiction,” gives Ottawa the unilateral authority to prohibit major infrastructure and natural resource projects within our province. This is an unacceptable threat to Alberta's economy and our way of life.

Our government is committed to fighting this outrageous legislation and protecting Alberta's constitutional sovereignty over its infrastructure projects and natural resources.

Since the introduction of Bill C-69 in the House of Commons in February 2018, Alberta's government has used all our means to oppose it. When the bill received royal assent in June 2019, Alberta's newly elected government immediately voiced our concerns before the federal Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natu-

ral Resources. The legislation disregards provincial jurisdiction, undermining our right to guide Alberta's development and future.

In September 2019, we brought the matter before the Alberta Court of Appeal. In May 2022, the Court ruled in Alberta's favor determining that Bill C-69 is unlawful and contradicts provincial autonomy. This marked a significant victory in defending Alberta's rights.

Fast forward to 2023, the Supreme Court came to the same conclusion, finding most of Bill C-69's provisions unconstitutional. This ruling reaffirmed the importance of provincial jurisdiction – a fundamental principle that has allowed Canada to succeed and grow as a federation for over 150 years.

Despite these clear court rulings, Ottawa refuses to back down. The federal government is pushing amendments to the Impact Assessment Act that fail to address the core constitutional concerns and continue to interfere with Alberta's economy.

Our government will not shy away from confrontations with Ottawa on a reckless policy that violates our constitution and makes life unaffordable. The Impact Assessment Act directly threatens Alberta's energy industry, infrastructure projects, and livelihood. We will fight it.

As always, please feel free to email (Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca) with your feedback and questions.

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

NEXT HOME GAMES

Friday, October 18 • 8 pm vs Coaldale
Friday, October 25 • 8 pm vs Cochrane
Saturday, October 26 • 8 pm vs Med Hat

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Strathmore Times

PLAYER OF THE GAME

Oct 11
Cole Tweet

Oct 12
Philip Raycroft



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AG
Strathmore & District
Agricultural Society

Local bank supports Lions Youth Exchange

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

The Strathmore Lions Youth Exchange received a grant from the connectFirst Credit Union on Oct. 1. Brad Walls, Lions Youth Exchange chair for District C2 was on hand to receive the grant, which was presented by Member Experience Specialist Cassi Weiss and Branch manager Shawndra Bodkin.

The Lions Youth Exchange program is a local incentive funded by The Lions International. It has programs that range from international exchanges with homestays and also international camps for youth between the ages of 15 and 22. The program was designed to foster understanding among people of the world and to foster global relationships. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the exchange program.

Walls explains that when the students are on their exchange, it's nice for them to represent the Lions Youth Exchange with a golf shirt, sweater and backpack. However, he knows that asking families to finance this can sometimes be a stretch. The clothing also allows the students a little more of a formal look for special events while abroad.

"This money went towards some of the apparel for the international kids that went overseas – so we were

able to utilize their \$250 dollar donations towards that," said Walls. "It's fantastic we were able to do that. We saved some parents some money because most of the time it falls on the parents to pay for that clothing for the students to go overseas. We tried to change it up a little bit so that we would try to fundraise so that other businesses would be able to sponsor that. We want to make it so it's fun and it's affordable and no one is restricted. That's really important – anybody can apply. We want to make it so that everyone has equal opportunity."

Walls said that the program is very affordable for families as their local Lions club sponsors a portion of the program such as flight – and now with this grant, the apparel is covered.

Walls said that the program is slowly gaining popularity again after a brief decline because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The goal from our District Governor last year was to have a student from every club go (on an exchange), which is like 140," he said. "The biggest challenge we have is getting the word out that students can apply to go international through this program."

He encourages all students to apply if traveling internationally interests them. More information on the exchange program can be found on their website



The connectFirst Credit Union presented the District C2 Lions Youth Exchange program a \$250 NeighbourGood grant on Oct. 2. Credit Union Branch manager Shawndra Bodkin (l-r), Brad Walls, Lions Youth Exchange representative and Credit Union member specialist Cassi Weiss.

Melissa Piche Photo

(www.lionsclubs.org) under the service tab for programs.

From the bank's perspective, Weiss said they were excited to be a part of the Lions Youth Exchange. "This was the first time hearing about the Lions Youth Exchange, and we are excited to be a part of this great initiative," she said. "Community investment is an important part of what makes a Credit Union special."

Baseball diamond gets upgrade

FERNANDO MORENO-PRADO
Times Contributor

Earlier this month, the Strathmore & District Agricultural Society announced the completion of the upgrades for the Ag Society's largest baseball diamond that began in late August.

"Anybody who was driving past the ball diamonds over the last month probably saw tons of equipment out there," said Strathmore & District Agricultural Society rental coordinator Danielle Paddock.

Construction is now complete and the diamonds will be ready in the spring for the 2025 baseball season.

The field known as Diamond 1 has benefitted from the upgrades. The ball diamonds have not seen an upgrade in over 30 years other than maintenance.

Diamond 1 was chosen for the upgrade because it is the Ag Society's largest diamond and is the most sought-after field during tournaments and league play.

The upgrades include regrading, new sod, shale, fence upgrades and a new sprinkler system. These improvements are intended to benefit local baseball teams and improve the

chances of hosting more tournaments.

The month-long project ran smoothly thanks to the involvement of some local companies. Landscape Plus did the water lines, while Links Landscaping repaired the fencing. English Lawns laid the sod. Gray's Limited did the excavation and regrading.

"Shale is extremely hard to come by now, so we were very thankful that Gallagher Trucking had shale available for the project," said Paddock.

As funds become available, the Strathmore & District Agricultural Society is always looking for ways to improve the grounds but does not currently have a specific project in mind.



Ball Diamond 1 was recently renovated by the Strathmore & District Agricultural Society.

Photo Courtesy of the Strathmore & District Agricultural Society

Library hosting art therapy adult night

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Municipal Library will be hosting an adult art therapy night, Oct. 23, featuring guests from the Wheatland Society of Arts.

"A few months ago in our art gallery, the local artist Bonnie Bishop – she is a member of the Wheatland Society of Arts – she very occasionally teaches some classes there, but she is an active member; she likes taking some classes and she is a very active member in the art community," said Laura Henderson, public services manager with the Strathmore Municipal Library. "She got into art later in life because she was dealing with stress and anxiety, and someone had explained to her that art can be a form of therapy."

In deciding how to set up the event, the library found it did not have the resources to bring in an art therapist; however, a list of art therapists located in Calgary will be made available at the Oct. 23 session.

The session at the library will be instructed as a paint night as well as maintaining the focus on art as a therapeutic outlet.

Though the library has hosted art and paint nights in a variety of capacities, this is the first occasion where a similar event will be combined with the message of art therapy.

"Anything that is well received, obviously we would consider running it again. It is part of our adult night series, so it is something that we are bringing in as a way to also promote the Wheatland Society of Arts," said Henderson. "They do so many programs over there that are so valuable to the community, so this is an opportunity to partner with them and highlight some of their programs as well."

Registration for the session opened Oct. 9, which the library has requested for those interested in participating.

The team at the library will need to be made aware of how much material will be necessary to have on hand to accommodate all who wish to take part.

Materials will be purchased by the library based on number of registrations, and attendance will be free.

The session will have participants learning to recreate one of Bishop's paintings and will run from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. The medium will be acrylic on canvas.

"I love partnering with other local organizations," said Henderson. "I think we all have so many great things to offer and if we can combine services and highlight each other, I always think there is a lot of value in that."

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DOOR TICKETS \$30 FIRST ROW / \$25 GENERAL

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Obituary

DILLON, John W.
September 25, 1945 - July 31, 2024



It's with great sadness I announce the passing of my husband of 50 years. He was born to Stanly and Marion Dillon in Burton, N.B., the third child of eight.

In 1964 he moved to Kingston, Ont., then in 1966 moved to Calgary, and then to Strathmore.

In 1969 he started on the road crew with the County of Wheatland, and after five years transferred to the maintenance department. In 2001 he retired from the county, totalling 31 years.

After retiring from the county, he worked for Eagle Lake Nurseries as a truck driver. Then in 2007, we moved to Valleyview Alta. He contracted his carpentry skills to the Town of Valleyview a couple of years and then retired for good.

He was a very skilled carpenter and could build or fixed almost anything. Earlier in life, he loved to hunt and fish, and later it was camping, Argo riding, hiking, and just enjoying life.

He's greatly missed by his wife, Betty and all family members. A memorial will be held in John's honour on Oct. 26 at 3 p.m at Evangel Temple in Valleyview, Alta.

Obituary

WARK, Noreen
17-May-1950 - 8-Oct-2024



Beloved Sister, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Auntie and Friend, Noreen Wark passed away peacefully

on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 surrounded by loved ones.

Noreen is survived by her daughters Sue Ann, Sherri (Kevin) and grandchildren Jordan, Matthew, Samuel, Dylan and great grandchildren Bryson and Kailey. She is also survived by her sisters Karen Ann (Earl), Ivy (Larry), and Winnifred (Greg) and numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Garry and brother Terry.

A Celebration of Noreen's Life will be held at Lambert Village, 3 Parklane Way, Strathmore, AB on Saturday, October 26, 2024 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 pm.

If you could please RSVP your attendance to sherriedepencier@yahoo.com

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the community of Lambert Village.

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Obituary

ROBINSON, Kenneth Alan



Kenneth Alan Robinson, affectionately known as Ken, passed away on October 3, 2024, at the age of 68 at the Strathmore and District Health Services, from a brief battle with lung cancer. He was surrounded by immediate family when he took his last breath.

Ken was born in England and moved to Canada when he was 5. He married Helen in 1989 in Haileybury Ontario. In 2002 they moved to Strathmore. Ken had only recently retired. In his spare time, he enjoyed darts, golf and of course popping into the Legion for a nice cold beer.

Ken is survived by his wife, Helen, her children Dennis (Rachel), Catherine (Jeff) and Sean (Natalie) and their families.

He is also survived by his father Alan and sisters, Shirley, Della and Pauline and many nieces and nephews whom all reside in the Tri-Town, Northern Ontario area. He was preceded in death by his mother Mona.

A Celebration of Life will be at a later date to be determined.

Wheatland Funeral Home
Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

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HELP WANTED

CARETAKING POSITION IN STRATHMORE

The Golden Hills School Division invites applications to submit their resume. Closing date October 25, 2024. Please refer to our website www.ghsd75.ca under Employment-Non-Teaching Opportunities-Facilities Positions for further information.

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Upcoming Council Meetings

October 16, 2024 | 6 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council
October 23, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole

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.



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 T2P 0G5

Notice of application to be filed for approval of the natural gas distribution franchise agreement between the Town of Strathmore and ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.

Application summary

The Alberta Utilities Commission expects to receive an application from ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. to approve the existing current and valid natural gas distribution franchise agreement with the Town of Strathmore. This application for approval is required due to changes made by the *Utilities Affordability Statutes Amendment Act, 2024*, to various statutes governing franchise agreements.

The current franchise agreement, which took effect in June 2021, grants ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. the exclusive right to deliver natural gas to the residents of Town of Strathmore for approximately 15 years.

No changes to the franchise agreement or to the franchise fee rate rider percentage are being made as part of this application. The franchise fee rate rider percentage will remain at its current rate, which is 35%. Including linear taxes, the resulting average monthly franchise fee for an average residential customer will remain the same at approximately \$17.20. The franchise fee is calculated based on distribution charges. An average residential customer uses about 105 gigajoules per year.

You may send your concerns about, objections to, or support for the application in writing to the Town of Strathmore or to ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. on or before **October 30, 2024** at:

Town of Strathmore, Leana Ashbacher, 1 Parklane Drive, phone: 403-464-5067; email: lsadmin@strathmore.ca.
 ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd., Attn: Franchise Agreement Coordinator, 5302 Forand Street S.W. Calgary, Alberta, T3E 8B4, phone: 310-5678 or 1-888-511-7550; email: franchisecoordinatorgas@atco.com

Any submissions received, unless you request otherwise, will be part of the application submitted and will become part of the public record.

For more information on franchises or to receive a copy of the franchise agreement please contact either the Town of Strathmore or ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. at the addresses listed above.

For more information:

For more information about the AUC or its approval process associated with franchise applications, please contact the AUC directly at 310-4AUC or at info@auc.ab.ca.

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial regulatory body responsible for making decisions about utility-related applications.

Issued on October 16, 2024.
 Alberta Utilities Commission

Offsite Levy Bylaw

Upcoming Public Hearing

- 1. **Purpose:** to update the Town's offsite levy bylaw.

Bylaw #24-17

The Town of Strathmore regularly updates its Offsite Levy Bylaw to reflect new fee structures and payment of Offsite Levies in respect of land that is to be developed or subdivided. These Offsite Levies pay for the capital cost of infrastructure required to service the growth of the Town. This Bylaw currently exists as Bylaw No. 21-07 in which Bylaw No. 24-17 would replace it.

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed bylaw can be found at strathmore.ca/PublicHearings 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 at the Strathmore Municipal Building on November 6, 2024, commencing at 7 p.m. with procedures in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Section 199 and the Town of Strathmore Council Procedure 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 or all of the proposed bylaw, may present their concerns and/or suggestions by making a submission at the public hearing. Please contact Legislative Services by email at lsadmin@strathmore.ca no later than noon on October 28, 2024, in order to register to speak at the public hearing.

Written submissions to the Public Hearing or the name of any person wishing to make an oral presentation at the Public Hearing must be received prior to noon on October 28, 2024, 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 three minutes.

*Please note that written submissions will become public documents once submitted to the Town, unless otherwise requested.

Please contact Legislative Services at 403-934-3133 prior to attending a Public Hearing to determine the order of Bylaw presentations in the Council Agenda to ensure efficient use of time.

Buckle up, it's budget time!

Budget Meetings Timeline.

The Town of Strathmore's budget covers all the essential services that our residents use each and every day. Whether you're diving into the Aquatic Centre, borrowing a book from the Strathmore Municipal Library, having your garbage or compost picked up, drinking clean water from the tap, riding the handibus on a road, or having emergency services rush to your aid – you're using a Town of Strathmore service. Why not get involved in the organization of 2025's budget?

Budget meetings take place in November and are open to anyone who would like to attend. You don't need to call ahead or register to observe Strathmore Council in action. If in person's not your thing, you can also watched livestreamed meetings online as they happen, or catch up later on Youtube. The dates below are set unless otherwise amended by Council Resolution.

Time: 6 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers at the Strathmore Municipal Building (1 Parklane Dr., Strathmore, AB T

- Regular Council Meeting
- Committee of the Whole Meeting
- Annual Organizational Meeting
- Budget Meeting
- Coffee with Council

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

October 23, 2024 | 6 p.m. Community Delegation Night.

Every year, Town Council dedicates an annual meeting to hear from community organizations seeking funding support. If you are part of an organization who provides a community service in Strathmore, this is your chance to apply for funding.

At the Community Delegation Night on October 23, Council will review community group funding requests to help ensure the success of local service clubs, non-profits and sports organizations. Considering all requests at once allows Council to budget accurately while preventing unexpected mid-year requests that could cause strain on the planned budget.

Get involved and learn more at Strathmore.ca/DelegationNight



Recreation and Culture Needs Assessment. Survey available.

A household survey is available for Strathmore (and area) households to share their perspectives on recreation and culture services. Whether it's about amenities you'd like to see, challenges you face, or what you'd love to see in Strathmore's future, this is your chance to join the conversation! There's a few ways you can fill out the survey:

- You can access the survey online at our website, Strathmore.ca/reculturena/
- You can request a paper copy of the survey at the Strathmore Municipal Building.
- Watch your mailboxes for the Rec and Culture Needs Assessment postcards. The postcards include a link to the household survey.

The survey will be open until **October 25, 2024**. Join the conversation and fill out your survey before then.

Volunteer on a Town board or committee.

Bored? Join a board.

Serving on a board is a great way to make an impact in your community. Applications are still open for the following public positions on the Town's boards and committees:

- The Assessment Review Board has 2 positions open.
- The Community Improvement Program Committee has 5 positions open.
- The FCSS Advisory Board has 1 position open.
- The Subdivision and Development Appeal Board has 5 positions open.

For more information about available positions, visit Strathmore.ca/Boards. For questions about Volunteer Boards and Committees, please email lsadmin@strathmore.ca or call 403-934-3133.