



Locally Owned & Operated **STRATHMORE** **TIMES**

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 36

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Big win

Page 5



Bearful bash

More housing options coming

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A new 55-plus rental community with nearly 400 townhouses is moving forward on Strathmore's east side after town council approved amendments needed for the development.

Council gave second and third reading to Bylaw No. 26-11 on Sept. 2 following a public hearing on changes to The Prairies Area Structure Plan.

The approximately 47-acre site is located at the northeast corner of George Freeman Trail and Edgeview Road near the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre and George Freeman School.

Nautical Lands Management Corporation is proposing 398 one and two-bedroom rental townhouses under its Wellings model. The company would retain ownership of the residential development.

The development is geared toward independent adults 55 and older rather than operating as a retirement or assisted-living facility.

"We don't provide any services that you would find in a traditional retirement home," Whittington said. "We really cater to 55-plus demographic that is still very active, both physically and mentally."

Lawn care and snow removal would be handled for residents. A private clubhouse would include a fitness area, games room, common area and communal kitchen. Outdoor amenities would include pickle ball, shuffleboard and a community garden.

The plan also includes approximately 700 parking spaces. Around 183 units would have garages.

One-bedroom units are expected to be approximately 700 square feet while two-bedroom units would range from roughly 900 to 1,000 square feet.

Rent became a focus of council's questions.

The monthly rent for a one-bedroom would be approximately \$2,999 and \$3,999 for a two-bedroom.

Continued on Page 4



Badgers fall in close battle

The Strathmore Badgers peewee football team dropped a closely contested 37-33 decision to the Stettler Panthers on Sept. 5, in their first home game of the season at the Crowther Memorial Junior High School field. The game, the second of a home-and-away series, was decided on the Panthers' final offensive series.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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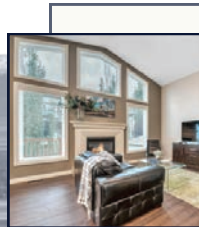
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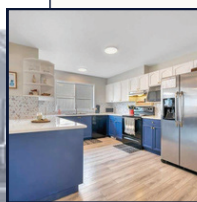
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New navy league cadet program launches in Strathmore

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A new cadet program is getting underway in Strathmore, giving younger children another opportunity to build skills, meet new people and become involved in their community.



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The Navy League of Canada has established a branch in Strathmore and is working to establish a Navy League Cadet Corps for boys and girls between the ages of 9-12.

Strathmore Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 10 President Donovan Arnaud said the idea grew from seeing the success of the community’s existing air cadet program.

“Strathmore has had an air cadet squadron here for many, many years. It’s been a very successful program,” Arnaud said. “It’s done amazing things for the youth of the community.”

With Strathmore continuing to grow and more young families calling the community home, Arnaud saw an opportunity to offer something different.

“This year I decided that I would like to expand that, given the growth of Strathmore and correspondingly, the growth of the number of children that are now living here in Strathmore,” he said. “So, I thought I would start another cadet movement and so we’re bringing the navy to town.”

Arnaud said the program is “an organization dedicated to citizenship, teamwork and just learning how to be a young citizen of Canada.”

Recruitment is already underway and interest has been strong. As of last week, Arnaud said approximately 14 children had signed up with room available for many more.

The program is also looking for adults who would like to get involved. Volunteers can serve directly with the cadets as officers or become part of the Navy League branch that supports the corps.

Once the program officially gets underway later in September, cadets will meet Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Strathmore Legion.

Registration costs approximately \$150 for the year, with the money helping offset the cost of providing uniforms.

“Each cadet gets a uniform. A little sailor uniform with a hat and a shirt and so on and so forth,” Arnaud said. “So, they look the part and all this money goes towards that.”

While the program draws on the history and traditions of the navy, Arnaud stressed an important distinction for parents who may be unfamiliar with cadets.

“It is not a military organization,” he said.

Instead, those traditions provide a foundation for teaching young people skills such as teamwork, citizenship and respect.

“In the navy we teach all these young people, for example, how to march as a group. Because that’s part of teaching teamwork,” Arnaud said. “They all learn the traditions of the navy. They all



Future navy cadet Grant MacDonald (10) was eager to sign up at the Strathmore Legions' open house for the new navy cadet program beginning this September. Vice President of the Legion, Doug Earnshaw (l-r), Grant MacDonald, Legion President Donovan Arnaud and Garrett MacDonald (2), were on hand for the open house.

Mellisa Crispin-Piche Photo

learn marks of respect for those in authority over them.”

Activities will also introduce cadets to skills connected to naval themes, with an emphasis on making the experience interesting for young participants.

“What we try to do, and what we in fact are very successful in doing, is making these things of great interest to these kids so that they can learn individual skills but collectively as well,” Arnaud said.

He compared the philosophy behind cadets to other youth programs such as 4-H, where children participate in activities while learning broader lessons about responsibility and working together.

“The cadets’ organization, army, navy, air force, is the same sort of thing,” he said. “They’re sponsored by organizations which have that tradition in the background, and there’s so many valuable things that they can pass on to children and teaching them those values.”

Recruitment will continue after the program begins. Families interested in registering a child and adults interested in volunteering can contact the Navy League through the Strathmore Legion.

“We’re excited and we’re really looking forward to getting this thing off the ground,” Arnaud said.

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New inclusive playground

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Students returning to Wheatland Elementary School last week had something new waiting for them outside.

A new inclusive playground has been installed at the school with equipment and surfacing designed to make play more accessible for children with different mobility needs.

Principal Emily Garrioch said the project grew from something students had already been asking for and became possible following a successful casino fundraiser by the school's parent advisory council.

"Having some more playground equipment was something the kids have been advocating for for a while, and so when we did so well with our casino, we decided to put the money toward the playground and then it just kind of rolled from there making it more accessible," Garrioch said.

The playground was funded through money generated by the parent council's casino held last fall. The council approved using those funds for new playground equipment and Garrioch took the lead on moving the project forward.

Accessibility became an important part of the planning because the playground serves more than just students during school hours.

"The community uses our playground on the weekend as well and we also have students with accessibility needs, so we wanted something that was more inclusive for them," Garrioch said.

The new playground includes an accessible swing and a surface that makes it easier for children using wheelchairs or walkers to move

through the area.

Students and families also had a say in what the finished playground would look like. Options were shared through the school's social media and students were able to vote on the playground they wanted. Families and the school community were also involved in choosing its colours.

"The kids and the community and our families were able to pick the colours of the playground," Garrioch said.

The equipment was supplied by Blue Imp, which offers playground designs that can be customized depending on the needs of a school or community.

"They have tons of options, and they can do all sorts of cool things and have lots of different swings and slides and you name it," Garrioch said. "You can kind of customize what you want to fit your needs."

Garrioch said the school had also been in contact with a local inclusive committee that has been discussing the need for more accessible recreational equipment in Strathmore. The school wanted the committee to know about the project because the playground is available to the wider community outside school hours.

For Garrioch, the goal was ultimately simple: give more children a place where they can play together.

"We just wanted something that worked for all of our students and promoted inclusivity within the community and also it was something new for our kids to have for the school year," she said.

The school is also hoping to celebrate the new addition with a grand opening during its welcome back barbecue.

Strathmore to host Terry Fox Run

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

The annual Terry Fox Run will take place in Strathmore on Sept. 20, bringing local residents together to raise money for cancer research.

The event is part of the nationwide Terry Fox Run, held in communities across Canada. Participants can walk, run or otherwise complete the route at their own pace, with the event open to people of all ages and abilities.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with the run getting underway at 10 a.m.

"Terry Fox is important to me because cancer has touched every person, basically," said organizer Mellisa Crispin-Piche. "Whether it's a family member, a friend, a neighbour or someone you know, I don't think there's a person who hasn't been affected by cancer in some way."

Her personal connection is having both of her parents battle the disease – a father who has been in remission for 35 years and her mother who sadly lost her battle this past spring.

For her, Terry's story has always represented something bigger than the distance he ran.

"He is the ultimate Canadian," she said. "When you think of the ultimate Canadian, Terry Fox is who comes to mind for me. He is the face of Canada."

In 1980, Terry Fox began his Marathon of Hope after losing his right leg to bone cancer. He set out from St. John's, Nfld. with the goal of running across Canada and raising money for cancer research.

Terry ran 5,373 kms over 143 days before cancer spread to his lungs and forced him to stop outside Thunder Bay, Ont. His goal of raising the equivalent of \$1 from every Canadian was ultimately achieved, with the Marathon of Hope raising

more than \$24 million.

The first Terry Fox Run was held in September 1981, just months after Terry's death, with hundreds of thousands of people taking part. Today, the annual event has become a Canadian tradition with more than 650 communities participating.

Crispin-Piche hopes Strathmore's event will capture that same spirit of coming together.

"It's about community," she said. "It's about everybody coming together for one common goal and that goal is finding a cure for cancer."

The morning will include more than just the run. Participants can take part in a pre-race warm-up led by local yoga instructor, fitness instructor and personal trainer Kelly Montford, with town officials also expected to attend with a special keynote speaker setting the tone for the event.

Prairie Pop Cos' dirty soda food truck will also be taking part in the morning, adding another local touch to an event that Crispin-Piche hopes will feel welcoming to everyone.

"You don't have to be a runner," she said. "You can walk, you can bring your kids, you can come with your dog. It's really about being there and being part of the community."

That inclusiveness is part of what makes the Terry Fox Run so meaningful to her.

"I think Terry showed Canadians that one person can make a difference," she said. "He was just one person who decided he was going to do something and look at what happened."

Registration information is available at run.terryfox.ca/129398 or they can register on the day of the run.

For more information about the Strathmore Terry Fox Run, follow the Strathmore Terry Fox Run Facebook page or email them (strathmoreterryfox@gmail.com).

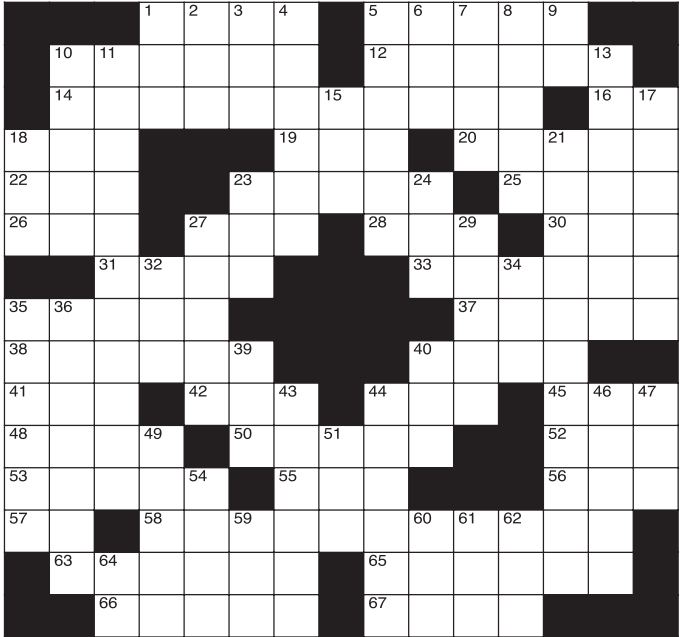


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CLUES ACROSS

1. Longtime *Vogue* editor Wintour

5. A Spanish title of respect

10. A way of looking

12. Properly

14. Rolled steel

16. Not down

18. Law degree

19. Consume food

20. Intermediate ecological stage

22. Old world, new

23. Dispense justice

25. Stiff hair-like structure

26. Ethiopia

27. Cool!

28. Father

30. An enthusiastic devotee of sports

31. Holm oak

33. Be united

35. Rattling breaths

37. Supermarket chain
38. Provided with a quality

40. Samoan monetary unit

41. Swiss river

42. Hill (Celtic)

44. Have already done

45. ATM company

48. Syngman __, Korean president

50. Very willing

52. Arctic explorers (abbr.)

53. Food listings

55. Bachelor's place to crash

56. Big Blue

57. Sports magazine

58. Relating to a place north of south of the equator

63. Female follower of Bacchus

65. A type of laugh

66. Slovenly women

67. Large jug

CLUES DOWN

1. Boxing's GOAT

2. Zero

3. Midway between north and northeast

4. Concurred

5. Added flavor

6. Amount of time

7. Eggs of parasitic insects

8. S-shaped moldings

9. Atomic #45

10. __ d'art: small artistic item

11. A godparent's "kids"

13. Nocturnal burrowing lizard

15. Hit lightly

17. Aircrafts

18. Witness

21. Alluding to something

23. Take to the limit

24. Baglike structure in a plant or animal
27. Start over

29. Administered

32. Romanian monetary unit

34. Unit of liquid capacity

35. Equips with weapons again

36. Disney town

39. Female deer

40. Title of respect

43. A place to go rafting

44. A way to conclude

46. Type of television

47. Georgia rockers

49. Leonhard __, Swiss mathematician

51. Slang for gun

54. River in Bosnia and Herzegovina

59. Bar bill

60. Small, gray-headed crow

61. Frozen water

62. Norwegian krone

64. Commercial

STRATHMORE

TIMES

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STRATHMORE WHEATLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Tough time

The Strathmore Spartans high school football team took on Beaverbrook on Thursday, Sept. 3, in a game that was moved up from Friday due to difficulties securing referees. The Spartans battled through another tough loss on their home field at the SHS field.

Joe Lepage Photos



Badgers roll

The Strathmore Badgers bantam football team ran to a 51-0 victory over Carstairs on Sept. 5 at the Crowther Memorial Junior High School field. Despite cool, rainy conditions, the Badgers came out fast and kept the pressure on throughout the game, en route to the win.

Joe Lepage Photos



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Thought for the Week
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Council backs 398 unit 55-plus development

Continued from Page 1

The proposal also includes a 3.74-acre commercial parcel at George Freeman Trail and Edgeview Road along with open space, pathways and a storm water management pond. Approximately 10 per cent of the site would be dedicated as Municipal Reserve.

While the clubhouse and recreation amenities would primarily serve residents and their guests, the pathways and public green space would connect with Strathmore's broader pathway network.

The project is expected to create approximately 10 full and part-time positions once completed, primarily in management and maintenance.

Contract instructors could also provide activities such as fitness classes.

Council questioned whether municipal infrastructure could accommodate the additional density.

CAO Kevin Scoble pointed to the town's central trunk sewer main project, where existing infrastructure is being replaced and expanded.

"We're replacing old infrastructure, but we're also upsizing, it and in the upsizing, it accounts for this type of growth that we're seeing," Scoble said.

Town planner Kate Bakun said no significant concerns were identified through the circulation process. Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors also raised no objections and accepted the revised Traffic Impact Assessment.

Council members expressed support for the project before voting.

Mayor Pat Fule said the development could provide an option for older residents wanting to move into a smaller home while remaining in Strathmore.

"I really do like the fact that people who do want to, not necessarily downgrade, but go smaller, can really put a lot of money into their bank, live there with less hassles, less maintenance, and it's just a win-win for our community," Fule said.

Coun. Jim Chisholm said the business model could fill a gap in the community.

"The group business model really supports kind of that niche that we need here in our community and for the seniors and allowing them to kind of do that transition," he said.

Coun. Brent Wiley also pointed to the commercial development and potential increase in the town's tax base.

"Higher density residential and non-residential is a win for current residents," Wiley said.

The original Prairies Area Structure Plan was adopted in 2011 and encompasses approximately 394 acres divided into four neighbourhood nodes.

The developer held an open house May 6 with approximately 40 people attending according to information provided to the town.

Council carried second and third reading of the ASP amendment. The related Land Use Bylaw amendment also received second and third reading moving the Wellings Development another step closer to construction.

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Connection night

About 225 people gathered at Kinsmen Park for Strathmore FCSS' Community Connection Night and outdoor movie screening of *Utopia 2* on Sept. 4. Despite the cool weather and cloudy skies, moviegoers came prepared with blankets and sleeping bags, while food trucks and popcorn provided by RE/MAX Key helped keep the crowd comfortable.

Joe Lepage Photos



Teddy bear time

The eighth annual Teddy Bear Picnic brought families to Kinsmen Park on Sept. 5. The event, hosted by Debbie Mitzner of RE/MAX Landan Real Estate, featured a teddy bear hospital, DJ, food trucks and visits from larger-than-life teddy bear mascots.

Joe Lepage Photos

Secondary suite appeal upheld despite Lakes Estates residents' concerns

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore Lakes Estates residents say they are disappointed after an appeal challenging a secondary suite in their R1 neighbourhood failed to overturn the Town of Strathmore's approval.

The Subdivision and Development Appeal Board released its decision Sept. 3 following an Aug. 20 hearing into Development Permit D26-083 for 52 Lakes Estates Circle. The appeal was filed by James (Jim) and Cathy Goertz.

The board allowed the appeal in part but ultimately upheld the town's approval of the secondary suite with an additional condition addressing drainage and construction concerns.

The property is zoned R1 – Single Detached Residential District. Under Strathmore's Land Use Bylaw, secondary suites are classified as a discretionary use within that district. The bylaw allows one secondary suite with a principal dwelling and requires an additional on-site parking stall.

According to the town's development report, the house was built in 2025 and the home and developed basement passed inspection that September.

Development Services later received complaints on May 20, June 2 and June 15 of this year, alleging a secondary suite was being constructed without permits.

A safety codes officer conducted a site visit in June, and a stop order was issued June 16. The applicant submitted a development permit application June 10 to bring the project into compliance. The town approved the application July 7.

The town maintained the proposal complied with the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan and would not adversely affect neighbouring properties or change the established character of the neighbourhood. The property has a three-car garage and three parking pads.

Residents disagreed.

Jim Goertz, representing the appellants at the hearing, raised concerns about neighbourhood character and density as well as the permitting process. He said Strathmore Lakes Estates was chosen by residents because it was

a quiet community and people specifically looked for an R1 neighbourhood.

Following the board's decision, Goertz said residents remain frustrated.

"The recent appeal decision to allow multi-family homes in Strathmore's R1 neighborhoods is a massive disappointment," Goertz said in a statement. "What is the point of R1 zoning if it no longer protects single-family communities?"

He was also critical of how the permitting issue was handled.

"Even worse, the Town of Strathmore has rewarded a contractor who built without proper permits by retroactively approving their secondary suites," Goertz said. "The message this sends is loud and clear: developers can ignore bylaws, skip the permit process, and face no consequences."

During the hearing, Goertz also questioned whether construction could begin without permits and asked the town to confirm the suite complied with its requirements. He ultimately requested the development permit be denied.

Other residents raised concerns about parking, increased traffic, snow removal, drainage, property values and the possibility the decision could lead to additional secondary suites in the neighbourhood.

The board considered those concerns but found there was not enough evidence to overturn the development permit under the Town's Land Use Bylaw and the Municipal Government Act. The decision noted secondary suites have been permitted as a discretionary use in low-density areas of Strathmore since council adopted amendments to the Land Use Bylaw in June 2020.

The board also acknowledged concerns about how construction and the permitting process were handled, stating the process "was not ideal," but that it had to give limited weight to those circumstances when deciding whether the development itself should be permitted.

One concern did result in a change.

The board added a condition requiring the builder to provide verification from an independent, external qualified professional engineer that proper drainage and a frost wall are in place

below the basement footing or that the issue can be remedied before the development permit is issued and before the building permit stage. With that condition added, Development Permit D26-083 was otherwise upheld.

Goertz said residents believe the decision has broader implications for R1 neighbourhoods.

"Our neighbourhood is rightfully furious," he said. "We paid high property taxes and bought into an R1 zone for a reason. We expect competent oversight from our local government, not a system that rewards rule-breaking at the expense of residents and disregard for the existing building bylaws that are in place."

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True North project aims to bridge gap between crisis and long-term stability

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

True North Society's new affordable housing and wellness development in Strathmore is being designed to fill a gap the organization has seen for years – what happens after someone leaves emergency shelter?

The project recently broke ground and will include 36 housing units along with commercial and community space. Construction is expected to take roughly two years with possession anticipated in spring 2028.

For True North Society executive director Courtney Helfrich, seeing construction begin is significant after years of discussion about how the organization could provide longer-term support.

"This most recent version is about five years in the making," she said.

Helfrich said the concept has changed several times over the years as the organization considered new construction, different designs and even retrofitting existing spaces.

"I think the overall idea and vision of a second stage has been years in the making," she said. "The board has considered many, many different options, whether it was a new build, new design, retrofitting in another space. There's been so many ideas that have been bounced around."

The 36 units will form part of a continuum of care with a mix of shelter spaces, second-stage housing and affordable housing. Studio, one, two and three-bedroom units are planned.

Because some of the project's construction financing comes through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Helfrich said affordability requirements are attached to that funding. The overall affordability of the project must remain within 80 per cent of median market values.

"It's meant to be extremely affordable for the community," she said.

How long residents will be able to remain in the affordable housing portion is still being worked out. Helfrich said the goal is to provide longer-term support while helping people build the skills and stability needed to eventually move forward independently.

"The goals are really reintegrating people back into community, build the life skills and the capacity for people to create sustainability and resilience in their life," she said.

For True North, the development also addresses a problem staff repeatedly encounter through their existing domestic violence programming.

"People coming out of emergency shelter don't have anywhere to go," Helfrich said. "There's no affordable options and so that was really the driving factor behind this too."

The new model could also allow True North to work more closely with entire families rather than having support begin only after a family has been separated by a crisis.

"I think it allows us from that early intervention perspective too," Helfrich said. She said the goal would be to wrap supports around the family while ensuring remaining together is safe.

Beyond housing, True North envisions the development as a wellness hub serving both residents and the wider Strathmore community.

Commercial space on the lower portion of the building could eventually accommodate services such as doctors' offices and childcare. Helfrich said some community partners have expressed preliminary interest, though no tenants have been finalized.

The project has secured approximately \$32 million in combined contributions from the federal government, Province of Alberta, True North Society and Calgary Foundation. Final project costs are still being determined and Helfrich said additional fundraising will be required.

"Construction isn't the end. It's really just the beginning for everything that's going to happen in this building," she said.

Helfrich also hopes the development can challenge some of the stigma surrounding domestic violence, crisis and affordable housing, particularly in smaller communities.

"Domestic violence and crisis can happen to anybody at any time," she said. "It could be a friend; it could be your family, your parents."

She said addressing domestic violence should be viewed as a community issue rather than something affecting only those who directly access the organization's services.

"It is really important that we work towards this as a community because addressing and preventing domestic violence only helps other systems," Helfrich said.

More information can be found on the True North website (truenorthab.com) or Helfrich can also be reached directly via email (courtneyh@truenorthab.com).

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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 15, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission

September 22, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

October 6, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

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

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Jordie was raised on a mixed operation in southern Alberta. Jordie has attended various courses on stockmanship, livestock marketing, soil and forage. Since 2006 Jordie has taken numerous courses with Hand 'n Hand Livestock Solutions with Whit Hibbard and Dawn Hnatow. Jordie spent 12 years sorting cattle in auction markets before moving to the southern United States to operate a cow/calf program.

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Phone: 403-934-3321 www.wheatlandcounty.ca
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Strathmore recognizes National Legion Week

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 10 is preparing for a significant few weeks in Strathmore as the community recognizes National Legion Week and the local branch celebrates a century of service.

Strathmore town council supported proclaiming Sept. 21 to 27 as National Legion Week during its Sept. 2 meeting, with the motion receiving unanimous support.

Coun. Melissa Langmaid brought the proclamation forward to council and spoke about the importance of the Legion and veterans within Strathmore.

"I know that we all have a great love for the veterans of the community, and for our local Legion, who's gearing up to celebrate their 100th birthday this year," Langmaid said. "I'm very happy to bring this forward to council as a part of those celebrations."

Mayor Pat Fule called the question, and the motion was supported by all members of council.

Branch No. 10 president, Donovan Arnaud, said he was pleased to hear the town had recognized National Legion Week.

"I was delighted to hear about it being proclaimed. That was wonderful," Arnaud said.

He said the support the Legion has received extends beyond the proclamation.

"The support we've received from the town and from the county and from our local politicians has been outstanding," he said. "On behalf of the entire Legion, we are very, very grateful for this kind of support."

National Legion Week is not necessarily about holding special events, Arnaud explained. Instead, it is an opportunity to remind residents about the Legion, why it exists and the role it continues to play in the community.

"It's intended to make everyone awa-

re of the fact that the Legion exists and it exists for the following reasons," he said. "The Legion stands for remembrance – remembrance of all those who served and sacrificed their lives for our country."

He said the Legion's role also includes supporting veterans who have served in the Armed Forces and police as well as the families who stood behind them.

"For every soldier that's out there doing his bit for (our) country – (they've) got a family back home doing their bit to support him, and so it's a team effort," Arnaud said. "It's an extension of remembrance, veterans and community. That's a unique role that we play in the community that every Legion organization plays in the community."

This year's National Legion Week comes just days before another major milestone for the local branch.

In 2026 the Strathmore Legion is celebrating not only Branch No. 10's personal 100th anniversary, but also the 100th anniversary for The Royal Canadian Legions across Canada (July 17). Branch No. 10 has a special gala planned for Oct. 3; the actual anniversary is Oct. 8, but Arnaud said the celebration was moved ahead five days because the date falls during the week.

"There's only one 100th birthday and this is it, this year," he said. The gala will be open to members of the community who purchase tickets, although space inside the Legion is limited.

"We'll welcome anybody and everybody from the community who wishes to express their support for the Legion on this very special occasion," Arnaud said.

Tickets and further information about the centennial celebration are available through the Strathmore Legion.

For Arnaud, the recognition provides an opportunity to remind people that while Branch No. 10 is preparing to celebrate 100 years in Strathmore the Legion's mission continues to centre around remembrance, veterans, their families and the community.

Arts on 817 announces Season 9 concert series

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Arts on 817 is preparing to launch its ninth concert season, with four performances scheduled in Strathmore between October and May.

The 2026-27 concert series will feature brass, fiddle, classical strings and choral music, offering audiences a variety of musical styles throughout the season.

The season opens Saturday, Oct. 24, with Foothills Brass & Friends: Brass in Pop Music of the '60s, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Strathmore United Church.

The concert will celebrate the popular music of the 1960s, featuring music associated with Herb Alpert's Tijuana Brass, as well as hits from Al Hirt, Bert Kaempfert, Louis Armstrong, Chicago, The Beatles and others. Foothills Brass will be joined by piano, bass and percussion for the performance.

The series continues with the Calgary Fiddlers' Fiddle Fantasia, a family-friendly holiday concert featuring Christmas classics alongside traditional fiddle tunes on Dec. 5.

The Calgary Fiddlers are an award-winning group of young musicians known for their energetic performances, combining toe-tapping fiddle music with the spirit of the holiday season.

On Saturday, Feb. 6, Arts on 817 will introduce a new experience with its debut Candlelight Concert.

The performance will feature WILDFLOWER, a classical string quartet that includes Strathmore's own Megan Konshuh. The quartet will perform a wide range of popular music in a multi-sensory setting illuminated by the gentle glow of LED candlelight.

Organizers say the Candlelight Concert will be a first for Strathmore and is being presented just ahead of Valentine's Day.

The season concludes Saturday, May 1, with Luminous Voices & Rosebud Choirs, bringing together Calgary's professional choir Luminous Voices, conducted by Tim Shantz, and the Rosebud Choir, conducted by Bill Hamm.

The two choirs will collaborate on a program of choral music spanning cultures, traditions and time, offering audiences an opportunity to hear the two ensembles perform together.

Arts on 817 organizers are inviting residents to make the concert series part of their 2026-27 entertainment plans, with the four performances providing opportunities to experience a range of musical traditions and performers without leaving Strathmore.

Tickets for the 2026-27 season remain at the same prices as last season.

ARTS ON 817 PRESENTS



Foothills Brass & Friends

Brass in Pop Music of the 60's

First Concert of Season 9

October 24, 2026 - 7:30 pm

Season Ticket— \$140.00 for 4 shows

Individual tickets—Adult - \$40.00

Youth - \$10.00 - 17 and under

Upcoming Concerts:

December 5, 2026—Calgary Fiddlers' Fiddle Fantasia

February 6, 2027—Debut Candlelight Concert with Wildflower

May 1, 2026—Luminous Voices with special guests the Rosebud Choir

Tickets can be purchased in person at the Vault, online at thevaultonline.ca/collections/tickets or by e-transfer smoretreasurer@gmail.com.

Online purchases must be picked up at the door the night of the concert.



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Eagle Lake road allowance closure heads to public hearing

MELISSA CRISPIN-PICHE
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County residents will have an opportunity to weigh in on the proposed closure of an undeveloped road allowance west of Eagle Lake during a public hearing later this month.

The hearing is scheduled for Sept. 22 and relates to an application from a neighbouring landowner seeking to close approximately three acres of undeveloped road allowance between SE-25-23-25-W4M and NE-24-23-25-W4M.

Taylor Felt, Senior Planner with Wheatland County, said public participation is encouraged before council considers the proposal.

“Any public hearing held at the county office is open for public and (we) actually really do encourage public participation when it comes to public hearings,” Felt said.

The application was submitted by a landowner who intends to consolidate the road allowance with adjacent property. Felt said the proposal is also intended to address access to a county standard road.

“The landowner submitted an application, so

they applied to close the approximate – I think it’s about three acres of undeveloped road allowance with the intention of consolidating that land with their properties,” Felt said. “And this is really to resolve an issue that that landowner has in accessing a county standard road.”

Road allowances are owned by the province while Wheatland County is responsible for their direction, control and management within its jurisdiction.

If the closure is ultimately approved, there would be a separate process dealing with disposal and purchase of the land.

“The closure really seeks to look at whether closing this road and disposing it eliminates access to adjacent landowners or if there’s any issues for utility providers who might have infrastructure crossing that portion of the road,” Felt said.

The county also considers matters such as drainage, utilities and other potential impacts when reviewing a road closure.

Applications are circulated to adjacent landowners and utility providers, giving them an opportunity to identify concerns or easements that may be required.

Felt said the county has not received comments indicating the undeveloped allowance is currently being used to access Eagle Lake or raising concerns about the loss of public access. “We haven’t received comments to that effect,” Felt said.

He added that public access can become an issue when undeveloped road allowances lead toward bodies of water; he noted that similar concerns have surfaced with road closures in other municipalities.

“With this application specifically, those types of concerns haven’t been raised yet,” Felt said. Those concerns could still be brought forward during the public hearing.

Residents may submit comments in writing ahead of the meeting which allows the information to be provided to council and published with the public hearing material. People may also attend the hearing and speak directly to council.

“The chair will open the public hearing, and folks can speak in favour or opposition to a particular issue or file at a public hearing,” Felt said.

A final decision will not necessarily be made Sept. 22.

Road closure bylaws then require provincial involvement because the province generally holds title to the right-of-way.

“After that, and unique to road closures, it then has to go to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors for review and then the minister will give consideration to the bylaw,” Felt said.

If the province is satisfied with the proposed closure, the bylaw would return to Wheatland County council for consideration of second and third reading.

Felt said the purpose of the application is ultimately to allow the neighbouring landowner to consolidate the undeveloped portion and improve access to Range Road 250.

“The landowner on either side is really looking to consolidate that undeveloped portion so that they can then access Range Road 250 without crossing over someone else’s land,” Felt said.

Mobile mammography service coming to Siksika Nation

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Siksika Nation will have access to breast cancer screening services later this month when the Screen Test mobile mammography program visits the community.

The mobile mammography trailer will be stationed at the Siksika Health & Wellness Centre, offering screening mammograms at no cost to eligible individuals between the ages of 45 and 74 from Sept. 21-24.

Appointments are required and can be booked by calling 1-800-667-0604.

A mammogram is an X-ray of the breast and is used to help detect breast cancer at an early stage, when treatment may be more effective.

The Screen Test program operates mobile mammography clinics in Alberta communities where breast screening services are not readily available. The program is intended to improve access to screening for people who may otherwise have to travel to receive the service.

Individuals aged 45 to 74 can discuss their breast cancer risk with their healthcare provider to determine whether screening is appropriate. Screening can also be arranged through participating radiology clinics and some hospitals.

More information about breast cancer screening and eligibility is available through Screening for Life online (screeningforlife.ca/breast/get-screened).



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Providing more funds to the education system

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

A new school year is starting with more teachers, more classroom support, and more space for Alberta students. Last week, Alberta's government delivered record education funding while also launching Canada's first solar panel recycling program, expanding cardiac care in Southern Alberta, and restoring property rights for Alberta farmers.

Children are heading back to school, and Alberta's government is making sure they have what they need to succeed. That is why our government is providing a record \$10.8 billion for education this school year, an increase of more than seven per cent from last year. Alberta schools have welcomed nearly 90,000 additional students in just four years, and our government is responding with 2,127 net new teachers and 1,044 new educational assistants. As part of these investments, \$218 million is being provided to school boards to create 699 complexity teams, 566 of which are already operational. These teams are composed of teachers and educational assistants and may also include behavioural therapists and speech-language pathologists. At the same time, our Schools Now program has completed 17 new school projects, creating almost 12,000 new and renovated student spaces, with 156 public school projects now underway. As Alberta grows, we are making sure our schools grow with it for generations to come.

As Alberta's solar industry grows, our government is making sure expired panels are responsibly recycled rather than left for taxpayers to deal with later. Beginning Oct. 1, Alberta will become the first jurisdiction in North America to operate a solar panel recycling program and ban solar panels from landfills. Solar panels contain valuable materials, including silver and copper, which can be reused. A \$14 fee will be added to each new solar panel sold in Alberta. This will help cover the cost of collecting and recycling panels when they reach the end of their useful life, instead of leaving taxpayers and municipalities to pay for disposal later. By planning ahead, our government is protecting landfill space while creating opportunities for a new recycling industry in Alberta.

Families across southern Alberta are also one step closer to more specialized cardiac care close to home. Our government has allocated \$320 million to redevelop the cardiac catheterization lab at Chinook Regional Hospital and expand its intensive care and cardiac care units. Once complete, the project will increase the combined number of intensive care and cardiac care spaces from 20 to 54. The expansion will give more patients in southern Alberta access to advanced cardiac care closer to home.

Farmers should not face unnecessary delays for routine work on their own cropland. This fall, our government is removing unnecessary Water Act approvals for routine work involving temporary and seasonal wetlands on private cropland. Farmers will have more freedom to cultivate, seed, spray, drain and manage excess water on their own property without going through a lengthy approval process. The changes respond directly to concerns from Alberta producers and will save farmers time and money while maintaining protections for neighbouring properties and infrastructure. It is a common-sense approach that puts routine farming decisions back in the hands of the people who know their land best.

Our government is building for the future of Alberta. From classrooms and rural industries to recycling and life-saving cardiac care, we are making investments today that will provide Albertans with stronger services, more opportunities, and the infrastructure they will need for years to come.

As always, please 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)



Seniors' care discussed

Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Chantelle de Jonge hosted Minister of Affordability and Utilities Nathan Neudorf, along with members of Strathmore town council and Wheatland County council, for a discussion on seniors' care in the region at the end of August. The meeting focused on local concerns and ways to ensure seniors and their families have access to the care and supports they need.

Photo Courtesy of the Office of MLA Chantelle de Jonge

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 13

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Doors 6:30pm
Show 7:30pm

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PAPA JOHN'S

Love, loss and life on the land come to Rosebud stage

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Reality takes centre stage this fall at Rosebud Theatre as Dear Johnny Deere, a Canadian folk musical, comes to life at the Rosebud Opera House from Sept. 18 to Oct. 24.

Written by Ken Cameron and featuring songs and lyrics by Juno Award-winning artist Fred Eaglesmith, the production follows Caroline and Johnny Deere as their relationship and livelihood are put to the test.

For the couple, nothing is certain – and the play explores love, loss and the challenges of trying to build a life on the land.

Changing prairie weather patterns, aging infrastructure, financial pressures and characters from their past all combine to create a difficult road ahead.

The result is a gritty and emotional story that asks audiences to consider what it takes to hold onto the things – and people – that matter most when circumstances seem determined to pull them apart.

The production brings together a cast and musical team familiar to Rosebud audiences, including Andrew Legg and Devon Brayne, along with Rosebud School of the Arts graduates Cassia Schmidt, Alixandra Cowman and Aaron Krogman. Chris Pompetti joins the band on upright bass.

Former Rosebud Theatre artistic director Morris Ertman returns to lead the production as director and scenic designer. He is joined by Amy Castro on costumes, Michael K. Hewitt on lighting and Luke Ertman on sound. Rosebud music veteran Bill Hamm serves as music director, with Cowman assisting.

The theatre describes Dear Johnny Deere as a story about heartbreak, restoration and the uncertainty that comes with making a life off the land – themes that will likely feel familiar to many prairie residents.

Buffet and theatre tickets are \$100 for adults, \$95 for seniors and \$70 for youth.

For tickets and information, visit Rosebud Theatre or call 1-800-267-7553.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Trump games

To the Editor

With all of the district gerrymandering, the elimination of many convenient temporary (read low-income/black constituencies) drop-in polling stations, the legal challenges to the mail-in voting system (a system Trump used personally), the compliance complications added to the USPS' requirements for handling of mail-in ballots, the requirement for passports or birth certificates for some voters, and the intimidating threat of the placement of ICE agents and/or the National Guard at "selected" (read "selective") polling stations

nationwide, Donald Trump's maniacal genius in directing the mid-term vote in his favour will be the envy of the world's other imperialistic dictators, past and present.

The day-to-day ordeals that his "MAGA" base are confronting (as are every American allied nation) due to his policies and executive orders must surely have convinced them by now that not only has he been lying to them from the start, but that also "MAGA" has been replaced with "MTGA" - Make Trump Great Again.

Bob Mackan,
Strathmore

Alberta isn't ready to leave

To the Editor

The leader of the Alberta separation movement keeps repeating that Alberta would not have to start from scratch if it left Canada. My research shows the opposite. The federal government currently delivers roughly two hundred and twenty benefits, programs, and essential national functions. Every one of these would have to be examined, costed, legislated, staffed, and duplicated by a new Alberta federal government.

These are not small items. They include income supports, seniors' benefits, disability programs, veterans' services, employment insurance, child benefits, national safety regulators, drug approvals, food inspections, border security, passports, policing, intelligence, transportation standards, aviation oversight, environmental protection, emergency management, and

the entire national public health infrastructure. Alberta would inherit none of this automatically. There is no legal mechanism that transfers federal institutions to a breakaway province. Alberta would have to build replacements from the ground up.

The public deserves honesty. Separation is not a matter of waving a flag and declaring independence. It is the construction of a full national government with all the responsibilities Canada currently carries. To claim Alberta "would not have to start from scratch" is misleading. The truth is that Alberta would have to rebuild the machinery of a modern state, piece by piece, at enormous cost, and with years of disruption. Albertans deserve a clear picture of what is at stake before anyone pretends this would be simple.

Ken Riley,
Bassano

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary



BATES,
John Roderick "Rocky"
December 4, 1939 – August 31, 2026

"Rocky" John Roderick Bates passed away peacefully on August 31, 2026, at the age of 86. Born in Middle Musquodoboit, Nova Scotia, Rocky was the middle child of seven and grew up in the community where he was born. He spent his younger years working on the family farm, picking blueberries and tapping maple trees alongside his family. He was famously the fastest blueberry picker around—and at 16, his skill earned him first-place prize money and a trophy.

Hard work was simply part of who Rocky was. In his early twenties, he began his journey West, first making his way to Ontario, then British Columbia, and eventually Alberta. At 32, he met Christine, and together they built a family and a life that would shape so many of his years to come. Rocky helped raise the children who were still at home, becoming an important father figure in their lives. He brought warmth, humour, and plenty of nicknames to the family, and his love for them ran deep. Alberta became home, and he lived there for the rest of his life.

A welder by trade, Rocky became an ironworker when he joined Cana Construction. He worked on impressive projects across Alberta, including the Carse-land Bridge and the construction of the Saddledome, where he served as a foreman. Later, he became the supervisor of Cana's steel yard, where he earned the nickname "Rocky Rebar." He was one of the hardest-working men you could ever meet, and that determination was evident in everything he did. Eventually, Rocky left construction behind to become a full-time farmer, building a life around the land and his cattle. He loved farming and worked at it with the same energy and dedication he had brought to construction. In the winter months, he enjoyed fur trapping. He finally retired from farming at 80, but he never really retired in his heart and missed his cattle every day.

Rocky loved life and lived his 86 years to the fullest. He was an animal lover, with a special place in his heart for dogs, although cats and horses were loved too. Wherever Rocky went, there was almost always a dog by his side. In his later years, he discovered a love of gardening and spent countless happy hours at the garden at Louie and Trish's. In the summer, if you wanted to find Rocky, you could almost always find him there with his beloved dog, Fanny.

He loved hockey and ringette and was a number-one fan at family games. He also coached hockey for several years, sharing his love of the game with young players. Rocky was an avid reader and a true-crime enthusiast. He was a wealth of knowledge and could talk about just about anything.

His grandchildren held a very special place in Rocky's heart. He was especially close to many of them and took great pride in being part of their lives, from everyday visits and adventures to helping them raise prize-winning 4-H calves. He loved watching them grow and was always ready to lend a hand, share a laugh, or offer some hard-earned advice. His grandchildren brought him tremendous joy and were an important part of his life.

Rocky will be deeply missed by his children Kay (Larry), Kevin, Louie (Trish), and Dawn (Bill); daughter-in-law Glenna (Joe); brothers Lyle (Carole), Harry (Adele), and Kirk (David); 17 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and many extended family members and friends who were fortunate to know and love him.

He was predeceased by his children Cameron and Bruce; his parents Ellie and Ross; his brothers Floyd, Richard, and Charles; and his lifelong friend and cousin, "Snail" Tom Flemming.

Rocky leaves behind a lifetime of hard work, stories, laughter, love, and memories—and a family who will carry him with them always.

The family would like to express their deepest appreciation to the medical staff at Strathmore Hospital who cared for Rocky, whose exceptional care, compassion, and kindness brought comfort to him and his family during his final days.

A private celebration of Rocky's life will be held at a later date.

Wheatland Funeral Home Ltd.
Honouring Life, Cherishing Memories

COMING EVENT

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2026 AUCTION PROGRAM: FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, ACCESSORIES, OR MILITARIA. COLLECTIONS, ESTATES OR SINGLE ITEMS. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Contact us: 1-800-694-2609, Email: sales@switzersauction.com or Visit us @ www.switzersauction.com for Auction Dates & Details.

COMING EVENT

The family of
Michael & Nettie Hendricks
invite you to join us for a come and go celebration in honor of their
50th Wedding Anniversary
on Saturday, September 19,
from 12-4 pm at the Nightingale Hall.
We'd love for you to come
and share memories, laughs, food
and refreshments.

NOTICES

Strathmore
Musical Arts Society
Annual General Meeting
September 15 • 7 pm
Strathmore Station

PUBLIC NOTICE Wheatland County WATER ACT NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is given that Wheatland County has filed an application under the provisions of the Water Act to divert groundwater from a water well at a rate of 205.0 m3/day, an annual volume of 74,825 m3/year, a screened interval from 37.2 m to 46.6 meters below ground in NW-08-024-26-W4, for the purpose of Commercial (non-potable) within SW-17-024-26-W4, SE-17-024-26-W4, 09-024-26-W4, 10-024-26-W4, 07-024-26-W4, 05-024-26-W4, and 08-024-26-W4.

Any person who is directly affected by this application may submit a Statement of Concern within **thirty (30) days** of the date of this notice.

To submit a Statement of Concern, sign in to the Digital Regulatory Assurance System (DRAS) using a MyAlberta Digital ID (MADI) or MyAlberta Digital ID for Business (MADI-B) account.

- DRAS webpage - <https://www.alberta.ca/digital-regulatory-assurance-system.aspx>
 - o To sign up for an MADI or MADI-B account see How to access DRAS on the above DRAS webpage.

The written statement of concern should include the following:

- Quote the Case number: **DAPP0159799**.
- Describe concerns that are relevant to matters regulated by the Water Act.
- Explain how the filer of the concern will be directly affected by the activity and/or diversion of water proposed in the application.
- Provide the legal land location of the land owned or used by the filer where the concerns described are believed to be applicable.
- State the distance between the land owned or used by the filer and the site in the application.
- Contact information including the full name and mailing address of the filer. Please provide the telephone number and email address for ease of contact.

Environment and Protected Areas will review each written Statement of Concern, seek more information if needed, and notify each filer by letter of the decision to accept or reject their written submission as a valid Statement of Concern.

Statements of Concern submitted regarding this application are public records which are accessible by the public and the applicant. Failure to file a Statement of Concern may affect the right to file a Notice of Appeal with the Environmental Appeals Board.

Copies of the application and additional information can be obtained from:

Jose Podio-Cuervo
Wheatland County
Phone: 403-361-2015
Email: jose.podio-cuervo@wheatlandcounty.ca

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TENDER

LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Kathy Marie Adams, owner of NW 34-23-26 W4M (132.20 acres), is seeking unconditional offers to purchase all of this property, such offers to be submitted by tender on a Tender Terms form as described below.

Located 1 mile Southwest of Cheadle, Alberta, the 132.20 acre parcel consists of cultivated land. There are no grain bins or buildings on the property. The property generates surface lease revenue of approximately \$8,550.00 per year at current rental rates. To arrange a viewing of the property, contact Kathy Adams at: kathyadams32@gmail.com.

Conditions of Tender:

Prior to 5:00 p.m., Alberta time, on September 25, 2026, sealed tenders, marked "Adams Tender", on a completed Tender Terms form, together with a certified cheque or bank draft payable to "Walsh LLP, in trust" as a deposit for an amount equal to 5% of the tendered purchase price, must be submitted to:

Eric D. Dalke
c/o Walsh LLP
2800, 801 6th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 4A3.

A Tender Terms form can be obtained from Eric D. Dalke: 403-267-8454 or email: edalke@walshlaw.ca. The deposit will be returned to the unsuccessful tenderers. A tender must be submitted on a completed Tender Terms form or the tender will not be considered. On acceptance of a tender by the owner, the Tender Terms will form a binding contract with the successful tenderer.

Details of submitted tenders will not be made public. The highest or any tender may not necessarily be accepted. Tenderers whose tenders have not been accepted shall be notified on or before **October 2, 2026**. The successful tenderer shall be notified by telephone, fax or email on or before 5:00 p.m. on **September 29, 2026** of the acceptance of the tendered offer. The latest date for closing shall be **October 20, 2026**.

BIG RIVER FIRST NATION TRUST OFFICE BOARD MEMBER CALLOUT

Big River First Nation ("BRFN") is seeking candidates for the Trust Advisory Committee established under the Big River First Nation Treaty 6 Benefits Settlement Trust Agreement (the "Trust Agreement").

Scan the QR Code or go to the BRFN website to see guidelines and to download the application or email trust@brfn.ca for info.

Deadline: 4:00pm September 18, 2026

To Apply, Submit Completed Forms By Email:
trust@brfn.ca;

Or Drop Off Forms to the Big River First Nation Administration Centre;

Or Mail to Box 519 Debden,
Saskatchewan, S0J0S0
Attention: Big River First
Nation Trust Office
CONTACT US
+1-306-724-4700
www.bigriverfirstnation.ca
trust@brfn.ca



We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Upcoming Council Meetings

Sept 9, 2026 | 6 p.m.
Oct 7, 2026 | 6 p.m.
Oct 14, 2026 | 6 p.m.

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

Come Say Hi

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

**Your trash, someone's treasure.
Trash to Treasure Returning.**

Trash to Treasure (TTT) Days is back for September 10 to 13. This is a great time to let your unwanted items become someone else's beloved items prior to the Heavy Item Garbage collection.

Donators:

- Mark your unwanted but reusable items with an HIG tag and place at same location you would place items for HIG collection.
- At the end of the Trash to Treasure Days remove any items you want to keep.
- Leave items out that you want collected during HIG week.

Collectors:

- Take only items marked with a HIG tag.
- Respect others' properties.
- Do not discard unwanted items on another resident's lawn.

For more information, visit Strathmore.ca/WasteCollection

**Heavy trash? We got ya covered.
Heavy Item Garbage Returning.**

Heavy Item Garbage (HIG) collection returns the week of September 14 to 18. HIG offers residents the opportunity to dispose of large residential waste, and is provided in conjunction with 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.

Place all items at your regular garbage pickup location by 7 a.m. on September 14th and affix with an HIG sticker. Stickers are available for free at the Strathmore Municipal Building but must be picked up prior to September 14th. HIG stickers will not be handed out the week of HIG.

Learn more about HIG or TTT at Strathmore.ca/HIG

**Enjoy them safely.
Storm pond safety.**

Storm ponds play an important role in protecting our homes and neighbourhoods. They help prevent flooding by managing heavy rainfall and slowly releasing water back into the environment. As water moves across streets and properties, it collects sediment, pollutants, and debris - storm ponds help filter this before it reaches our rivers and streams.

While Strathmore is home to many storm ponds, only Kinsmen Lake and Strathmore Lakes permit recreational use such as fishing. For your safety, please avoid any activity on or near other storm ponds. These ponds are deeper than they appear with water levels that rise and move quickly. They often contain contaminants like fertilizers, pesticides, and animal waste as well.

Visit our website, Strathmore.ca/StormPonds for more information.

**Students are back!
Back-to-School Safety Reminders**

With students returning to school, Strathmore residents are encouraged to stay alert and help keep our roads safe. Slow down in school zones, watch for children at crosswalks, and avoid distractions while driving.

Remember to follow crossing guards and school bus signals. When a school bus has its red lights flashing and stop arm extended, drivers must stop and remain stopped until the lights stop flashing and the arm is retracted.

Students should use designated crosswalks, look both ways before crossing, and stay focused by putting away phones and removing headphones.

A little extra patience and attention can help ensure everyone arrives safely to and from school this year.

**Join our team.
Career opportunities available.**

Are you looking for a new opportunity? The Town of Strathmore is hiring! We have a variety of positions available across different departments.

- Contract Group Fitness Instructor/Personal Trainer
- Seasonal Parks Operator

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

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

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

Registration opened on August 4 for our exciting lineup of fall programs, including:

- Cardio & Strength
- Seniorcise
- Stay & Play
- School Closure & PD Day Camps
- Mini Sport Adventure
- Mini Movers
- Yoga & Stretch

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

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

**Maintenance
Notice.
Aquatic Centre
closed for
annual
maintenance.**

Every fall, the Strathmore Aquatic Centre closes for a few weeks to complete its annual maintenance shutdown. This important work helps keep the facility clean, safe, and operating efficiently for swimmers and visitors throughout the year.

This year's shutdown started on August 17, 2026, and includes a variety of maintenance projects such as replacing chemical lines, cleaning filters and replacing filter sand, repairing pool tiles, servicing valves, and completing maintenance on the waterslide and steam room.

Additional facility upgrades include replacing fire sprinkler heads in the pool area, performing boiler maintenance, and completing electrical system work.

There's a lot happening behind the scenes during this closure, all with the goal of keeping the Aquatic Centre in top condition. Watch for progress updates throughout the shutdown.

For more information, contact the Aquatic Centre at **403-934-3325**.

**New Addition.
Blue Recycle Carts
Coming Soon.**

Starting **October 1, 2026**, blue carts will be available to Strathmore residents for curbside recycling collection, with more accepted materials and single-stream collection.
(no sorting required!)

