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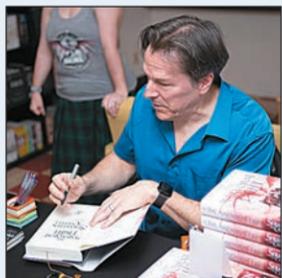
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Page 2



Author visit

De Havilland ready to go

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

De Havilland of Canada is just steps away from beginning the first phase of construction for their aerospace campus, set to be established in Wheatland County.

Neil Sweeney, vice president of corporate affairs for De Havilland, said equipment has begun to be moved into place in preparation for the end of the harvest season.

“If people have been out that way on 264, they will see that we are starting to assemble large pieces of equipment that will be moving dirt in earnest once the canola is off the field this fall, and we are starting to move in some of the equipment that will go into our buildings,” he said. “We anticipate real construction to begin in spring of 2026, with the first buildings open in the spring of 2028.”

The announcement of the aerospace campus was originally made in Calgary in September 2022 at the current facility, where drafted plans were revealed to the public for the first time.

Since then, De Havilland has hosted public information sessions and has worked with both the province and the county to acquire all of their necessary permits, as well as to adjust legal land use.

“We really are looking at De Havilland Field being our home for the next hundred years and we are being deliberate in how we future-proof the campus for the growth that we expect in the next number of years,” said Sweeney. “We believe that this is going to kick-start new aerospace opportunities in western Canada, not only for southern Alberta, but really our supply chain extends across the country. We have partners as far away as Newfoundland; we have parts manufacturing in a number of provinces, including British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario. Our supply chain really does go coast to coast.”

Continued on Page 4

Page 3



Hitting the field



Celebrating Alberta!

The Town of Strathmore hosted their annual Alberta Days celebration on Sept. 1 at Kinsmen Park. There were plenty of things to see and do, including a petting zoo, bouncy castle, kids' train rides, live music, a farmers market and much more. See Page 5 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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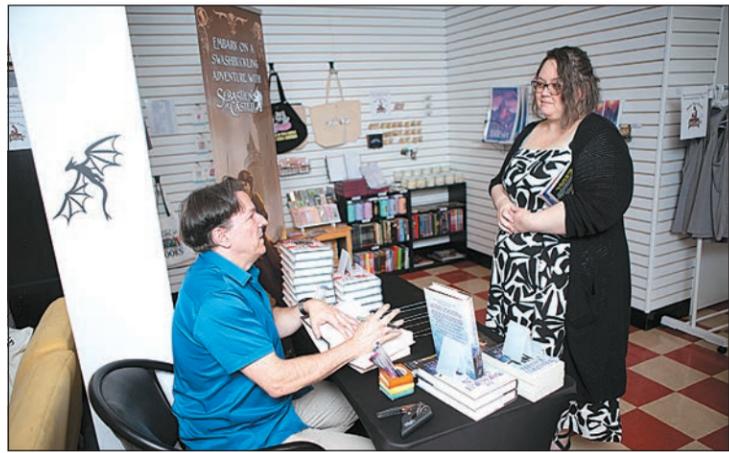
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Sebastien de Castell stopped in Strathmore, Aug. 30, at Music Box Books to promote the launch of his novel, *The Malevolent Eight*. The title serves as a sequel to *The Malevolent Seven*, which previously launched in 2023.

John Watson Photo

Sebastien de Castell visits Strathmore to debut new title

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Sebastien de Castell stopped in Strathmore, Aug. 30, as part of his tour promoting the launch of his newest titled book, *The Malevolent Eight*.

Sequel to *The Malevolent Seven*, de Castell's visit in Strathmore kicked off his time in Alberta to meet with fans and sign copies of the new print.

"We wanted to create a focus around rural base. We know that Music Box Books is a new store – they are very indulged in the fantasy world, and so when I reached out to them initially mentioning this, they were ecstatic and they just went full buy-in on this event,"

said Mickey Mikkelson, publicist with Creative Edge Publicity. "We had a number of people come and talk to Sebastien; people have bought books, they have inquired about his new titles, they have inquired about stuff he has got coming up – it has been nothing but positivity all across."

Overall, the tour is to encompass 20 locations within a 10-day span which will see stops across Canada and the United States.

Mikkelson added part of the appeal of adding a stop such as Strathmore to the tour is to focus more on the community aspect of being able to interact with fans.

"There is not a lot of book touring that happens anymore in traditional publishing because people always feel like, if you can't get to 500 people at once, what's the point, but that is not really the point of doing a book tour – of meeting new readers, of meeting fans," said de Castell.

"You do those things because it amplifies a lot more with people. When you sell a book online to somebody, one person buys your book and hopefully they like it. When you meet someone and they love your book, then they end up sharing it with everybody they know, and that is just a much more valuable relationship for an author to have with readers."

de Castell has been a fantasy author for approximately the last 10 years. He took up writing after leaving archaeology. His other professional endeavours have included being a musician, ombudsman, interaction designer, teacher, project manager, actor, fight choreographer, and product strategist.

He described that the journey started at the age of 16, being inspired by the idea of being a bard, similar to archetypes established in fantasy settings.

"I became a travelling musician, and I choreographed sword fights for the theater for a while, and I ended up travelling the world and I did all kinds of different things, and then that all kind of culminated in that storytelling side of getting to be a fantasy author.

de Castell joked that *The Malevolent Seven* was originally never meant to be published. Rather, it was a project he wrote for himself, stemmed by frustration about language use being heavily policed in his other work.

"I wanted to write what I think of as a sort of palette cleanser novel, which is just a novel for me. I'm going to write whatever I feel like writing; I'm not going to question it," he said.

The Malevolent Seven and *The Malevolent Eight* are available both in physical and audio formats.

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Kings prepare for upcoming season

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings are readying for the upcoming regular season, with a new roster and a new gameplan in the wings.

Head Coach, Doug Raycroft, explained the pre-season training camps have been progressing smoothly, and though most of the roster is effectively set, there are still several decisions yet to make before the puck drops on the first exhibition games.

“We have had a really good look at all the players and we want to see them in some games now, so we are looking forward to these games to try to figure out those last couple pieces and get ready for the season,” he said. “Everybody has to earn their spot, so we have not announced anybody or anything official yet, but we have got a lot of veterans; those guys come back and most of ours is figured out. We just have five or six spots that we are looking at and give guys a good chance to fight for.”

Raycroft explained the idea has been to gradually make practices harder and harder on the prospective team to get the boys prepared for the upcoming season.

To add fairness for the new rookies trying out, Raycroft said he added several team-based exercises in order to gauge how well they mesh with the returning roster.

The exhibition season includes four games, squaring off against Airdrie Sept. 4-5 and Red Deer Sept. 13-14. Raycroft said he is looking for-

ward to taking this opportunity see his new team on the ice in actual game settings for the first time in order to finalize the roster.

“At the beginning of the year, we have some summer skates and stuff – we work on edge work and some skills and stuff, but we want to make sure that we are not going too hard at the beginning where people get injured,” he said. “We want to build up and so there is more and more conditioning, and the drills are more high-paced as we go along to get ready to play the pace that we want to play for our games.”

Statistically speaking, Raycroft said last year was the best season the Kings ever played, finishing second in the regular season, then falling in the playoffs to Medicine Hat in Game 4 of their best of five series.

Raycroft’s Kings have tended to favour fast, forward-focused games. He added once again, he will be adding to the philosophy of reinforcing play on the defensive side of the rink.

“We are always trying to adapt and get better. For us, I think the biggest thing is building a good team, a strong team – it is a long season and a rough league, so you want to have a team that can stick up for each other and plays fast,” he said. “A lot of the things we do is build around playing fast and moving the puck well, so it is a lot of the same stuff, but with the different crews you have to do it a little differently.”

The Kings two home exhibition games will be Sept. 6 and Sept. 13, with the season opener on Sept. 19 (7:45 p.m.) at the Strathmore Family Centre versus the Ponoka Stampede.



Valuable experience

The Strathmore Spartans high school football team hit the field for an exhibition matchup against Okotoks’ Holy Trinity Academy Knights on Aug. 26. The jamboree-style contest allowed coaches in the backfield to provide real-time instruction, as the game served as a valuable learning experience for both squads.

Joe Lepage Photos

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Fairly large
- 6. Barrels per day (abbr.)
- 9. Cover the entirety of
- 13. Leafy appetizer
- 14. Showy ornament
- 15. Norse personification of old age
- 16. Athletes
- 17. Closes tightly
- 18. Attack via hurling items
- 19. Where the reserves stand
- 21. Sword
- 22. Begat
- 23. Damage another’s reputation
- 24. Northeast
- 25. Turf
- 28. For each
- 29. Hours (Spanish)
- 31. Western state
- 33. One who offers help
- 36. Flanks
- 38. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
- 39. Free from drink or drugs
- 41. Tunnels
- 44. Mature
- 45. More dried-up
- 46. News organization
- 48. Steal something
- 49. Forms one’s public persona (abbr.)
- 51. Female fish eggs
- 52. Small petrel of southern seas
- 54. Edible starches
- 56. Historical
- 60. In a place to sleep
- 61. Horse grooms
- 62. Off-Broadway theater award
- 63. Chinese dynasty
- 64. Resembling a wing
- 65. Small projection on a bird’s wing
- 66. Of the Isle of Man
- 67. Derived unit of force (abbr.)
- 68. Plate for Eucharist

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Vipers
- 2. Ancient city in Syria
- 3. Slog
- 4. Emits coherent radiation
- 5. “Pollock” actor Harris
- 6. Bleated
- 7. Monetary units of Afghanistan
- 8. Tooth doctor
- 9. One who takes apart
- 10. Commoner
- 11. Beat poet Ginsberg
- 12. Cave deposit material
- 14. Home energy backup
- 17. Begets
- 20. Face part
- 21. Frocks
- 23. Hill or rocky peak
- 25. Giving the impression of dishonesty
- 26. About ear
- 27. Male parents
- 29. Popular grilled food
- 30. Vaccine developer
- 32. Not conforming
- 34. Polite address for women
- 35. 1970 U.S. environmental law
- 37. Astronomical period of 18 years
- 40. One who fights the government
- 42. Center for Excellence in Education
- 43. Watches discreetly
- 47. An electrically charged atom
- 49. Hymn
- 50. Arabic given name
- 52. Popular pie nut
- 53. City in Zambia
- 55. Species of cherry
- 56. John __, British writer
- 57. Be next to
- 58. Make angry
- 59. Give birth to a lamb or kid

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Shop LOCAL

STRATHMORE WHEATLAND
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Hob's Hobbies hosts tabletop wargame tournament

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Total war took over Hob's Hobbies, Aug. 30, as the store became host to a doubles Warhammer tournament, attracting competitors from across the province.

Curtis Reid, who organized the event, said eight teams of two people signed up to participate in a de-escalation style tournament. This meant that as teams progressed through the rounds, their available resources became incrementally smaller the closer they got to the final round.

"Warhammer 40,000 is a tabletop wargame. Players pick their personal army and buy models which they then build and paint, then they bring those models to a tournament or an event like this, or wherever there is a place [to play]," said Reid. "The game is played with dice and measuring tapes. Essentially like a little bit of Risk, a little bit of real-time-strategy, and you are using your models – your army, to capture objectives and fight the opposing player."

Tournaments have been similarly hosted in Strathmore and at Hob's Hobbies previously, however Reid said not in this particular format.

"We are trying to run more tournaments. People like the doubles format of it so we might continue with that, or the next one might be individuals, but we are trying to not just do the same old thing every time," he said.

Reid is debating the necessity to grow the tournament in future iterations, as this round required the use of a wait list for participants.

The original idea with keeping an eight-team cap on the event was to have an undisputed winner after three rounds of competition, which fits relatively neatly into a single-day event.

"Right now, if we added a few more [teams], we have room to add a few more tables at the store, but the dream eventually is to run a bigger tournament. We could get in cooperation with the Town of Strathmore and move into a bigger venue, still hosted by Hob's Hobbies," said Reid.

"It would be great to have a huge tournament with up to 64 players. Some of the big tournaments run that annually. We are a smaller community and a smaller play group, but we are starting to build, so hopefully we get there one day."

Several of the teams who went out to be a part of the tournament were married couples. Reid emphasized for many, part of the joy is grabbing their best friend or their partner to be a part of the event.

Prizing was available – not just for the winners of the competition – at the end of the day. Participating players also voted on categories such as best painted army, best painted model, best sportsman, and best army concept.

Celebrating Alberta Day

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

On Sept. 1, Albertans came together to celebrate Alberta Day. It is a time to reflect on our province's unique place in Confederation, the contributions we make, and the strength of the people who call this province home. It's a special day that reminds us of our proud identity and the important role we play in shaping Canada's future.

When Alberta joined Confederation in 1905, our province quickly became known for farming. Now, 120 years later, agriculture is still a big part of our economy, feeding the world with the highest quality beef and produce.

In 1947, Alberta's path changed with the discovery of oil at Leduc No. 1. Empty land turned into busy worksites, towns

became cities, and a strong energy sector was born – bringing hope and opportunity to generations of Canadians across the country. Today, Alberta's energy sector continues to power homes, drive new ideas, and fuel our national economy. Our government is proud of Alberta's energy sector and the energy workers building a stronger Canada.

Above all else, Alberta's greatest strength is its people. From small towns to big cities, Albertans are known for working hard, starting new businesses, and helping one another. Whether you're new to Alberta or your family has lived here for generations, we're all part of a story that makes this province special.

Alberta Day is a chance to celebrate who we are, what we are building, and where we are going. Together, we will continue to make Alberta strong, proud, and free.

As we celebrate our provincial identity and the values that unite us, it's also important to look ahead to the challenges and opportunities shaping Alberta's future, especially when it comes to energy.

Alberta is growing quickly, and that means we need more reliable and affordable electricity. Families, farmers, small

businesses, and communities across the province rely on a steady source of power to keep the lights on, run equipment, and grow our economy. That's why we are launching an important conversation with Albertans about the future of our energy system – and whether nuclear energy should be a part of it.

Nuclear power is already being used in other parts of Canada and around the world. It's a safe and reliable way to produce energy without adding pollution to the air, and it can help meet our growing energy needs. It also has the potential to create good jobs and power new industries that could benefit Alberta's communities for generations.

This fall, our government is launching a phased public engagement on nuclear energy. In the first phase, an expert panel has been chosen to hear directly from Albertans. I am honoured to serve as the chair of this panel, which is made up of respected leaders from business, universities, and Indigenous communities. Together, we will gather feedback and provide advice on how Alberta could use nuclear energy in the future.

Continued on Page 7

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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Thought for the Week

Great evil can happen when truth is at the mercy of political pressures

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De Havilland preparing to begin aerospace campus construction this fall

Continued from Page 1

De Havilland will be looking to hire students straight out of their post-secondary education, including from such programs as from SAIT in order to occupy the campus and support their team once the campus is operational.

Recruitment has not begun yet for construction jobs at the site. Sweeney said he anticipates the majority of the jobs, once available, will be occupied by Wheatland County, Strathmore and Calgary-area residents.

Phase 1 of the project, as it is being referred, will include the runway, distribution and logistics, parts manufacturing, aero structures manufacturing, and aircraft assembly buildings.

De Havilland is anticipating between 500 and 750 jobs per year to be created through the needs of their campus construction.

"Our manufacturing footprint is quite solid now; this is really about replacing and enhancing our ability to produce not only parts of aircraft ... it will really just enable us to ramp up production even quicker," said Sweeney.



YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

A bump or jolt to the head or body can move your brain rapidly around inside your skull resulting in damage to the brain cells. This is a *concussion*. You don't have to lose consciousness to have a concussion. Helmets can protect against serious injuries but can't fully prevent them. Be sure your helmet fits well and is the correct one for the sport played.

People who are mouth-breathers waking up with a dry mouth and snore a lot have heard of taping the mouth to breathe through their nose instead. Taping the mouth is not a good idea. Many mouth-breathers have sleep apnea and don't know it. Seek medical help to rule out other problems.

There has not been any new non-opioid pain-relievers come on the market for many years but this drought ended recently with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) approval of *suzetrigine* under the brand name *Journavx*. With all the addiction problems created by opioid analgesics over the past decade, this new pain-killer will be welcomed. Health Canada has yet to approve the drug's use in Canada.

Parents with teens who vape with nicotine-containing devices regularly, might consider talking to their family doctor. The teens might be addicted to the nicotine in the devices. There is a pharmaceutical solution that might help these teens. Talk to your doctor.

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Alberta Day!

Kinsmen Park was the place to be as the Town of Strathmore hosted Alberta Day on Sept. 1. The event offered entertainment and attractions for all ages. Alberta Day was brought in by the provincial government in 2022.

Joe Lepage Photos



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.

September 9, 2025, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission
September 16, 2025, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting
October 7, 2025, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

To join the call, dial 403-917-1764 and enter the PIN 47001 when prompted. Agenda packages can be found on our website.



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No prior experience is required, with training being provided to all successful applicants. If you live in, or own land in, Wheatland County and want to play a meaningful role in shaping its future, we encourage you to apply.

For more information or to submit your application, email sdab@wheatlandcounty.ca or call 403.361.2000. Apply by November 8, 2025.

Wheatland County – Community Enhancement Regional Board

Wheatland County is inviting applications for membership on the Community Enhancement Regional Board (CERB). Appointments commence November 1, 2025, with one representative from each Electoral Division.

- Two members per division, appointed for two-year terms (alternating expiry dates).
- CERB meets three times each spring to evaluate applications and allocate Community Enhancement Funding to local community groups.

Application Deadline: September 30, 2025
 For details or to submit a letter of interest, email cerb@wheatlandcounty.ca.



Notice of Nomination Day

Wheatland County, Province of Alberta

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Day is Monday, September 22, 2025, and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the location of the local jurisdiction office set out below within the period beginning on January 1, 2025, and ending at 12:00 noon on Nomination Day.

Nomination forms are available at the Wheatland County office during operating hours, or on our website: <https://wheatlandcounty.ca/2025-municipal-election/>

Office(s)	Electoral Division	Number of Vacancies
County Councillor	1	1
County Councillor	2	1
County Councillor	3	1
County Councillor	4	1
County Councillor	5	1
County Councillor	6	1
County Councillor	7	1

Location of Local Jurisdiction Office:
 Wheatland County Administrative Building
 242006 Range Road 243
 Wheatland County, AB
 (East of Strathmore on the north side of Highway 1)

Returning Officer:
 Shanna Pierson: 403-361-2030 or shanna.pierson@wheatlandcounty.ca

DATED at the County of Wheatland, in the Province of Alberta, this 26th day of August, 2025.



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



Careers with Wheatland County

Available opportunities include:
 Election Workers - Closes September 8, 2025

<https://wheatlandcounty.ca/careers/>





Season opener

The Strathmore Badgers peewee football team opened their season at the Crowther Memorial Junior High School Field on Aug. 30 with a tough matchup against the Sylvan Lake Bears. Despite the loss, the Badgers will look to rebound as the season progresses.

Joe Lepage Photos

Having a say in our future

Continued from Page 4

Right now, every Albertan can share their opinions by filling out the Nuclear Engagement Survey at <https://www.alberta.ca/nuclear-energy-engagement>, which is open until Sept. 25. Later this year, the panel will start holding in-person meetings across Alberta, and there will be even more chances to get involved through 2026.

In 2022, Alberta teamed up with Saskatchewan, Ontario, and New Brunswick to look into small modular reactors and other nuclear technologies. These new, smaller reactors are being considered in many places, and it is im-

portant to see if they could be a good fit here in Alberta.

We want to hear from you. This is about our future. I encourage everyone to take a few minutes to fill out the survey and make your voice heard. What you say matters and will help shape Alberta's plan for reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy in the years ahead.

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

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



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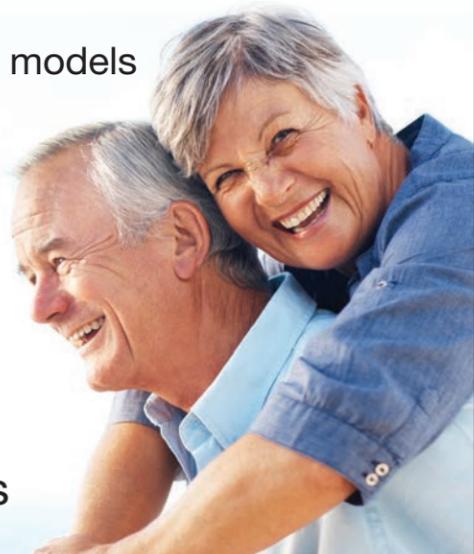
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Qualified Hearing Care Professionals

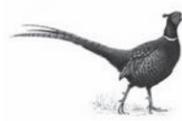
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- Repairs to all models
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PUBLIC SALE OF LAND

(Municipal Government Act)

Village of Rockyford

Notice is hereby given that, under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, the Village of Rockyford will offer for sale, by public auction, at the Municipal Office, 110 Main Street, Rockyford, Alberta, on September 16, 2025, at 2:00 pm, the following land:

Land Parcels					
Roll No	Lot	Block	Plan	C of T	Reserve Bid
1935	5		9610556	961 180 699 +1	\$28,180

1. Any parcel of land offered for sale may be redeemed by payment of all arrears, penalties and costs by guaranteed funds at any time until the property is declared sold.
2. Each parcel of land offered for sale will be subject to a reserve bid and title will be subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the existing certificate of title.
3. The lands are being offered for sale on an "as is, where is" basis, and the municipality makes no representation and gives no warranty whatsoever as to the state of the parcel nor its suitability for any intended use by the successful bidder.
4. The auctioneer, councillors, the chief administrative officer and the designated officers and employees of the municipality must not bid or buy any parcel of land offered for sale, unless directed by the municipality to do so on behalf of the municipality.
5. The purchaser of the property will be responsible for property taxes and utilities for the current year. There will be no adjustment to the date of sale.
6. The purchaser will be required to execute a sale agreement in form and substance provided by the municipality.
7. The successful purchaser must, at the time of sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or bank draft payable to the municipality as follows:
 - a. The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - b. If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale.
 (if the certified cheque or bank draft exceeds the final purchase price, the excess will be refunded within a reasonable time)
8. GST will be collected on all properties subject to GST.
9. The risk of the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
10. The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
11. The purchaser will be responsible for registration of the transfer including registration fees.
12. If no offer is received on a property or if the reserve bid is not met, the property cannot be sold at the public auction.
13. The municipality may, after the public auction, become the owner of any parcel of land that is not sold at the public auction.
14. Once the property is declared sold at public auction, the previous owner has no further right to pay the tax arrears.

Dated this 18th day of August, 2025.

Managed by: TAXervice

Lori Miller, *Chief Administrative Officer*
Village of Rockyford



Upcoming Council Meetings

Sept 3, 2025 | 6 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council
 Sept 17, 2025 | 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.



MOVIE IN THE PARK
Community Connection Night.



Come for the fair, stay for the movie.

- Resource fair (5:30 to 7:30 p.m.)
- BBQ (6 to 7:30 p.m.)
- Inside Out 2 (8 p.m.)



HAPPY ALBERTA DAY
Thanks for joining in on all the fun.

Apply today.

Join the Municipal Policing Committee.

The Strathmore Municipal Policing Committee is an initiative designed to enhance community safety through collaboration, transparency, and active resident engagement. The committee plays a pivotal role in shaping local policing priorities, fostering ongoing dialogue between residents, Council, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), and working to ensure the safety and well-being of the entire Strathmore community.

The Town of Strathmore is looking for: individuals with a desire to give back to the community; individuals with specific expertise relevant to the qualifications of the specific board, focus or committee; individuals interested in the legislative process; and individuals with time available to commit to membership.

Learn more or apply today at Strathmore.ca/PoliceCommittee

Coming soon to an alleyway near you.

Heavy Item Garbage (HIG) coming soon.

HIG collection offers residents the opportunity to dispose of large residential waste. Occuring the 3rd week of April and September, HIG is a service provided alongside your curbside waste collection service. If you pay the residential garbage charge on your Town of Strathmore utility bill, the HIG service is available to you. There is no fee associated with the tags. Keep in mind that households are limited to 5 items per collection.

Trash to Treasure: September 11 to 14, 2025

Heavy Item Garbage: September 15 to 19, 2025

The last day to pick up HIG tags is September 12, 2025. All items must be placed out by 7 a.m. on September 15, 2025 to ensure your items are picked up. Tags can be picked up at Town Hall and the Strathmore Library.

For more information on HIG or Trash to Treasure, visit Strathmore.ca/HIG

Swimming, it's a good skill to have.

Fall swimming lessons.

Save the date, swimmers! The 2025 fall swimming schedule will be available September 22, 2025 at noon. Registration opening times are;

- Registration opens for Strathmore & Wheatland County residents on September 30, 2025 at 8 a.m.
- Registration opens for all members on October 2, 2025 at 8 a.m.

For a smooth registration process, create or login to your recreation account at strathmore.perfectmind.com and make sure your address, postal code, and email are up to date. If you need a hand, reach out to the Pool Crew by calling **403-934-3325**.

It's cleanup time.

Aquatic Centre closing for annual maintenance.

Every fall, the Strathmore Aquatic Centre shuts down for a few weeks to perform annual maintenance. This downtime helps us keep the pool clean, safe, and ready for another splash-tastic year.

This year's annual maintenance shutdown begins **August 28, 2025** and will last for a couple of weeks. There's a lot that goes into making the pool a safe and clean place. Keep an eye out for progress updates throughout the closure. For more information, contact the Aquatic Centre at **403-934-3325**.

Curious about your neighbourhood?.

Planning Dashboard.

Curious about what's being built down the street? Now you can find out with just a few clicks.

We've recently launched our new Planning Application Dashboard (PAD) that shows current development and permit applications throughout town. Whether it's a proposed new subdivision, commercial development, or secondary suite, you can now see where projects are happening, what stage they're at, and key details about applications received on January 1, 2025 or later.

View the Planning Application Dashboard at Strathmore.ca/PAD.

NOW HIRING

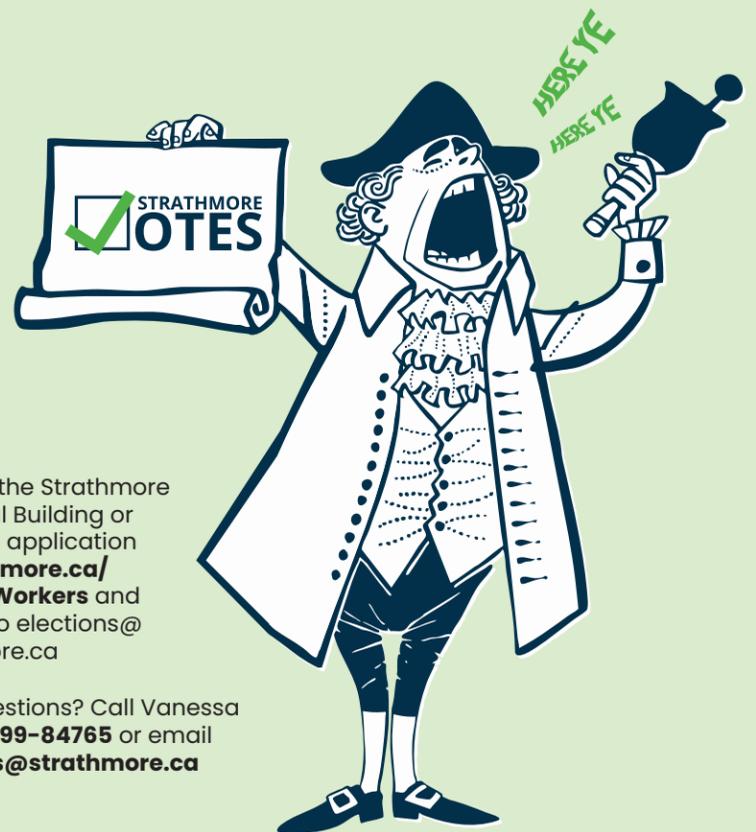
Election workers needed.

We're hiring temporary election workers for the October municipal election.

The upcoming Strathmore Municipal Election is on **October 20**, with advance polls on **October 15 and 17**. We're looking for people to serve as election workers and help make voting day a success.

- **Paid mandatory training provided**
- **Flexible shifts to fit your schedule** – whether you're available in the morning, afternoon, or just the evening to help count ballots, we can find a role for you.
- **Meaningful work** – from greeting voters to ensuring ballots are counted, you'll be a key part of the democratic process.

If you're looking for a way to support your community and take part in local democracy, join the team.



Apply at the Strathmore Municipal Building or fill out an application at Strathmore.ca/ElectionWorkers and email it to elections@strathmore.ca

Have questions? Call Vanessa at **403-499-84765** or email elections@strathmore.ca

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Canadian institutions disappeared over the past 10 years - none left to undermine

To the Editor

This letter is in response to the recent article that appeared in the news in late August. An article described the UCP as undermining Canadian institutions. I am not aware of any "Canadian institutions" that weren't already decimated or undermined by 10 years of liberal government; our former and current PM have done a masterful job of that while ensuring they remain on that same dubious pathway.

A study by the Fraser Institute indicates that median-income workers could see a 71.6 per cent increase in their total retirement income under an Alberta Pension Plan (APP) when compared to the current CPP structure. Further, any potential APP could result in significantly lower individual contribution rates closer to 5.5 per cent rather than the current 9.9 per cent individuals contribute now. An APP would open the door to investment strategies tailored to fit the Alberta economy, with the potential of creating much higher returns on investment. As for impacts to seniors already collecting CPP, the projected savings of \$5.5 billion from current CPP payments could be used to further enhance Alberta senior benefits and incomes.

The creation of a provincial police force known as the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) would serve all Albertans. The ASPS would address the unique needs of both urban and rural communities while also supporting our municipalities.

Ontario (Ontario Provincial Police, OPP) and Quebec (Sûreté du Québec, SQ) are provincial police services that do not rely on RCMP capacity. The ASPS would be similarly positioned.

The author fails to mention (or is unaware of) the "Electoral Boundaries Commission" (EBC) whose job it is to conduct public consultations, and compile boundary and population-based information. Findings are presented to the Legislative Assembly for consideration. Neither the UCP nor NDP unilaterally make changes to the boundaries or population figures.

As for a referendum to join the USA, the issue at hand as stated by the premier is Alberta "sovereignty" and not becoming the 51st state. Unfortunately, your article is misleading and does not portray the intent of the UCP nor Danielle Smith.

Ken Pirie,
Medicine Hat

Shasta facility vs. Wheatland Lodge new build & hospice: what is the difference?

To the Editor

By now, many in our community are aware that Shasta Seniors Living, a long-term care facility, is set to break ground in fall 2025. Understandably, a few questions have arisen. Does the Shasta project replace the Wheatland Lodge New Build and Hospice? Is it in direct competition?

The short answer is no. While these two important projects may appear similar, they are very different in scope, purpose, and the types of care they provide. At a high level, Wheatland Lodge helps independent, low-income seniors live safely and affordably in a social, supported setting. Shasta addresses the needs of those requiring more intensive care, including memory care and hospice support.

Let's look a little closer.

WHAT ARE THE SERVICES EACH FACILITY PROVIDES?

Wheatland Lodge is a supportive living lodge for independent seniors with light to moderate needs. It is a not-for-profit congregate Supportive Living facility (SL2), offering 94 suites to seniors aged 65 and older. It provides private living spaces within a community setting with access to meals and snacks, weekly housekeeping and laundry services, social and recreational activities, 24-hour on-site hospitality staff and access to Alberta Health Services home care as needed.

The "congregate" model promotes independence while reducing isolation. Residents are typically independent or semi-independent and require minimal to moderate support with day-to-day tasks.

The upcoming Shasta Seniors Living Facility will be a long-term care (LTC) and Advanced Supportive Care Facility, for seniors with moderate to high complex needs. It will provide higher levels of care, offering 54 long-term care spaces, 18 designated Supportive Living Level 4 (SL4) spaces, 18 memory care (SL4D) spaces and six hospice spaces (Information obtained from strathmoretimes.com).

As residents of an (SL4) facility, they will have access to: meals and snacks, weekly housekeeping, 24-hour on-site support, including assistance with most or all activities of daily living and extensive help with personal care, due to physical or cognitive challenges.

HOW ARE THEY FUNDED?

Shasta Living Facility is a private, for-profit operator, and is still being fully funded by Alberta Health Services (AHS). In other words, it is being publicly funded through tax dollars.

There is a common misconception that private facilities do not receive government support. However, this is not the case. Many private continuing care providers, like Shasta, are contracted by AHS and operate with public funding, just as public facilities do.

Shasta will use private funding for capital, resident rent for operation, and all care will be provided by Alberta Health Services.

As a for-profit entity, the organization uses revenue for shareholder profit and business growth.

Wheatland Lodge, as a not-for-profit, is government-funded, and relies on donations and municipal partnerships to provide subsidized housing. Alberta's Seniors Lodge Program ensures that eligible seniors are left with at least \$365/month in disposable income after rent (indexed annually). This affordability and inclusivity are key to serving all members of our community, regardless of financial status.

Wheatland Lodge uses municipal, provincial funding (Lodge Assistant Program), resident rent, and donations for operation, and grants and municipal funding for capital. The proposed New Lodge/Hospice construction is a public-private partnership, where a private organization provides construction of a public facility, also known as a P3.

As a non-profit organization, Wheatland Lodge reinvests any revenue back into the Lodge.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR WHEATLAND LODGE?

Wheatland Housing Management Body and Wheatland and Area Hospice Society, with the support of our municipalities and partners, remain committed to advancing the Wheatland Lodge New Build and Hospice project. We will continue working toward a facility that meets the broad range of housing and care needs in our region.

WHEATLAND LODGE AND SHASTA - DIFFERENCES AT A GLANCE

- Type of Facility:
Wheatland Lodge: Supportive Living Lodge (SL2).
Shasta Seniors Living: Long-Term Care & Supportive Living (SL4).
- Ownership:
Wheatland Lodge: Public / Not-for-Profit.
Shasta Seniors Living: Private / For-Profit.
- Funding:
Wheatland Lodge: Source Provincial Funding, Municipal contributions, grants, rent.
Shasta Seniors Living: Private funding for capital, resident rent for operation, Alberta Health Services funding.
- Care Level:
Wheatland Lodge: Light to moderate (independent seniors).
Shasta Seniors Living: Moderate to high (complex care needs).
- Eligibility:
Wheatland Lodge: Focus on seniors aged 65+ able to live semi-independently.
Shasta Seniors Living: Seniors needing extensive support or memory care.
- Affordability:
Wheatland Lodge: Rent geared to income with guaranteed disposable income.
Shasta Seniors Living: May have some subsidized spaces, but not guaranteed.
- Hospice:
Wheatland Lodge: Inclusion planned in new build.
Shasta Seniors Living: Included (6 beds).

WHMB Board

\$\$\$ \$\$\$
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Friday September 19th, 2025

FALL BRAWL

Old School Wrestling Academy
Strathmore Mini Camp
Sept 20th & 21st



Advance Front Row \$30 @ the Door \$35 (If Available)
Advance General \$25 @ the Door - General \$30
Students - \$15 with Student ID - Kids under 6 Free
10 Pack General Admission - \$200.00
Tickets on Eventbrite (Link in QR Code)

VIP Tables, Front Row & Advance Tickets Holders
Meet and Greet with the Stars of the show - 6:00pm - 6:30pm
General Doors: 6:30pm
Show 7:30pm









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Obituary



DIRKS, Marilyn Amanda

Marilyn Amanda Dirks, born on the 16th of February, 1944 in the picturesque town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, left this world for her heavenly home on the 27th of August, 2025. Marilyn's life was a testament to the grace and strength that comes from a heart devoted to faith, family and community.

Growing up on her family fruit farm, Marilyn cherished the simple pleasures in life, such as playing with kittens in the hay loft, hide and seek in the corn fields, walks through the woods, daily 'school sessions' with her older sister in the cherry orchards to scare the birds away and afternoons spent playing with dolls. But nothing delighted her more than the taste of fresh picked peaches straight from the orchard trees. She learned the value of hard work, as simple pleasures were often interrupted by long hours of labor in the fruit fields.

Marilyn's love story began when she travelled cross-country to Alberta, in search of both a job and a rancher. She found a job as a lab technician in Calgary and a farmer with the promise of horses who became her beloved husband Eric Dirks. Once the children arrived, she became the quintessential homemaker, creating an environment filled with warmth, safety and love. On the farm she worked hand in hand with Eric cultivating not only the land, but a family legacy rooted in Christian values and the joy of hard work.

Hospitality and generosity were among Marilyn's greatest God-given gifts to the world. She relished in hosting friends, family and even strangers. Her home was always open, her meals nourishing both body and soul, and her presence was a comfort to many. To be in Marilyn's kitchen at her table was to know true welcome, where no one left without feeling seen, fed and uplifted. Her generosity extended well beyond her family and friends, as she believed everything she had was a gift from God to be shared freely with those in need.

She found deep joy in praising her Lord and Savior through song. Over the years, she sang in many choirs, yet nothing was more beautiful than the harmony she shared with her husband Eric. Their voices blended in a shared language of love, one that touched every heart blessed to hear it.

One of her favourite pastimes was horseback riding in the mountains with family and friends, it provided her with moments of reflection and connection with God's creation. Yet, nothing brought her greater joy than time spent with her children and grandchildren. Whether it was Christmas at the farm, family holidays at The Property, watching the grandkids play ALL the sports or just simply sharing a meal together.

Marilyn's faith in Jesus Christ was the cornerstone of her life. She studied the scriptures with depth and devotion, as reflected in the well-worn pages of her bible. Her countless journals filled with handwritten verses and prayers for those she loved and the world beyond her own. Marilyn believed wholeheartedly in the power of prayer and intercession, and she lived out her faith not just in words, but in everyday acts of kindness and service.

She was the heart of her Family. Marilyn is deeply missed by her husband Eric Dirks; her children Kip Dirks (Heather), Janine Lassu (Lonnies) and Michelle Rilling (Jon); and her beloved grandchildren: Lauryn, Jonathan, Asher, Matt, Josh, Isaac, Mitchell, Jared and Eden. Though preceded in death by her beloved grandson, Bennett Lawrence Lassu and her parents, John and Katherine Neufeld, her legacy continues in each life touched.

She also is remembered with love by her siblings—Elmer Neufeld, Katie Klassen, Erika Friesen, Elsie Dyck and John Neufeld—who were not just her family but her lifelong friends, confidants and sources of mutual inspiration.

Marilyn Amanda Dirks, her legacy is one of love, faith and the beauty of a life well-lived. Let us honour her memory by embracing the lessons she imparted through her actions—compassion, resilience, generosity, the importance of cherishing every moment with those we hold dear and above all, pointing all to her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Heaven receives her with the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

If desired, donations may be made in Marilyn's memory to Strathmore Mainsprings Pregnancy and Family Support (www.mainsprings.com) or to the Strathmore Woman's Shelter (www.acws.ca/shelters/true-north/)

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, September 6th, 2025 at Strathmore Alliance Church at 10:00 a.m.



Obituary



O'CONNOR, Kay

Kay was a kind soul with a pure heart, whose love for her family and the simple joys in life defined her. She found immense happiness in being a devoted grandma to her grandchildren, Hunter and Payton, and her face would light up at the sight of dogs, whether they were hospital visitors or her beloved grand-puppies curled up beside her. Kay cherished the tranquility of the countryside, often reminiscing about the peace she felt growing up on the farm, lying in the grass with her thoughts. We take comfort knowing that God has guided her down that country road to her eternal home.

Kay will be dearly missed by her daughter Jenny, son-in-law Josh, grandchildren Hunter and Payton, sister Kathleen (Guy), nieces Anne, Rochelle (Brian), Brittany (Jeff), brother Freddy, great-niece Sadie, dear friends Donna and Albert Warwa, brother-in-law John (Lynda) of Coburg, Ontario, and Daphne of Edmonton. As well as numerous nieces and nephews on her husband Dan's side, with special mention of Brenda and Marion.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband Dan O'Connor (2007), father Otto (2007), mother Nancy (2009), mother-in-law Marion (1995), sister-in-law Fran (2018), sister-in-law Sylvia (2001), brother-in-law George (2003), and brother-in-law Rick (2018).

Kay's memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew her gentle spirit and unwavering love. A private family gathering will be held to celebrate her life at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a local animal shelter in Kay's memory. Rest in peace, dear Kay, in the countryside you loved so much.

We would like thank the wonderful friends Kay met at Lambert Village. She appreciated your friendship so much and you made Lambert feel like home right away.

We would also like to thank the staff at Agecare Sagewood in Strathmore, as well as the Golden Hills neighbourhood, for their compassionate care and support during Kay's time with them.



Obituary



PILIKOWSKI, Carlee Maryann

It is with extreme sadness that we announce the passing of Carlee Maryann Pilikowski. Carlee left this world on July 7, 2025, with her children by her side. She had been courageously fighting a long illness, through which she never lost her unique sense of humor, her sweet and caring disposition and her unshakeable grit.

Carlee was predeceased by her loving husband of 45 years, Kevin Pilikowski, and her father Ernest Deeg. She leaves behind her children, Amy and Jake (Ashley), her beloved grandchildren, Anna and Piper, her mother, Alvine, sister Joyce (Tom), brother Randy (Sandy), Aunt Carol, sister-in-law Valerie (Gary), as well as many cherished nieces and nephews.

Right from the beginning, Carlee was destined to be strong and unique. After being born on January 21, 1950, in Calgary, she returned home to the family farm near Lyalta, Alberta on the heel of a storm, navigating the final leg of the journey bundled up on her mother's lap, carried home on the family tractor.

In her younger days, Carlee was a feared pitcher who excelled at baseball and fastball, an excellent basketball and volleyball player and a record-setting track and field athlete. Later in life, she enjoyed getting out on the golf course with friends. She passed her love of sport on to her children and supported them in all their endeavors, driving hours to sports tournaments, cheering from the stands at every game, and always packing enough famously delicious sandwiches to share. Mom was always there during times of need, without judgment or complaint. She loved to jump on a plane and visit Amy in New York or Los Angeles, and she always looked forward to Fridays, when she would head into Calgary to spend time with Ashley and her grandchildren.

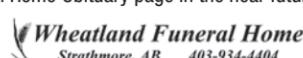
In her professional life, Carlee devoted 33 years to the Marigold Library System headquarters, where she started off as a receptionist and went on to excel in different roles, retiring as a Communications and Marketing Specialist in 2019. Carlee loved her work and cherished her time at Marigold, where she poured herself into any opportunity to hone her creative talents.

Carlee was extremely inventive and had an excellent eye for design, creating her dream home with Kevin from the ground up and helping her parents and friends design theirs. Every space Carlee touched was left more colourful, functional and inspired through her talent. She loved painting and creating unique furniture and home décor pieces with Kevin. Carlee had an eye for fabulous fashion and all things purple and sparkly and was always light years ahead of her time with her creations. Carlee was a brilliant artist, a gifted athlete, and a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. She was a private person who faced many health challenges throughout life, and she persevered with courage and grace. Her quiet strength, unique sense of humour, beautiful boisterous laugh and endless wells of creativity and love were a blessing to those who were lucky enough to be in her orbit.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Bethany Riverview for providing Carlee with such compassionate care during her stay, as well as a special thanks to Carlee's sister Joyce for her gracious care and to Sandy Deeg and Gerry Cool for their loving visits, delicious baked goods and their steady support during challenging times.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Carlee Pilikowski's name to the Bethany Care Foundation, online through <https://bethanycarefoundation.com/donate/> or by cheque. Please make cheques payable to the Bethany Care Foundation, write "In memory of Carlee Pilikowski (Bethany Riverview)" in the memo line and mail to the Bethany Care Foundation at #100, 2915 26 Ave SE Calgary, AB T2B 2W6.

Details for Carlee's celebration of life are still being finalized and will be updated via the Wheatland Funeral Home Obituary page in the near future.



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

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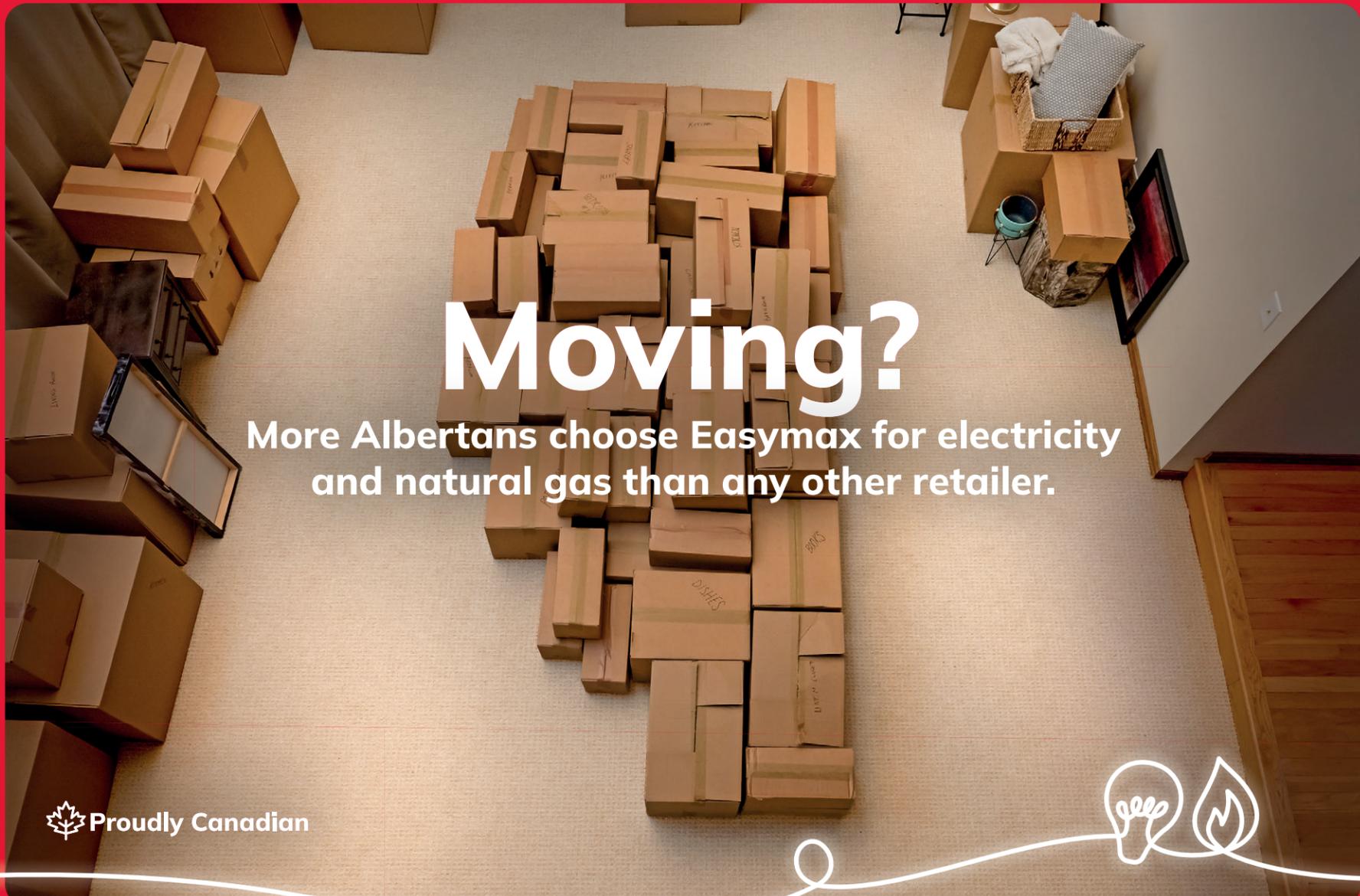
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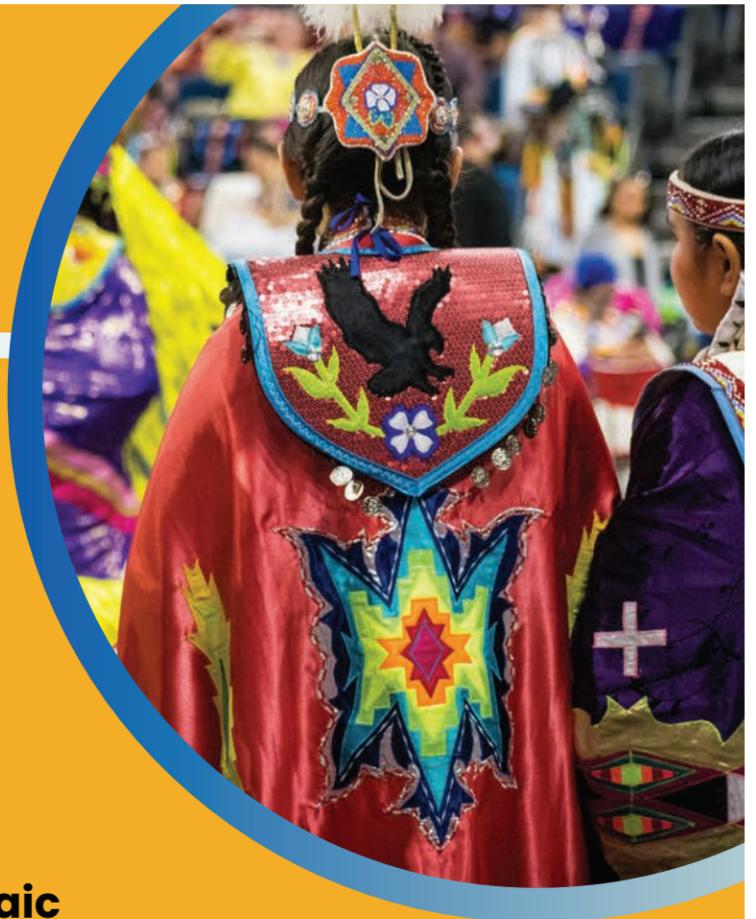


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ALBERTA CULTURE DAYS



strathmorelibrary.ca/culture

Crafting Culture: South African Jewelry

September 6 | 10 am-12 pm & 2 pm-4pm
The Vault

Community Concert with Justine Giles

September 9 | 1:30 pm | Hope Community Church

The African Mosaic

September 9-27 | The Vault

English Tea

September 14 | 10:30 am-1 pm | Kinsmen Park

The Rainbow Nation: Exploring South Africa

September 17 | 2 pm | The Vault

A Taste of the Continent

September 19 | 4:30 pm-6:30 pm | The Vault

Jambo! Jambo!

September 19 | 7 pm-9 pm | The Vault

Melodies of Our Roots

September 20 | 11 am-2 pm | Kinsmen Park

Seychelles: Paradise in the Indian Ocean

September 26 | 7 pm-9 pm | The Vault

Faces of the Continent

September 28 | 12:30 pm-2:30 pm & 3:30 pm-5:30 pm
Wheatland Society of Arts

A Métis Perspective with Karen Ellefson

September 29 | 6 pm-7:30 pm
Strathmore Library

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