

Chill mounties to take the plunge

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

Martin Stregger and Anureet Kaur have never had to jump into freezing water to rescue anyone in the line of duty, but the two Royal Canadian Mounted Police constables are prepared to take part in the annual polar bear dip during this weekend's winter festival to raise money for the Fort Qu'Appelle Fire Department.

Kaur came to Canada from the Punjab in India when she was 18 and joined the RCMP because she wanted to contribute something to Canada. She's been with the local detachment for a year.

"I would do anything for Canada. In India women don't have that many rights," she said. "Here I'm free." Kaur is no stranger to Canadian winters. She said she's had to wade knee deep in freezing snow to collect evidence following a traffic accident. "I've been hiking in winter a lot to prepare," she said.

Const. Stregger who has been in the Fort for the past six years said ice water baths weren't part of his training when he joined the police force. He's jumping to support the fire department.

About 20 people have registered for the event. There is not much any of them really can do to prepare for the dive through the hole into the icy waters of Echo Lake. The water is waist deep and after the initial shock divers are immediately rushed into a hot tub.

The coldest day on record for the dive was six years ago when the temperature was -40° Celsius. Only six of the bravest volunteers took part that year. Temperatures this year are expected to be considerably warmer with daytime highs around the freezing mark or higher.

"The polar bear dip began in 2015, and for the first three years it was run by the Winter Festival. For the last seven years the fire department took it over as a fundraiser," said fire chief David Sabirsh. "We've raised at least \$60,000 for the purchase of equipment since then." Sabirsh says some people take part out of a sense of community, "others do it for the adrenaline rush, others on a dare for bragging rights."

There are dunk tanks and then there are really silly dunk tanks like the polar bear experience. This year people from Regina, Emerald Park, Balcarres and Balgonie have registered. Each participant has to pay \$100 to enter and everyone who jumps into the lake gets a goodie bag for their support.

The person who raises the most in contributions gets a propane barbeque worth \$500. "I want that barbeque," said Stregger.

Kaur said if she wins, she'll let Stregger have it.



ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Taking the plunge

RCMP constables Martin Stregger and Anureet Kaur are both taking part in Fort Qu'Appelle's Winter Festival's polar bear jump this weekend. About 20 people have registered to take part in the polar plunge, which raises money for the local fire department.

Little Black Bear opens high speed EV chargers in Fort

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

The two state of the art Level 3 electric vehicle charging station that officially opened on the Little Black Bear First Nation in Fort Qu'Appelle on Feb. 28 have been designed, in part to boost travel and bring tourism to the valley.

The first of its kind to be owned and operated by a First Nation in Saskatchewan, the \$360,000 charging station has been installed on the southside of town

behind the cannabis store on the block that includes the Petro-Canada service station and a Tim Horton's.

The project was funded with a grant from Indigenous Services Canada and through SaskPower's Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Program (EVITP) incentive programs that support the transition to electric vehicles. The Level 3 chargers are about 10 times faster than the other charging stations in town like the one at the post office and at the museum.

"This is a big deal in our long-term climate goals," explained Michelle

Bellegarde, a consultant to the Little Black Bear Cree and Assiniboine Nations. "When EV's started coming out our leadership wanted to get in on the ground floor." High speed fast chargers help boost the distance an EV can travel. Bellegarde also claims the chargers will inspire Indigenous youth to be made aware of and appreciate the new technology as the country transitions from fossil fuels to cleaner forms of energy. She says Little Black Bear's initiative sends a message that the First Nation is serious about climate change and wants

to do business with people who own electric vehicles. Little Black Bear is one of a handful of First Nations that have bought into the high-speed charging business: one in northern British Columbia owned and operated by the Gitanyow First Nation; others in Iskut, B.C., and one the Kapawe'no First Nation in northern Alberta. Together, they represent a breakthrough in Indigenous ownership of EV technology.

While there are other charging stations on First Nation lands they are owned and run by power companies.



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First Nations accept billion dollar 'cows & plows' payment

Pasqua, Piapot and Little Black Bear First Nations all part of settlement

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

by the federal government last week.

The agreement covers the specific agricultural claims filed by 14 of the First Nations in Treaty 4, 5, 6 and 10 territories. Taken together the deal represents nearly \$2 billion in combined compensation

to those First Nations that have accepted the Liberal government's expedited resolution strategy for agricultural benefit claims.

The money is to compensate the bands for agricultural assistance promised 150 years ago but never delivered.

Indigenous Relations Minister Gary Anandasangaree says the so called "cows and plows" settlement represents the federal government's intention to be "an honest and accountable treaty partner" and is designed to "reset the relationship for the next generation."

Article five of the Treaty 4 signed in 1874 entitled "any band who are now actually cultivating

the soil, (to get) two hoes, one spade, one scythe and one axe... and enough seed, wheat, barley, oats and potatoes to plant, also one plough and two harrows... one yoke of oxen, one bull, four cows, a chest of ordinary carpenters tools, five hand saws, five augers, one cross cut saw, one pit-saw, the necessary files and one grindstone, for the encouragement of the practice of agriculture among the Indians."

The chiefs of Pasqua, Piapot, Little Black Bear all qualified but were never given - or were

reluctant to accept - the necessary tools to start farming.

Under the agreement Pasqua First Nation will receive \$155 million. Chief Matthew Todd Peigan says he's satisfied. "We've created a trust fund for the money," he said.

Little Black Bear's chief, Clarence Bellegarde says his Nation now has "the resources to plan a better future and a clearer vision for our people. The principal will remain in Trust and continue to provide an own source revenue stream for our Nation

and our people for years to come."

Piapot First Nation is expected to give each of its 2,500 eligible band members \$30,000 and put the balance in trust.

The department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs would not provide Grasslands News with an itemized breakdown of how much money each of the 14 First Nations will receive. A number of other Treaty 4 First Nations are in the process of negotiating settlements of their own.



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Sask. NDP urges federal leaders to stop Bunge-Viterra merger

By Provincial
Grasslands News

With a federal election right around the corner, the Saskatchewan NDP is calling on all federal party leaders to commit to cancelling the Bunge-Viterra merger and demanding Premier Scott Moe correct recent comments in which he said he doesn't oppose the merger, which will cost Saskatchewan producers \$770 million annually.

In a letter sent recently, Shadow Ministers Aleana Young (Jobs and Economy) and Trent Wotherpoon (Finance) urged Justin Trudeau, Mark Carney, Pierre Poilievre, Jagmeet Singh, Chrystia Freeland, and Karina Gould to protect Saskatchewan farms and jobs by reversing the merger if elected Prime Minister.

"We are one week from a devastating trade war with the United States. Shrugging our shoulders and letting an American-based company steamroll our economy is stupid," Young said.

"We've been hearing for months about this merger and no one is supportive beyond Bunge,

their lobbyists, and the Sask Party. People have unanimously said it is bad for Saskatchewan. Anyone who truly cares about our province and our economy will cancel this merger."

Young decried comments by Moe made to SaskToday on Jan. 31 after he was asked to publicly oppose the merger.

"No. I wouldn't say oppose[d]," Moe was quoted as say. "I would say their concerns have been raised, and Bunge is very actively working towards addressing those concerns, whether they be from the competition borough or working more broadly with the province and ag industries in Saskatchewan as well. They

are in a competitive environment, and they are not the only people that are going to be looking to buy our ag products in Saskatchewan."

Young demanded an apology and course correction from Moe.

"We are in deeply concerning times," Young said. "Selling out our free market to an American multi-national makes no sense. This merger must be stopped and can be stopped. We can protect Saskatchewan's economy."

"If Scott Moe truly cares about this province he will apologize and condemn the Bunge-Viterra merger. Brad Wall would have done it. Why is Scott Moe so scared?"

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Government funding needed for derelict properties

Remediation too costly for both urban and rural municipalities

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

Every community seems to have some, and it seems that every one of these communities are facing the same problems from derelict or unkept properties. The financial implications to their municipality to deal with these designated properties can be substantial to the municipality and to the ratepayers.

While it may never have been the initial intention of the property owner to allow the property to become a nuisance or to allow deterioration to a derelict state, any recourse required by the municipality towards owners that have walked away are costly and time-consuming through court actions to cover the costs.

The Town of Whitewood have recently had many properties returned to the town due to tax enforcement with many being condemned, full of asbestos and costing the town money to demolish. The Council of the Town submitted a Request for a Resolution at the 2025 SUMA convention for SUMA to advocate the Government of Canada to add information to individuals credit history to prevent property owners from walking away from the debt without recourse.

Once such property, previously the old hospi-

tal in Whitewood, recently became the property of the Town of Whitewood. It is a large property, and due to sitting vacant for a few years has become a safety issue, a fire concern, and contains asbestos. Also, it has a well that must be decommissioned, and with the tax arrears, plus the cost to remove the areas containing asbestos quoted at \$45,000 and the demolition costs estimated to be \$40,000, the cost to the town could be up to \$150,000. This of course comes from the budget of the Town of Whitewood.

On Tuesday of this week, when Grasslands News inquired, the CAO stated that the request for town's resolution had been declined for the list of resolutions to be discussed and voted on at this year's SUMA Convention.

The problem is also being brought to the forefront again by the rural municipalities dealing with the same issues. In 2024, SARM passed a resolution at their convention to lobby the provincial government regarding the increasing number of abandoned buildings and yard sites in municipalities, with many properties having safety and liability concerns such as wells, cisterns, septic tanks and derelict buildings. Tax enforcement and nuisance abatement orders on these properties are costly, time-consuming

and quite often an effort in futility. Environmental regulations have become increasingly costly and difficult to manage for municipalities.

Saskatchewan rural municipalities (RMs) continue to battle the increasing number of abandoned buildings and yard sites that litter our province. In a news release on Feb. 19, 2025, they again stated how many RMs struggle with limited funds, legal powers, and technical know-how to effectively manage derelict buildings in a timely manner. Support from the provincial government could ease this challenge, helping communities remain safe, attractive, and economically vibrant.

Derelict buildings and yard sites pose significant financial burdens and jeopardize public safety

through heightened fire hazards, potential structural failures, increased criminal activity, and health risks from pests and mold. As well, environmental regulations around the disposal of these buildings have become increasingly costly. These properties also negatively impact property values and detract from the visual appeal and charm of Saskatchewan's communities.

If a municipality has been forced to assume title of the property, it becomes their financial burden and responsibility to maintain, demolish, or re-purpose. Most structures are unsafe for entry by the time the municipality gains title through tax enforcement proceedings, combine that with environmental regulations and policies on the demo-

lition and clean-up of such properties and the distance to local landfills for the disposal of the materials; the costs associated become extremely out of reach.

"Derelict buildings and yard sites are not only an eye sore but also threaten community safety. SARM invites the provincial government to step up and assist in the removal and remediation of these buildings. Rural municipalities want to encourage families to live, work, and stay in rural Saskatchewan, and nothing is more discouraging than a surplus of abandoned buildings and yard sites. Financial help from the provincial government would allow RMs to develop plans and take action on abandoned properties," says Bill Huber, SARM President.

Many areas in North America receive grants to demolish derelict buildings and properties. The District of Kitimat in British Columbia has developed a grant program to demolish vacant and derelict buildings and properties. SARM is advocating that the provincial government develop a Derelict Building Grant program, similar in nature, to aid RMs. To assist in the removal and clean-up, so the property could be built on again or planted to native grass. Grant funding would target the decommissioning of impacted sites, landfill management, and clean-up of derelict buildings, and enable RMs to mitigate environmental risks, improve public health, and foster long-term economic opportunities in rural Saskatchewan.

Federal election coming?

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

Get ready for a federal election.

Elections Canada has taken a three-month lease on St. Andrew's United Church Hall in Fort Qu'Appelle until May 31 in the event that the new Prime Minister calls a snap election soon after being sworn into office on March 9.

If, as expected, Mark Carney wins the Liberal Party leadership and becomes Prime Minister, the former governor of the Banks of Canada and England will want to have a seat in the House of Commons sooner than later.

Elections Canada has rented the hall as a returning office for three months with an option to extend the lease for \$5,000 a month.

As a result, the hall is now off limits for any other community functions including a celebration the church had planned marking the 100th anniversary of church union in June. The anniversary service will take place in the church, but the reception afterwards has been moved to the Anglican Church hall across the street.

If he wins, Carney is expected to take advantage of rising Liberal party fortunes. While the national increase in Liberal party support doesn't mean much in Western Canada, there are indications that if the trend holds, the Liberals are once again, like the conservatives in minority government territory.



Town of Whitewood

Email: general@townofwhitewood.ca
Web Site: www.townofwhitewood.ca

306-735-2210
731 - Lalonde St.
P.O. Box 129
Whitewood, Sask.
S0G 5C0

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Town of Whitewood Council meets at the town office. Upcoming Council Meeting Date: March 4 and March 18 at 7 p.m. Meetings are held via Zoom. Please contact the office to get access information 306-735-2210.

WINTER SNOW REMOVAL

We ask residents to help our Public Works crew with snow removal. Please move your vehicles and bins on to your property after a snowfall so we can ensure a proper snow removal. Also there is a bylaw to please remember vehicles may park on the street but they may not stay parked there for 24 hours. Request that anyone who is performing snow removal to keep the snow on the property that is being cleaned.

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Masonic Hall located at 503 Third Avenue – "Sold As Is"
The Town of Whitewood is committed to preserving its Heritage Status. As such, all exterior appearances must reflect this historic character.
If you have any questions, please email Lisa at: cao@townofwhitewood.ca
or come to the office Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Interested parties are invited to submit sealed tenders by mail to:

Town of Whitewood - Masonic Hall Tender
P.O. Box 129
Whitewood, SK S0G 5C0
or drop them off at
731 Lalonde Street, Whitewood, SK

The deadline for submissions is March 3, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Please note that the highest or any tender may not be accepted.

WATER METER READS

The Town of Whitewood is asking that residents please send their water meter reads in monthly. This can be done by sending a picture of your water meter to 1-306-853-7122. You may still call the town office with meter reads, as well as entering them through the town website.
The town staff will still continue reading meters every three (3) months. This is the best way to be sure that readings are accurate each month.

GARBAGE / RECYCLING

Residents are reminded that Garbage or Recycling Carts must be out by 7 a.m. on collection days.
Upcoming **Recycling** Date: Wed. March 5 and March 19.
Upcoming **Garbage** Date: Wednesday, March 12 and March 26.

TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Whitewood Town Council and staff strive to improve the quality of life for the people who live and work in our community. We welcome your comments, questions and feedback.
The Town office is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4 p.m.
Phone: 306-735-2210 - Fax: 306-735-2262
Email: general@townofwhitewood.ca

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you have an event you want advertised please email the town office with your dates.
Feb. 28 – Legion Bingo & Chase the Ace Doors open at 5 p.m.
March 4 – Harmony Club Crib night Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
March 16 – at 1 p.m. - Whitewood Skating Club Ice Show
Soccer Registration – contact :
whitewoodsoccerassociation@gmail.com
March 27-31 – Farmer's & Friends Bonspiel
Save the date – Aug. 9, 2025 – Annual Street Dance,
Bouncers – watch for more details

ARENA HAPPENINGS

Contact Facility Manager, Tim to book any rentals at arena 306-735-4415 email recreation@townofwhitewood.ca
Watch board for times and changes to Sunday, Wednesday and Friday Public Skating and Stick and Puck.
Town Crew will be working on outdoor rink this week, watch for opening date – please stay off until it is ready to go – Thank you for your cooperation.
School Break check online and digital board for public skating and stick and puck times.
March 1 at 9 a.m. - U7 vs Esterhazy
10:15 a.m. – U9 vs Langenburg
6 p.m. – U13AA Melville vs Estevan
March 7 at 9 a.m. – School Curling – Junior District Curling
March 8 at 9 a.m. – U7 vs Kipling
4 p.m. & 8 p.m. – U14AA Ringette
Curling: If you are interested in entering a team or being a spare please contact Lisa at 306-735-7301 or Chad 306-735-7810
Junior Monday evening – Jennalee – 306-735-7136
Afternoon Social League – Tuesday & Thursday - Gord – 306-735-2896
Social League – Wednesday Evening
Skins League – Thursday Evening
Afternoon Social League – Gordon 306-735-2896
Junior League – Jennalee 306-735-7136

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• **1-Full-time Supervisor**
Send resumes with references to:
Tim Eveleigh, Facility Operations Manager
P.O. Box 129
Whitewood, SK S0G 5C0
Email: recreation@townofwhitewood.ca



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SaskPower modernizing grid with smart meter installations

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

SaskPower is working to upgrade its infrastructure by installing smart meters at residential properties across the province. Changing analog meters to smart meters will provide several benefits to customers and service providers.

By upgrading analog power meters to newer

technology, SaskPower says it is modernizing its grid to provide better service. Once installed, a smart meter will automatically transmit power usage data every 15 minutes. This real-time information will improve billing accuracy. The data will also be recorded on each customer's online account, enabling them to analyze their own power usage trends.

Remote access to smart meters may also assist with resolving power outages by providing technicians with precise locations for outages. In some instances, smart meters also transmit a code identifying the cause of the outage.

Since 2021, SaskPower has installed more than 140,000 new meters in Saskatchewan and, beginning in 2023, the crown corpora-

tion particularly focused on placing smart meters at residential properties. Depending on the availability of supplies, between 2,000 and 5,000 new meters are being installed each month. Contractors are assisting SaskPower with the large volume of installations.

Smart meter installation is expected to begin in rural areas around Regina in late March and continue through the fall; this includes communities such as Indian Head and Fort Qu'Appelle.

"Customers in those communities should start to receive advance notice of meter installation via postcards in March," SaskPower representative Joel Cherry told Grasslands News. "During installation, power will be turned off for about 15 minutes. The new smart



meter will begin working immediately and power use data will be available in the customer's MySaskPower account within a few days."

Towns further east, like Wolseley and Broadview, are included in the Carlyle region for smart meter installation. A timeline has not yet been determined for installations in that area.

Some customers may be wary of using a smart meter due to previous reports of malfunctioning equipment. SaskPower acknowledged that in 2014 it encountered problems associated with dust and moisture seeping into smart meters. However, the company affirmed that the issue was addressed, and it is now using meters that have undergone a stringent series of tests to ensure the equipment can withstand extreme temperatures and other environmental factors common in Saskatchewan.

SaskPower is aware that the new technology will eventually eliminate the need for employees to visit properties to obtain meter readings and said it is determining ways to include its employees in future operational plans.

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Saskatchewan to crack down on fentanyl and methamphetamine

Fines up to \$1 million could be imposed; provincial licenses can be cancelled

By Provincial
Grasslands News

The Government of Saskatchewan announced this week further measures to protect communities from illicit fentanyl and methamphetamine production, transportation, trafficking and street use in the province.

The measures enacted will provide additional tools to remove fentanyl and methamphetamine from our communities, significantly deter anyone

from trafficking fentanyl and methamphetamine, and prevent street-level use to help protect the health and safety of all citizens and ensure our medical system is not undermined by these harmful substances.

"These drugs have caused immense harm in our communities, leading to addiction, crime and loss of life," Justice Minister and Attorney General Tim McLeod said. "We are taking a firm stance to disrupt the flow of fentanyl and methamphetamine while also providing options for offenders to access the resources necessary for recovery."

These measures will include:

- Creating provincial penalties, including fines up to \$1 million in some cases, to stop the unauthorized, production, transportation, distribution and use of these substances outside approved

medical use.

- Examining updates to the Fine Option program that will allow offenders to receive credit against court-imposed fines if the offender attends eligible addictions programming.

- Focusing efforts under The Seizure of Criminal Property Act, 2009 that allow the government to seize property that was either gained through illegal activities or used to commit crimes.

- Prioritizing drug-related offenders, ensuring they are appropriately apprehended and held accountable, as part of the Warrant Intelligence Team's efforts to enhance public safety and disrupt illegal drug activity. The Warrant Intelligence Team will also work with government ministries to suspend government benefits to these offenders.

- Updating the Trespass to Property Regulations to classify drug use and

other disruptive activities as trespassing, to defend against these activities in semi-public spaces.

- Including dangerous, drug-related items as street weapons in The Safe Public Spaces (Street Weapons) Act, allowing police to seize these items and in some cases lay charges under the Act.

- Implementing policies to cancel provincial licenses for people convicted of drug-related crimes including driver's licences, provincial firearms licences, hunting and fishing licences, and in some cases business and other municipal licenses and provincial benefits.

"We all know that these illicit drugs are hurting our people," Métis Nation-Saskatchewan President Glen McCallum said. "It is more important than ever to work together with all governments – federal, provincial, Métis and First Nations in coordination to deter illegal activity but also work with those wanting to start the recovery path. We want to support these people with programming and transitioning into recovery-based living. The Government of Saskatchewan has committed to meaningful engagement with

Métis Nation-Saskatchewan on the details of and before the implementation of these changes."

Fentanyl and methamphetamine are increasingly the cause of overdose deaths, violent crime and community instability. By

addressing both the supply and demand sides of the issue, these measures work toward reducing drug-related harm, improving public safety and fostering healthier, more stable neighborhoods and communities.



Eight kilograms of fentanyl seized during a traffic stop in January near Swift Current.

Decent and healthy man is seeking a lady in the SE Sask. area, between 55-75 years of age for outings in Whitewood.

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OPINION

"For the cause that needs assistance;
for the wrong that needs resistance;
the future in the distance and
the good that we can do."

Canada's political class exposes its protectionist instincts

Canada's political class champions free trade when it suits them, but their response to U.S. protectionism reveals their protectionist instincts.

When U.S. President Donald Trump threatened tariffs on Canadian imports, most Canadian leaders reacted with hysteria. Their outrage signalled an entitlement—the belief that Canada has an unrestricted right to sell in the U.S. market and that any challenge to this imagined right is an attack on sovereignty. Ironically, this reaction inadvertently endorses free trade: if tariffs are bad, then open trade must be good.

Yet the same politicians lamenting Trump's protectionism impose internal trade barriers within Canada and call on Canadians to "buy local" as a retaliatory measure. This exposes a deep intellectual inconsistency. Protectionism, by definition, is a policy designed to shield domestic industries from external competition. The very leaders denouncing Trump's tariffs are guilty of implementing similar economic barriers at home.

Trump's threatened tariffs—25 per cent on general imports and 10 per cent on Canadian energy—were not arbitrary economic belligerence. They were part of a broader "America First" strategy to revitalize domestic manufacturing, reduce trade imbalances and protect national interests. The president justified these measures under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, tying them to concerns over illegal immigration, drug trafficking and unfair trade practices. The objective was clear: make imports more expensive to encourage American consumers and businesses to buy American.

In other words, Trump's trade policy was simply an extension of the same "buy local" economic nationalism that Canadian leaders support—just on a larger scale. Whether one agrees with it or not, the U.S., like any sovereign nation, has the right to set its trade policies. If Canada believes it has the right to retaliate with tariffs, then the U.S. has the right to initiate them.

Despite their vocal opposition to protectionism, Canadian leaders were quick to respond to Trump's tariffs with protectionist policies of their own. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Ontario Premier Doug Ford and former Calgary mayor and now Alberta NDP leader Naheed Nenshi all urged Canadians to "buy local" and support domestic industries. Their reaction exposes three key contradictions.

First, if tariffs are economically harmful and morally wrong, why do Canadian provinces impose trade barriers on each other? Quebec restricts Alberta's oil pipelines, limiting the free movement of goods within Canada. If tariffs between countries are bad, they are even worse between provinces.

Second, the definition of "local" is flexible. Politicians like Ford and Nenshi insist that "local" means provincial or pan-Canadian, but Trump's "local" means American. The logic of protectionism works in any direction—Ford and Nenshi's economic nationalism is no different from Trump's. The only difference is the scale.

Finally, Canadian economic patriotism is selective protectionism. Trudeau, Ford and Nenshi do not oppose protectionism in principle—they simply favour a version that benefits their own interests. Their nationalist rhetoric mirrors Trump's; the only variance is the colour of the flag behind them.



The fact that no significant federal leader in Canada has made a forceful case for genuine free trade, either internationally or domestically, is a damning indictment of the country's political landscape. Alberta Premier Danielle Smith has been one of the few leaders to advocate for the free movement of goods, yet even she has not fully dismantled provincial trade barriers.

The outrage against Trump's tariffs was never a prin-

cipled defence of free trade. It was an opportunistic backlash against competition. Canada's political class cannot preach free trade while practising protectionism at home. Until they dismantle internal barriers and embrace true economic openness, their outrage over U.S. tariffs is nothing more than self-serving hypocrisy.

- By Marco Navarro-Genie, vice president of research at the Frontier Centre for Public Policy

Did food prices drop because of the GST holiday?

For the first time since May 2017, food inflation in Canada dipped into negative territory, reaching -0.6 per cent in January. The numbers seem reassuring—on the surface. Inflation at restaurants plummeted to an all-time low of -5.1 per cent, while inflation for food purchased in stores stood at +1.9 per cent.

But before Canadians celebrate a rare break on their food bills, a deeper look at the data raises questions about whether these figures tell the whole story.

One major factor at play is the temporary GST holiday introduced nationwide, which slashed sales taxes on restaurant meals. Some provinces, such as Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, saw a 15 per cent drop in GST/HST, while others had lower reductions, like Ontario with a 13 per cent decrease and most western provinces with a five per cent decrease.

Yet, despite this tax relief, restaurant inflation didn't fall as much as expected, suggesting that underlying cost pressures in the food service sector remain significant. January 2025 was the only month when the GST holiday covered the entire month, making its

impact on inflation particularly pronounced. However, with the tax break ending last weekend, consumers may soon feel the effects of returning taxes.

With the tax break gone, an important question remains: Was the GST holiday masking deeper inflation trends? Restaurant price reductions varied across the country, highlighting how much of the decline was tax-driven rather than a real drop in costs. If the GST holiday artificially lowered inflation, a snapback effect could soon hit consumers hard, pushing restaurant prices back up.

While the GST holiday heavily influenced restaurant prices, grocery store inflation tells a different story. Overall inflation at grocery stores appears deflated, but not across the board. Some categories, such as eggs and fresh and frozen meats, are rising, bucking the trend. These increases suggest that cost pressures remain in certain areas of the food sector despite overall declines in food prices.

Wages, border uncertainty and tariffs continue to influence costs. Additionally, the potential for opportunity pricing—where businesses raise prices opportunistically due to temporary market distortions like the GST holiday—could further drive up costs

for consumers.

This brief period of negative food inflation may be more of an anomaly than a sign of lasting relief. Without the GST holiday, the actual food inflation level would likely be significantly higher. Adjusting for tax relief, restaurant inflation would have been closer to three to five per cent, rather than -5.1 per cent, while grocery store food inflation would have been closer to three to four per cent, instead of +1.9 per cent.

All of this points to one key question: Was the GST holiday merely a short-term bandage, or should it have been a lasting policy? Without it, consumers are left vulnerable to sudden price hikes that exploit temporary market distortions. While the tax break may have softened food inflation temporarily, it didn't resolve the structural issues keeping food prices high. With tax relief now expired, Canadians should brace for a potential rebound in prices.

Policymakers and industry leaders must focus on long-term solutions to address food affordability beyond temporary tax breaks—because now that the GST holiday has ended, the real test begins.

- Dr. Sylvain Charlebois

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Melville RCMP make arrests from suspicious activities

Melville / Ituna Detachment
Cpl, Dave Kisters

Reporting period: Feb. 19 to Feb. 25

Melville and Ituna detachment area had 47 occurrences over the past week.

Traffic

During this time, Melville and Ituna Detachments responded to 20 reported traffic occurrences or traffic stops that resulted in four Charges and seven Warnings.

Melville/Ituna RCMP responded to two collisions involving wildlife, and one collision due to road conditions. No injuries were reported to the police.

Mischief/Assault/Charges

Melville RCMP were dispatched to a complaint of a suspicious adult male who had been observed in an SUV with the sunroof open in the -30-degree weather. Before police arrived, the adult male suspect was seen running away. When police arrived, they determined that the SUV had been stolen out of Regina earlier in the day. Through the course of the investigation, a suspect was identified, and was later arrested. As a result of this investigation, Raymond Andrew Rodtka, 27, of no fixed address, has been charged with Possession of Property Obtained by Crime over \$5,000, Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose, Carrying Concealed Weapon, three counts of Fail to Comply with Release Order Condition, and Fail to Comply with Undertaking. Raymond Andrew Rodtka was remanded and is set to appear in Yorkton Provincial Court at a later date.

Melville RCMP were dispatched to a complaint of a disturbance at a residence on the 300 block of Alberta

Street in Melville. When police arrived, they determined that an assault had occurred. As a result of their investigation, Terry Kishayinew, 50, of Melville, has been charged with one count of Assault. Terry Kishayinew was released on an Undertaking to appear in Melville Provincial Court at a later date.

Police in Melville were dispatched to a complaint of a suspicious vehicle parked out front of a residence on Vanier Drive in Melville. Police were told that the adult male driver of the vehicle had parked in front of their residence, and then left. The driver returned a short time later and was acting strange. Police arrived and found the driver of the vehicle was operating an unregistered vehicle while not having a driver's license. As the police were searching the vehicle, they located ammunition inside. Computer checks showed that the adult male driver was prohibited from possessing ammunition. As a result, Patrick James Tuckanow, 34, of Little Black Bear First Nation, was arrested and charged with Possession of Ammunition Contrary to Order. Patrick James Tuckanow was released on an Undertaking to appear in Melville Provincial Court at a later date. He also received two tickets for the driving infractions.

Melville RCMP were called to a business on the 200 block of Prince William Drive. Police were told that there was an unknown adult male causing a disturbance and needed to be removed. Police attended and provided the adult male a courtesy ride to a residence.

If you have information related to these investigations call your local detachment or submit information anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or you can submit a tip online using the P3 App - <https://www.p3tips.com/206> or at www.saskcrimestoppers.com where you can also view other unsolved crimes.

Arrests made in relation to 2023 B&E

Provincial RCMP
Grasslands News

On Monday, Feb. 24, 2025 at approximately 11 a.m., a Saskatchewan RCMP officer with Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan located and arrested Trent Raynard in Stoughton, SK. Trent Raynard was wanted by Carlyle RCMP in relation to a break and enter that occurred in Nov. 2023.

Trent Raynard appeared in Weyburn Provincial Court on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2025

The arrest stems from an incident on Nov. 27, 2023 when Carlyle RCMP responded to a break and enter that occurred at a gas plant near Kisbey sometime between Nov. 24 and Nov. 26. Various items had been stolen from the business.

A search warrant was executed near Arcola where officers located and recovered multiple items believed to have been stolen, including a camper trailer, tools,

and electronics.

As a result, then 25-year-old Brianna Paul of Stoughton and 32-year-old Trent Raynard of Stoughton, were each charged with one count, possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000; one count, theft under \$5,000 and one count, mischief under \$5,000.

Brianna Paul was arrested on Dec. 14, 2023.

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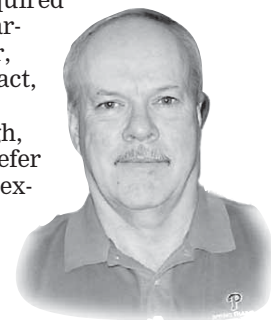
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Gene Hauta

It's a Strange World

In Colorado, it's not required by law that a couple be married by a judge, a preacher, or any other officiant. In fact, it's not even required that there are witnesses, though, of course, most couples prefer to have one. Randy and Alexandra Eckhart planned to be married in New Mexico, but their dog's vet changed their plans with the news that their dog had two cancerous tumors, and a specialist in Fort Collins might be Bella Rose's only hope. The trip to New Mexico was cancelled, but not the wedding. The couple were married in the vet's office. They even brought non-toxic ink **so Bella Rose could "sign" their marriage certificate** as a witness with a paw print.



Officers from the regional Unified Police Department of Greater Salt Lake in Utah were called to a home in Kearns on a report of a shooting. Ashton Jonathan Mann, 23, stated that he and his unnamed friend had met to smoke dope, and were talking about guns. As the evening progressed (regressed?) his friend insisted that **he could dodge a bullet**. But they weren't totally stupid! They made sure the two pistols were unloaded, so the friend could "jump out of the way to prove he could move before the trigger was pulled." After six or so tries, "the final time the gun fired, striking (the victim) in the chest." Mann was arrested, charged with second-degree felony manslaughter, and a "felony charge related to firearms." I believe Randy Cassingham struggled not to laugh as he wrote, "Guns are always loaded is a rule that's doubly true when the user is too."

Dawn Sagar of Shropshire, England, was eating some salted Walkers crisps when she came across one in the shape of a heart. So, she snapped a picture and sent it to friends with a Valentine's Day greeting. It turned out that Walkers was holding a contest, and an intact, **heart-shaped crisp might have won her 100,000 pounds**. Sagar was "gutted" as she'd already eaten the crisp. Despite the picture, the company said there was nothing it could do except urge her to keep looking for the perfect heart.

It doesn't snow very often in Florida, so recent snows there caused some interesting issues. Such as the driver who "was doing doughnuts in the road" before sliding off, crashing into a creek. The Sheriff's Office summarized it this way in an online post: "Perhaps **don't zoomy zoom on the slicky slick** so you don't end up in the ditchy ditch. You may end up in the snowy snow waiting on a tow tow." Cassingham did summarize, "But at least we can laughily laugh."

A man in Georgia has been handed what prosecutors say is the longest prison sentence ever doled out for dogfighting. Vincent Lemark Burrell, 57, was **sentenced to 475 years** behind bars after being convicted by a jury of dogfighting and animal cruelty, spurred by a gruesome discovery at his home more than two years ago. In November 2022, law enforcement was alerted to the situation after an Amazon delivery driver reported seeing multiple dogs restrained there. Authorities found **about 110 dogs tied to fence posts** using heavy chains, a treadmill for dogs, documents linking Burrell's dogs to other known dogfighters, and contracts for some of the dogs. A "break stick," used to pry open the jaws of fighting dogs, was also found. Some of the canines were said to be abused and emaciated, with teeth removed and scars from fighting. They had obviously not been seen by a vet, probably ever! The dogs, most of which were pit bulls or pit bull mixes, were taken in by the Friends of the Forlorn Animal Rescue nonprofit. Burrell was convicted of 93 counts of dogfighting and 10 counts of animal cruelty.

A white Florida woman who fatally shot a Black neighbour through her front door during an ongoing dispute over the neighbour's boisterous children has been sentenced to 25 years in prison for her manslaughter conviction. Susan Lorincz, 60, killed Ajike "A.J." Owens, 35, by firing a single shot from her .380-calibre handgun in June 2023. She had faced a maximum of 30 years behind bars. What else is new? Her lawyer argued that she had been abused as a child and had mental health problems. Circuit Judge Robert Hodges did stress that this was a completely unnecessary shooting, saying the shooting was more in anger than fear. The shooting was the culmination of a long-running argument between the two neighbours over Owens' children playing in a grassy area near both of their houses in Ocala. Owens had come to Lorincz's home to confront the other woman and was pounding on the door and screaming when she was shot. **Lorincz was convicted by an all-white jury.**

"Civilization began the first time an angry person cast a word instead of a rock." (Sigmund Freud)

Ms Lorincz should have thrown a few words. Until next time...

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Annual Papa Bear ice fishing derby

\$5,200 awarded for first place prize

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

After weeks of the excruciating cold weather that kept people from enjoying the outdoors, anglers have returned to enjoy ice fishing again.

With the break in the cold spell scores of enthusiasts are back on the lakes dangling their lines over the fishing holes they've drilled through the ice.

The melting 6-degree weather on Sunday was ideal for the 170 who registered for the fourth annual Papa Bear ice fishing derby on Mission Lake.

The catch and release derby, which offered \$12,000 in cash and donated prizes for the biggest Walleye caught is held in honour of former

Okanese First Nation councillor Barry Andrew Tuckanow who was affectionately known as "Papa Bear."

Tuckanow was 57 when he died three years ago.

"He loved ice fishing. This was a big part of his life," said his daughter Penny "He came every year to these lakes with dad, his granddad. He's blessed us with a good day. My eyes water to see the support."

With all the tents, shacks, fishing gear and vehicles parked on the ice the activity on the west end of Mission Lake was bigger than some small prairie towns.

The crowd included diehards like Warren Ward who came from Regina. "I managed to fish every day at other locations even when it was -40

below," he said but agreed it was more comfortable to be out in warmer weather. Mike Miller, another contestant from Regina told Grasslands News, "I never left the house during those cold days. Today's not bad. It's better to be out here fishing than being at home doing nothing."

Organizer James Dieter said the break in the cold snap came just in time. "It's a beautiful day, a little wind, but nothing like the cold weather we've had for the past couple of weeks. We're lucky," he said as he weighed the individual catches before tossing them back into the water.

"It's awesome to see the turnout," added Okanese Chief Richard Stonechild who took his four-year-old grandson Karsyn ice fishing for the first time.

"You couldn't ask for better weather. Fishing with the family, with my grandson, with the family, that's what it's all about."

Denni Starr from Star Blanket First Nation took home \$5,200 for landing both the biggest and smallest Walleyes.

"I was digging at the bottom, each time I caught little ones, then I caught the big one. The hole we drilled with the furthest east on the lake, far away from everyone else," she said as she picked up her trophies.

Winston Stockdale from Humbolt took home the \$2,500 second prize and Marshall Miller from Saskatoon the \$1,500 third prize.

The season wraps up at the end of March but with the return to warm weather all fishing shacks must be removed from the lakes by March 15.



Weighing in
James Dieter weighs in one of the 169 Walleyes that were caught during the derby.

ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

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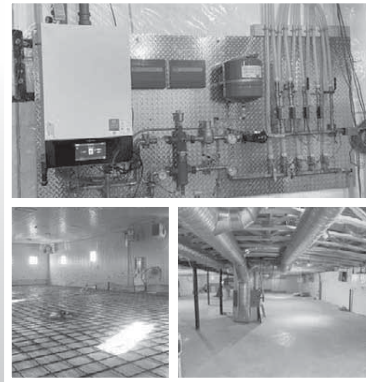
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Snowmobile races at IH

First annual Snow Drags



By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

The sound of revving engines was heard across town last Saturday when snowmobile enthusiasts participated in the first annual Indian Head Snow Drags.

The Qu'Appelle Valley Racing Association hosted the races on Feb. 22, in co-operation with the Trans Canada Trail Drifters, Indian Head's snowmobile club. It was the final event in this season's Maxceleration Racing snow drag race series.

A groomed, 500-foot track was prepared for the event in a snowy field south of the Paterson grain elevator at Indian Head. Four lanes, each 35 feet wide, were marked for the race. This winter's significant snow accumulation combined with mild temperatures on Saturday to create favourable conditions for the event.

Participants came from across Saskatchewan, as well as Alberta and Manitoba. Approximately 400 spectators attended throughout the day. Qu'Appelle Bar and Grill provided catering onsite and the food was greatly enjoyed.

The morning began with the King of Snow race, which included a payout of \$1,000. This was followed by races for kids and then Top 2 Stroke. Several other weight classes and stock races were arranged as well. Darren Humphreys of Manitoba took 1st place in three races: King of Snow,



SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Fun for all ages

Adults (top) and youth (Bottom) participated in the Indian Head Snow Drags on Feb. 22.

Top 2 Stroke and Pro Stock multiple 1st place wins in other classes.

Organizers appreciated the assistance provided by numerous volunteers and

the support of more than 1000. Bret Nahirniak took 50 sponsors from the local and regional area. The day was considered a success and organizers are looking forward to next year's event.

Brad Crassweller
MLA for White City - Qu'Appelle

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SARM calls for the reintroduction of strychnine to control gophers

Farmers struggle since federal ban in 2024

Submitted
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan landowners have spent the last year struggling to combat the growing population of Richardson's Ground Squirrels ("gophers") after the federal ban on strychnine in March of 2024. Strychnine is a crucial tool used by farmers to control growing gopher populations in rural municipalities (RMs).

Many areas in the province have widespread damage from RGS infestations in crops and pastures, and now farmers are left vulnerable, with another season approaching, without an effective tool like strychnine. RGSs are notorious for disturbing crops and burrowing holes that injure livestock, ultimately having a negative effect on agricultural productivity. The financial consequences of overpopulated RGS populations, compounded by rising operational costs and an

unpredictable economic climate, pose a significant threat to rural livelihoods. These financial consequences are not only affecting producers but also crop insurance programs through increased payouts for damage caused year after year.

SARM continues to receive resolutions from its membership, advocating for the reinstatement of strychnine to manage the growing RGS problem. The federal government's decision to impose a three-year phase-out period leading to the complete ban of strychnine has exacerbated frustrations in rural Saskatchewan. Alternative pest control methods remain ineffective or too costly for farmers, and this decision has not adequately addressed the unique agricultural needs of our province.

"It has been a year since the ban came into full effect and our farmers are struggling to find a practical and effective method to control the

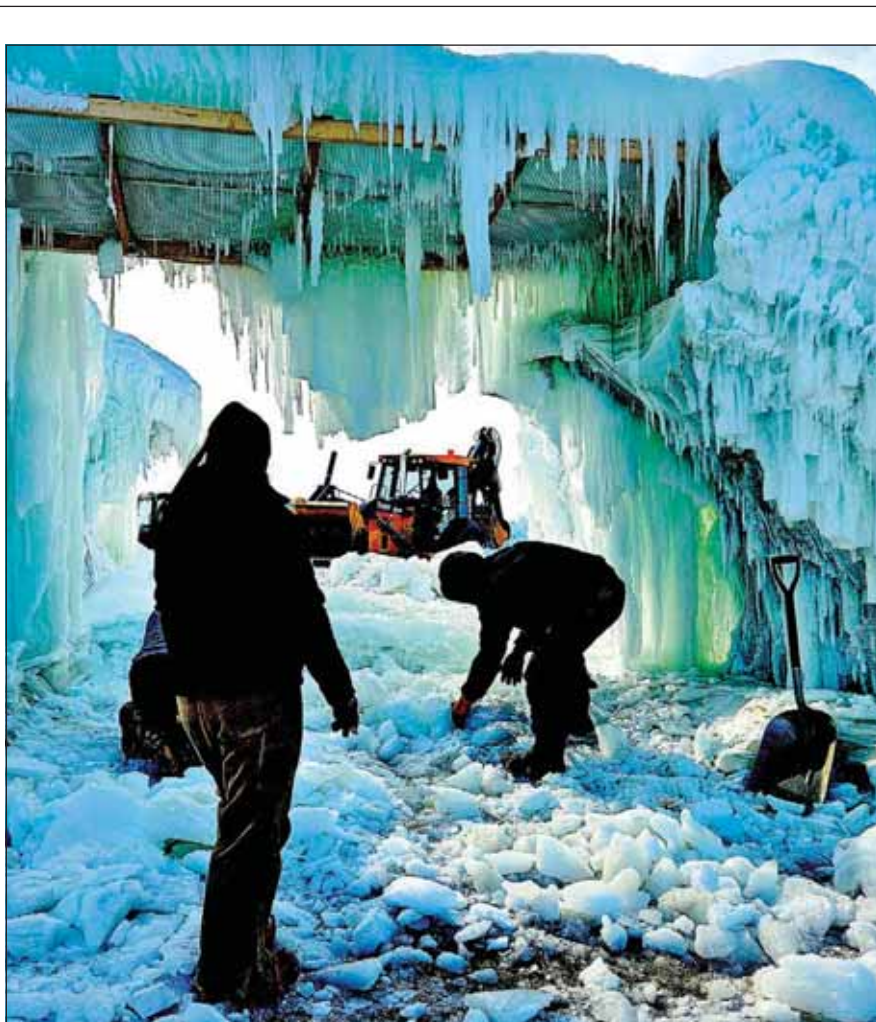
Richardson's ground squirrel populations. SARM is asking the provincial government to use The Saskatchewan First Act to reintroduce the use of strychnine specifically for gopher control," says Bill Huber, SARM President.

Strychnine baiting, when applied according to label instructions and integrated pest management practices, is an effective and low-risk method for controlling RGS, and the non-target risk is low. Reinstating its use, alongside robust education and compliance programs, could provide a valuable tool for rural municipalities in managing this persistent agricultural pest.

"Richardson's ground squirrels are native to the prairies and consume a variety of plant species, nuts, grains, seeds, and insects. Although RGS burrowing can have positive effects on nutrient cycling and plant species diversity, and they are important prey to many birds and animals, large populations can be very damaging to crop, forage, and livestock production," says Dr. James Tansey, PhD Provincial Specialist, Insect/Pest Management, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture.

SARM urges the provincial government to utilize the powers of The Saskatchewan First Act to reinstate the use of strychnine for controlling gophers. The Act provides an opportunity for the province to assert jurisdiction over pest control measures that directly affect our agricultural sector. This reintroduction could be regulated under provincial oversight to ensure responsible use while addressing the pressing needs of farmers across Saskatchewan.

Further information on this topic will be presented at the SARM Annual Convention at 3pm on Tuesday, March 11.



ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Ice palace construction

Crews were busy clearing away ice stalactites that formed around the portals of the aurora ice palace that's been built for the Winter Festival in Fort Qu'Appelle. The result is more of an ice fortress with a maze inside to navigate than it is a palace. Shaped by brutally cold weather and a sophisticated sprinkler system the glacial structure is the focal point of the weekend's program of festivities. Organizers hope that the welcome return to warm weather won't see temperatures rise much beyond freezing and start melting the ice while the festival is underway. You'll need a festival button to get inside. They are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children.

Letter to Editor: Rec story inaccurate

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to Alan's recent article (Rec manager quits; Feb. 21), which contains several issues that call into question both its accuracy and fairness.

First and foremost, it's evident from previous articles that Alan's close ties with the mayor and the CAO make it difficult for him to provide an unbiased perspective. This is evident in how he portrays Councillor Marcy Johnson as the villain while failing to present a balanced account of the situation.

Additionally, the article is riddled with errors (his Facebook comments are not any better). The title itself contains a spelling mistake, and Alan's grammar throughout the piece is subpar. Furthermore, he incorrectly reported the illness of the canteen manager, claiming to have spoken with the Yorkton hospital—an assertion that is questionable given that hospitals do not disclose patient information.

Lastly, Alan references "clearly posted" rules regarding food and beverages, yet there is no official policy from the town council nor any regulations from the Saskatchewan Health Authority that support this claim.

Readers deserve accurate, impartial reporting, journalistic integrity, and this article falls far short of that standard.

- Sincerely,
Jaimie Stephan

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Two teens arrested in quadruple homicide case

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Two arrests were made last week in connection with a quadruple homicide at Carry the Kettle Nakoda Nation.

Homicide Investigation

On Feb. 18, Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes Unit located and arrested 18-year-old Darius Racette in Yorkton. A 15-year-old male was arrested the same day at Carry the Kettle; his name has not been released in accordance with the Youth Criminal Justice Act. Racette and the youth are each charged with four counts of first-degree murder in relation to the deaths of Tracey Hotomani, Sheldon Quewezance, Shauna Fay and Terry Jack.

File Hills First Nation Police found the four victims deceased at a resi-

dence at Carry the Kettle on Feb. 4. Saskatchewan Major Crimes Unit was called to assist with investigating the sudden deaths. Further support was provided by Regina Police Services and Saskatchewan RCMP's General Investigation Section, Saskatchewan Coroners Service, Forensic Identification Services, Historical Case Unit, Saskatchewan Enforcement Response Teams, Indigenous Policing Services, and local RCMP detachments. Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes Family Liaison team and Victim Services have been in ongoing communication with the victims' families.

Another firearm incident occurred a few hours after the homicide, approximately 75 km east at Zagime Anishinabek First Nation. No one was harmed at Zagime and

Keagan Panipekeesick was arrested the following day. RCMP reported the two incidents simultaneously but a connection has not been confirmed.

Saskatchewan Major Crimes Unit and its partners spent two weeks investigating the homicide at Carry the Kettle. Although officials determined that the residence was targeted and there was no threat to the general public, security patrols continued in the area.

Arrests Announced

On Feb. 19, RCMP held a media conference to announce that Racette and the youth had been apprehended. Assistant Commissioner and Commanding Officer for Saskatchewan RCMP Rhonda Blackmore opened with condolences to the families impacted by the homicide. She also expressed appreciation for the partners who assisted in various ways. She acknowledged that the public may have felt the investigation proceeded too slowly but she affirmed that time was necessary since the case was complex.

"Our investigators have to be incredibly thorough - not only to be able to enact an arrest, but to ensure the

work supports a prosecution of the accused," she stated. "We owe it to those who rely on us as their provincial police service to be meticulous and exhaustive in our efforts. I'm confident that's what happened in this instance."

Ashley St. Germaine, Senior Investigative Officer for Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes Unit, shared a similar perspective, noting that dozens of investigators were assigned to the case and they are confident

that the individuals responsible for the crime have been arrested.

Racette appeared in Yorkton Provincial Court on Feb. 20 and his case was transferred to Regina Provincial Court where it will be heard on March 4. The youth's case was heard in Regina on Feb. 20; he is scheduled to appear by video for his next court date on March 5.

Funerals and Future Plans

Funerals were held at Carry the Kettle on Feb.

11 for Terry Jack, and at Zagime First Nation for Sheldon Quewezance. Services were scheduled on Feb. 15 at Carry the Kettle for Tracey Hotomani and at Indian Head for Shauna Fay.

Chief Scott Eashappie communicated to First Nation members via social media that he was grateful for the individuals who had provided information to police about the situation and stated that he appreciated the efforts of RCMP to conclude the investigation.



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Council Meeting

The next Town of Fort Qu'Appelle Council Meeting is Thursday, March 13th and March 27th at 7 p.m. at the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle Municipal Building. All meetings are open to the public. Come and see your council in action.

Rexentre Ice Rental

The Prairie Co-op Rexentre ice rentals are now available. Please contact Jarrod at fortrec@sasktel.net to book your time. Please watch the online schedule for upcoming games, public skating and stick and puck.

The Walking Program is available Monday to Friday 2 to 3:30 p.m.

We have board sign available for your advertising needs. Please contact: fortrec@sasktel.net if you are interested.

North Valley Waste Regional Landfill

Winter Hours will commence December 1- March 31, Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. Saturday, Sunday and Statutory Holidays Closed.

Garbage & Recycling

Garbage and recycling dates for February are as follows:

- Area A Garbage – March 14 & 28
- Area B Garbage – March 7 & 21
- Area A Recycle – March 7 & 21
- Area B Recycle – March 14 & 28

Well Done Residents!

The Town of Fort Qu'Appelle is very pleased with the response to the new pick-up schedule for household waste and recycling. Thank you all for your understanding and patience as we work out this new schedule together.


Campground Reservation Site

Are you ready for some fun in the sun?! The Fort Qu'Appelle Campground will open the reservation site on March 17, 2025, at 10 a.m. until April 11, 2025, at 4 p.m. to book your seasonal site.

Please visit the website at: www.fortquappelle.com/municipal-services/fort-quappelle-recreation-and-parks/camping for all the camping information and step-by-step guide to help you book online.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALL SEASONAL CAMPERS MUST SIGN AND RETURN WITHIN 10 DAYS THE RULES AND REGULATIONS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL HAVE YOUR RESERVATION CANCELLED. ALSO, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO REBOOK FOR 2025.

Daily and nightly bookings will start April 14, 2025.




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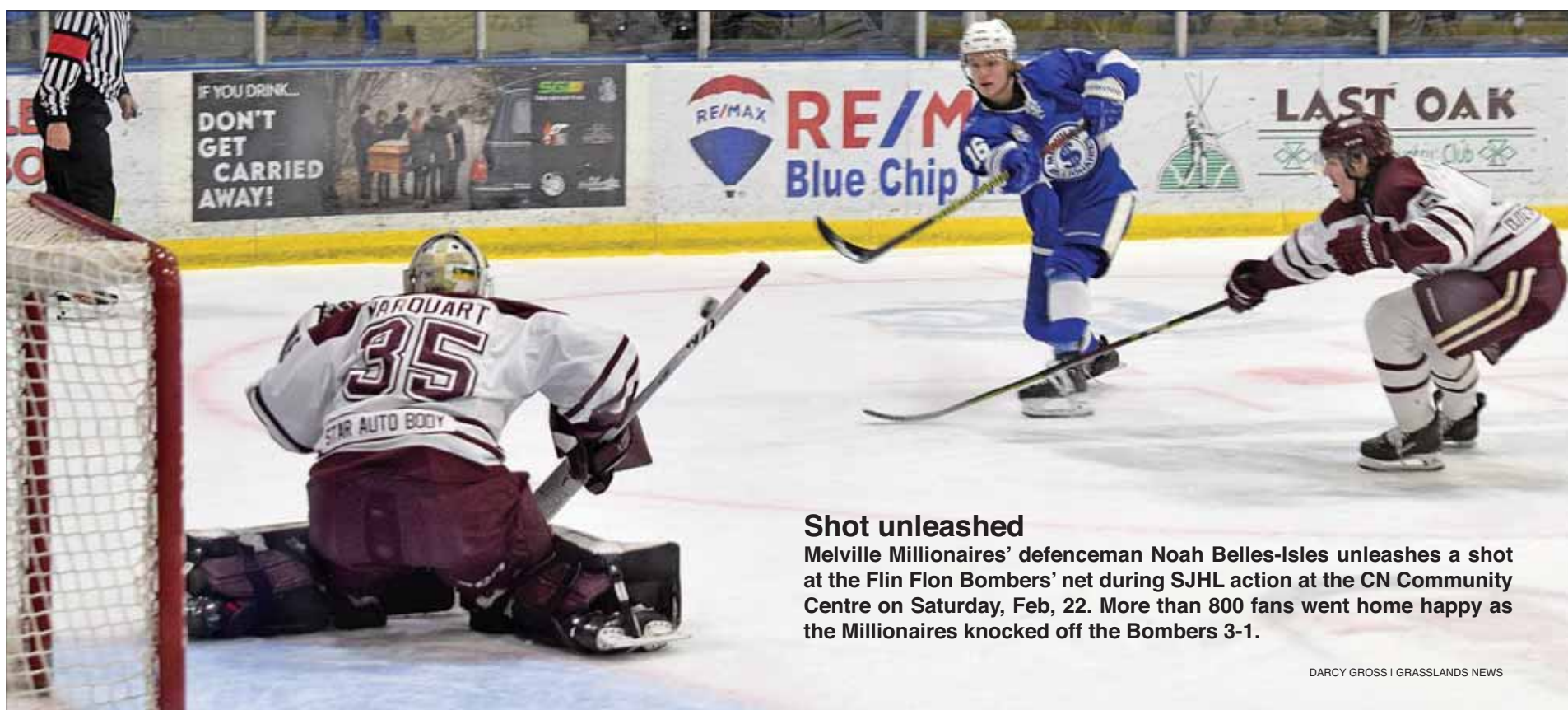
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SPORTS



Shot unleashed

Melville Millionaires' defenceman Noah Belles-Isles unleashes a shot at the Flin Flon Bombers' net during SJHL action at the CN Community Centre on Saturday, Feb. 22. More than 800 fans went home happy as the Millionaires knocked off the Bombers 3-1.

DARCY GROSS | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Mils drop Wolves and Bombers in last home games

By Darcy Gross
Grasslands News

Winning nine straight hockey games is a huge accomplishment on its own, but getting to number nine at the expense of one of the SJHL's top teams makes it sweeter, yet.

"We're a pretty confident group right now," said Millionaires' head coach Doug Johnson, on the heels of two more home ice victories, over the LaRonge Ice Wolves and the always tough Flin Flon Bombers. "It's always nice to beat one of the top teams in the league."

According to Johnson, there is still some room for improvement for his squad, but he's pleased with how they've been playing for the most part.

"We just have to keep getting a little better every day," Johnson added. "We need to focus on moving our feet, playing aggressively and working on our passing. We've put ourselves in a good spot, we just need to keep after it."

Once a team that had difficulty scoring a lot of goals, the Millionaires have made some strides in that area.

"The biggest thing we've done is get more aggressive offensively," explained Johnson. "We aren't just playing perimeter; we're getting more pucks and bodies to the net. "We're supporting the puck better as well, and our powerplay has come to life."

"As for the rest of the season, we just need to keep winning and get a few more kids committed for next year."

Flin Flon Bombers 1 at Melville Millionaires 3 (Feb. 22)

Simon Parini opened the scoring for the home side in this one, picking up a loose puck in front of the Bombers' net and going top shelf past Flin Flon goaltender Kenneth Marquart.

Jadon Iyogun earned the lone assist.

With little more than a couple of minutes left in the first period, the Bombers got on the scoreboard with a weird goal off the face-off that somehow eluded Ben Laurette, between the pipes for the Millionaires.

In a second period that featured a lot of end-to-end action, the Millionaires got back in front as Parini notched his 17th

goal of the season at 8:13 of the middle frame, when Marquart left the crease to clear the puck, leaving an open net.

Raine Hodge, who had the lone assist on Parini's second tally, dented the twine with his fourth of the season on a brilliant pass across from Iyogun with the Mils on the powerplay.

Brendan Olson had the secondary helper.

The rest of the third frame saw Laurette show off his netminding skills to hold the Bombers at bay.

Laurette made 32 saves while the Millionaires tested the Flin Flon goalie 19 times in the contest.

Each club was collared for four minor infractions.

LaRonge Ice Wolves 3 at Melville Millionaires 5 (Feb. 21)

The Millionaires fell behind early in this game but came back strong to hand the Ice Wolves the loss and stretch their winning streak to eight games.

After trailing 1-0, the Mils fired three goals in the first frame as they led 3-1 after 20 minutes and held a 4-2 advantage fol-

lowing two stanzas.

Hodge sniped and added a helper as Iyogun and Olson each chipped in with a pair of assists for the Millionaires.

Captain Matt Kjemhus scored his fourth goal of the season; Preston Baerwald potted his third and Raiden Zacharias banged home his 12th of the campaign with Parini rounding out Melville's scoring with a single.

Devon Winder also picked up one set-up point.

The Millionaires outshot the Ice Wolves by a 35-28 margin as Nick Genette earned the victory in Melville's crease.

Each team was whistled for four minor infractions with the Millionaires also on the hook for a major and a game misconduct.

The Millionaires are back in action in Weyburn on Feb. 28, and they'll be back on home ice on March 1 with the Humboldt Broncos supplying the opposition. The Millionaires have another home game on March 4 when the Nipawin Hawks come to town.

All home games get underway at 7 p.m.

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Senior hockey playoffs and provincial round-up

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

The Balcarres Broncs will continue their fight for league champions in the Qu'Appelle Valley Highway Hockey League (QVHHL) this week while the Wapella Blackhawks have found themselves eliminated in the first round of South East Hockey League (SEHL) Playoffs. And in Provincials, the Round Lake Bears continue to dominate, looking to capture the Senior A title.

QVHHL

After defeating the Southey Marlins in two games in the quarter-finals of the Qu'Appelle Valley Highway Hockey League, the Balcarres Broncs are facing off against the Lumsden Monarchs in the semi-finals where the team suffered a 4-2 loss in game one on Feb. 21. The score in the game remained close for the first 40-minutes, with the first and second period ending in a 1-1 and 2-2 draw. But two back-to-back unanswered goals by Lumsden's Kevin DuFour in the final three minutes of the third game gave the Monarchs a one game lead in the series.

Balcarres' two goals came from Spencer Trapp and Brayden Frank while Lumsden's Kevin Defour scored one other, shorthanded, with teammate David Brown adding a single.

The two teams meet for game two on Feb. 27 in Balcarres with game three in Lumsden on March 5. If necessary, games four and five will be March 7 in Balcarres and March 12 in Lumsden. All games begin at 7 p.m.

The winner of the series will face off against the winner of the Milestone Flyers and Raymore Rockets in the QVHHL final. Currently Raymore leads that best-of-five series 2-0 with a 7-1 and 4-2 win in games one and two.

SEHL

The Wapella Blackhawks' season came to an end in the South East Hockey League last weekend when the team lost out in the first round of playoffs to the Canora Cobras.

Canora defeated Wapella 10-4 in game one and while the Blackhawks were hoping to force a third and deciding game with a win on Feb. 22 in Wapella, the team instead fell 7-2, bringing an end to their season. Wapella's two goals in

their final game came from Colton Yellow Horn in the second period and Jakob Domres in the third, both which were scored on power plays. Canora's Austin Severson and Logan Foster each scored two goals with singles coming from Kody Rock, Tanner Mak and Carter Dereniwsky.

Canora is now facing the Theodore Buffalos in the semi-finals with the Rocanville Tigers and Esterhazy Flyers battling it out on the other side of the play-off bracket. Both the semi-finals and finals are best-of-five series.

Provincials

The Round Lake Bears have taken a one game lead in the quarter-finals of the Provincial A Senior Hockey championship.

Round lake defeated the Balcarres Broncs in just two games of the first round, beating the Broncs 4-1 in game one and 5-2 in game two. Now facing the Wynyard Monarchs, the Bears clenched a 7-6 win on Feb. 23 in a game played at Ochpowace. Game two of the series is Feb. 28 in Wynyard with game three, if necessary, back in Ochpowace on March 2 at 8 p.m.

The winner of the series will move on to the semi-finals against either the Lumsden Monarchs or Raymore Rockets series. Lumsden currently has a one game lead in that action after a 6-2 victory in the first game. The semi-finals will be played between March 4 to 17 with the finals being held from March 18 to 31. Games are best-of-three series.

SEHL league announces regular season award winners

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

The South East Hockey League have handed out their league awards to players and coaches for their performance in the regular season.

The league's Most Valuable Player (MVP) award this year went to Carter Cockburn of Swan Valley with runner-ups Hayden Wiebe of Langenburg and Colby Entz of Churchbridge. Meanwhile the Top Rookie for the year was Carter Dereniwsky of Canora with runner-ups being Brady Dixon of Churchbridge and Frazer Farmer of Cote. Most Improved Player award went to Dylan Haney of Rocanville with runner ups being Colby Vranai of Theodore and

Josh Pepler of Langenburg.

The Top Defenseman this season was Jayden Isaac with Esterhazy while runner-ups were Stephane Robidoux of Rocanville and Evan Werle of Langenburg. Top Forward was MVP recipient Carter Cockburn of Swan Valley with runner-ups being Chase Schaber with Wapella and Hayden Wiebe of Langenburg. And the final player award was the Top Goalie which was won by Colby Entz of Churchbridge. Award runner-ups were Deven Dubyk of Swan Valley and Warren Shymko of Theodore.

Off the ice, on the bench, the league also handed out an award for Coach of the Year. This year that honour went to Canora's Darren Schwartz with runner-ups being Jeff Odgers of Rocanville and Tim Roussin of Churchbridge.

Batting Cage Attendants

Applications are being accepted for two (2) by the Terry Puhl Foundation for the position of *Batting Cage Attendant* starting May 1, 2025.

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Dated this 28 day of February, 2025.

Karissa Lingelbach, Administrator

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Sports column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

Every once in a while, a sports league gets it right.

When the NBA added the dunk contest to their annual all-star festivities, it was a hit with the players as well as the fans.

While the results aren't all in on baseball's Major Leagues adding a time clock to the pitchers, it seems like cutting an hour off from every game could be a good thing, so maybe they've put in a rule to improve the game.

And the NFL...well the NFL hasn't really done anything to improve its image or the game, especially when it comes to the best of the AFC versus the top players in the NFC. Now, they hold some sort of flag football game to celebrate the Pro Bowl.

The NHL asked the best players from four of the top hockey playing countries on the planet if they'd forego the all-star game and the time off to play in a best-on-best hockey tournament and the results were staggering.

Not only did the NHL players fully grasp this concept, but they also squeezed as much drama out of it as they could, as USA, Finland, Sweden and Canada all threw down in Montreal and Boston in a tournament that was a long time coming.

In the tournament's final game, Canada prevailed over a favoured USA squad, 3-2 in overtime, in one of the best finales to a best-on-best tournament in decades.

When Connor McDavid took the pass from Mitch Marner in the slot and released a wrist shot bound for the top corner of American netminder Connor Hellebuyck's net, over his outstretched catching glove, it signalled a new era in international hockey had begun.

The tournament kicked off with the Americans drubbing the Finns 6-1 while the Canadians required overtime to get past Sweden, 4-3.

These results teed up an interesting match-up between Team Canada and the highly touted USA squad and these guys didn't take too long to show all the other sports how a best-on-best works.

Just nine seconds in we had three guys from each squad with the mitts dropped and haymakers getting thrown.

Remember, the rest of the players who weren't involved in what was dubbed the Four Nations Face Off, were probably laying on a beach somewhere or playing some golf, or spending time at home with their families, but not these guys.

They were letting it all hang out in Montreal and taking literal punches to the head to defend their country's honour, and if you didn't see it, take my word for it, it was glorious!

After a hard-fought 60 minutes of hockey, it was Team USA that came out on top by a 3-1 count, and although it wasn't a completely dominant effort by the Americans, it was enough to plant a seed – heck, a redwood tree – of doubt in the minds of Canadian fans.

After a Canada win over Finland and an American defeat to Sweden, it was time for the two squads to square off once again, this time in Boston.

Canada scored first but the Americans stormed back with two of their own, but the Canucks got back to even terms at the 14 minute mark of the middle frame, when Marner sent a perfect pass to Sam Bennett who roofed one past Hellebuyck.

After some exciting back and forth action in the third, the two teams went to overtime.

That's when Canadian goalie, the much-maligned Jordan Binnington, took over,

With the Americans pressing, Binnington made a number of out of this world saves and when the Canadians got their chance, Marner made no mistake, depositing a perfect pass to McDavid, and as the twine bulged a nation celebrated.

The Canadians had knocked off the favourites and they did it with the best player in the world delivering when he needed to.

Like I said, the NHL got it right, and when these two teams come together next February, they'll be playing for the top spot on the Olympic podium, and really, the difference between the two teams is razor thin.

I'd guarantee that Canada fans are as sick of seeing the Tkachuk brothers, Matthew and Brady, as the Americans are sick of hearing Canada is still the greatest hockey nation.

Fans will remember this tournament for a long time and the reason is, hockey players, when tasked with playing for their country, can't turn it off.

It's all-out war on ice and anything goes and the fans of the sport and the game of hockey itself, were the beneficiaries of that mind set.

Just think, they get to run it all back in a year, with a few more countries added to the mix.

But for now, it's still our game, and if anyone wants it, they're going to have to take it.

And I'll promise you this, it won't be an easy task.

Mustangs stomp Maroons in game one

By Braedyn Wozniak
Grasslands News

The Wolseley Mustangs traveled to Strasbourg Feb. 21 for game one of their best-of-three first-round matchup, returning with a 10-1 victory.

Wolseley was shorthanded in this one, dressing only 13 skaters, but jumped all over Strasbourg quickly.

After Jackson Baran opened the scoring, Wolseley scored nine more unanswered times before Strasbourg broke the shut-out with under three minutes left in the game.

Period scores were 4-0, 8-0 and the final, 10-1. Penalty minutes were an even 28 for both teams, but Wolseley finished 4-for-8 on the man advantage, with the Maroons coming up 0-for-3 on their attempts.



CONNOR WEBSTER

Sports Column

Gushue faces strong field at Brier

By Bruce Penton
Sports Columnist

Until he's dethroned, Newfoundland's Brad Gushue will be the favourite every time he slides out of the hack at the Canadian men's curling championship.

Gushue has a record six Canadian titles in his distinguished career, and he's going for No. 7 this week in Kelowna at the Montana's Brier. A victory would give him and his rink of third Mark Nichols, second Brendan Bottcher and lead Geoff Walker an unprecedented four consecutive championships.

Since winning his first Brier in front of home fans in St. John's in 2017, Gushue has guided his rink to Brier titles in 2018, 2020, 2022, 2023 and 2024. Last year, in Regina, the 2017 world champion and 2006 Olympic gold medalist defeated Matt Dunstone of Winnipeg in the final for his third consecutive win.

Despite Gushue's stellar record in recent Briers, he and his rink are far from a sure thing this week in Kelowna. Among the 18 competitors are at least three or four who could easily dethrone him and recent mediocre Grand Slam results indicate that Gushue and his rink could be ripe for the taking.

In January's WFC Masters in Guelph, Gushue went winless in four games within his pool and, naturally, didn't advance to the playoffs. But that event was held shortly after former Brier champion skip Bottcher had joined the team, replacing E.J. Harndon, and the team chemistry may have not been up to snuff. It should be by now.

Again, this year's Brier field is solid. Four rinks — Gushue, Dunstone, Mike McEwen and Brad Jacobs — pre-qualified through a variety of on-ice suc-

cesses, while the other 14 rinks qualified through provincial and territorial championships.

McEwen, Dunstone and Jacobs are likely the strongest challengers to Gushue. All have had success on the Grand Slam circuit this year and any one of those rinks would be strong challengers to the suddenly dominant Scottish rinks on the world stage. (Bruce Mouat of Scotland is No. 1 in the world while the top Canadian-ranked team is Dunstone, at No. 3. Gushue has fallen to eighth).

Other Brier contenders could be four-time Brier champ Kevin Koe, Northern Ontario's John Epping, Saskatchewan's Rylan Kleiter and Manitoba champ Reid Caruthers.

Whoever comes out of Kelowna wearing the Brier crown earns a trip to Moose Jaw for the world championships starting March 29. And if the winner in Kelowna thought the competition was stiff in the Okanagan city, just wait. Mouat and Ross Whyte of Scotland are ranked No. 1 and No. 3 in the world. Switzerland's Yannick Schwaller is No. 2 and Germany's up-and-coming rink skipped

by Marc Muskatewitz showed signs in Grand Slam events recently that he's ready for the world stage. Italy's Joel Retornaz is also a world power and lately, curlers from Asian countries — mostly on the women's side, mind you — have shown they're on the way up.

Gushue's not thinking that far ahead. Kelowna and the Canadian championship is his focus this week and the challenge is daunting.

• Columnist Norman Chad, on more things overheard from the four-legged competitors through the years at the Westminster Dog Show at Madison Square Garden: 1. "I'm fed up with online dating — how come everyone looks like Lassie in their photo?"; 2. "There's a German Shepherd in Stall 231 who acts like they won World Wars I and II."

• Globe and Mail columnist Cathal Kelly, on the recent U.S. animosity toward Canada and its chumminess with Russia: "If Hollywood made Rocky IV again, Ivan Drago would be from Winnipeg."

• Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "Maybe Donald Trump wants to take

Mathias Hotomoni led the Mustangs in scoring with three goals and an assist. Connor Webster finished with a goal and three apples, while Tyler Powell grabbed four helpers.

Captain Jackson Baran scored twice, while Riley Chambers, Brody Webster, Caile Reiger, and Will Noble also found the back of the net.

The 10-1 victory came as a surprise, as the Mustangs have not been particularly dominant on the road, and having had trouble against the Maroons in their barn this season, winning once in a 3-2 come from behind victory and tying in another.

Wolseley's opportunity to put the season away comes at home, Friday, Feb. 28. Should a third game be required, the two teams will meet in Wolseley again Saturday.

over Canada just so his country can win a hockey tournament again."

• Headline at TheBeaver.com: "Canada annexes 4 Nations Championship"

• Toronto Star's Bruce Arthur, on X: "Making (Wayne) Gretzky the honorary captain... (at the U.S.- Canada final) was almost the equivalent of a phantom limb. His silence while palling around with a man who wants to destroy Canada is deafening."

• Comedy guy Steve Burgess of Vancouver: "Gretzky is our honorary captain? He'll go to centre ice and surrender."

• Comedian Torben Rolfsen of Vancouver: "Fans in Montreal not only booed the U.S. anthem, they booed the announcement asking fans to show respect for the anthem."

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "Canucks starting goaltender Thatcher Demko is out week-to-week, and he'll be replaced by backup Kevin Lankinen. Demko is hampered by a lower body injury and a lower save percentage."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Bowling Scores, Standings - Melville Bowl Arena

MONDAY P.M. Feb. 24		Gutter Girls		Squishmellows	
Ladies' High Single, Mary Lou Janiskewich, 247.	53	Blind Chickens	53		
Ladies' High Triple, and Average, Shaleen Kruger 207, 671.	47.5	Blame it on Garry	47.5		
Men's High Single and Triple, Doug Brewer, 203, 530. Men's High Average, Gordon Ostlund, 182.	43.5	Professional Amateurs	43.5		
Team High Single and Triple, Brewer, 887, 2454.		ST. HENRY'S Feb. 18			
Team	Pts.	Ladies' High Single and Triple, Crystal Schofer, 262, 643. Ladies' High Average, Pat Brown 179.			
Dobson	58.5	Men's High Single and Triple, Lawrence Kosedy, 203, 539. Men's High Average, Mike Hickie, 203.			
Brewer	51	Team High Single and Triple, Drifters, 1284, 3780.			
Stuckey	37.5	Team	Pts.		
Gelowitz	37.5	CCJ	54.5		
MONDAY COMMERCIAL Feb. 24		Drifters	54		
Ladies' High Single, Triple and Average, Brandy Lechner, 339, 707, 228.		Just 4 Fun	42.5		
Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Destin Kohlenberg, 261, 677, 219.		A Team	29		
Team High Single, Professional Amateurs, 1321. Team High Triple, Blind Chickens, 3741.		TUESDAY YBC Feb. 18			
Team	Pts.	Girls High Single and Triple, Lindsay Unterschute, 172, 467.			
Pin Heads	74.5	Boys High Single and Triple, Alex Kohlenberg, 155, 375.			
		Team High Single and Triple, Bowl Kings, 892, 2643.			
		Team	Pts.		
		Bowl Kings	60		
		THURSDAY YBC Feb. 20			
		Girls High Single and Triple, Emmi Hollinger, 290, 584.			
		Boys High Single and Triple, Bryden Wieers, 236, 627.			
		Team High Single and Triple, Nameless, 971, 2490.			
		Team	Pts.		
		Cobras	54		
		Nameless	53		
		Hollinger	49		
		Head Pins	28		
		SATURDAY YBC Feb. 22			
		Girls High Single and Triple, Laura Smidt, 74, 182.			
		Boys High Single and Triple, Aiden Lavergne, 281, 657.			
		Team High Single and Triple, Bravehearts, 994, 2839.			
		Team	Pts.		
		Bravehearts	69.5		
		The Enders	44.5		
		Bowling Superstars	42		
		Everythings	24		

Singer, songwriter inks recording contract with Remedy Music

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

Fort Qu'Appelle singer and songwriter who now goes by the name of Phoenix McKenna, has signed a recording contract with Remedy Music, a Saskatoon based music label.

Two years ago McKenna was a contestant in the self-styled World Championship of Performing Arts talent show in Anaheim, California

where he won a scholarship to work with Grammy award winning music producer Jeffrey Webber and changed his name from James Foster to Phoenix McKenna.

He's been coached by vocal arranger and mentor Ken Stacey and is working on an album that

will include songs of different musical genres.

His recording of a signature tune "The Devil in Me," will be available on several music platforms next month.

A model and tattoo artist, McKenna is familiar as a tireless performer in local venues and will be giving a concert at St. Andrew's United Church every other Friday.

"I thank everyone who has supported my efforts over these past few years," McKenna said.



Singer, songwriter Phoenix McKenna

\$6.5 million in funding for new Ronald McDonald House In Regina

Submitted
Grasslands News

The Government of Saskatchewan has announced \$6.5 million in funding to Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC). The funding will go toward the building of the first ever Ronald McDonald House in Regina.

"Saskatchewan families will now have the option of staying at a Ronald McDonald House when they come to Regina seeking medical care for their children," says Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill.

The Ronald McDonald House in Regina will provide a "home-away-from-home" for families whose



children are undergoing treatments at nearby health care facilities. The design includes 20 bedrooms, a children's playroom, outdoor play space and communal kitchen.

"The government's financial support to the house in this province is a historic moment for RMHC - SK and Saskatchewan families," RMHC Saskatchewan Chief Executive Officer Tammy Forrester said.

"We are beyond thrilled that this first ever provincial government contribution, into keeping families together during their child's critical health care journey, will enable RMHC - SK to pro-

vide wrap around Family Centered Care. The capital investment will ensure that all Saskatchewan families will receive the support they need when they need it the most."

The new facility will be built on the corner of Scarth Street and 15th Avenue, keeping the facility centrally located and close to the Regina General Hospital.

Families across the province have stayed at the Ronald McDonald House in Saskatoon. The Slobodian family have experienced firsthand what the home offers.

"Ronald McDonald House does not make the family's journey easy, but it does make it easier," Craig Slobodian said. "The Saskatoon House has helped many Saskatchewan families with mental and financial support. Adding a house in Regina will help more Saskatchewan families."

Ronald McDonald House Charities Saskatchewan was founded in 1985. RHMC currently operates two programs in Saskatchewan with Ronald McDonald House in Saskatoon and Family Room in Prince Albert. Approximately 29,800 Saskatchewan families have been served by these programs.

Construction of the Ronald McDonald House Charities Regina will begin March 2025 and is expected to be completed in early 2027.

This chapter in family care excellence reflects government's dedication to ensuring all Saskatchewan residents have access to compassionate care and essential support services.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Melville Churches Welcome You

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
238 - 3rd Ave. E.
Office Ph. 306-728-2551
Office Hours: Mondays
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Clergy: Deacon Kevin Prouten
www.stpaulsmelville.ca

Sunday, March 2:
*11:00 a.m. Worship Service led by Brent and/or Brian Ulmer and Sunday School
*9 a.m. Worship at Christ, Neud
*11 a.m. Worship at Trinity, Lemb
Tuesday, March 4: 2:00 p.m. SPCS Meeting and Bible Study
5:00 p.m. Pancake Supper
Wednesday, March 5:
7:30 p.m. Worship at Christ Neud
7 p.m. Worship at First United Mely
Friday, March 7: 2 p.m. World Day of Prayer Service at St.Paul's

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH
Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.
Church Office 306-728-5764;
306-720-0589
March 2: 10:30 a.m.
Morning Prayer

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
5th Ave. E. & King St.
Rev. Brian Mee, 306-335-7611
website: firstunitedmelville.org

Sunday, March 2: 11 a.m. Worship with Rev. Brian Mee
Annual Meeting to Follow
Wednesday, March 5:
7 p.m. Ash Wed. Worship with Rev. Brian Mee

THE RIVER CHRISTIAN CENTER
(A Church with a Caring Heart)
800 Prince Edward St.
(Melville Comm. Works)
Ph. 306-728-2347
Pastor Tim Oehler
Sundays:
9:55 a.m. Pre-service Prayer
10:00 a.m. Coffee and Welcome
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
www.melvillerverchurch.org
Facebook @melvillerverchurch
Recorded messages posted online

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
258 - 10th Ave. W.
Ph. 306-728-3971
Pastor Ronald Shumba
facebook.com/gslcmelville
March 2: 10:30 a.m. Comm. Worship
March 3: 3:40 p.m. Confirmation
March 4: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Day
5:00 p.m. Pancake Supper
March 5: 7 p.m. Ash Wed. Service
March 6: 7 p.m. Bible Study

ST. GEORGE'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Corner of 3rd Ave. E. & Manitoba St.
Fr. Basil Malowany
basilmalowany@gmail.com
306-540-5102

Sunday, March 2:
4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy
Sunday, March 9:
11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

MELVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
473 - 8th Ave. W.
Office Ph. 306-728-5022
Pastor Jon Pettinger
Associate Pastor: Jesse Darby

Sunday:
Connections at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service at 11 a.m.
Online services can be found at:
www.melvillebaptist.com

Melville Churches Welcome You

BETHANY EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH
5th Ave. W. & Queen St.
Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001
Sunday, March 2:
Worship 10:30 a.m.

ST. HENRY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
729 Main St. - Office
Ph. 306-728-5702
Res. Ph. 306-728-2305
111 - 8th Ave. W.
Father Melchor Samonte
Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Lutheran Church - Canada)
502 - 4th Ave. W. - Church Office
Ph. 306-728-5689
Email: zlcpcastor@myaccess.ca
www.zionlutheranmelville.com
Sunday, March 2:
No Service
Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on 940 CJGX Radio, Yorkton

Whitewood & Area Churches Welcome You

NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Worship Service ~ 10:30 a.m.
Thursday - Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Wednesday Kids Club - 3:30 p.m.

EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY
Sunday School - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Youth Group - 7 p.m.
Rev. Dr. James R. Graham

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Tomy Mandapathil
Saturday, March 1:
5:00 p.m. Mass Service
Wednesday, March 5:
5:00 p.m. Ash Wed. Mass

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday, March 2:
10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA
Sunday, March 2:
12:00 noon Comm. Service
Followed by Potluck

WHITEWOOD UNITED CHURCH
Sunday, March 2:
No Worship Service

Indian Head Church Welcomes You

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK
306-695-3838
Sunday Services 11 a.m.
*Family Play Group - Mondays, 10 a.m. to 12 Noon
*Living with Cancer Support Group 2nd Tuesday of the Month

Kipling Churches Welcome You

KIPLING CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
417 3rd Street South
Office: 306-736-8268
Sunday Services 10 a.m.
email: pipestoneparish@sasktel.net

KIPLING UNITED CHURCH
102 Nelson Ave. - 306-736-2237
email: kwpc@sasktel.net
Services Held 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Minister will vary

KIPLING PEOPLE'S CHURCH
701 3rd Street - 306-736-8992
Website: kiplingpeopleschurch.com
Pastors: Kevin & Merodee Hassler
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship and Children's Ministry

ST. ANNE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
418 First St., Kipling
Pastor: Father Jose-ph Villamartin
306-538-2163
Sunday, March 2:
Mass 9:00 a.m.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
400 3rd St. South, Kipling
306-736-2447, Doris
306-424-2604, George
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

BEKEVAR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
102 Nelson Ave.
(in Kipling United Church)
Sunday Worship
in person 11:30 a.m.
Rev. Devon Pattimore
Lay Person/Service Leader
306-736-2479
bkbernat@gmail.com

PARKLAND BIBLE CHURCH
309 3rd. St. South, Kipling
306-736-2421
parklandagc@sasktel.net
Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service
Thursday: 9 a.m. - 12 noon
Coffee with Pastor
Wednesday: 10 a.m. Mom's Group

Fort Qu'Appelle Churches Welcome You

VALLEY ALLIANCE CHURCH Fort Qu'Appelle
Sunday service 10:30 a.m.
Service is also available on YouTube and will be livestreamed
306-900-0600
Fort Qu'Appelle - valleyalliance.ca

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
202 Bay Ave. S.,
Phone - 306-551-6213
Hall Contact - 306-331-6720

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
194 Bay St., Fort Qu'Appelle
Rev. Jo Mader, 306-332-4455
Sunday School & Service 10:30
Hear the Gospel, sing the faith, feel the family fellowship. Facebook Live.

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Monday to Saturday
8:00 to 4:30
Sunday Closed
Closed Statutory Holidays

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chemicals; Grain Bags & Twine; Concrete;
Asphalt.

Info: northvalleywaste.ca



Call for Nominations to the Sherwood Co-op Board of Directors

Sherwood Co-operative Association Limited invites nominations for the position of Director.

Nominees must meet the qualifications and requirements specified in the Co-op's by-laws. For the Director Handbook please visit www.sherwoodco-op.crs

Preferred Competencies

- Member Focus in both Rural and Urban Markets
- Working Knowledge of Democratic Environment and Co-operative Model
- Strategic Thinking & Long-Term Planning Skills
- Risk Oversight
- Financial Literacy
- Prior Board experience
- Flexibility and Independent Thinking
- Teamwork to Decision Making and Problem Solving
- Time Commitment
- Functional Knowledge in one or more of the following: Finance, Accounting, Governance, Technology, Legal, Strategic Planning, Amalgamations/Acquisitions, Communications, Human Resources, and/or Marketing is an asset

Sherwood Co-op is a diverse organization and welcomes all interested individuals. If you are interested and would like to be considered for the role of Director, please write to:

Sherwood Co-op Nominating Committee

Box 5044

Regina, SK. S4P 3X5

Or email to: nominations@sherwood.crs

Deadline for Nominations: 4:30 p.m. March 20, 2025.

CLASSIFIEDS

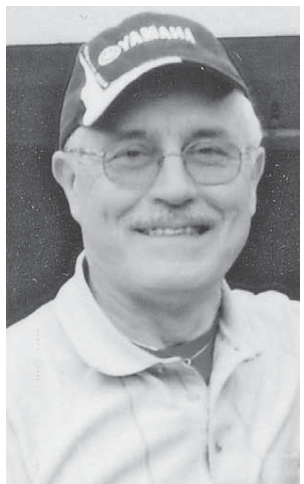


ONE AD, SIX NEWSPAPERS: All classified ads appear in the Fort Qu'Appelle Times, Indian Head-Wolseley News, Kipling Clipper, Melville Advance, Whitewood-Grenfell Herald Sun and Quad Town Forum

Memoriam

ALMASI – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Scott, who passed away March 5, 2006. There is a bridge of memory From here to Heaven above, That keeps him very close to us It's called the bridge of love. We hold him close within our hearts And there he will remain, To be with us throughout our lives Until we meet again. –Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by Mum, Dad and Dean.

STARCHUCK – In loving memory of Ted, April 18, 1938 - March 1, 2012.



After 13 years now, we hold on to the memories of great times with you. We grieve for what we lost, but we are grateful for what we had. –Always loved, forever missed and never forgotten. Love Marg and family.



DODD – In loving memory of George William Dodd (June 25, 1955 - March 2, 2020). Forever Remembered, Forever Missed. –Love Bev, Kelly and Ashley.

Services

Indian Head Library

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TUESDAY
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
1 - 4 p.m.; 5 - 8 p.m.
THURSDAY - New Hours
1 - 4 p.m.; 5 - 8 p.m.
FRIDAY
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.
SATURDAY
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
CLOSED Monday and Sunday
Phone: 306-695-3922

tfc

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Notice to Creditors

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Estate of **Garth Sapara**, late of Crooked Lake, Sask., deceased.

All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 7th day of March, 2025.

KREKLEWICH & CHAMBERS
Barristers & Solicitors
147 Third Avenue East
P.O. Box 2000
Melville, SK S0A 2P0

Solicitors for the Estate.

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www.sellyourfarmland.com

Province Wide

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BraeBurn Inn Fort Qu'Appelle is looking for a dependable and trustworthy individual to help 2-4 hours a day on weekends and 4 hours a day Thursdays, Fridays and Mondays to clean rooms and do laundry as well as performing other tasks as needed such as assisting with renovation projects, weeding and snow-shovelling.

One month training and evaluation at minimum wage, followed by wage increases dependent upon performance.

Send resume to:
BraeBurn Inn, Box 2377
Fort Qu'Appelle SK
S0G 1S0



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Todd
306-774-2420

Town of Cupar Administrative Assistant

Duties include:

- Provide excellent customer service by responding to inquiries via phone, email, and in person
- Receipting
- Cash handling
- Bank deposits
- Utility Billing and utility account maintenance
- Mail and other general office duties
- Other duties as assigned by Council and Administrator

Qualifications:

- High School Graduate or equivalent
- Experience in office administration
- Computer skills including use of Microsoft programs
- Knowledge of Munisoft program would be an asset but not a requirement as training will be provided

Hours and wages will be discussed at the interview.

Please email your resume and cover letter including wage expectations to: office@townofcupar.com

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

The Town of Cupar would like to thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Local performers take to stage at TeleMiracle 49

Submitted
Grasslands News

Soon the familiar sounds of phones ringing and people shouting "higher" will be heard from Saskatoon's Prairieland Park as TeleMiracle Week began Sunday, Feb. 23. The week culminates Saturday, March 1 when the 49th edition of the telethon gets underway.

In support of



"TeleMiracle is a testament to the Saskatchewan spirit," Minister Responsible for the Provincial Capital Commission Eric Schmalz said. "The people of this province continue to show up for one another year after year by making contributions to this cause."

The countdown show, leading up to the telethon, will start at 6:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 1. The telethon will start at 9 p.m. that night, and wrap up at 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 2. The telethon can be watched on both CTV Saskatchewan channels and online at www.tele-miracle.com

Local Saskatchewan performers that will be taking the stage this year include Anna-Marie of Neudorf, Ashley and Brad Brown of Vibank, James R. Betts of Melville, Prairie Soles Dance of Indian Head, REIN of Kennedy and Tyasia Bitternose of Kahkewistahaw First Na-

tion.

Over the last 48 years, TeleMiracle has raised more than \$165 million. All funds raised stay in Saskatchewan and help Saskatchewan residents.

"These funds have made it possible for Saskatchewanians to get the

treatments and equipment they need to live healthier, better lives," Kinsmen Foundation Board Chair Jordan Kammer said.

"We could not do this without the incredible support from our communities. Every donation, big or small, makes a dif-

ference."

"We invite everyone to tune in to TeleMiracle 49 and help us make miracles for another year," TeleMiracle Chair Terri Troupe-Logue said. "Thank you to the residents of Saskatchewan for their continued support."

Under provincial legislation, TeleMiracle Week in Saskatchewan is the week immediately before the annual telethon.

The Recognition of

TeleMiracle Week Act is overseen by the Minister Responsible for the Provincial Capital Commission.

THE VILLAGE OF EDENWOLD Province of Saskatchewan - Est. 1912 2025 ASSESSMENT ROLL OPEN

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Village of Edenwold for the year 2025 has been prepared and is open for inspection at the office of the assessor, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Wednesday evenings from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., during the following period: **February 26th, 2025, to April 28th, 2025.**

A bylaw pursuant to Section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment values is required to lodge an appeal through the Board of Revision, address shown below by **April 28th, 2025.** An appeal fee of \$300.00 is payable to the Village of Edenwold at the time of lodging an appeal, refundable if appeal is successful.

Secretary of the Board - Jeannie Devers, P.O. Box 253, Pilot Butte, SK S0G 3Z0

Dated this 17th day of February, 2025.

Christine L. Galbraith, Assessor
Village of Edenwold, P.O. Box 130, Edenwold, SK S0G 1K0
Phone: 306-771-4121 Fax: 306-771-2518
Email: office@villageofedenwold.ca

Notice of 2025 Assessment Roll RESORT VILLAGE OF PASQUA LAKE

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Resort Village of Pasqua Lake for the year 2025 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor at 160 Broadway Street West, Fort Qu'Appelle from:

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday
March 3 – May 5, 2025

Pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act*, assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against their assessment or classification is required to file a notice of appeal by May 5, 2025 to the Secretary of the Board of Revision at the address below. The appeal fee of \$200 must be provided and payable to the Resort Village of Pasqua Lake, which will be returned if the appeal is successful. Forward appeal packages to:

Nicolle Hoskins, Secretary of the Board of Revision
Box 149, Meota SK S0M 1X0
secretary@westernmunicipal.ca

Issued at Fort Qu'Appelle this 24th day of February, 2025

Caroline MacMurchy,
Assessor

PUBLIC NOTICE RESORT VILLAGE OF FORT SAN NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT BYLAW NO. 02-25

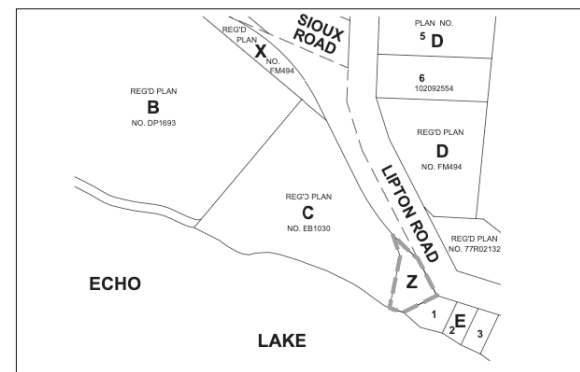
Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Resort Village of Fort San intends to adopt a bylaw, under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, to amend Bylaw No. 09-02, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT:

The proposed bylaw will rezone a portion of Blk/Par C, Plan EB1030 from Community Service (CS) District to Medium Density Residential (2) District. The land to be rezoned is outlined in a bold dashed line on the attached map.

REASON FOR THE AMENDMENT:

The bylaw amendment will accommodate a proposed residential subdivision in the Resort Village.



PUBLIC INSPECTION:

Any person may inspect the proposed bylaw amendment at the Resort Village of Fort San Municipal Office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost at the Municipal Office.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions on the proposed bylaw on March 18, 2025 at 7:15 p.m. at the 120 Broadway Avenue West Fort Qu'Appelle, SK. Council will also consider written submissions received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing. For further information, please contact the Municipal Office at 306-332-3744.

Issued at the Resort Village of Fort San this Thursday February 13, 2025.

Amy Railton, CAO

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NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Rural Municipality of Chester No. 125

By-Election

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office of:

Councillor for Division 6 - RM of Chester #125 will be received by the undersigned at the Municipal Office during normal office hours until Wednesday March 19th, 2025 at 4 p.m. local time.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the municipal office at 104 Main St. Glenavon, SK.

Dated this 28th day of February, 2025.

Brittany Knoll, Returning Officer

Thoughts of spring are in the air

Daylight Savings Time begins March 9

By Elaine Ashfield

Grasslands News

It's time to "spring forward."

Warmer days have resulted in February "going out like a lamb" and after what was an extended cold spell with an abundance

of snow, it isn't wrong to say that everyone is looking forward to the spring season.

Winter sports are starting to wind down and requests for registrations in sporting events that are played in spring and summer are starting to appear. Requests for soccer and ball registrations may have shocked some when they were seen on social media but believe it – spring is on the way! The daylight hours are getting longer.

Another sure sign of spring is the time change in parts of the country.

The tradition observed for more than a century will take place Sunday, March 9. Some Canadians will set their clocks forward an hour on that day, with daylight time officially beginning at 2 a.m. Months later, they will "fall back" – setting the clocks an hour behind – at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 2.

This spring event doesn't come without controversy as some experts say this is a controversial move as seasonal changes can have impacts on our sleep and productivity, as well as links to health complications such as headaches and heart problems.

The time change has seen political discussions over the years but to date, the consensus appears to have largely been that it would be challenging for Canadians to stop the change – either making daylight saving time permanent or ceasing the

March switch – if the US doesn't go along with it as well.

Five years ago, the US Senate passed a bill that proposed making daylight saving time permanent, meaning there would be no change in the fall. The bill stalled when it reached the House of Representatives, where delegates were unable to decide if it was better to keep permanent daylight time, or set the clocks once more in the fall, and then leave it.

Reports have stated Trump wants to end daylight time. US President Donald Trump suggests it's possible that at some point, the country may set the clocks one final time and stop changing them.

"Daylight Saving Time is inconvenient, and very costly to our Nation," he wrote on social media, pledging that Republicans would use their "best efforts" to put an end to it.

Assessment Roll

Rural Municipality of Wolseley No. 155

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll of the Rural Municipality of Wolseley No. 155 for the year 2025 has been prepared and is now open to inspection at the office of the assessor from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. o'clock on the following days: Monday to Friday February 28, 2025 to April 29, 2025.

A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required. All fees must be submitted to the local assessor at the RM of Wolseley No. 155.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with: Nicolle Hoskins, which can be sent electronically to: secretary@westernmunicipal.ca or to RM of Wolseley No. 155 at P.O. Box 370, Wolseley, SK and forwarded to the Secretary of the Board of Revision by the 29th day of April 2025.

A notice of appeal, accompanied by a \$100.00 appeal fee, must accompany the notice of appeal. Appeal fees will be returned if the appeal is successful.

Dated this 28th day of February, 2025.

Rose Zimmer, Assessor

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NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Municipal Election

Resort Village of the District of Katepwa

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office of:

Councillor: Resort Village of the District of Katepwa Ward No. 3 Katepwa South

Number to be Elected: 1

will be received by the undersigned on the 22nd day of March 2025, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or during regular business hours (9:30 a.m. to Noon – 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) from March 3rd to March 21st, 2025 at the District of Katepwa Office at 41 Elm Street, Katepwa Beach.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location: District of Katepwa Office, 41 Elm Street, Katepwa Beach.

Dated this 28th day of February 2025.

Andrea Ehrmantraut, Returning Officer

Assessment Roll Notice

RM of CUPAR NO. 218

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the RM of Cupar No. 218 for the year 2025 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday from February 28 to May 3, 2025 excluding holidays.

A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with:

The Secretary of the Board of Revision, c/o Loretta Young, Box 251, Earl Grey, SK, SOG 1J0 on or before May 3, 2025.

Dated this 24th day of February, 2025.

Nikki Czemeses,
Assessor



Notice of Call for Nominations

By-Election

RM of Lajord No. 128

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

• Councillor for Division 3

Will be received by the undersigned or an appointed nomination officer at the municipal office, located at 4 Railway Avenue, Lajord, Saskatchewan, during normal office hours until Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 4 p.m. local time.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the municipal office.

Please note, a criminal record check (Bylaw 296) and a public disclosure statement must be submitted with nomination forms.

Dated this 25th day of February, 2025.

Lynette Herauf, Returning Officer



Notice of Preparation of the Assessment Roll

Town of Balgonie

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Town of Balgonie for the Year 2025 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the Office of the Assessor during normal business hours from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday – February 28 to April 29, 2025.

A Bylaw pursuant to Section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the Assessment Notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against the property assessment is required to file a Notice of Appeal, accompanied by a fee of \$250.00 for each assessment being appealed, which amount will be returned if the appeal is successful, with:

The Secretary of the Board of Revision
c/o Jeannie Devers, Town of Pilot Butte,
Box 275, Pilot Butte, SK SOG 3Z0
by the 29th day of April, 2025.

Dated this February 28, 2025.
Karen Craigie, Assessor

Town of Balgonie
Box 310
Balgonie, Sask.
SOG 0E0



PUBLIC NOTICE

RESORT VILLAGE OF FORT SAN

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT

BYLAW NO. 01-25

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Resort Village of Fort San intends to adopt a bylaw, under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, to amend Bylaw No. 09-02, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT: The proposed bylaw will:

- allow pools as a permitted use where accessory to a principal dwelling in the residential districts;
- allow boathouses as a discretionary use where accessory to a principal dwelling in the residential districts;
- define and establish development standards for boathouses; and
- clarify the meaning of building height.

REASON FOR THE AMENDMENT: The Zoning Bylaw does not currently provide for the placement or construction of boathouses or swimming pools on private property. The proposed bylaw amendment would accommodate the development of these uses.

PUBLIC INSPECTION: Any person may inspect the proposed bylaw amendment at the Resort Village of Fort San Municipal Office Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost at the Municipal Office.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions on the proposed bylaw on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7 p.m. at the 120 Broadway Avenue West, Fort Qu'Appelle, SK. Council will also consider written submissions received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing. For further information, please contact the Municipal Office at 306-332-3744.

Issued at the Resort Village of Fort San this Thursday, February 13, 2025.

Amy Railton, CAO

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Resort Village of Bird's Point

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Resort Village of Bird's Point for the year 2025 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the Assessor during regular office hours:

Mondays & Tuesdays,

February 21, 2025 to April 25, 2025

A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person wishing to discuss the Notice of Assessment or potential appeal may contact the Local Assessor at the Resort Village of Bird's Point 169 Currie Ave Bird's Point, SK.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment or classification is required to file his or her notice of appeal (a \$300.00 fee will be charged, refundable if successful) before April 25, 2025. All Fees must be submitted to the Local Assessor at the Resort Village of Bird's Point.

All appeals must be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Revision, Nicolle Hoskins, which can be sent electronically to: secretary@westernmunicipal.ca or via post to Resort Village of Bird's Point, P.O. Box 1019, Whitewood, SK SOG 5C0. And forwarded to the Secretary of the Board of Revision:

The Secretary to the Board of Revision
Nicolle Hoskins

P.O. Box 149, Meota, SK SOG 1X0

The Assessor, Resort Village of Bird's Point

P.O. Box 1019, Whitewood, SK SOG 5C0

Dated this 18th, day of February, 2025.

Alita Stevenson
Assessor

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<p>#8-555 Dielschneider Rd. 3-BDM, 2-BATH, 1,216 SQ.FT. MLS®SK988456</p>  <p>\$159,000</p>	<p>214 - 10th Ave. W. 4-BDM, 2-BATH, 1,190 SQ.FT. MLS®SK986609</p>  <p>\$250,000</p>	  <p>RE/MAX® agents, like Lisa Kirkwood, partner with Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, including Jim Pattison Children's Hospital, to support children receiving care at member hospitals each year.</p>	<p>262 - 3rd Ave. W. C1, 1,920 SQ.FT. MLS®SK977513</p>  <p>\$59,900</p>	<p>109 - 3rd Ave. W. C1, 2,000 SQ.FT. MLS®SK988020</p>  <p>SOLD \$115,000</p>



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<p>Land & Buildings 4-BDM, 3-BATH, 2,942 SQ.FT. 90.18 acres MLS®SK990495</p> <p>RM of McLeod</p>  <p>\$699,000</p>	<p>Land 159 Acres</p> <p>RM of Wallace</p>  <p>MLS®SK990835</p> <p>\$439,000</p>	<p>205/207 Pierson St. 2-BDM, 1-BATH, 840 SQ.FT. MLS®SK987712</p> <p>Neudorf</p>  <p>\$39,000</p>	

Fort Qu'Appelle RCMP Detachment introduces new Sergeant

Fort Qu'Appelle Detachment
S/Sgt. Larry E. Kurtenbach,

Reporting period: Feb. 18 Feb. 24

I would like to update everyone on the "state of the union" so to speak. We now have a new Sergeant and Operations NCO. That role for us means that I now have a second in command or as we say a "2 i/c".

Sgt. Mark Oman comes to us with over 17 years of policing experience. Some of you may recall Mark as he was posted here from 2010 to 2016. Following that, he joined me in Wakaw, SK where I was Detachment Commander. We worked together there for about four years and he promoted to Yorkton, SK as a Corporal and became a shift supervisor. He was successful in promoting to the rank of Sergeant last year, but due to some resource pressures was sent

on assignment to Melville. He returned to us last December. He will now take on the role of supervising the operational side of the Detachment.

This allows me to continue the practice of weekly updates as there is a much more even spread of duties.

Since my last report, we have had some resource switches, some transferring to other units, and divisions, with new people coming in. We do have a few vacancies, but are hopeful that the staffing strategies of the Commanding Officer of "F" Division will soon bring more recruits and members transferring in. It is one of her highest priorities.

I also have some sad news, in the last few weeks our office lost a valued member and colleague in Jenna Orman. Jenna was with us as a Detachment Services Assistant (DSA) and had been since 2015. She

passed away with her family by her side on Feb. 13.

Back in the day, we used to call them clerks or "stenos". But the title of Detachment Services Assistant is much more appropriate. They are so integral to the working of a police facility that it is hard to replace them. They are usually local people that bring a wealth of knowledge of the local players; especially in small towns. The DSA's know who is who in the zoo so to speak. Jenna was a little different. She was responsible for all of the court documentation that we sent for court appearance, trials and everything related to criminal litigation. Her dedication and professionalism made that side almost worry free. She was also a wife to Will and her two daughters Addie and Jesse. We will all miss her very much.

Over the winter, calls for service seem

to dip a bit, but as we move to the spring and summer months we can expect an increase; as we do every year.

For the past week, the RCMP fielded over 91 calls. Of those calls here are some of the more interesting ones.

There were three calls for assault. No charges yet on any. Two calls about break and enter, but neither were actually that.

There were the typical liquor act files, mischiefs and some family law matters.

We had four calls in regard to wellbeing checks; everyone was found safe.

The local traffic unit has been out working; you can expect as we move into the warmer months, we will see an increase in enforcement of the double line down Broadway this summer and have been very busy. Several drivers were issued tickets for various offences and some had vehicles towed as a result.

Human trafficking not just an urban problem; know the signs

Saskatchewan RCMP
Grasslands News

Human trafficking isn't a crime that only happens in big urban centres – it happens in cities and small communities across Saskatchewan.

National Human Trafficking Day in Canada was February 22. It's important for everyone to recognize the signs of human trafficking and report suspected trafficking to police immediately.

Saskatchewan RCMP's Saskatchewan Enforcement Response

Teams (SERT) Human Trafficking and Counter Exploitation Unit (HTCEU) is dedicated to targeting offenders and criminal groups engaged in human trafficking.

HTCEU has a partnership with the Regina Police Service (RPS). This collaborative approach provides specialized support to both RCMP detachments and municipal police agencies across the province.

"Ensuring the safety and security of the victim is always the main goal in investigations, that's why the Saskatchewan

RCMP takes a victim-centered, trauma-informed response to human trafficking," says S/Sgt. Danny Donison, the Saskatchewan RCMP SERT south region manager and head of the HTCEU.

"Saskatchewan residents know their communities better than anyone else. Recognizing and reporting suspected trafficking is essential when it comes to holding perpetrators accountable."

How to recognize and report human trafficking

Saskatchewan RCMP reminds the public that

anyone can be a target for human trafficking. Victims may be trafficked by someone they know: a former or current partner, family member, friend, or trustworthy person. Recruiting tactics can be subtle; often victims don't even know they're being trafficked.

A victim of human trafficking may display one or more of the following signs:

- They don't have access to their ID, passport or cell phone;
- are under the age of 18 and travelling with an adult who is not their parent or legal guardian;
- aren't familiar with their surroundings or aware of what city or

town they're in;

- appear to be in a controlling or abusive relationship;
- exhibit signs of trauma, such as burns, bruises or cuts; or
- show signs of malnourishment or fatigue.

Traffickers may approach potential victims by:

- pretending to be a potential love interest, friend or support person;
- connecting over social media or in person;
- offering gifts or money;
- introducing drugs or alcohol; or
- threatening potential victims' loved ones if they don't comply.

Additional information on recognizing human trafficking can be found here.

If you suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking, call 310-RCMP or your local police immediately to report it.

In addition to contacting the RCMP, the public can also contact the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-833-900-1010. This hotline is confidential, available 24/7 and offers services in more than 200 languages. Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.

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These prestigious awards are given to youths who:

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- Volunteer within their community and school
- Has overcome a personal life challenge (physical, emotional or environmental)
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
- Are between the ages of 8 and 18

This year, four deserving youths will receive a **\$3,000 bursary**, provided by SaskPower, to use towards their post-secondary education.

JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR STEM AWARD

New in 2025. The Junior Citizen of the Year STEM Award will recognize a Saskatchewan youth who contains all the same qualities of a Junior Citizen of the Year but **has an aptitude for science, technology, engineering, or mathematics**. This award is eligible for all students, including but not limited to, young women, and underrepresented communities.

This year, one deserving youth will receive a **\$3,000 bursary**, provided by Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan, to use towards their post-secondary education.

Building a Strong Saskatchewan through the Crown Sector

Visit www.swna.com for further information and nomination forms
Nominations close March 31, 2025