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# TIMES

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 42

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Page 2



Playoff bound

## Biosolid concerns

JOHN WATSON  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A delegation from the City of Calgary presented to the Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) regarding the use of biosolids, during the Oct. 4 meeting.

Biosolids are a nutrient and organic-rich material which is produced during wastewater treatment and function as a slow-release fertilizing soil amendment.

One of the primary benefits of the substance is the release of nitrogen, phosphorus, organic matter, and micronutrients into soil the material is mixed into.

Biosolids result from the treatment and breakdown of sewage sludge, which throughout the process is converted into usable biomass and carbon dioxide.

Myron Flexhaug, senior regulatory analyst regarding biosolids for the City of Calgary, indicated during the delegation's presentation to the ASB, the use of biosolids replaces the need and reliance on chemical fertilizers, as well as improves soil water and nutrient retention.

Victoria Arnauld, who also spoke as part of the delegation, said despite concentrations of trace organic compounds in biosolids being present and detectable, they do not pose any risk.

Residents who are in the vicinity of areas currently seeing the use of biosolids and disposal of sewage sludge have raised concerns regarding its potential impact on local soil and water quality, as well as whether potentially dangerous substances are introduced into the food chain.

Heavy metals and "forever chemicals" being compounds that permanently remain in soils once introduced, are among the greatest concerns expressed by resident farmers.

Forever Chemicals refer to compounds related to Teflon, which are largely included in fire-fighting foams, paint, personal care products, non-stick cookware, fast food packaging, pesticides, and a host of other products.

A pilot project within Wheatland County saw biosolids introduced to land occupied by the Mountain View Hutterite Colony which was then used to grow willow trees for use within the City of Calgary.

Continued on Page 4

Page 5



Wranglers arrive



## Spartan success

The Strathmore Spartans JV boys' volleyball team spiked their way to a gold medal in their home tournament on Oct. 14 at the SHS gym. The Spartans took on the Calgary Christian Cougars in the final. See more coverage on Page 8.

Joe Lepage Photo

## STRATHMORE TIMES

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**Big win**

The Strathmore Badgers peewee football team closed out the regular season with a 24-14 win over the Red Deer Servus Bucks on Oct. 14 at the Crowther Memorial Junior High School field. The same two teams will meet at the same venue on Oct. 21 (12:30 p.m.) to open the playoffs.

Joe Lepage Photos

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**MPC passes several development and subdivision applications**

**JOHN WATSON**  
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) has approved three development permit applications, as well as a subdivision application, as of the Oct. 10 meeting.

Development Permit (DP) 2023-111 was indicated to be for a medium industrial use, modular home manufacturing company.

Following circulation to adjacent landowners regarding the development permit application, no responses were received by the MPC.

The application was also circulated to Alberta Transportation, as the original roadside development permit had expired. The applicant is required to acquire a new roadside development permit in order to proceed with development.

Though the application was also circulated to Rocky View County, no response or concerns were expressed regarding it.

The facility will manufacture modular homes. Pre-manufactured aspects of the home will arrive and will be assembled at the facility. Cladding on the exterior and finishing on the interior will be completed on site. Home sections will then be staged and shipped off site for installation at the residential destination.

A development permit was issued in 2022 for the construction of a 45,000 square foot industrial building with multiple bays at the site, which is currently under development.

The proposed modular home facility will occupy five of the nine bays present within the industrial building.

The application was approved unanimously by the MPC following brief discussion and clarification from administration regarding the development of the site.

DP 2023-123 was also indicated for medium industrial use, detailing a construction yard for the fabrication of electrical buildings.

No responses were received following circulation to adjacent landowners regarding the development permit application.

The application was also circulated to Alberta Transportation, which has already issued a roadside development permit.

The applicant, though not explicitly named during the MPC meeting, was described as an electrical construction company specializing in fabricating electrical buildings for customers within the oil and gas, power generation, and mining industries.

Due to the size of the buildings, they are fabri-

cated outside, and the yard will be used to store materials and equipment throughout the fabrication process.

The application was approved by the MPC unanimously.

DP 2023-137 was presented before the MPC to address three non-compliant structures on an indicated property which required variances.

The application was circulated internally, as well as to adjacent surrounding properties, with no responses submitted to the MPC.

No concerns were expressed by local fire services, as the application was also distributed to that authority.

The structures in question were noted to have elements which are too close to their respective property lines and are not in compliance with the current land use bylaws.

No development is currently established on any of the adjacent lots to the applicant property, and there will be none until the lots are serviced, as per the Eagle Lake area structure plan.

Administrative staff recommended the MPC approve the application noting the three structures defined as accessory buildings on the property, with conditions noted in the meeting agenda.

As the application was approved, the buildings were stamped compliant. When future properties are developed, the property owner who is currently occupant will not be able to complain if neighbouring developments come too close to the property line.

The application was passed by the MPC unanimously.

Subdivision Application 2023-020 brought to the MPC requesting to subdivide a plus or minus 3.38 hectare portion of land from the southwest quarter section 14 Township 25 Range 21 West of the fourth meridian.

The subject lands are located approximately 9.3 km Northeast of the Village of Standard, adjacent to Township Road 252 and Range Road 212. The purpose of the proposal being to facilitate continued residential and agricultural uses on the land.

The application proposed to subdivide a plus or minus 3.38 hectare parcel from a previously unsubdivided quarter section, creating a plus or minus 60.62 hectare remainder.

County Administration noted the proposal was consistent with the South Saskatchewan regional plan, the regional growth management strategy, the municipal development plan and the land use bylaw.

The proposal was passed by the MPC unanimously, and without debate.

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# Town looks for solutions

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore council will debate open hours for the Kinsmen Park pavilion, as well as increased law enforcement in the area.

During the Oct. 11 Committee of the Whole meeting, councillors received a report from Jamie Dougdale, director of infrastructure, operations and development services regarding information around public complaints stemming from the pavilion, as well as on Parklane Drive.

“A delegation spoke before council about their concerns around noise and speeding on Parklane Drive, as well as noise, garbage, and vandalism at the pavilion parking lot near Kinsmen Park,” he said. “Council did pass a motion asking staff to bring forward a report outlining options that could help to mitigate some of the issues that were raised. Since that time, staff have installed some traffic counters at two locations on Parklane Drive.

Dougdale explained data returned from monitoring traffic in the area showed that most vehicles travelled below the posted limit, with some notable exceptions.

The maximum posted speeds recorded at the two observation locations on Parklane Drive were noted to be 122 and 109 km/h.

Assembled in a report which was presented before the Committee of the Whole, were outlined some options which would be intended to mitigate speeding traffic in the area.

“The data that we did get does not support the installation of any changes from a capital perspective. That being said, we did want to present some options before council,” said Dougdale.

Options presented to the Committee regarding Parklane Drive included, but were not limited to:

- Temporary and limited road narrowing along Parklane Drive with both paint and barriers
- Creating speed bumps
- Adding additional enforcement from bylaw officers or RCMP to the area

Dougdale added even by adding countermeasures to reduce speed, the noise problem is not necessarily solved.

Regardless of approach, there will be capital requirements which may result in moderate operational impacts for the town.

Installations to the pavilion such as an access gate or surveillance cameras, which were suggested during the meeting, would be both expensive to the town and difficult to set up and manage.

“I am not interested in the traffic narrowing. I think the big concern from the delegation that came in was just the noise and the criminal activity going on at the pavilion,” said Coun. Brent Wiley. “The two things I would eventually like more information on is what would this focused enforcement look like, what would it entail, how much would it cost – I want some direction from policing. Then, I wonder if it could be if council could play around with the idea of a (targeted) curfew ... in that one area.”

Utilizing the RCMP for a four-hour time slot

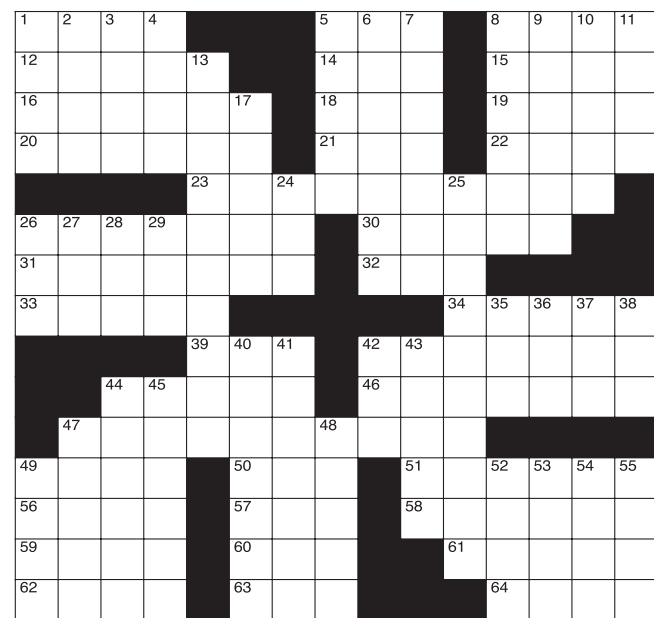
to patrol the area and enforce bylaws would cost the town \$1,500 per shift, according to Dougdale.

Staff Sgt. Mark Weilgosz suggested implementing closed hours to the park and pavilion, which would be enforceable in response to complaints, or regular patrols.

Coun. Jason Montgomery brought up the idea of introducing targeted, temporary enforcement with harsh consequences for those who are caught in order to dissuade the activity.

Coun. Melissa Langmaid raised the point that should the park and the pavilion be assigned closing hours, the violators may simply choose another location to become a nuisance, as opposed to the problem being solved entirely.

Options for how best to move forward with resolving the issues and addressing the original complaints will be brought to the next regular meeting of council.



## CLUES ACROSS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. A device to disengage without a key | 34. Members of people living mainly in the Congo       |
| 5. Subdivision                         | 39. More (Spanish)                                     |
| 8. Network of nerves                   | 42. Classroom implements                               |
| 12. Lounge chair                       | 44. Cognizant of                                       |
| 14. Ocean                              | 46. One who tells on others                            |
| 15. C. European river                  | 47. Free from slavery                                  |
| 16. Bowl-shaped cavity                 | 49. Thick piece of something                           |
| 18. ___ Caesar, comedian               | 50. Containing two nitrogen atoms between carbon atoms |
| 19. Lyric poems                        | 51. Removed entirely                                   |
| 20. Tia's sister                       | 56. Late rocker Turner                                 |
| 21. A way to develop                   | 57. Appreciated  |
| 22. Cows collectively                  | 58. Observation expedition                             |
| 23. Areas close by                     | 59. Opposite of subtracts                              |
| 26. Slightly disreputable              | 60. Unit of work                                       |
| 30. Made a mistake                     | 61. Wreckage on the sea bed                            |
| 31. One who cites                      | 62. Affirmative! (slang)                               |
| 32. Food stall: ___ pai dong           | 63. Witness  |
| 33. Narrow valley between hills        | 64. River in England                                   |

## CLUES DOWN

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. A dissenting clique                     | 28. American WW2 leader                |
| 2. Japanese city                           | 29. Stale atmosphere                   |
| 3. Spiritual leader                        | 35. US Treasury                        |
| 4. Second letter of Greek alphabet         | 36. Sound unit                         |
| 5. Musical term                            | 37. They ___                           |
| 6. Ruled over                              | 38. Soviet Socialist Republic          |
| 7. Fortified wine                          | 40. Places to play video games         |
| 8. First year player                       | 41. Medical event                      |
| 9. Moved in a circular way                 | 42. When you hope to arrive            |
| 10. Adolescents                            | 43. Fixed prices                       |
| 11. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language      | 44. Popular Boston song                |
| 13. Someone who serves in the armed forces | 45. Valley in Indiana and Illinois     |
| 17. Bring up                               | 47. Omit when speaking                 |
| 24. Factual written account (abbr.)        | 48. German explorer of the Congo Basin |
| 25. Having three sides                     | 49. Stick around                       |
| 26. Annoy                                  | 52. From a distance                    |
| 27. Hustle                                 | 53. Heroic tale                        |
|  | 54. Amounts of time                    |
|  | 55. Eat                                |

# Town to discuss Seniors Property Tax Rebate program

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore is discussing potential changes to its Seniors Property Tax Rebate program, which is aimed to make the program more accessible and friendly to residents.

The Seniors Property Tax Rebate program ensures certain levels of affordability for residents of Strathmore by offering a subsidy to support low-income senior property owners.

Ultimately, the goal of the program is to provide support to low-income senior property owners with their property taxes, ensuring that they can remain in their homes longer.

Through the program, seniors are able to receive a small financial rebate that is associated with their annual property taxes.

Proposed changes to the policy would not impact the implementation of the program as administration is currently utilizing the income thresholds as listed on the Government of Alberta Special Needs Assistance for Seniors webpage.

Administration identified the Seniors Property Tax Rebate should be updated to remove the income thresholds from the policy. The current policy includes thresholds which are outdated.

“There are some small changes throughout the (policy) and the larger change is removing annual income thresholds in the middle of our table and just referring back to the Government of Alberta Special Needs Assistance for Seniors income,” said Budd Brazier, community and social development manager with Strathmore Family and Community Support Services (FCSS).

Effectively, many instances of amendment within the policy simply refer to changing wordage to better reflect the intent and application of the policy, as well as to correct spelling errors.

Coun. Wiley inquired regarding the annual costs of the rebates, and how much money was returned to seniors each year through the policy.

Brazier explained in 2019, the policy cost the town approximately \$19,400 and serviced 132 homeowners. In 2020, it cost the town \$14,150 and serviced 92 clients. In 2021, 117 clients were serviced, with \$18,400 being distributed.

Finally, in 2022, 66 clients were serviced, costing the town approximately \$10,700 through the program.

As of the Oct. 11 Committee of the Whole meeting, the town had distributed \$9,650 in rebates in service of 61 clients.

“My heart is really torn on this one. As councillors, we want everyone to be able to stay in their house. This August, I met a family that was living on my street, they were renting a basement suite – four kids and they could not afford rent in town anymore,” said Wiley. “Part of rent is property tax, so part of the reason rents are high ... is the property tax is high, and so we bring in policies to help people stay in their homes, and rent goes up.”

Wiley emphasized when the policy returns to council for discussion, it effectively means in the eyes of the town, money is being taken from one group and being given to another.

The discussion will return to council during their next regular meeting.



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### Working overtime

The Wheatland Kings ended up working overtime during a pair of home games Oct. 14-15 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The Kings dropped a 3-2 overtime decision to the Rocky Rams in the first game, before pulling out a 3-2 overtime win versus the Cochrane Generals the following day. The local Jr. B team will now travel to High River on Oct. 20 (8 p.m.) before returning home on Oct. 21 (8 p.m.) to host the Airdrie Thunder.

Joe Lepage Photos

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# ASB debates use of biosolids within county agricultural lands

Continued from Page 1

The City of Calgary engaged in a study, partnering with the University of Waterloo to sample and test soil for “forever chemicals,” aiming to understand how biosolid applications would permanently alter soil composition, collecting and testing over 200 samples.

“We were blind-sided. These trees would be harvested for city parks, playgrounds and (the) zoo. At that time, we were told this biosolid compost would not be used on cropland and was not for food production,” said Eleanor Reinhardt, a concerned county resident and landowner.

“Now, here we are (with) no notification, (and) no trans-

parency. We are told, ‘there must have been a misunderstanding.’”

After receiving complaints regarding communication with landowners, Flexhaug said the team is committed to being clearer with affected landowners in areas which are intended to see biosolid applications.

In the interest of landowners adjacent to biosolid use areas, ASB member Amber Link asked whether land within the City of Calgary would be suitable for applications of biosolids, and if not, what would preclude the application of biosolids within the city.

“I can’t specifically say if there is suitable land there. The benefit of the biosolids is as a slow release fertilizer. To my knowledge, we have never looked at whether there is suitable land within the city boundaries as far as land application goes,” said Flexhaug.

The delegation also specified, in places where biosolids are applied, there are strict federal and provincial regulations set in place which prevent certain crops from being grown on biosolid use land, including plants which may be eaten raw.

“I believe that they (local farmers) are looking at long term issues, and unseen changes in the future. What was acceptable 10 years ago is not acceptable now, and then you’re stuck with it. Once it is there, it is there (referring to heavy metals and ‘forever chemicals’),” said Klassen. “By design, these wastewater plants concentrate that into sludge, and it is just what happens. It is everything that you put down the toilet, and even (from) an industrial site, goes through a process, but short of incinerating it, a lot of that stuff will stay in the product – in the sludge.”

ASB Chair, Shannon Laprise explained the board sees biosolids as a potentially valuable resource for agriculture producers, but will work with the city to ensure that practices in the county do not negatively affect agriculturalists and residents.

The matter will continue to be discussed before the ASB before any final decisions are made, with no exact date being yet specified for the topic to return.

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**Thought for the Week**

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### Weekend sweep

The Wheatland Warriors improved to 6-0-1 on the season after sweeping a pair of weekend games, including a 5-1 home win over the West Central Tigers on Oct. 15 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The local U15AA team will look to continue their winning ways when they host the Red Deer Steel Kings on Oct. 28 (4:45 p.m.).

Joe Lepage Photos



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### Tough third

The Strathmore Storm U18 Tier 3 team opened the tiering round with a 7-4 loss on Oct. 14 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The Storm will play their next home game on Oct. 21 (2:15 p.m.) when they host Brooks.

Joe Lepage Photos



### Making history

The Wheatland Wranglers U15 Tier 2 female hockey team played their inaugural home game on Oct. 15 at the Strathmore Family Centre when they hosted the Airdrie T2 Red team. The Wranglers will look to get their first win of the season when they travel to Kainai for their first road game.

Joe Lepage Photos

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Gord Morck Pharmacist  
**Capsule Comments**

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms but can also develop into more serious conditions like pneumonia in children under one year of age. It can also progress into *bronchiolitis*, a buildup of mucus in the bronchioles, tubes leading to the lungs. So far there is no preventative options available to reduce the risk of RSV. Parents should be aware that if the cold symptoms progress to breathing difficulties, get medical help right away.

Getting the flu once will not protect you from future infections. Antibiotics will not help because flu is a virus not a bacteria. If you are sick, stay home to not infect others. If you have a fever, it's probably not a cold. Fever is a symptom of the flu. Flu can affect some people more seriously than others like very young children, the elderly and those with weakened immune systems. Again, stay home if you are sick.

*Pertussis* (whooping cough) is making a comeback in Alberta. It is a highly contagious respiratory tract disease characterized by a severe hacking cough. It is entirely preventable with regular childhood vaccinations but evidently immunizations in Alberta declined to 71% last year. At least 90% vaccine uptake is needed for provide herd immunity. Please, have your children vaccinated.

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# County passes first reading for Speargrass land redesignation

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

During the Oct. 3, regular meeting of Wheatland County council, first reading was given to Bylaw 2023-14, and a public hearing was scheduled to discuss the bylaw.

Bylaw 2023-14 is a bylaw for the purpose of amending Land Use Bylaw 2016-01, to redesignate portions of subject lands from Agriculture General District, Speargrass Low Density Residential District, and Parks and Recreation District to Speargrass Medium Density Residential District.

The application, which was presented before council proposed to redesignate the subject lands in order to facilitate a future boundary adjustment.

This will eventually allow for the reconfiguration of the Speargrass Golf Course, as well as the construction of a driving range and practice facility.

The areas which are set for redesignation according to the bylaw include a 3.8 hectare portion from Agriculture General District to Speargrass Special Medium Density Residential (S-SMDR), a 0.19 hectare portion from Speargrass Low Density to S-SMDR, and a 2.2 hectare portion from Parks and Recreation to S-SMDR.

The exact locations of the proposed land use amendments are detailed in the Oct. 3 regular meeting agenda.

Subject lands are on the westernmost edge of Speargrass Boulevard within the Speargrass community, and are immediately North of the Bow River, which abuts Vulcan County

to the south.

If the redesignation component of the proposal is approved, technical and environmental considerations will be accounted during the assessment of the subdivision application.

The difference between medium and low-density residential district was clarified during the council meeting to effectively be regarding the style of dwelling and structures which do or would occupy designated land segments.

County administration had recommended that Wheatland County council approve first reading of the bylaw, as well as to schedule a public hearing prior to moving on to second and third readings, in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.

The proposal for the bylaw was noted by county administration to be consistent with the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan, Regional Growth Management Strategy, Municipal Development Plan, the Land Use Bylaw, Speargrass ASP, Speargrass II ASP, and the Vulcan County and Wheatland County IDP.

Coun. Donna Biggar motioned that council approve first reading of Bylaw 2023-14 following brief discussion by council. The motion was passed unanimously without discussion.

Coun. Tom Ikert motioned to schedule the public hearing for Bylaw 2023-14 for Nov. 21, in Wheatland County council chambers, beginning at 9 a.m. Ikert's motion was passed unanimously without further discussion.

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# Pumpkin tradition continues

MELISSA PICHE  
Times Contributor

This year marks the 30th year that Don Anderson has grown pumpkins in Wheatland County.

“We had some land and I thought they’d be interesting to grow,” said Anderson. “That’s how I started.”

It’s not unusual to grow pumpkins in our neck of the woods, but to grow them in the quantity that Anderson does is the unique bit. This year, Anderson’s yield was between 3,000-4,000 pumpkins with a mix of approximately 30 different varieties.

“I pretty well plant them myself,” said Anderson.

He often starts planting in the third week of May and each seed produces two pumpkins on average, so doing the math, Anderson planted roughly 2,000 seeds.

His pumpkins require at least one inch of water a week, so if it doesn’t rain, hand irrigation can take upwards of 3-4 hours.

“I hate to figure out how much time I spend at it,” laughed Anderson as he thinks about the endless hours he puts into his plants. The value of his hobby of producing quality pumpkins is immeasurable.

“There’s no money in it, just interesting to watch them

grow and all the different varieties,” he said. This year he grew five new varieties.

Even though he does sell most of the pumpkins he grows, he does donate a number of them to local schools.

“Probably one of the best things I like is the kids’ reaction – kids love pumpkins,” he said. “I keep saying it’s my last year but it’s too interesting to give up.”

He also had a special technique to customize pumpkins.

“Another interesting thing I do is for all my grandkids (is) I brand pumpkins for them – personalized ones with their names on it.”

As the small pumpkins start to grow, he etches initials into the pumpkin flesh. As the pumpkin grows the flesh heals over leaving a sort of scar.

The pumpkins don’t see much damage, but occasionally mice, deer and even raccoons have gotten into his patch. To prevent deer invading, he’s installed an electric fence around his patch but he still has some issues with the smaller critters.

Anderson could talk about pumpkins for hours. It’s a subject that you can tell means something more than just your average hobby. With the changing leaves and the cooler weather, it signifies the end of another growing season. As Anderson reflects on a successful crop, he can’t help but think about next year and what new varieties he can grow.



For 30 years, local Don Anderson has been growing pumpkins. Many things have changed over the years, but his dedication to growing pumpkins has remained the same.

Melissa Piche Photos




**Chantelle de Jonge, MLA**  
Chestermere-Strathmore

403-962-0126  
129 2nd Avenue  
Strathmore, AB T1P1K1

[Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca)

## WHEATLAND COUNTY

### Upcoming Meetings

Council and committee meetings will now be open to the public and via teleconference.

For public hearings it is strongly encouraged that you attend in person.

**November 14: Municipal Planning Commission**

**November 14: Public Presentation Committee**

**November 14: Committee of the Whole**

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

Agenda packages can be found on our website.

### ASB Environmental Stewardship

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#### Community Stewardship Award

This award recognizes a Wheatland County community member or group that has made an outstanding contribution to environmental sustainability in the municipality. All Wheatland County residents or community groups are eligible for this award.

#### Youth Stewardship Award

This award will be given to an individual or group of individuals under the age of eighteen who have shown leadership or strong interest in environmental stewardship. Wheatland County residents, community groups, and school groups are eligible for this award.

#### J. Laslo Legacy Award

This award will be given to an agricultural producer in Wheatland County who has shown leadership in the implementation of beneficial management practices. The winner is dedicated to reducing the environmental impacts of their operation, and has an interest in promoting positive efforts to others in the industry.

Award recipients will have their name added to a plaque displayed at the County office, and they will receive a \$250 cash prize!

#### Nomination Information

Submit nominations by **January 1st, 2024**

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# Strathmore Library hosts first poetry slam

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Municipal Library hosted its first poetry slam, Oct. 14, partnering with local youth, Michael Ajireloja, for enthusiasts in the community to come out and have a space to perform.

“It (was) an open event, we have had people register to perform their poems at the event, beginning at 3 p.m. and then we also opened it up at the end with sort of an open mic idea to see if any of the other attendees at the event would like to perform a poem,” said Laura Henderson, assistant director of library services.

“It was sort of a coffee house style, we set up some tables and just had it as a nice cozy little atmosphere for people to have a comfortable, safe environment to try out reading their poems.”

Henderson added there was no specific theme for the event, which ran from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m., so as to experiment with seeing how many people within the community would want to come out and perform.

Though the poetry slam is targeted more for youth and teenagers, anyone within the community is welcome to attend. The event is free to register for and participate in, as well as to simply show up and enjoy the live readings.

“Poetry speaks to people, gets them through their emotions and their personalities. Things that are the complexities of life or whatever (they) are going through in their life,” said Ajireloja. “The slam poetry event is where people could come together and listen to poetry and or perform poetry in order to relieve themselves of stress.”

As of Oct. 12, about eight people were registered, which Henderson explained was about what was expected for the launch of a new program and is something to build off of going forward.

“We would love to just open it up. Sometimes you just have to get people into the setting and see how they are feeling about performing in public and just being there promotes that comfort, and might encourage them to get up and do their own,” she said. “This is an opportunity to see if we can build (a poetry scene) in the community. We are really excited to be hosting something different that we have not done in the library before and just seeing how we can grow something like this.”

Henderson explained the library is thinking to host this type of event every couple of months, potentially in an evening out by the fireplace, but will ultimately depend on feedback the library receives from this event. Additionally, at future events, more specific themes could be introduced.



## Tournament champs

The Strathmore Ice U14C team placed first in the annual Lonnie Krahn tournament in Calgary from Oct. 13-15. The Ice won their first three games before beating Indus 6-3 in the final.

Melissa Piche Photos



## Ice warning

The Strathmore Ice U19B team opened the season with a 10-3 loss to Calgary Northwest No. 2 team on Oct. 15 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The Ice will look for their first win on Oct. 22 (6 p.m.) when they host the Calgary Northwest No. 3 team.

Joe Lepage Photos

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### Home cooking

The Strathmore High School (SHS) hosted their JV volleyball tournament over the weekend. The JV Lady Spartans battled all tournament, while the boys captured the gold medal over the Calgary Christian Cougars.

Joe Lepage Photos, Winning Photo Courtesy of SHS



# GRAND OPENING

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST 1-4PM

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FACE PAINTING



Paul Muir (l-r), Rosebud School of the Arts' long-time Education Director, has passed the role to RSA graduate and faculty member Aaron Krogman. Muir has moved into the role of RSA's Executive Director.

Photo Courtesy of Paul Muir

## Rosebud School of the Arts announces new Interim Education Director

LAUREEN F. GUENTHER  
Times Contributor

Rosebud School of the Arts' instructor Aaron Krogman has accepted the role of Interim Education Director, taking over from long-time Education Director Paul Muir, who is now RSA's Executive Director.

Paul Muir came to Rosebud in 2000 as a Rosebud Theatre guest actor and became a Rosebud School of the Arts (RSA) instructor that fall. From 2002-2009, Muir and RSA Registrar Maki Van Dyke shared the role of RSA Education Director. After 2009, Muir carried that role alone.

Muir and Van Dyke restructured RSA's programs, creating the one-year Certificate in Theatre Foundations, the two-year Diploma, and the Mentorship program which takes students through their fourth year.

Muir wanted students to have a "national and global perspective of theatre", which led to establishing theatre study trips to Canada's West Coast, to Toronto and New York, and to London, England.

"I also wanted to have a well-equipped stage where Mentorship students could practice their craft in front of a live audience," he said. That resulted in the Rosebud Studio Stage and RSA's Artist-in-Training programs.

RSA graduates now work professionally in live theatre and film across Canada and internationally.

In early 2020, RSA was without an Executive Director and was about to begin a national search. Then the pandemic hit.

Muir and five others formed RSA's COVID team, to "lead the organization through this storm," Muir said. In early 2021, Muir accepted the role of Executive Director, while continuing in the role of Education Director.

Since the pandemic, RSA enrollment is slowly recovering.

"But the organization is back," he said. "Our feet are set on solid rock, and the future is very optimistic."

Aaron Krogman had joined RSA faculty in 2019, but he'd first come to Rosebud as a student in 2004, after being out of high school a few years.

At that point, "I had a whole bunch of desires, dreams and wishes but no clear path," he said.

The following summer, he said, "I was complaining to my dad ... still not knowing what to do with my life."

"And (my dad) said, 'What about Rosebud? I've always kind of seen you as an actor.' I thought, my dad's never said that to me before!"

He became a student at RSA that fall.

"It felt like the perfect fit for someone like me," Krogman said. "There were things that I'd wanted to try, but I didn't know how. ... I discovered so much purpose for a person like me. With my challenges, gifts, hunger for story. It was such a great fit."

Krogman graduated, staying on in Rosebud's acting company until 2013. He also performed the role of Jesus in the Badlands Passion Play.

"I was in a lot of plays, and I learned a tonne," he said. "The audience that came through the Opera House taught me so much."

In 2013, Krogman and his wife, Ellie, moved to Edmonton, where he worked in Kings University's drama program and discovered he had interest in teaching.

That took him to Vancouver's Regent College for an M.A., then back to Kings to teach part-time. Then Paul Muir invited him to come and teach in Rosebud.

"Rosebud was a place that I loved," Krogman said. "The people, the valley, the place, what happened here. And I received so much from it ... I had to make a choice between Rosebud and what I thought was an opportunity at Kings. In the end, I just really felt drawn to Rosebud."

In 2019, Krogman and his young family moved to Rosebud, and Krogman became RSA's Head of Theatre Foundations.

"I remembered what it was like for me (as a student) and tried to facilitate that for students," he said.

In January 2023, Krogman accepted the role of RSA's Interim Education Director. Next summer, he expects a conversation about whether the role will become permanent.

"I'm mostly motivated by the opportunity to make space for and to find people just entering adulthood, who think storytelling is something they should make space for," he said. "I'm particularly interested in coming alongside people who are unfolding, and they're drawn to the power of story ... the power of story we're all drawn to, the transformation we all hunger for as a culture and as a province and then also as a body of Christ."

Krogman offers a "big welcome" to everyone.

"We all have stories too that find their place in the big story," he said. "I just want to be about ... making more and more space for more people."

"There's more people that were like me in some way," he said. "I needed a nudge. I needed to be found. So, I want to be part of that finding ... there's a place for everyone, and Rosebud fits a particular type of people very well."

Krogman encourages us to look at the young people in our lives, and to know that we have the power to set trajectories for their lives.

"Sometimes it takes a nudge," he said. "We have a job to do for each other."



# Town discusses amending cemetery bylaw

JOHN WATSON  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore will consider amending the local cemetery bylaw, following a presentation to the Committee of the Whole, Oct. 11.

“When people are at a heightened emotional state, even basic day-to-day decisions can feel staggering. Those who are responsible for planning and organizing the end-of-life planning processes are making many difficult decisions during that time,” said Donna McCallum, operations manager for the Town of Strathmore. “If they have chosen the Town of Strathmore cemetery as their final resting place, our goal is to ensure that their experience is efficient and seamless, not only for the client, but also for administration.”

The Town of Strathmore is the legal

owner of, and maintains being the legal responsible party for the entire local cemetery.

This means the town is responsible for the enforcement of the cemetery bylaw, as well as conformance with the Cemetery Act.

According to McCallum, the last occasions when the town’s cemetery master plan was discussed, were in 2014, and in 2019, respectively.

“With regards to community wellness, updating the cemetery bylaw will enable administration to provide an improved experience for those seeking the Town of Strathmore as their final resting place,” she said. “Right now, the current bylaw is difficult to administer. A clearly defined bylaw will enable staff to have the language to communicate effectively with the clients. Updating the bylaw will enable administration to

maintain our existing asset and continue to plan for and manage long-term growth.”

McCallum added updating the bylaw will provide a host of improvements such as allowing for focused and efficient administration and maintenance of the cemetery, and the ability to provide valuable services and support of respectful, caring and proficient experiences.

Other improvements are listed both in the Committee of the Whole agenda, as well as the recorded meeting minutes – both of which are publicly available.

Many of the amendments to the bylaw are clarity of definitions within the document, such as administration of the bylaw in regards to expectations with internments and disinterment, clarified language in regards to monuments,

unclear expectations with regards to work and construction and maintenance done in the cemetery, outlines of expectations of visitors, liability, and cost recovery.

“The cemetery not only has a connection to the community, but also to the staff who work in the cemetery,” added McCallum. “The majority of the staff who conduct work in all aspects of the cemetery are local – many of them are long-time residents, they grew up and went to school here and on many occasions are prepping burial plots for people they know or have been acquainted with.”

Following lengthy discussion, the Committee of the Whole accepted McCallum’s presentation. No date at which the bylaw will appear before town council was formally set, as of the Oct. 11 meeting.

# County amends procedural bylaw

JOHN WATSON  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County Council gave third reading to Procedure Bylaw 2023-03, being an amendment to council’s process, during the Oct. 3, regular meeting of council.

During the Sept. 19, regular meeting of council, first and second readings of the Procedure Bylaw were approved by council.

One amendment was made to the bylaw, being the words “or Open House,” which were added to Section 14. Following the amendment, the section read as follows:

“Divisional Town Hall or Open House” means an opportunity for the public to meet with the Councillor who

represents their division.

Council also requested that administration provide a process for Section 76. “Before considering motions arising from a Closed Session, the Chair of the Meeting will provide reasonable notice to the public that the Meeting is now open to the public and will allow sufficient time for the public to return to the Meeting in accordance with section 197(5) of the Municipal Government Act.”

Section 197(5) of the Municipal Government Act states that “After the closed meeting discussions are completed, any members of the public who are present outside the meeting room must be notified that the rest of the meeting is now open to the public, and a reasonable amount of time must be given for

those members of the public to return to the meeting before it continues.”

Tracy Buteau, general manager of Corporate and Financial Services, presented third reading for procedure bylaw 2023-03 during the Oct. 3 meeting of council.

“At the last regular meeting of council, we had one amendment to the bylaw, and that was to add the words ‘open house’ to Section 14, so Divisional town hall or open house, and that change was made,” she said. “Also, section 76 was discussed, and that was before considering motions arising from a closed session – the chair of the meeting will provide reasonable notice to the public that the meeting is now open to the public and will allow sufficient time for the public to return.”

She explained county administration recommended to not amend section 76 of the bylaw, as there may be changes in how the public receives reasonable notice as technology changes or improvements are made to the system.

“What we are creating is a procedure and with technology changing, and software changes, improvements, the procedure could change quite often.”

Instead, administration recommended to leave Section 76 as it has already been written, and a procedure will be created that will follow the bylaw amendment.

Coun. Shannon Laprise motioned to approve third reading of Procedure Bylaw 2023-03. Following no debate, the reading was passed unanimously by council.

# RCMP encourage traffic safety

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As we transition into autumn, our days are getting shorter and so are our hours of visibility. Alberta RCMP reminds all road users that traffic safety is a shared responsibility between motorists and pedestrians.

It is important to know who has the right of way and understand traffic safety whether you’re a motorist or a pedestrian trying to cross safely. Some tips to follow for both pedestrians and drivers:

**Pedestrians:**

- Stay on sidewalks whenever possible. If a sidewalk is not available, walk on the far side of the road facing traffic - this will help increase your visibility to drivers.

- Only cross at marked or unmarked crosswalks. Avoid stepping out into the street from between two parked vehicles and do not jaywalk.

- Make sure drivers can see you. Making eye contact with drivers ensures they see you and know your intent to cross the street. You may also signal your intent by extending your arm and

pointing in the direction you wish to proceed.

- Limit distractions. Wearing headphones or texting while walking makes you less alert to your surroundings. Keep your ears and eyes open.

**Drivers:**

- Know who has the right of way. You must yield to pedestrians, at both marked and unmarked crosswalks.

- Turn on your lights. Working headlights are required of all drivers in order to see pedestrians, cyclists, and wildlife on the road. Ensure your lights are on, clean, and properly operating.

- Proceed Safely. If you are approaching flashing crosswalk lights, or see a pedestrian signalling to cross, come to a complete stop. Look both ways to ensure pedestrians have cleared the crosswalk before proceeding.

- Stay alert. Do not drive distracted. It causes you to become less aware of others on the road, and approaching vehicles or pedestrians.

For more traffic safety information, follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta and Twitter @RCMPAlberta.

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

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### Upcoming Council Meetings

- October 4, 2023 | 6 P.M. Regular Meeting of Council
- October 11, 2023 | 6 P.M. Committee of the Whole
- October 18, 2023 | 6 P.M. Regular Meeting of Council

### Come Say Hi

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

## Thank you

### Wheatland Regional Emergency Management Partnership (WREMP)

On September 28, over 200 people from 35 agencies across the region participated in a live emergency management exercise. Thank you to all those from the Town of Strathmore, City of Chestermere, Wheatland County, the Village of Standard, the Village of Hussar, and the Village of Rockyford who helped ensure our region is prepared in the event of an emergency.



## SPECIAL BUDGET CAFE EDITION



### We're talking all things 2024 Capital and Operating Budget.

Hearing from the community is important to us. We encourage you to take this opportunity to ask your budget related questions and share your feedback. This is a great time to gain a deeper understanding of how the municipal budget process works and how you can be a part of it.

# NOVEMBER 7 | 9 AM

## Community Group Delegation Night

October 26, 2023 | 6 p.m.

Town Council has dedicated an annual meeting to hear from community organizations who wish to request funding support.

At the Community Group Delegation Night on October 26, 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.

### Your organization is invited to participate! Here's how:

- Determine what funds your organization requires and how they will be used to help deliver programs, services or supports in Strathmore
- Complete the Application for Funding Form by **October 13, 2023**
- Gather additional accompanying documents. These can be letters of support, statistics or community impact reports.
- Complete the online Delegation Form to present at a Council Meeting.
- Send your Application for Funding Form and accompanying documents to LSAdmin@Strathmore.ca by **October 13, 2023**

Learn more at [Strathmore.ca/DelegationNight](http://Strathmore.ca/DelegationNight)

