

Co-op Annual General Meeting

Borderland sees progress despite challenging year

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

Borderland Co-op held their 87th Annual General Meeting in Moosomin on May 22 where staff and the board provided members with a review of the past year, both financially and in business operations.

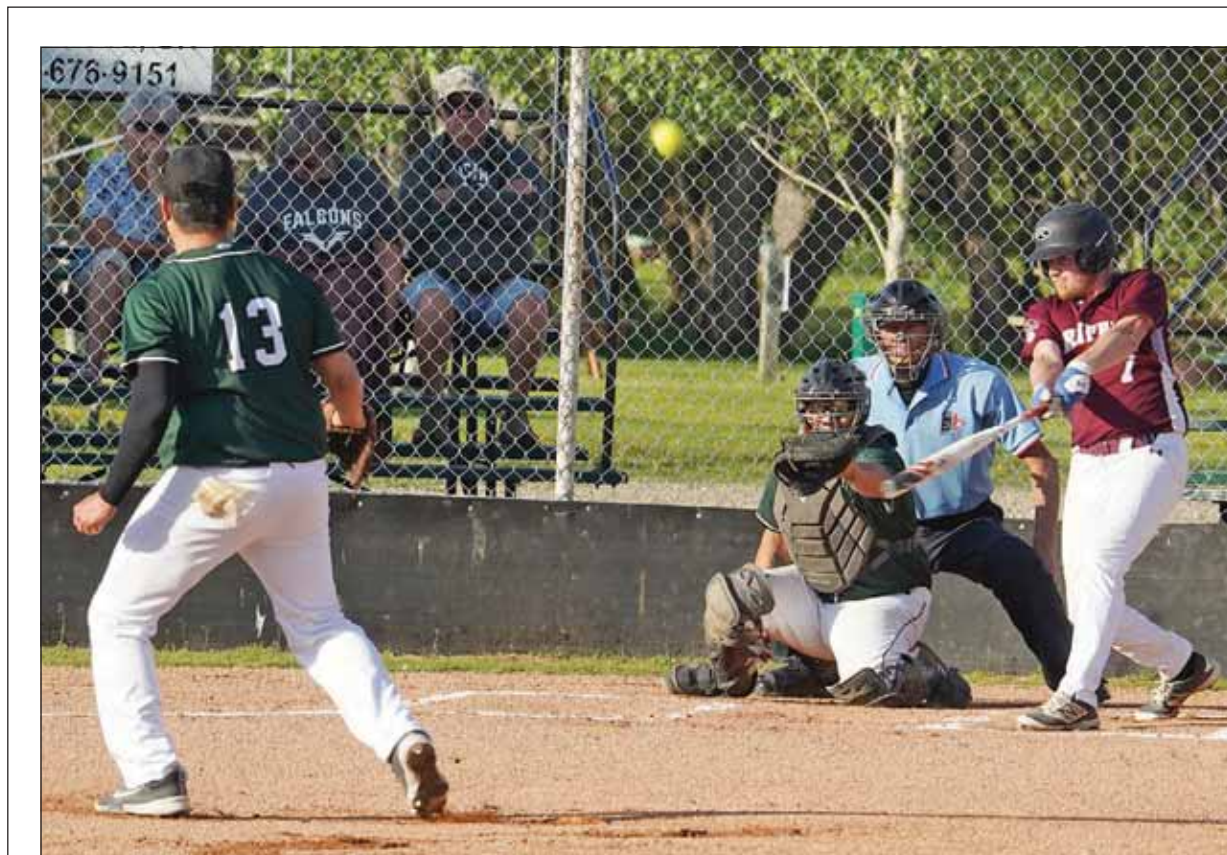
Financial Report

Shannon Dickens, VP of Finance presented the audited financial statements which showed sales in 2025 were \$127.7 million, which was just \$354,000 above 2024. Operating expenses increased \$800,000 over last year however to \$24 million, resulting in a loss of just over \$1.9 million, an improvement of almost \$1 million the year prior. With the FCL Loyalty program payments and patronage refund from Federated Co-op Limited (FCL), the sav-

ings before patronage allocations for 2025 was \$2.15 million, compared to \$2.44 million in 2024. A patronage payback to members totaling \$1.88 million was approved for 2025, which was down from the \$1.95 million paid out in 2024. Savings before taxes for 2025 totaled \$276,500, compared to \$486,610 in 2024.

“The biggest changes in current assets are the decrease in FCL Special Deposit and decrease in Cash. This money was used to assist with funding the construction of the new Kipling C-Store and the new Moosomin Marketplace. There is also an increase in inventory when compared to last year. This increase is mostly in Lumber and Ag Equipment to take advantage of group buying opportunities,” said Dickens.

The VP of Finance went



Home run

Grenfell Gems' short-stop Kyle Haylock hits a home run off Whitewood Falcons' pitcher Tony Sparvier in the opening inning of a Southeast Men's Fastball League game on Monday night in Whitewood. The Gems won the game 7-0.

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on to say that the most significant variances in sales were a result of fuel prices and a decline in sales at the Moosomin Marketplace while the new store was being constructed. Borderland had anticipated a 10 per cent

decrease due to the construction but with the food store working to continue a high service level, sales only declined 5 per cent.

“A decrease in the selling price per litre of fuel when comparing year over year. The previous year's average selling price per litre was 1.31 cents per litre and this year the selling price dropped to an average of 1.23 cents per litre. That eight cent decrease multiplied over the 40.4 million litres of fuel sold this year represents a \$3.2 million dollar sales decrease just due to the change in street price of fuel. When comparing the litres sold year over year, our litres increased 1.2 million litres. Half of that is from the addition of the Kipling C-Store in the last fiscal quarter and the other half is real growth in litres,” said Dickens.

When outlining the patronage allocation this year, Dickens said that this year was the first time in a very long time that the entire Co-op Retail System (CRS) saw a significant decrease in their patronage allocation from FCL. For Borderland that was a \$1.2 million decrease over last year.

“The good news in this story is that since we improved our operations before FCL Loyalty and Patronage by \$925,000 dollars, we were able to come through fairly unscathed financially from the event and show savings and member allocations very similar to last year,” said Dickens.

Allocations payouts approved for 2025 were 3 per cent on fuel, propane and oil; 1.5 per cent on food, liquor and confectionary; one per cent on hardware and lumber, fertilizer and ag equipment, seed and chemical purchases. Of the allocation, 50 per cent is being paid out to members and the remainder applied to the member's equity account, unless the members have reached their \$10,000 equity cap or is an overage member. In those situations, 100% of this year's allocation is being paid out.

Cheques for allocations were mailed out last Friday.

CEO Report

In his report to the membership, CEO Jason Schenn spoke of the many challenges 2024 presented on Borderland Co-op, including a tax disparity

between Manitoba and Saskatchewan on fuel, Federated Co-op's six week IT disruption following a cyberattack, two major construction projects, inflation, supply chain issues and new threats of a trade war in 2025 with the change in US government and also the uncertainty surrounding Canada's political leadership and the potential effects on public policy.

“In 2024 we chose to primarily focus on what we can control and attempt to not overreact to global instability and recession fears. Operationally, this was successful at the local level with most locations contributing positively to operational results. The notable exception to this was our Home and Building supplies locations. This business line continues to face struggles post covid with consumer demand softening and shifting to online platforms like Amazon for a larger component of their hardware needs. In addition to this, the overall number of skilled trades and general contractors in our communities is declining, and competitor lumber yards from urban centers

- SEE BORDERLAND, 10



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AGM reports

Borderland Co-op CEO Jason Schenn gives his report during the Annual General Meeting that held last week in Moosomin as board president Lawrence Swanson listens.

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Drive-in car bingo held to support Legacy Park

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Randy Clark Legacy Park is nearing completion, with fundraising in progress for the project's final phase.

For the past few years, a committee has been working to improve the outdoor space on the west side of Wolseley High School. The development is a means of honouring former teacher Randy Clark and encourages students and community members to carry on his legacy of sports involvement. Clark passed away from cancer in 2018 but, during his 32 years as a teacher, he coached multiple high school teams and served on the executive board for two regional athletic associations, making a positive impact on those around him.

Due to the large scope of the Legacy Park project, the organizing committee determined it would be completed in three phases. Since 2019, numerous fundraisers, donations and sponsor-

ships have led to the completion of Phases 1 and 2. The site now has a refurbished, fenced court for basketball and pickleball, with a large gazebo beside it and picnic tables for outdoor classroom space.

The group has collected nearly enough funds to finance the final phase but continues to seek support for the remaining amount. This will provide for installation of a monument with information and donor recognition, a volleyball net and lighting. Landscaping around the recreation amenities would also be completed in Phase 3.

On May 23, committee members partnered with Twilite Drive-in to host car bingo before a showing of *Snow White**. Approximately 50 cars lined up in front of the big screen for the event, eager to claim one of the ten prize packages that were sponsored by local businesses and committee members.

In addition to proceeds from 175 bingo cards, additional funds were raised through a hamburger sale

and 50/50 raffle. Many participants also stayed to enjoy the evening's entertainment. Bingo at the drive-in raised \$2,300 for the park project and organizers are grateful for the community's support.

Randy Clark's wife Christine is a member of the organizing committee and said that participants came from Wolseley, Carry the Kettle First Nation, Indian Head and Regina.

"It went well, we had a lot of compliments on it. We were very happy with how it went, and it was fun!" Clark told Grasslands News.

The committee estimates that it will need \$4,000 to \$5,000 to fully complete the Legacy Park project. Pickleball and basketball fundraising tournaments are being tentatively planned in cooperation with Wolseley Recreation Board's Rock the Rink event this summer. Donations can also be arranged by contacting Wolseley High School at 306-698-2591 or Wolseley Town Office at 306-698-2477.



Drive-in bingo

Randy Clark Legacy Park committee members organized a car bingo and bbq fundraiser at Twilite Drive-In in Wolseley on May 23. Left to right: Kim Weber, Christine Clark, Sandy Taylor, Jennifer Brooks and Brenda Stringer. Missing: Eleanor Dahlman.

SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Shrinking share for farmers, high food prices for consumers

Submitted
Grasslands News

As food prices remain high, the share of the food dollar reaching Saskatchewan farmers continues to decline.

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) has released its third Farmers and Food Prices report that follows seven key grocery products derived from Saskatchewan commodities.

"Over the past three years, the situation has not improved," notes APAS President Bill Prybylski. "Farmers are getting less, while consumers continue to pay high grocery prices. This year's report isn't any different, showing a further dip in what farmers make from their commodities, even though food prices

are barely budging downward."

This report comes at a time of economic uncertainty and fluctuating market conditions. Persistent volatility continues to undermine reliable crop and livestock price forecasts, leaving producers in a precarious position. The data in the 2025 report highlights year-over-year decreases in farm shares and commodity prices, underscoring the challenges faced by the agriculture industry. For example, the changes in farm shares are stark, with a 12-point decrease in canola oil.

"At a time when political changes impact the lives of everyday consumers, who are increasingly seeking explanations for high food costs, the importance of food security and transparency in food prices has never been greater," emphasizes Prybylski. "This report underscores the growing concern among consumers, who face high retail prices yet want to ensure that farmers receive a fair and sustainable income."

APAS continues to champion the need for an equitable, accountable, and transparent food system that supports farmers, safeguards consumers and ensures a stable food supply. This report provides an examination of what farmers earn when consumers purchase food products, such as margarine, demonstrating the growing disparity between farmgate prices and retail costs.

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Dousing for the dead

Man claims he can locate human remains using copper rods typically used to find water

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

As he walked slowly across an ancient burial ground in Fort Qu'Appelle with copper dousing rods in his hands, Brian Donbrook claims he could find the exact spot of unmarked graves beneath the manicured grass.

Traditionally the rods are used to locate water but practitioners such as Donbrook believe they can also point to traces of buried human remains. The uses of dousing rods, or divining rods as they are sometimes called, is highly debated with skeptics suggesting there is no empirical evidence to prove they work. But as Donbrook walked across the graveyard the rods vibrated and crossed at five-foot intervals which he said indicated something was buried below the surface.

"I have no idea how they work, but as you can see for yourself this place is full of graves and the rods point to them," the retired Regina chiropractor said as he handed this reporter the devices to use. Once you have them in your own hands

it is easy to believe something is happening as they spin out of control on their own. But unless you can actually dig and prove that it is a grave – or something else – the rod points to underground – it is perhaps wise to keep a healthy dose of skepticism.

Still Donbrook insists some practitioners can not only locate graves but can identify whether the remains they have found are those of a male or a female. "I do this just for the fun of it," he said.

A plaque on the monument that marks the sacred ground on Segwun Avenue that was erected by the File Hills Chiefs Association next to the provincial courthouse suggests the graves belong to those who died during the Treaty 4 negotiations in 1874. There is no record that anyone died during those negotiations.

When the site was uncovered in 1985 it was determined the graves were in a short-lived Anglican cemetery opened in the 1850s by an Indigenous missionary Charles Pratt. It had long been abandoned by the time Treaty 4 negotiations began.



ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Looking for the dead

Brian Donbrook claims he can find human remains with divining rods. The rods have typically been used to locate water underground.

Beck calls for action on Sask. priorities in letters to federal ministers

Submitted
Grasslands News

As the sitting resumes in the House of Commons, Saskatchewan NDP Leader Carla Beck sent five letters to a total of nine ministers in Carney's cabinet calling for action on Saskatchewan issues that have too often been ignored by federal governments of all stripes.

"Canadians were incredibly frustrated with Justin Trudeau's government and his

failure to deliver results on important files," said Beck. "It's no secret that this frustration was felt more strongly in Saskatchewan than anywhere else in Canada.

"We need to see real progress on these critical issues facing our country. This is a critical moment of consensus, where we can focus on our future and get generational projects built."

Beck's federal priorities include:

- Changing the equalization

formula to be fairer for Saskatchewan

- Making generational investments in infrastructure to get Saskatchewan's exports to new markets, including more rail lines, pipelines and power lines

- Renewing the \$10/day child-care agreement

- Repealing Bill C-69 and revising the Clean Electricity Regulations

- Building a stronger relationship with Indigenous peoples based on action, not just

promises

- Protecting workers and businesses from the impact of tariffs while working day and night to get them removed

"The new Prime Minister has committed to a new approach, and I am optimistic that his commitment will be met by real action by this new government on the issues that matter most to people in my province," Beck said.

"Our economy needs to be more resilient in the face of

Donald Trump's threats and the people of Western Canada deserve to see a bright future for themselves by staying in a strong and united Canada."

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(DIAMOND 3), 6PM U19 VS ESTERHAZY (DIAMOND 3)**SUNDAY JUNE 8** - 10AM - 13U VS CARLYLE(DIAMOND 2), 10AM - 11U RHETT VS MONTMARTE (DIAMOND 3), 10AM - 9U MARSHALL VS MONTMARTE (DIAMOND 4), 12PM - 9U LANDON VS MONTMAMRTE(DIAMOND 4), 1PM - 13U AA DIAMOND JAXX VS REGINA WOLFPACK (DIAMOND 3), 2PM - 15U MOOSOMIN VS ESTEVAN (DIAMOND 2), 2PM - 11U CRAIG VS MOOSOMIN (DIAMOND 4)

LET'S CAMP - ALL KIPLING CAMPGROUND BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE THROUGH LETSCAMP.CA

FRIENDLY REMINDER - ALL LEISURE FACILITIES MUST BE BOOKED WITH AUSTIN, LEISURE SERVICES MANGER AT 1-306-736-8440.

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JUNE 7, 2025 IS TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALE DAY FROM 9 A.M. TO 2 P.M. MAPS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN OFFICE, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND WHERE NOTICES BOARDS ARE.

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Local area reps chosen during MS-N election

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Métis citizens in Saskatchewan have elected their leadership for the next four years.

Métis-Nation Saskatchewan (MN-S) represents Métis citizens throughout the province, acting on behalf of their interests in various aspects of society. MN-S is governed by the Métis-Nation Legislative Assembly. This is partly comprised of a provincial council, which includes an executive committee and elected representatives from 12 regions of the Saskatchewan. Elections are held every four years and Métis citizens age 16 and older are eligible to vote. This year, advanced polls were held during the first two weeks of May and the final election day was May 24.

Unofficial results were posted to MN-S website by Monday morning and indicated that Glen H. McCallum had been reelected as president. The unofficial results showed Michelle Ann Leclair receiving 1788 votes for vice president and Karen A. Larocque receiving 1706. Votes for treasurer were also close, with 1248 for Jeremy (DJ) Denomie and 1205 for Dale McAuley, as were the votes for Eastern Region 2, with 96 in favor of Brent Wilfred John Digness and 94 for Nancy Jayne Duns. Recounts will be completed for these candidates, with official results released within the next two weeks.

The Grasslands News coverage area is primarily within Eastern Region 2A and 3 (ER2A and ER3).

Broadview, Grayson, and Melville are included in ER2A. Tim J. W. Roussin did not submit his name for another term, but three other candidates sought to fill his place: Derek (Porky) Langan, Darcy Raymond Lepowick and Gary Allan Pelletier. Lepowick, who is from Yorkton, received 138 votes and was elected to represent ER2A in the upcoming term.

ER3 encompasses a large area from the Manitoba border in the east to Regina, and from the province's southern border north to Foam Lake. This includes the towns of Whitewood, Kipling, Grenfell, Wolseley, Indian Head, Fort Qu'Appelle and many other communities served by Grasslands newspapers. There were two candidates for ER3 in the recent election: incumbent Marg Louise Friesen and Valerie Raye McLeod. Friesen was reelected with 156 votes, while McLeod received only 41. Friesen had previously been reelected by acclamation in 2021. She is from the Qu'Appelle Valley and resides in Indian Head.



Elected

Darcy Lepowick (left) has been elected as the Métis-Nation – Saskatchewan representative for ER2A while incumbent Marg Friesen (right) will continue to represent ER3.



MN-S WEBSITE | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Educational leaders outline concerns

Submitted
Grasslands News

Canada's teacher organization presidents from across Canada met in Saskatchewan on May 25 and 26 to discuss protecting public education across Canada. The discussion focused on two critical concerns: the ongoing challenges with teacher retention and recruitment, and the rising incidents of violence and aggression in schools.

The presidents from the national and provincial teacher's organizations affirmed their shared commitment to public education and called for governments to invest in teachers, student supports, and safer school environments.

The presidents' stance is reinforced by recent findings from the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE). Results of the CTF/FCE 2024 Parachute Survey highlight the seriousness of the situation:

- Nearly 80 percent of teachers report difficulty managing unpredictable and increasing workloads; and

70 percent identify poor working conditions as a significant factor.

- 95 percent of educators observe that staff shortages are negatively affecting students, with the most serious impacts being unmet academic needs and reduced access to specialized supports.

- 55 percent of educators report having experienced violence or aggression in the past year.

- Of those who reported incidents, only 25 percent indicate that appropriate action was taken by safety committees or officers, while school administrators report being overwhelmed.

"These findings reflect mounting pressure on teachers and the broader public education system. Teachers and students across Canada deserve safe, supportive environments for working and learning, yet many continue to face difficult conditions and challenges that affect both student well-being and learning outcomes. Without immediate action, the profession risks losing more qualified, experienced

teachers, making it challenging to recruit and retain new educators. Current challenges are pushing educators out of the profession and making it less appealing to those considering it," said the teacher's organizations in a statement. "It's not too late to turn this around but growing issues like school violence need urgent attention."

Together, the presidents are calling on all provincial and territorial governments as well as the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada to take immediate action for the good of students across this country. Key priorities include:

- Reducing class sizes to allow for meaningful instruction and student support.

- Increasing numbers of education specialists and support staff in schools.

- Addressing class complexity and ensuring safer learning environments.

- Transparent reporting of violent incidents, including actions taken.

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Immunization rates key to combating measles in Sask.

Increased cases are being reported throughout province

By Shaynee Modien
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Measles, a disease thought to be eradicated in Canada since 1998, is once again posing a problem in the Great White North. This highly contagious disease has even brought a mild surge in cases to the middle of the prairies in Saskatchewan.

Dr. David Torr, a Medical Health Officer for the Southwest region of the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), has stated that there have been 45 reported measles cases in Saskatchewan from mid-March to mid-May this year, compared to a total of just two cases between the years 2015 to 2024.

Despite this, Saskatchewan has been doing a good job of getting the word out, with Dr. Torr noting, "We've had relatively good immunization rates in the mid to high 80 per cent range, but not quite yet at the 95 per cent needed to attain good protection of the population."

The SHA continues to urge people to arrange a time to attend public health offices and get their free shots. Vaccinations can also be obtained at certain clinics in the province where public health offices are unavailable.

Getting your measles immunization shots not only protects you but helps prevent the spread of the disease.

With an increase in immigration from around the world, the Saskatchewan Health Authority has been translating health updates into languages other than English to better assist newcomers to the province.

While Canada continues to make vaccinations a priority, there are some countries in the world where measles vaccinations are not available.

In Saskatchewan, the provincial government does not mandate vaccinations for those who have recently arrived in the province, but it strongly advises and en-



Foundation pour for new pharmacy

Krueger's Concrete & Skid Steer Services with N&R Concrete were in Grenfell last week pouring the concrete for the foundation of the new pharmacy that is being built on Desmond Street next to the fire hall. The new building will be approximately 4,000 sq. ft. in size, replacing the current 2,500 sq. ft building being used.

CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

courages people to get vaccinated says Dr. Torr.

According to Dr. Torr, the measles surge in Canada can be attributed to a few key factors. Firstly, a decline in vaccination rates globally has contributed to the spread of the disease. Additionally, increased travel across the world has enabled the virus to spread more easily.

Dr. Torr says the current number of cases in the province is a "moving target," and advised people to check the SHA website for exposure updates. www.saskhealthauthority.ca/measles

[saskhealthauthority.ca/measles](http://www.saskhealthauthority.ca/measles)

A recent risk update from the Public Health Agency of Canada has suggested that if the increase in measles continues, it could mean Canada would lose its status as a country with eradicated measles.

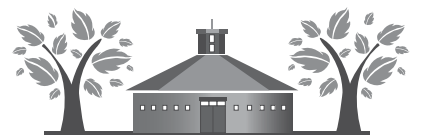
Dr. Torr, however, remains optimistic, pointing out that Saskatchewan has relatively good immunization rates, even with a minor reduction in immunization.

His message is simple: "The more people we get vaccinated, the less we shall see it."

THE TOWN OF Indian Head Town Page

SASKATCHEWAN

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Register Your Float for Parade Days!

Indian Head Parade Days is coming up quickly on June 28 and 29! It is time to start thinking about your float for the parade. Our theme for the weekend is "Small Town Strong - Canada Proud", celebrating the traditions, talents, and diversity that make us who we are. You can register by emailing indianheadcdc@sasktel.net with your name and contact information.

The weekend will include all of our favourites including the parade, family activities, tours, slo-pitch tournament, antique market and this year, music at Jimmy Robison Field ball diamonds! The weekend will wrap up with the Flatland Cruisers Show 'n' Shine on Sunday. Businesses, organizations and residents are welcomed to help us celebrate by entering a float, hosting an event, becoming a sponsor or decorating your home/business to go along with our theme!

Register for the Town Wide Garage Sale

Don't forget to register for the Town-Wide Garage Sale in Indian Head! Saturday, May 24th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please register by Friday, May 16th. Contact Meagan at 306-695-2742 or email indianheadcdc@sasktel.net if you have any questions or to get your house put on the map!

Maps will be available the week of May 19th at Bigway Foods, Pharmasave and at the Town Office or on our website.

Join the Bloom Brigade this Spring!

Spring is here... and we need your help! The Bloom Brigade is looking for volunteers to keep Indian Head blooming this summer! Whether it's watering hanging baskets, tending flower beds, or pruning trees at the community orchard, every helping hand makes a difference. Our Downtown Planting Day will be Wednesday, May 28.

Love gardening? Want to give back? This is your chance to make a positive impact while enjoying the outdoors!

Do a little or do a lot – every bit helps! Interested in volunteering? Contact Mackenzie at ihfacilities@sasktel.net

Tourist Booth Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Tourist Booth this summer. This is a great opportunity for looking to meet new people who are traveling through our Region.

We are hoping to open the Tourist Booth on Friday, May 16th for the Long Weekend. The operating hours will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers are scheduled either from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and we can work around your schedule. If you are volunteering on behalf of a local community organization, the town will make a donation to that group! If you are interested, please email indianheadcdc@sasktel.net or call 306-695-2742.

75th Anniversary

Indian Head Rockets Tribute Game

Indian Head Museum is teaming up with the Regina Red Sox to honour the 75th Anniversary of one of Saskatchewan's most legendary baseball teams – the Indian Head Rockets!

The Anniversary Game will be hosted Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 7 p.m. at Currie Field in Regina. Red Sox players will wear special 75th Anniversary Rockets hats (thanks to Sherwood CO-OP!) There will be free commemorative baseballs for kids, and you will have a chance to meet Nat Bates & Willie Reed, original Rockets from the 1952 team! Book your tickets online at reginaredsox.com.

Upcoming Community Events

May 15 – Orders due for Shriners Rose Day

May 22 – Newcomer Information Session with Regina Open Door Society

May 24 – Town Wide Garage Sale

May 24 – Bell Barn Lobster Supper

May 24 – Indian Head Golf "Night Golf"

June 3 – Shriners Rose Day Pick Up

June 8 – Indian Head Minor Ball Day

June 8 – Stampede with the Broncos

June 11 – Indian Head Rockets Tribute Game

June 14 – Curling Club Cornhole Tournament

Do you have a great community event coming up? Let us know about it! You can have your event featured on our Community Events webpage by emailing your details and poster to indianheadcdc@sasktel.net. Don't forget to schedule your community event on our sign at least one week before your event date.

www.townofindianhead.com



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."

Mixed results as Sask. Growth Plan hits halfway point

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

It's been a good half-decade in Saskatchewan if you're a cattle farmer, or a potash or uranium miner.

For the rest of us, at least as measured against the Saskatchewan Party's much-hyped 2020-30 Saskatchewan Growth Plan, not so much.

But first, the good news.

The provincial government's growth plan, as announced in November 2019, included 30 goals to reach by the time the calendar turned to 2030.

Among those was a target to grow livestock cash receipts to \$3 billion annually by 2030 – a mission that has already been achieved, and then some.

Government data shows livestock cash receipts for Saskatchewan producers hit \$3.53 billion 2023 and increased further to \$3.92 billion in 2024, nearly doubling the revenue generated in 2020.

The Sask. Party also pledged to grow uranium sales to \$2 billion, with the actual figure reaching \$2.6 billion in 2024, and further to increase potash sales to \$9 billion, both by the year 2030.

And while a soft world market for potash has kept global prices down for a prolonged period – Saskatchewan sold approximately half its target dollar figure worth of potash last year – the province did set a record for volume of potash sold, indicating meaningful progress on this file too.

Across the board, these figures create investment and employment in our province and deserve to be celebrated.

What they also do is mask a number of the provincial government's failures to deliver on substantial promises it made when it released its growth plan.

Most prominently is the Saskatchewan Party's 2019 commitment to maintain a balanced budget throughout the 2020s.

For those of you keeping score at home, our government went on to deliver five consecutive deficit budgets totaling \$6.2 billion, before pitching a \$12.2 million surplus for 2025-26.

Could those deficits – this despite a nearly \$1.1 billion increase (52 per cent or so) in provincial sales tax revenue since 2020 – be the reason Premier Scott Moe and Co. have also left our local governments in the lurch when it comes to revenue sharing?

While it's been trendy for the province to promote "record" revenue sharing with municipalities over the past few years, what the talking heads never mention is that Moe promised \$2.5 billion in annual municipal revenue sharing by 2030.

The most partisan and optimistic commentators on this file would happily hitch their wagon to the \$361.8 million in revenue sharing as of Jan. 1 – a record figure, and up 30 per cent from the same date five years ago.

The more grounded take is that annual revenue sharing needs to increase approximately 800 per cent from its current growth rate in order to meet that \$2.5 billion target.

And spoiler alert if you're betting on either slim or none regarding the chances of that happening: Slim just left the building.

Then there's the matter of population growth.

We were told Saskatchewan would be home to 1.4 mil-



lion people by 2030.

This, the story went, would increase our tax base, the number of workers available to employers and, by extension, the overall amount of financial investment in Saskatchewan.

What this target didn't account for was 28 consecutive quarters of negative interprovincial migration under Moe's leadership.

While our population has continued to grow overall, it's done so entirely on the back of international migration.

And then, once people arrive here, they don't stay.

Case in point: Statistics Canada figures show Saskatchewan has netted a loss of 56,135 more residents to other provinces than have moved here from within Canada since Jan. 1, 2018, though the overall provincial

population has grown by 81,483 people since Jan. 1, 2020.

Taken altogether, Saskatchewan remains on pace to miss the government's population target by nearly 68,000 people or approximately 30 per cent based on its starting point of 1.17 million, and would need to double its growth rate of the last five years in order to reach that 2030 goal.

(We'll set aside, for now, the entirely predictable issues around overcrowded schools and hospitals that have come with even this modest growth in recent years.)

While it would be foolish, regardless of government, to throw the baby out with the bath water just for the sake of it, it's also never a bad idea to consider whether we collectively are getting what we were promised.

And in this case, the results are decidedly mixed for most of us who don't work in a few select industries.

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Building bureaucracy part 4 – The cost of compliance

By **Connie Schwalm**
Grasslands News

Whenever we choose to live, work or simply walk into a building, we trust that the building is safe and sufficient for the purpose that drew us inside it.

So, few would argue that having a minimum standard for buildings constructed in the province is a bad thing, or that the National Building Code could not serve well as that standard.

However, as Bob Baker, owner of Professional Building Inspections (PBI), a private company which is contracted to provide Building Inspection Services by approximately 200 municipalities in the province notes, “The Building Code is a National Code, but not all provinces use the Building Code as their standard. So, the Building Code means nothing without provincial legislation behind it.”

In Saskatchewan, The Construction Codes Act (CC Act) and Regulations which came into force on January 1, 2022 made the most recent versions of the National Building Code, the National Energy Code for Buildings and the National Plumbing Code the construction standards for the province.

Furthermore, in a document released by the provincial government entitled “The Construction Codes Act and Rural Communities” it states that “compliance with the CC Act and construction standards is a shared responsibility” that is based on five principles. The Government of Saskatchewan is responsible for the legislative, regulatory and policy framework. Local authorities such as municipalities are responsible for administration and enforcement. Those local authorities are therefore required to hire or contract and appoint Building Officials to work for them. Contractors, architects and engineers work for building owners.

Building owners – under the current legislation – are responsible for compliance.

This means that a building owner must comply not only with provincial legislation and the construction standards that it sets, but also with the Building Bylaws in their municipality.

And knowing what compliance will cost can be difficult.

Under the CC Act all municipali-

ties are required to have a Building Bylaw, and as Bill Hawkins (Saskatchewan Government Relations – Building & Technical Standards) explains, a bylaw was provided through legislation to any municipality that did not write its own.

“In the past, we would often, get calls from a municipality that didn’t have a Building Bylaw, and they were trying to do things retroactively because someone was building something wrong or building something they didn’t approve of. So, we would get that call asking, ‘How can we get control of this?’

“So, we drafted a model bylaw and provided it to every municipality in the province that did not have a Building Bylaw in place. We said, ‘Here’s a model. You can improve upon it, fix it, amend it to suit your needs. But if you don’t do that, the model bylaw will automatically become your Building Bylaw as of January 1, 2023.’”

He notes that the Building Bylaw a municipality writes is reviewed and approved by the provincial government’s Building & Technical Standards Branch.

“We approve municipality’s Building Bylaws and the reason we do that is that we don’t want municipalities – large or small – writing provisions in a Building Bylaw that conflict with the CC Act. And we’ve seen that happen. A municipality will decide – ‘Oh we can write our own Building Bylaw, so we’ll write whatever we want to into it.’ And we’ve seen some silly things written into Building Bylaws. Most often, the municipality is trying to write zoning provisions into the Building Bylaw, and there’s whole other piece of legislation that applies to community planning and zoning. So, we try to keep municipalities in the right lane when they’re talking about Building Codes and Building Bylaws.”

However, the fees charged by municipalities for Building Permits, as well as the fees charged by Building Officials and private companies like PBI which provide this service to municipalities, are not subject to such oversight.

Baker explains that generally, fees for the services his company provides are incorporated into the Building Permit fee.

“The fees for everything that we do are charged to the municipality, and the municipality recovers those

cost through the Building Permit Fee. So, the owner’s costs associated with Plan Approval and Building Inspection should be included in the Building Permit Fee that an owner pays when they receive that permit.”

But he points out that additional fees might arise and notes that legislation allows municipalities to add any unpaid fees to an owner’s tax roll.

“If an inspection fails, there may be a re-inspection. Or if an owner decides to change something or add to the project, there may need to be an additional inspection, and there will be additional fees for extra inspections like that. The fees for extra inspections will not be build into the building permit fee. And if there is a situation where there has been a legal order against the property, there may be additional fees associated with that. The CC Act is set up so that these additional fees can be billed to the owner and added to their taxes if they are not paid.”

Baker goes on to say that fees charged by companies like his can vary, depending on how the company chooses to determine their fees.

“There’s a lot of difference in Saskatchewan in the way that fees for the services we provide are calculated. With residential projects for example, we charge according to the different project type. But other service providers charge according to the value of construction. So, for the same house, that company would look at the cost of building that house and can charge according to that. But we look at the type of project that it is and the square footage of the house, since that determines how many inspections we’ll need to do.”

Moreover, Hawkins says that each municipality is able to decide how much it will charge for a Building Permit fee.

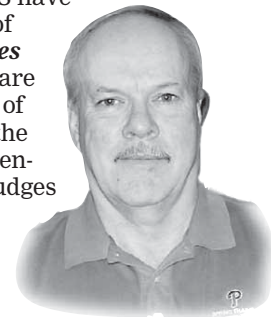
“We do not set Building Permit fees, that fee is determined by the municipality. And the method used to determine the cost of a Building Permit varies from municipality to municipality. Sometimes, these fees are based on the cost of construction. For example, here in Regina, I think that the Building Permit fee is around \$8/\$1000 of construction value. So, if you have a \$300,000 construction project, the Building Permit fee will be \$2400.

- SEE BUILDING BUREAUCRACY, 9

Gene Hauta

It’s a Strange World

Federal judges in the US have been receiving hundreds of **unwanted pizza deliveries** since February, but these are certainly not random acts of kindness. The judges say the pizza deliveries are threatening, and largely going to judges overseeing lawsuits that are challenging Trump administration policies. Some have even been delivered to relatives of judges. This is being seen as a warning that ‘they’ know where these judges live and where their families are. This is an administration that has been brazen in its attacks on the judiciary.



Of course, some people will say ‘**just accept the gift**’, such as President Trump says he will do after Qatar offered to gift him a \$400 million luxury jet that he basically gets to keep if he ever leaves the Presidency. He compared it to someone saying a putt is a ‘gimee.’ He said anyone would be crazy not to accept such a gift and walk to the next hole. Others know that Qatar is not doing that for nothing. Trump has claimed this trip to the Middle East as looking for business deals for America, but too many see it being marked by potential private business deals that will greatly enhance the interests of his inner circle. Since the aircraft is 14 years old, it will require millions (maybe up to \$1 billion) for a makeover to meet standards for Air Force One.

For the first time ever, cardinals have named an American to be **the new pope**. Robert Francis Prevost, 69, received votes from at least 89 of the 133 cardinals in the conclave, a two-thirds majority, to become the new pontiff. Although he is a registered Republican, he has publicly been **a critic of Trump**, which is why the President did not want to see him as the Pope. An online source said, “Nobody thought the Pope would ever be an American, but that’s how much the Vatican didn’t want to pay the tariff.”

A 75-year-old Illinois man has had an unusual surgery. **Fifty-one years ago**, Arthur Lampitt smashed his 1963 Thunderbird into a truck. His fractured hip drew attention away from his injured arm, which eventually healed. Recently, the arm started getting bigger and began hurting. He saw a doctor who **removed a 7-inch turn signal lever** from his left arm.

A motorist called the Ogden (Utah) Police Dept. to report a reckless driver. Police located the vehicle but backed off, ending what could have been a wild chase. Soon, a crash was reported and they found the same vehicle. Neither **the driver, a 7-year-old boy**, nor his passenger, a 5-year-old sister, were injured. In fact, they scrambled out of the car and flipped off the driver of the car they hit. Their mother, Whitney Bush, was awakened by the police at her home about 10 miles away. She insists that all four children were asleep when she had checked. While police have not pressed charges due to the boy’s age, Bush says she is requiring him to perform community service for neighbors. She admits her son has had some “behavioral issues,” but was denied help because he was “too young.”

A NHS worker in the UK has **been awarded close to £30,000 (CAD \$55,000)** because a former colleague compared her to Star Wars bad guy Darth Vader. In the UK, the NHS (National Health Service) is a publicly funded healthcare system. Lorna Rooke said in 2021 a co-worker took a Star Wars-themed Myers-Briggs personality test on her behalf. The test likens participants to one of the franchise’s characters. Rooke, a blood donation bank employee, was given Darth Vader — the Sith lord widely viewed as one of the most powerful, hated villains of the franchise — as her personality doppelganger. She claimed, apparently successfully, that her colleague, Amanda Harber, had neither permission to take the test in her name nor to distribute the results to other staff members. As a result of the quiz, Rooke was made to feel widely disliked, which contributed to her low mood and led her to feel anxious in the workplace.

Near Uskegee, Ala., a **runaway kangaroo named Sheila** shut down a stretch of interstate highway before troopers and the animal’s owner “wrangled the wayward marsupial.” Macon County Sheriff Andre Brunson said that no one believed the call about a kangaroo. Patrick Starr, the owner, used a dart to tranquilize the animal. Starr’s family runs a pumpkin patch and petting zoo, but Sheila is just a personal pet.

“Old age has come at a terrible time. Just as I was starting to know it all, I’m now forgetting everything I knew.”

Ain’t that the truth? Keep reading between the lines. and maybe something will stick...

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Regional park pass library program revived for 2025

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

After almost four weeks on life support, the Saskatchewan Library Association's Regional Parks Lending Program has been given a stay of execution for at least one more year.

The program, which was launched as a pilot project in 2022, allows library patrons to borrow a park pass – valid at any of Saskatchewan's regional parks – for up to seven days at a time, covering the cost of daily or weekly park entry fees.

In late April the three-year partnership between the Saskatchewan Libraries Association (SLA), Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association (SRPA) and Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA) appeared to be over when local libraries announced the pro-

gram would not run again in 2025 due to "funding challenges."

Then, May 22, the regional parks group issued a news release announcing the program would in fact return for this year, though it noted that "for the long-term sustainability of the program, funding options are being explored."

SRPA executive director Michelle Giesbrecht told Grasslands News on Tuesday that the program's future was placed in doubt when the SPRA – which is funded in part by Sask. Lotteries – offered a reduced amount of funding to buy and distribute the passes for 2025.

"There were some cuts within the association that was providing that funding for us, then what happened was we had to wait for our annual general meeting to take a vote from the membership whether we could carry the program forward ourselves for just this year," said Giesbrecht.

The regional parks board approved the motion to take on an increased financial role and keep the program going for this year, while also accepting a reduced amount of support from the SPRA.

Giesbrecht added that individual parks are also foregoing their share of the revenue from the passes purchased this year, another change from previous years.

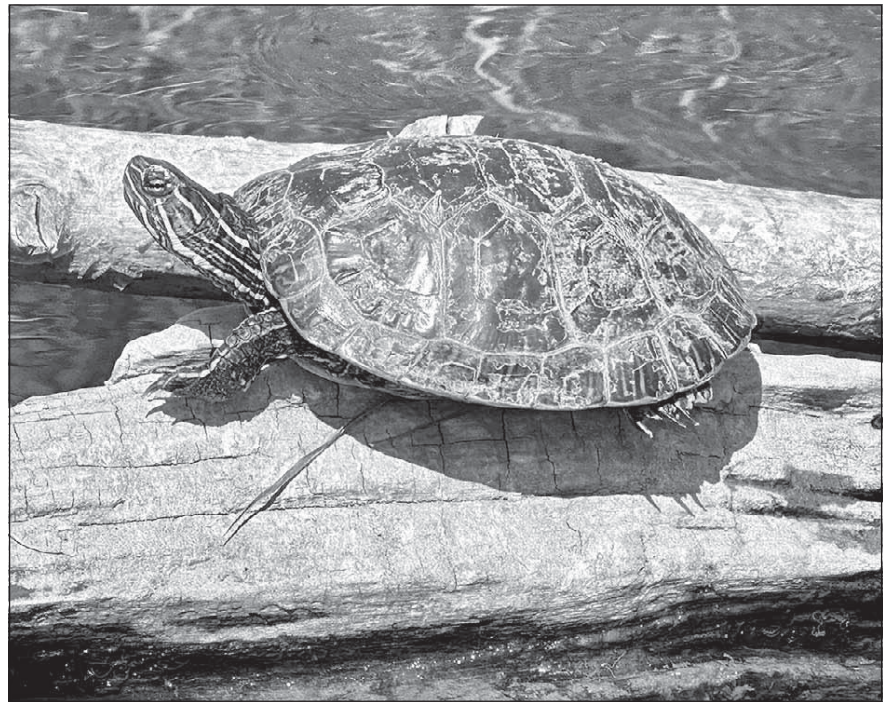
"The parks typically would get remuneration for the passes that were sold but they will not be getting that this year. They were kind enough to just approve the program as is," she said.

News of the lending program's revival was welcomed with open arms in White City, where library board chair Justine Walton said their allocation of passes has routinely been fully booked throughout the summer months.

"We were all disappointed to hear of the challenges with funding," Walton told Grasslands News. "We were told just to wait and in the meantime we said we would even buy passes just for our own library, but we're very, very, very grateful to hear there is new funding for this program."

"It's been a very popular program."

Yes, even in White City where the closest regional parks (at Montmartre, Avonlea and Weyburn) are almost an hour's drive away.



CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Turtle tanning

A turtle sits on a log in the Qu'Appelle River basking in the sunshine that the area has been enjoying for the last week. Turtles are a common site along the shorelines of the valley river.

"I remember with provincial parks when you could just go there that weekend if you happened to have time you didn't think you had, plunk your kids on a picnic table and book a site," she said. "Now that competition for

provincial park space is almost too much, and you get people who are booking spaces at two or three parks for the same weekend ... but that leaves a lot of us out of the loop when they're just eating the cost of the cancellation fee."

Passes will be available at libraries across the province beginning June 16 and ending Sept. 15.

Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis and must be obtained in person at a local library branch.

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SCAN HERE



New spa in valley helps customers look their very best

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

The property that once housed Old Fashioned Foods in Fort Qu'Appelle has been converted into the Elan Beauty & Spa. The staff of its four licensed estheticians are

dedicated to making customers look their very best. Manager Wendy Nguyen came to Canada from Ho Chi Minh City four years ago and has operated spas in Alberta and in Regina before moving to Fort Qu'Appelle.

“Fort Qu'Appelle is an ideal location. There is a market here for manicures and pedicures,” she said. “Before, everyone in the valley had to drive to Regina for professional restyling and makeup. Now it is available in Fort Qu'Appelle. I love it here.”

Included in the spa services is a basic head massage with grapefruit essential oil which cleans the hair and is said to build full body. “It leaves the scalp refreshed, relaxed and beautifully managed,” says Nguyen. The facility has six bays which cater to both women and men. A basic head massage costs \$40 for a relaxing half hour makeover The Deluxe Head spa costs \$79 for an hour but until June 17 Elan Beauty and Spa is offering up to a 20 per cent discount on its various treatments as an opening special.



New spa
This two-year-old and her mom enjoyed a full beauty treatment at the new spa in Fort Qu'Appelle which is celebrating its grand opening.

Building bureaucracy issues in Saskatchewan

- continued from page 7

“But some municipalities charge more than that. Other municipalities and building officials have more complex fee schedules, where they charge a certain amount for Plan Review, a specific amount for each inspection and a certain amount for travel. And if they are required to work outside of normal hours, they may charge a premium for that.”

overhead of government (office space, benefits paid to employees etc.) And a Building Official should expect to earn enough to cover their costs.

course that a ratepayer who believes the fees being charged are “excessive or nit-picky” has – is to appeal to the same local authority that set those fees in the first place.

Consequently, Baker observes that estimates are provided to owners wanting to budget for their building project – by the municipality - on a case-by-case basis.

“We do not get involved in fee schedules. That’s also a market driven initiative. A municipality can go to the marketplace and look for these services. And if they find better value from another service provider, they can take advantage of that.”

“If a ratepayer doesn’t understand or agree with the fee being charged, then they need to go back to the municipality and have a conversation with them. Those fees should only be in effect because the municipality has a contract with the Building Official or has a Building Official on staff or has written it into their Building Bylaw. So, it is the municipality that is responsible for the fees. It’s a market-driven business that way, and we don’t interfere in the marketplace like that.”

“When an owner contacts us, asking for an estimate of what our fees for their project would be, what I normally do is let the municipality know what our fees would be, and then the municipality can let the owner know what the Building Permit fee would be. The reason for that is that we have a standard amount that we would charge. But it is the municipality that decides what it will charge for a Building Permit fee. So, we can’t really answer for every municipality on what the Building Permit fee would be.”

He points out that his department does recommend that a municipality should be ready to justify its fee.

For anyone embarking on a building project, the Building Permit fee and other additional fees associated with construction standards are only some of the figures that must be considered. Other costs of construction have risen dramatically over the past few years. Does the cost of compliance have a significant impact on the decision to go ahead with a construction project? Next week, we will endeavor to answer that question.

Hawkins also notes that while some guidance on fees is provided to municipalities, the government will not interfere in something that Hawkins says is “market driven.”

“The one thing we recommend is that the municipality collect the fee and be ready to explain it. If I’m a ratepayer and I go to the municipal office to apply for my Building Permit, they need to be able to hand over to me a schedule that tells me what I’ll pay for my Building Permit and be able to defend it and explain that schedule. The fees should not be excessive or nit-picky. When the owner picks up their Building Permit, they should know what the fee is and what variables are in the front end.”

However, Hawkins admits that the only re-





Travis Keisig
MLA for Last Mountain -
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Borderland Co-op AGM

- continued from front page

are now offering build services in our communities but do not utilize local trades and material suppliers for these projects. Not a great recipe for operational sustainability if these trends continue," Schenn said during his report.

The CEO did have some positive things to point out in his report, including outlining the positive impact Borderland has on many communities through employment, property taxes and support of local groups, events and organizations.

"We are very aware of the impact we have on our local economies. In most communities we operate in we are the largest employer, the largest single taxpayer and the most consistent contributor to local events, groups and initiatives. Often, co-ops are the only retail organization willing to invest in retail jobs and facilities in smaller rural communities while most of our competitors focus on urban locations alone with the expectation that rural will come to them," said Schenn. "The reality is our absence would have a tremendous impact on retail trade, property tax revenue from not only our facilities but the tax revenue/economic spin-off of our people who make the place they work their home in any community we operate in. This is a tremendous responsibility for our team, but this is only half of the equation. The balance of the responsibility falls to the membership who as shareholders have a duty to support their local co-operative wherever possible to keep it sustainable. After all, the earnings we generate go back to our members that support their local co-op."

Schenn spoke on some of the projects Borderland took on in 2024, including the construction of the new Marketplace food store in Moosomin and the C-Store in Kipling. As well, he spoke about the pilot project in the Rovenville Food Store which saw the store renovated to greatly expand the variety of fresh food. The project has been a huge success for the location and the community.

"Since completion of the new concept in January, sales increased by 15 per cent and more importantly, in the 10 weeks since the opening of the new Moosomin Food Store, Rocanville sales have not declined at all which is tremendously encouraging, said Schenn.

Over \$2 million was saved by Borderland in the construction of their two new facilities. The Kipling C-Store came in \$1.3 million underbudget, primarily due to Borderland's Project and Development's team being able to be the general contractor for the project, while the Moosomin food store project also utilized Borderland's staff in conjunction with the project contractor to save \$800,000 from that budget.

"Our success in these projects has opened an opportunity for us to general contract a C-Store renovation and petroleum upgrade project for Arcola Co-op in 2025. Going forward it may be possible for us to do more commercial projects with other Co-op's in the future which would be good for Borderland and other Co-op's," said Schenn.

In closing Schenn gave provided some stats on Borderland Co-op that included having over 14,000 members and employing over 400 people in seven communities (serving an additional 17 communities) with \$15.3 million in salaries and benefits paid out. More than \$400,000 a year in municipal taxes are paid to communities and nearly 300 local groups, events and organizations received in excess of \$150,000 in donations.

Borderland operates six food stores, five home and building centres, seven petroleum locations, six c-stores, three liquor stores, one petroleum location, 1 agro centre, one IT services location, two administration sites and one Dairy Queen. Borderland



18-years
John Thiessen (left) receives a service award for 18-years of service from Borderland Co-op president Lawrence Swanson.

also has three IT services agreements with sister Co-op's to manage their IT infrastructure, supporting a combine \$446 million in combined sales volume.

Over Borderland's 87-year history, it has realized over \$1.5 billion in sales with over \$61 million in savings that has been reinvested to members and new and renovated facilities in the communities.

President's Report

Lawrence Swanson, president of Borderland Coop Board, called the past year an exciting with many projects that have been in the planning stages for many years coming to fruition. He also said that upgrades in most other locations also provided fresh looks to the stores.

"We were able to build both projects under budget and on time. In fact, the C-store in Kipling was ahead of schedule. Importantly, this helps strengthen and stabilize our asset base. Older assets like most of our locations consume a lot of our energy and time keeping them viable to serve our customers and shareholders," said Swanson. "The strategy behind the Moosomin grocery store is to not just serve the community with a fresh, new store, but to support all our grocery locations with products not all stores can carry regularly. We have also planned and are utilizing on-line ordering such as Click and Collect where, through our own delivery network, we can have any product delivered to any location with next-day efficiency."

"One of the concerns of our smaller location customers was that the large store would draw away from the smaller locations and hasten their decline, but we have proved that not to be the case. In fact, we will continue to strengthen all our locations, to keep them financially healthy long into the future," the president added.



18-years
Lawrence Swanson (left) receives a service award for 18-years of service from Borderland Co-op vice-president Chris Ashfield.

Resolutions, Elections and Awards

Two resolutions were also presented and voted on during the AGM. The first had to do with director remuneration while the other saw the the removal of Bylaw 4.05, which had to do with resolutions for annual or special meetings needing to be submitted 14 days prior. The Co-op Act already addresses the issue as such it was not needed. Both motions passed.

Three board of directors were up for re-election but with no names submitted prior to the deadline, all three were re-elected by acclamation for a three-year term. They were board president Lawrence Swanson, vice-president Chris Ashfield and secretary Astrid Van't Westeinde. Other directors still on the board are Rob Hill, Sandra Logan, John Thiessen, Ray Donald, Stan MacMillan and Brad Kearns.

Both John Thiessen and Lawrence Swanson were also presented with long-time service awards during the AGM. Both have served 18-years on a Co-op board, with Swanson beginning his tenor with Hometown Co-op before the amalgamation and Thiessen having served on the Borderland board.



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Condo delegates request break with property taxes

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

Crossroads Villa, the condo in Whitewood, made a presentation to the town council at the May 20, 2025, meeting after receiving their Tax Notice for 2025.

Brian Blyth was the spokesperson for the delegation with Doug Armstrong and Les Blyth also attending for the condo representatives.

The condo was built with individual investors in co-operation with Bridge Road Developments Inc. Brian Blyth stated, "The condo was built so people could retire here initially."

He continued relaying the costs are astronomical. There is a need for 16 of the 18 units to be utilized to break even. One and one-half units paid the past taxes but with this year, 3 units per month are needed to pay the taxes. Rental rates are \$1,600 - \$2,000 per month and are in direct competition to competition in the area.

"We have got to do something or we're not viable," Blyth commented. "We are asking if we can negotiate something

until we talk to SAMA again."

The delegation added that if the tax rate would have been left at last year's rates, their taxes wouldn't have increased by \$11,000.

"We feel for your increase," Mayor Chris Ashfield replied to the delegates. "We did comparisons and thought the rate for you was going down. Apparently the condo was originally listed as commercial and when SAMA changed it to residential in their system, the changes were not made in the town's system so the present administration didn't know this was not correct information that were being reviewed."

Ashfield stated the increase was not known until tax notices were received and inquired if the condo had reviewed and appealed their assessment?

The condo delegates stated the assessment, which increased over \$1 million, was received but their manager didn't realize that taxes would go up so much until they got their tax notice. They stated it was the mill rate factor that increased the taxes.

"Council did not intend for these prob-

lems. An appeal to SAMA can't be done until next year. Assessments are out of council's control," Ashfield commented.

"We want to pay our share of taxes but want a comparison with towns of the same circumstances," Blyth responded. "We are just requesting for this issue to be looked at and see what can be done."

The mayor added that the council can not set a precedence when regarding if there are any solutions. The Town has budgeted for a profit of only \$1,700 so the Town's budget is also very tight.

Delegate Doug Armstrong commented that this put them in a precarious position to which the mayor responded that

they can't go back now. He referred to the situation as a "perfect storm" due to the town's system not having been changed from a commercial assessment in prior years so examples council reviewed prior to setting the mill rate factor would have provided a correct estimate. Add to this, the condo manager not realizing that the assessment rates should have been questioned or appealed and resulted in the tax notice being what was sent out.

Following the presentation, council decided to review what options were available if any and bring it back at a future meeting.

Council reviews bylaws, lot sales and meeting schedules

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Grenfell town council held a regular meeting at 7 p.m. on May 21 with all members present.

Public Works

Public Works Superintendent Jeff Martinuk provided council with an update on infrastructure projects and staff activities.

Paving projects that were contracted but not completed last fall are expected to resume next month.

Preparations are being made to open the outdoor swimming pool for the summer season. Martinuk informed council that the tarp cover for the pool will need to be replaced soon since the material has deteriorated.

Public Works employees follow a regular rotation of mowing municipally owned properties during the spring and summer. Martinuk stated that staff began with the GRP since the campground opened on the May long weekend. Rain caused some delays, but staff will continue to address grass cutting as weather permits. In addition to maintaining municipal properties, Public Works staff will also mow the grass at the schools. The town will be compensated for this service as per a contract with Prairie Valley School Division (PVSD).

Lot Sales

Earlier this year, the town initiated a sales promotion for properties that allows vacant, serviced lots to be purchased for a net cost of \$1. Municipally owned, serviced, residential lots can be purchased for \$1 plus a deposit of \$11,000, to be refunded if a residence is constructed within two years. This incentive was also approved for vacant lots that are zoned for commercial. Councillors reasoned that,

once a building was constructed, the town would receive tax revenue to offset the initial cost of these properties.

In an effort to arrange all municipal lot sales in a consistent manner, council considered applying a promotion to un-serviced lots in residential zones. Due to a potential conflict of interest, Mayor Mark Steininger exited the meeting while council discussed parameters for the proposed incentive.

Council approved a motion that one un-serviced lot that is adjacent to a residential property may be sold by the town for a cost of \$1,500 plus a refundable deposit of \$5,000. The un-serviced lot must then be tied to the adjacent residential lot. The purchaser would be responsible for expenses incurred for the parcel tie but would receive a refund of \$5,000 from the town if the property tie was completed within six months.

Other stipulations were attached to the motion, including that the un-serviced lot must be available for sale to all members of the public and sold on a first-come, first-served basis. A 30-day restriction was also placed on council members and third-party purchasers.

Councillors noted that minimal taxes would be accrued following such a sale, but they felt it was still beneficial since the un-serviced property would be maintained by a private owner rather than the town. After a lot was purchased and tied to a property with an existing residence, the owner would be responsible for maintaining it in compliance with town bylaws. If the owner wished to construct a building on the lot, it would also be subject to the town's development bylaw.

The mayor returned to the meeting after the motion was passed.

Bylaws

Council read and approved new or updated bylaws for the operation of golf carts, ATVs and snowmobiles within town limits. This was necessary to bring the town documents into compliance with SGI regulations and provincial acts.

ATVs should not be operated within town limits except to conduct municipal business, or during a special occasion or an emergency situation.

Snowmobiles must be driven from a residence out of town or to a registered snowmobile trail by the shortest route.

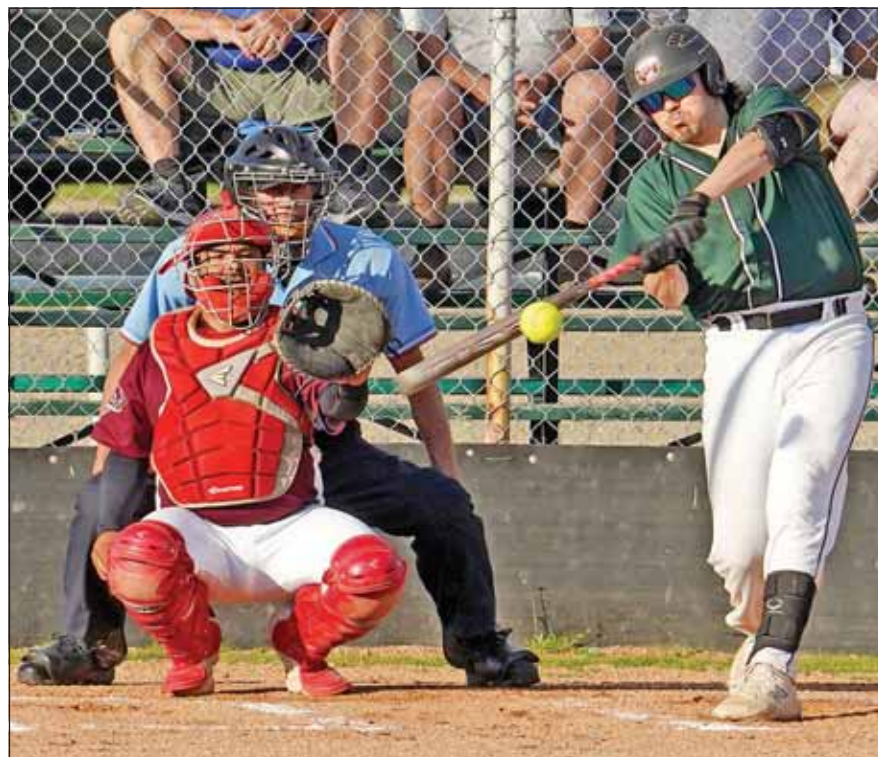
A valid Class 7 driver's license or higher is required to operate a golf cart. Every cart should have a reflective, triangular slow-moving vehicle sign attached to the back. Neither golf carts nor snowmobiles are permitted on Desmond St. between Front Ave. and the Service Rd.

A bylaw to authorize a special tax levy for a Level IV care home was introduced at the May 7 meeting. Council gave second and third readings to the bylaw and approved it at the meeting on May 21. The levy of \$320 per property will be applied to this year's taxes.

Meeting Schedule

Grenfell's CAO will attend the UMAAS convention during the first week of June. Council rescheduled its regular session from June 4 to June 10 so that CAO DeAnne Robblee could fulfill her regular role as meeting secretary.

The group discussed alternative days and earlier meeting times for regular sessions, out of consideration for administration and some members of council. Beginning on July 3, council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month, rather than at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays.



CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Men's fastball

Whitewood Falcons' player Jayden Issac hits the ball during a game against the Grenfell Gems in Whitewood on Monday night. The Gems won the Southeast Men's Fastball League game 7-0.

ATTENTION!

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SPORTS

Locals tackle inaugural Cypress Hills distance race

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

The inaugural Reesor 50 and Reesor Mountain Marathon didn't go exactly as planned for anyone, and maybe that's just the way the event's organizers and participants like it anyway.

With the courses for the 50-mile ultramarathon and 42.2-kilometre marathon already laid out, starting and ending at Historic Reesor Ranch southwest of Maple Creek, a half inch of rain decided to fall on the Cypress Hills region over the course of an hour, two days before things were to get underway May 17.

"Initially we had set the course and flagged it all, got it all ready, as a 50-mile loop," said Jeff Dudar, who served as race director alongside his brother Warren, under the Prairie Sky Running banner. "For the 50-mile loop you ran out around Reesor Lake into the Alberta side of the park then, originally, would come back in and run a 40-kilometre loop in the Saskatchewan side of the park. And the Sask. side of the park was originally set as the marathon course too."

Then came the rains. "And all the roads leading back, all the roads we used to access our Saskatchewan side of the park, were impassable and ... they wouldn't be drivable for race day, so what we ended up doing was create an out-and-back using the same course, and both the 50-mile runners and the Reesor Mountain Marathoners ran the same thing."

That meant one out-and-back to the lookout point just west of Reesor Lake for the marathoners and two back-and-

forths for the ultramarathoners.

It also meant an added degree of difficulty that wasn't originally in the forecast.

"Arguably this course, the plan B course, would be harder than the original course because the original course, there was more running on the wider Trans Canada old road trail and old quad trails and lumber roads, mill roads," said Dudar.

"With the plan B course there's only about two kilometres of running that's not on single track and so it was actually just a beauty of a course."

Local Results

When the dust settled, to whatever extent it existed after the unwelcome precipitation, White City's Adam Putz was the top local finisher in the marathon, placing 40th out of 84 starters with a time of 5 hours 58 minutes 1 second.

Solomon Parker of Balgonie finished just over a half hour behind Putz in 6:30:14, good for 52nd place.

The ultramarathon saw Stuart Chutter of Osage finish 38th out of 67 starters in 13:25:43, while the Pilot Butte trio of Eric Parent, Jamie Tait and Jaxon Tait did not finish the race.

"There's going to be a sequel," Dudar said. "The ranch and the Reesor family was really happy with how things turned out, so before we left we were chatting with Jason (Reesor) about Year 2 and what that might look like."

"We're just trying to pin down some dates and we got a lot of great feedback on our plan B course so what we haven't decided is if we're going to revert to Plan A."

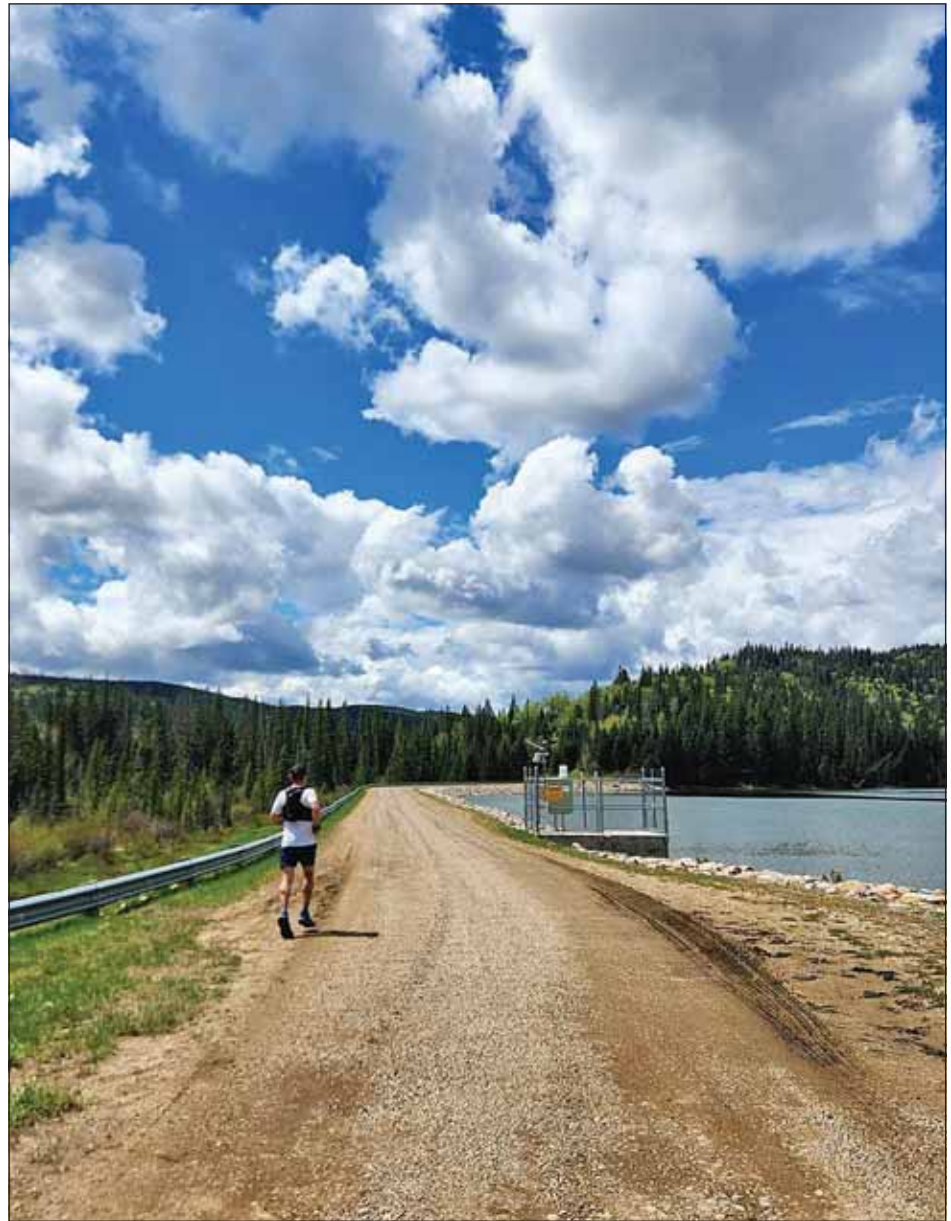


PHOTO COURTESY MICHELLE GIESBRECHT | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Running at Reesor Lake

This year's route for both the marathon and ultramarathon took runners west from the ranch, across the Alberta border and along the south edge of Reesor Lake before turning them around for the return trip.

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<p>\$324,900</p> <p>133 - 10th Ave. W, Melville MLS#003836 House 5 bds, 2 bth</p>	<p>NEW LISTING \$268,000</p> <p>167 Winnipeg ST, Melville MLS#006354 House 3 bds, 2 bth</p>	<p>\$330,000</p> <p>4 Garvin Bay, Melville MLS#005510 House 4 bds, 3 bths</p>	<p>SOLD \$429,000</p> <p>Pheasant Creek Acres RM of Abernethy - MLS#SK982585 Acreage 7 bds, 2 bth</p>	<p>\$509,000</p> <p>859 Montreal St., Melville MLS#SK993004 House 3 bds, 3 bths</p>	<p>\$999,999</p> <p>424-Abel Dr., Crooked Lake MLS#SK988185 House 6 bds, 5 bths</p>

Sports column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

Anyone who is a hockey fan knows what was happening.

There was the Winnipeg Jets' player, Mark Scheifele, head hanging low between his now softened shoulder blades, sitting alone in the penalty box as the Jets lost out to the Dallas Stars in NHL second-round playoff action.

Scheifele had been through the wringer.

Not only was his team, the President's Trophy winning Winnipeg Jets, playing for their playoff lives in Dallas, but his father had unexpectedly lost his life prior to game six of the series.

As people, we all know what it's like to lose someone important to us, and the grief that follows that sort of loss.

For Scheifele, it was a little bit different, because he had an important hockey game to play.

There's always going to be someone who says that he should have sat this contest out, as he was obviously still reeling from the news about his father Brad.

But Scheifele, one of the Jets' top players, wanted to play that game, because it meant a lot to his team, and because that's how his father would have wanted it.

Early in the game, the speedy and skilled forward had given the Jets their first goal of the game, and you could see the emotion drawn on Scheifele's face as he celebrated the tally with his teammates, knowing that he got that goal for his father, the goal that gave the Jets the lead.

It would be difficult to imagine all the things going through Scheifele's mind in the seconds following the goal.

What was he seeing? What was he feeling? He could articulate it a thousand times and we still wouldn't 'get it'.

I don't believe he could put his father's passing out of his mind for the game, so perhaps he was playing the game with the goal of performing his best for his dad, and honoring his memory as best he could while doing it.

The Stars edged closer, tying the game, and sending it to overtime.

And in the overtime, the unthinkable happened.

A turnover near the opposition blue line, saw Scheifele scramble behind the play, skating as hard as he could to break up a legitimate scoring chance, diving and sweeping his stick along the ice, and during the play, he tripped his opponent, bringing on the game's only penalty.

Scheifele said a few words to the referee as he made his way to the box, his head hanging low as he served his penalty, a penalty that wouldn't take the entire two-minutes it was assessed for, as the Stars slammed a puck home past goalie Connor Hellebuyck to win the game, and as a result, the series.

As he sat there on the penalty box bench, lingering a few moments longer than anyone wanted to see, it was as if someone let the air out of a balloon, and Scheifele, for the first time that day, wore the toll of two losses, one for his team and the other, for himself and his family.

I've been in a similar situation as a young man, losing a parent suddenly, and I had no envy for the young man who's heart just got broken twice in mere hours.

My father was my hero, as has been made obvious in any number of columns I've penned over the years, and I expect for Mark Scheifele, it was a similar story.

When he got out of the box, his teammates, his brothers, surrounded him, like a second family would in a similar situation. They understood the pain and they wanted to do whatever they could to insulate him from it, although the sting of this loss will last forever, unlike the loss of a game.

As the handshake line formed, casual hockey fans got to see why there's no other sport like it, with opposition players wishing Scheifele well and telling him how proud his father would have been of him for his heroics, his passion for the game and his leadership on one of the toughest days of his life.

It was a slow progression down the line, with each player trying to comfort someone who was their foe just moments earlier.

While all the well wishes and bear hugs were a tremendous reminder of the soul of the sport, the day will be etched onto the memory of Scheifele forever, and he won't be able to think about losing his dad, without remembering that he gave his all and everyone who watched, knew it.

It always hurts to lose your hero.

Even when you're a hero to others.

Ghost of 1967 still haunts the Maple Leafs

By Bruce Penton
Sports Columnist

Sports Column
By Bruce Penton



This could have been the year. Toronto Maple Leafs' fans across the country, of which there are millions, could hardly contain themselves when their beloved team won Game 6 of the Eastern Conference semi-final to force a Game 7 at home against Florida Panthers.

Beat the Panthers, advance to the Eastern final, cruise by the Carolina Hurricanes and cause mass hysteria in LeafLand by playing either Edmonton or Dallas for the Stanley Cup.

But the Ghost of 1967, the year the Leafs won their 13th and most recent Stanley Cup, got in the way. Florida knows a thing or two about playing critical playoff games and they bashed the Leafs 6-1 in that Game 7 showdown to extend that Stanley Cup drought to 58 years. It was Toronto's seventh straight Game 7 defeat.

There were tears. There was disbelief. There was angst. There were threats. And that was only from within the Leafs' locker room. Outside, in the stands of Scotiabank Arena in Toronto, angry and upset fans didn't hide their displeasure. At least one Toronto sweater got thrown onto the ice. Some guy paid more than \$10 for a cup of cold beer and then figured centre ice, not his stomach, was the best place for it to settle.

So now what? Team president Brendan Shanahan has been ousted. The Leafs' 'Core Four' (Auston Matthews, Mitch Marner, John Tavares and William Nylander) are almost certainly going to be the Tippy Trio after Marner declares free agency this summer. Tavares, too, might go.

Marner, who stands fifth on the all-time Leafs' scoring table, behind only Mats Sundin, Darryl Sittler, Dave Keon and Borje Salming, is a hometown boy who seems to be the scapegoat for Toronto's troubles. The Leafs tried to trade him to Caroline in exchange for Mikko Rantanen in March, but Marner stuck to his no-trade clause and said no.

Now, with the NHL's salary cap rising by \$7 million to a record \$95.5 million this year, Marner can accomplish three things: He can get out of Toronto, where he's underappreciated; he can make a gazillion dollars as a free agent; and he can select a future home where the Stanley Cup banner has more of a chance to fly than it does in Toronto.

Considering that Marner and Connor McDavid connected so well in the Four Nations Face Off (remember, it was Marner's pass to McDavid that led to the winning goal in overtime), perhaps the Oilers could break the bank and sign the Leafs' star. On the other hand, it would be almost impossible for the Oilers to pay top dollar to three superstars and fit under the salary cap,

no matter how high it goes.

While the Leafs came up short again, there were strides made in the Big Smoke. A division championship, development of some younger players (Matthew Knies and Bobby McMann for two) and a potential all-star goalie in Anthony Stolarz bodes well for the team's future.

If they have to call Ghostbusters to take care of that Ghost of 1967, so be it.

• Headline at the Canadian parody website TheBeaverton.com: "Researchers warn Tim Hortons in-app NHL Hockey Challenge is a gateway to drinking their coffee."

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "Fun fact: Picasso was born Pablo Diego José Francisco de Paula Juan Nepomuceno María de los Remedios Cipriano de la Santísima Trinidad Ruiz y Picasso. Try fitting that name on a jersey."

• Headline at fark.com: "Patriots QB Drake Maye excited about lineman who pledged to fight and die to protect Patriots QB Drake Maye."

• Zach Pereles of CBSsports.com., reviewing the past history of the final four in the chase for the NBA championship: "The Knicks — your father (or grandfather) will tell you — wore crowns in 1970 and 1973."

• Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "The Blue Jays have to feel so fortunate to not have spent all that crazy money on Juan Soto. The money was crazy, the player in this case, as we're learning, may be crazier."

• Vancouver comedian Torben Rolfson: "Anthony Edwards of Minnesota Timberwolves was fined \$50,000 for using inappropriate language in a post-game interview. The actual phrase is unknown but Minnesota fans think it was 'Go Packers.'"

• Canadian humorist Frenchie McFarlane: "Rimouski is an old Mohawk word for 'Where the moose ski.' I told that to some American folk at the Memorial Cup and they bought it."

• Super 70s Sports: "The Chicago Blackhawks set an NHL record in 1968 when their entire roster looked like dads who expected their daughters to be home by 9 p.m. and you didn't want to find out what was gonna happen at 9:02."

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hapton, Va.): "With 26-year-old Shai Gilgeous-Alexander continuing the NBA trend — now seven years running — of foreign-born MVPs, and 21-year-old Victor Wembanyama waiting in the wings, the next American MVP may be in the fifth grade."

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "TSN described the Maple Leafs as looking paralyzed against Florida in Game 7, 'lifeless' and 'not moving.' That may be a little unfair — although I've seen morgues with fewer stiffers on ice."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

A shriek in the cemetery

Loggerhead Shrikes, our macabre songbird

Submitted
Grasslands News

Spring has sprung! With the return of the warmer weather our favourite birds have also arrived; ready to start their breeding season on the prairies. One of these species to return is our favourite gruesome little songbird, the Loggerhead Shrike. This predatory songbird, well known for their habit of impaling their prey on thorns or barbs, is on the lookout for ideal habitat; with pairs building nests and getting ready to lay eggs. Late May to early June is a great time to spot returning shrikes, as they are very active finding their perfect spots!

What is the ideal habitat for a predatory songbird? One of the best places to see shrikes while you are out and about may surprise you- or not, as it is quite fitting for a bird with such spooky habitats. Shrikes can readily be found in prairie cemeteries across Southern



Loggerhead Shrike has been listed as a threatened species.

Saskatchewan, nesting in the old growth trees and shrubs that usually border the fenceline of these areas. "If you are visiting a loved one this summer in such a place, keep an eye out for these striking black, white, and grey birds!" Emily Putz, Shrubs for Shrikes coordinator with Nature Saskatchewan explains, "They have a distinct shrieking alarm call to keep an ear out for as well."

Loggerhead Shrikes

prefer cemeteries not just because flitting among gravestones fits their reputation, but because of the habitat cemeteries provide. "Prairie cemeteries are usually surrounded by pasture or crop, and the grass within them is usually mowed short, all ideal hunting areas to catch mice and insects," Putz further explains, "Paired with older growth shelterbelts, these areas really do form oases of habitat on our changing landscape.

For these reasons shrikes also prefer and can be found in abandoned yard sites, golf courses, and ball diamonds as well!"

The Loggerhead Shrike has been listed as a threatened species since the 1980s, with their range, once spanning the entirety of the prairie provinces, contracting to be mainly focused in Southern Saskatchewan and parts of SE Alberta. Habitat loss is the main driver of their decline, with the loss of both native prairie, and their adapted habitat of shelterbelts, disappearing.

Nature Saskatchewan runs a voluntary stewardship program, Shrubs for Shrikes, that works with rural landholders to conserve and monitor this species at risk. If you see a Loggerhead Shrike, or impaled prey, call the toll free HOOTline at 1-800-667-4668 or email outreach@naturesask.ca. Personal information is never shared without permission and every sighting helps this species' recovery!

ADVERTISING DEADLINE
Tuesdays 12 noon
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Montmartre hosts 22nd Perogy Run

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

Twenty-two years on, Montmartre's once-again annual Perogy Run remains as popular as ever, with 70 runners taking part in this year's event which was held Saturday, May 24.

First held in 2003, and run annually since with the exception of 2020 when it was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Perogy Run includes all-ages races of five and 10 kilometres as well as a kids' 1-kilometre run, and is held as a fundraiser for the community's Centre 48 organization, which provides a wide range of educational, artistic and recreational programming throughout the year for residents of the village and surrounding area.

Connor Renouf and Amanda Schmeling, both of Regina, won the 10K and 5K races respectively in times of 40 minutes 20 seconds and 24:40 respectively.

Renouf was followed by Vibank's Andrew Dooremalen who ran the 10K in 48:40, while Hannah Perras took second in the 5K race with a time of 26:48.

Andy and Dylan Schmeling finished first and second in the kids' 1K race with times of 4:32 and 4:56.



PHOTO VIA CENTRE 48 / FACEBOOK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

They're off

Runners depart from the starting line at Saturday's Perogy Run in Montmartre. The 22nd rendition of the event drew 70 runners this year and an additional 23 community members for the traditional post-race perogy and sausage lunch.

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Windthorst Pirates Baseball Club

FULL SCHEDULE - 2025

Game	Date	Away	Home	Location/Time
1	Tues May 20	Pirates	Padres	Moose Jaw 7:00
2	Tues May 27	Blue Jays	Pirates	Windthorst 6:45
3	Mon June 2	Pirates	Cowboys	Optimist 8:30
4	Fri June 6	A's	Pirates	Windthorst 6:45
5	Sun Jun 8	Capitals	Pirates	Windthorst 2:00
6	Tues Jun 17	Pirates	Capitals	Currie 8:45
7	Fri Jun 20	Cowboys	Pirates	Windthorst 6:45
8	Mon Jun 23	Pirates	Red Dogs	Currie 8:45
9	Fri Jun 27	Pirates	Lumsden	Lumsden 6:30
10	Sun July 6	Padres	Pirates	Windthorst 2:00
11	Tues July 8	Braves	Pirates	Windthorst 6:45
12	Mon July 14	Pirates	Cowboys	Optimist 8:30
13	Fri July 18	Bucs	Pirates	Windthorst 6:45
14	Wed July 23	Pirates	Rangers	Optimist 8:30
15	Sun July 27	Indians	Pirates	Windthorst 2:00
16	Wed July 30	Pirates	Ghosts	Optimist 8:30

Southeast Men's Fastball League

Date	Away	Home	Times
30-May	Whitewood	Cowessess	8 p.m.
	Grenfell	Neudorf	7 p.m.
02-Jun	Whitewood	Ochapowace	8 p.m.
	Round Lake	Neudorf	7 p.m.
04-Jun	Cowessess	Grenfell	8 p.m.
	Whitewood	Neudorf	7 p.m.
	Ochapowace	Round Lake	8 p.m.
06-Jun	Ochapowace	Cowessess	8 p.m.
09-Jun	Round Lake	Whitewood	6:30 p.m.
	Ochapowace	Grenfell	8 p.m.
11-Jun	Cowessess	Round Lake	8 p.m.
	Ochapowace	Neudorf	7 p.m.
13-Jun	Neudorf	Cowessess	8 p.m.
16-Jun	Whitewood	Neudorf	7 p.m.
	Cowessess	Grenfell	8 p.m.
18-Jun	Grenfell	Whitewood	6:30 p.m.
19-Jun	Ochapowace	Round Lake	8 p.m.
	Cowessess	Neudorf	7 p.m.
20-Jun	Whitewood	Grenfell	8 p.m.
23-Jun	Neudorf	Grenfell	8 p.m.
	Cowessess	Whitewood	6:30 p.m.
24-Jun	Neudorf	Round Lake	8 p.m.
25-Jun	Ochapowace	Whitewood	6:30 p.m.
	Grenfell	Round Lake	8 p.m.
27-Jun	Neudorf	Ochapowace	8 p.m.
02-Jul	Neudorf	Whitewood	6:30 p.m.
	Round Lake	Ochapowace	8 p.m.
03-Jul	Grenfell	Cowessess	8 p.m.
04-Jul	Neudorf	Ochapowace	8 p.m.

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Souris-Moose Mountain MP hits the ground running after election

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

From a voter's point of view, their work is finished once the ballot is cast. But for a new MP, the work is just beginning.

"There hasn't been any downtime," explained newly elected Souris-Moose Mountain MP Steven Bonk. "Right from the election to taking down signs and getting the election campaign wrapped up and doing all the documentation for that, right into new members orientation in Ottawa. I've been quite busy just getting organized in Ottawa, learning the ropes, and there's a lot of administration to get done before session starts, which would include training sessions, swearing in and basically just familiarizing myself with the systems in Ottawa."

With Parliament set to resume today (May 26) and the Speech from the Throne happening tomorrow, a lot of work behind the scenes needs to be done. Fortunately, with years of transferrable experience as an MLA in Moosomin-Montmartre, Bonk finds some similarities

between the roles.

"I hope I'm not making a mistake by assuming that it will be similar to my role as an MLA in the provincial legislature, but so far, a lot of the process is the same or very similar," he observed. "So I think I have a bit of a running start when it comes to getting my feet under me in Ottawa!"

In that time between the election wrapping up and the spring session beginning, Bonk has also been busy with local matters.

"In the meantime, we've been quite busy already helping constituents and then there's also the business side here back in Souris-Moose Mountain, setting up offices, getting staff organized, and just preparing ourselves for the work ahead," he said.

As for his take on the new Liberal government's first few days, Bonk notes some confusion on what is actually being done.

"From the back and forth we've heard from the Liberals so far, it's hard to know what to think," he said. "We're hearing mixed messages coming from the Prime Minister

and then quite often contradictory messages coming from his cabinet. The Liberals do have quite a poor track record of saying one thing and doing another, so we will see if they remain true to their word."

One example has been with Prime Minister Mark Carney vowing support for an energy pipeline on the campaign trail, but Heritage Minister Steven Guilbeault expressing the opposite view post-election.

"And not just Guilbeault, Dominic LeBlanc (Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs) also reiterated that the energy corridor would be about all sorts of electricity infrastructure, and he said 'not necessarily pipelines'," Bonk said. "So that's also a reason for concern for people in our riding."

We're in the heartland of production here when it comes to conventional oil production in Saskatchewan, and it's extremely important to us that we have a way to get our product to market. Pipelines are the most efficient way to get our product to market."

The spring session runs from May 26 to June 20, with MPs breaking for the summer until Sept. 15. Bonk plans to spend the summer with committee work, but he says the most important—and enjoyable—part of his job is meeting with the people of Souris-Moose Mountain.


"It will be time to get out into the constituency and meet more people, to hear their concerns and tell them about the work that the opposition is doing to represent them in Ottawa," he said.

As for the four weeks of this first session after the election, it will be interesting to see exactly what will be discussed.

"It's unprecedented to have no budget planned—especially coming from a former Bank of Canada governor," said Bonk. "It's just mind-boggling. It's very interesting times and concerning times in Canada at the moment,

and I know our opposition will do everything we can to hold this government to account and hopefully force an election as soon as we can."

"With an increased number of seats on the opposition side, we have quite a diverse and strong team, and I'm looking forward to doing some really good work to hold the Liberals to account," Bonk concluded.



NOTICE OF POLL BY-ELECTION

Village of Lebreton

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with *The Local Government Election Act, 2015* that a vote will be held for the election of:

COUNCILOR: Village of Lebreton

Voting may take place:

<p>Advanced Poll Friday June 6, 2025 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Regular Poll Wednesday June 18, 2025 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.</p>
---	---

Seniors Room located in the Village Complex
12 Place De L'eglise, Lebreton, SK

Results will be declared Thursday June 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 22nd day of May 2025

Lisa Fayant, Returning Officer

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NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS Rural Municipality of Lipton No. 217

Public notice is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

Councillor: RM of Lipton No. 217 Division #3

will be received by the undersigned on the 18th day of June, 2025 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office, 226 Main Street Lipton, SK and during regular business hours on June 2nd to June 17th, 2025, at the Municipal Office.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the Municipal Office located at 226 Main Street in Lipton, SK

Dated this 30th day of May, 2025.

Ronda Heisler, Returning Officer

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

RM of Grayson No. 184
Province of Saskatchewan

Notice is hereby given under the *Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before the 22nd day of July, 2025, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4(3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act* is included in the amount shown against each parcel.

Description of Property	Title #	Total Arrears	Costs and Advert.	Total Arrears & Costs
Lot 14 Block A Plan 59M00155-1 Sunset Beach	108667604	\$ 1,322.31	\$6.75	\$ 1,329.06
Lot 11 Block E Plan 69R03590 Sunset Beach	126078037	\$ 439.35	\$6.75	\$ 446.10
NW 19 20 05 W2	143474272	\$ 926.66	\$6.75	\$ 933.41
NW 30 20 05 W2	143474092	\$ 818.76	\$6.75	\$ 825.51
SW 30 20 05 W2	143474148, 143474553	\$ 812.75	\$13.50	\$ 826.25
NE 24 20 06 W2	143474339	\$ 738.65	\$6.75	\$ 745.40
NW 07 21 04 W2	143474430	\$ 642.32	\$6.75	\$ 649.07
SW 07 21 04 W2 Ext. 21 & 22	143474227, 143474205	\$ 775.23	\$13.50	\$ 788.73
NE 04 21 05 W2	143474238	\$ 799.65	\$6.75	\$ 806.40
NE 08 21 05 W2	143474520	\$ 804.87	\$6.75	\$ 811.62
SE 08 21 05 W2	143474171	\$ 776.16	\$6.75	\$ 782.91
NW 09 21 05 W2	143474182	\$ 863.22	\$6.75	\$ 869.97
SW 14 21 05 W2	143474441	\$ 903.05	\$6.75	\$ 909.80
SW 16 21 05 W2	143474485	\$ 809.96	\$6.75	\$ 816.71
pt SE 21 21 05 W2 (Blk/Par A Plan 101666426 Ext 11)	151104383	\$ 853.85	\$6.75	\$ 860.60
pt SW 18 21 06 W2 (Blk/Par A Plan 102001622 Ext 0)	138122423	\$ 585.28	\$6.75	\$ 592.03

Dated this 30th day of May, 2025.

Sarah Dietrich, Administrator

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Retired teacher shares her new book at library

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Retired teacher Constance MacKenzie visited Grenfell Library last week to share her recently published thriller, **Deadly Disclosure**.

The library hosted the book talk on May 21 and community members were eager to hear about the new novel.

MacKenzie was an elementary and middle school teacher in Saskatchewan for 35 years, and much of her career was spent at Grenfell Elementary School. When she retired in 2014, MacKenzie told her Grade 5 class that she planned to publish a book.

This promise was fulfilled last September when **Deadly Disclosure** was officially released by Pegasus Publishers.

As a teacher MacKenzie often prepared creative writing examples for her students and this developed her own skills as well.

In addition to teaching, MacKenzie had experi-



SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Book published

Constance MacKenzie, who taught at Grenfell Elementary School for many years, shared her recently published book **Deadly Disclosure** at Grenfell Library on May 21.

ence working on her family farm. The many hours she spent operating a cultivator and daydreaming about "what if..." scenarios, combined with her literary abilities and an interest in investigative journalism, led MacKen-

zie to write a murder mystery set in Saskatchewan.

Deadly Disclosure is directed to an adult audience and features a journalist named Cathy Parker who spent her teenage years in rural Saskatchewan.

As an adult Cathy investigates the tragic murder of her fiancé, eventually discovering the truth from an unexpected source.

Since the novel was released last fall, MacKenzie has engaged with readers through sessions like the one at Grenfell Library. MacKenzie now lives in Saskatoon but she is still known to many Grenfell residents, including some of those who gathered for her presentation last Wednesday.

She gave a brief explanation of how the book was developed, mentioning her grandson's assistance with the cover

design, and then read an excerpt aloud. They listened eagerly and some purchased a book to read the rest of the story or asked the author to sign their copy.

MacKenzie willingly added her autograph to the books but provided a personal note on a separate card which, in true teacher fashion, included an assignment.

The note card advised that they "read to discover the meaning of the gladiola" in preparation for the book's sequel.

MacKenzie plans to complete two more books for the series about Cathy Parker and is already com-

posing the next story. It is set along the Trans-Canada Highway and features a university professor who demonstrates some eccentricities such as a particular interest in mummification.

"I'm enjoying it as I'm writing it, and I figure if I'm enjoying it then hopefully the readers do to," MacKenzie commented.

Deadly Disclosure can be purchased from McNally Robinson or Barnes & Noble bookstores, and from Amazon or Pegasus Publishers. Copies of MacKenzie's book are also available to borrow from libraries in Grenfell and Saskatoon.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Melville Churches Welcome You

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Sunday, June 1:

*11:00 a.m. Worship Service
with Communion
Installation of Officers

*9 a.m. Worship at Trinity, Lemb
with Communion

*11 a.m. Worship at Christ, Neud
with Communion

Tuesday, June 3:

11:30 a.m. SPCW Lunch at Rail C.

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH

Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.
Church Office 306-728-5764;
306-720-0589

Sunday, June 1:

10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

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website: firstunitedmelville.org

Sunday, June 1:

11 a.m. Worship Service

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(Melville Comm. Works)
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Pastor Tim Oehler

Sundays:

9:55 a.m. Pre-service Prayer
10:00 a.m. Coffee and Welcome
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
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May 29: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
May 30: 7:00 p.m. Youth
June 1: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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Sunday, June 1:

11:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Followed by Blessing of Graves
in Melville and Birmingham
Sunday, June 8:
5:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy

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Connections at 9:30 a.m.
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Melville Churches Welcome You

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Sunday, June 1:

11:00 a.m. 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

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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, May 31:

5:00 p.m. Mass Service

ST. MARY'S

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Sunday, June 1:

10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN

CHURCH, WAPPELLA

Sunday, June 1:

No Worship Service

WHITWOOD

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, June 1:

No Worship Service

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*Living with Cancer Support Group
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Growing in Faith Together

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102 Nelson Ave. - 306-736-2237

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*Services Held 1st and 3rd Sundays

at 9:30 a.m. Minister will vary*

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306-424-2604, George

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

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Ray Person/Service Leader

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bkbernard@gmail.com

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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

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Fort Qu'Appelle - valleyalliance.ca

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Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

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Phone - 306-551-6213

Hall Contact - 306-331-6720

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194 Bay St., Fort Qu'Appelle

Rev. Jo Mader, 306-332-4455

Sunday School & Service 10:30

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SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Team effort

Beautification Melville, with the help of The River Youth group and adult helpers, teamed up with the clean up of Martha's Garden at St. Peter's hospital. Trimming, pulling weeds, edging flower beds and raking leaves filled many black bags. All at the same time learning the difference from a weed and a flower. Thank you to Jay Exner and his team that are always ready to encourage and lead this youth group to support and build community pride.



PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT BYLAW NO. 477/2025

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Balgonie intends to adopt a Bylaw, under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, to amend Bylaw No. 374/2014, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT:

The proposed Bylaw will allow for a reduced minimum frontage for public parks and outdoor recreational areas within the Community Service (CS) District and prohibit the use or erection of temporary garages (fabric covered structures) over 9.3 m² (100 sq. feet) in all Zoning Districts.

REASON FOR THE AMENDMENT:

The reason for reducing the minimum frontage for parks in the CS District is to accommodate the proposed upgrades to Greenall School.

PUBLIC INSPECTION:

Any person may inspect the Bylaw at the Town of Balgonie Municipal Office Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available for a cost at the Municipal Office.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions on the proposed Bylaw on June 23, 2025 at 7 p.m. at the Town of Balgonie Council Chambers. 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 306-771-2284.

Issued at the Town of Balgonie, this 30th day of May, 2025.

Karen Craigie, CAO/Administrator



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

Obituary Michael James Peigan

June 21, 1932 – May 25, 2025

Sunday, May 25, 2025, Michael (Mike) James Peigan (born June 21, 1932) of Pasqua First Nation was called home by Creator in Fort Qu'Appelle, SK.

Predeceased by his parents, Alfred Pascal Peigan and Mary Peigan (McGillis); grandparents David and Amelia Peigan; uncles Thomas and Willie Peigan; brothers Anthony, Lawrence, Johnny and Fred Peigan; sisters Lena, Madeline and Ruth Peigan; first wife Mable McKay, and second wife Viola Episkinew-Goodwill; dear friend Grace Peigan; children Kate (Kevin) Peigan, Michael Peigan Jr., Vivian Anaquod; sons-in-law Lindsay Cyr and Gary Haines; daughters-in-law Elaine Pascal and Kelly Lerat.

Mike is survived by his children: Gary, Lorraine, Lester (Marie), Lana (Ken), Brian and Melissa; special grandchildren: Tara (Henry), Heather (Scott), Tony (Jamie); brothers Donald Peigan and Robert (Marlene) Peigan; sister Theresa Peigan; son-in-law Robert Anaquod; daughter-in-law Lucy Starr; special nieces Brenda and Darlene Bellegarde; 18 grandchildren, 53 great-grandchildren and 18 great-great-grandchildren.

Mike worked as a farmer for over 30 years and bus driver for 20 years. He was also backhoe operator for 20 years then retired at the age of 72.

Wake will be held Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 4 p.m. in the Chief Ben Paskwa Memorial Hall, Pasqua First Nation. Funeral service will be held Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 11 a.m. in the same location.

Arrangements entrusted to Conley Funeral Home, Fort Qu'Appelle, SK. 1-306-332-0555.



Garage Sales

MOVING SALE at 305 - 2nd Ave. West, Melville, June 5 to June 8. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Downsizing to an apartment, wide variety of items. Freezer (41x23x34 in. high), large chesterfield, desk, coffee table that holds records, table saw, tools. Hopefully you will find some treasures to take home. M3-1p

GARAGE SALE at 939 Montreal Street, Melville. Friday, May 30, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, May 31, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Home for Sale

BEAUTIFUL HOME and contents FOR SALE (in Melville). Furniture, textiles, dishes and all. Call 306-728-2131.

\$ Paying Cash \$

PAYING CASH for all firearms; one or many. Includes estates and collections. Executors welcome. Once and done. Please call 306-539-2543. M46-4c

For Rent

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom apartment in Melville. Equipped with fridge, stove, AC, off-suite storage, plug-in parking and free laundry. **306-730-7447** for inquiries. M3-4p

FOR RENT - 1- and 2-bedroom apartments in Squire's Court, Melville. Appliances included. Phone Steve at 306-730-7242. M2-8p

LONG TERM RENTAL at Cumberland Villas Condo in Melville. 2 bedroom unfurnished suite, 4th floor corner unit, 1 parking spot included. Nice and bright with lots of windows and great views. Contact Doug McDonald, 204-291-3565 or Diane Exner, GM, 306-728-2035. M46-4p

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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

Notice to Creditors

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Estate of **Richard Lance Bodnar**, late of Abernethy, 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 18th day of June, 2025.

KREKLEWICH & CHAMBERS
Barristers & Solicitors
147 Third Avenue East
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Melville, SK S0A 2P0

Solicitors for the Estate.

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Saturday and Sunday Closed
Closed Statutory Holidays
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Monday to Saturday
8:00 to 4:30
Sunday Closed
Closed Statutory Holidays
ACCEPTING: Used oil, filters and containers; Used Antifreeze; Batteries; Select household chemicals; Grain Bags & Twine; Concrete; Asphalt.
Info: northvalleywaste.ca

Auction May 31

MOVING SALE for RALPH KITCHEN

712 Qu'Appelle St., Wapella, SK
Saturday, May 31, 2025
10 a.m.

Includes: Brute walk behind snow blower; 450 Poulton push mower w/ bagger; JD Sabre riding lawn mower; 8.5 hp walk behind roto tiller; large assortment power tools, shop supplies and garden tools; wood dining table w/6 chairs; black leather sofa/chair; small deep freezer; Maytag washer and dryer set (9 yrs. old); bedroom suite; 2001 Prowler Lynx 5th wheel camper w/slide (27 ft.) **GUEST CONSIGNORS** - 7 ft. x 18 ft. car trailer w/flip down ramps; 4x8 golf cart; 16 ft. x7 ft. cargo trailer; 5th wheel flat deck trailer w/1000 gal. water tank; 4 wheel trailer w/ tank; 2 saddles. **THIS IS A LIVE ON SITE AUCTION.**

KEY "M" AUCTION SERVICES
Dellan Mohrbutter
306-452-7847
www.keymauctions.com

Auction June 11

FARM and TOOL AUCTION for WANDA CUNNINGHAM

Wednesday, June 11, 2025
10 a.m.
REDVERS, SK
2 miles East on Hwy. #13,
1 mile North, half mile East

Includes: 4430 JD tractor c/w loader, grapple fork, duals; 1950 9N Ford tractor c/w 3 PTH; various 3 PTH equipment; 307 JD rotary mower; side wheel delivery rake; Vulcan deep tiller; PJ long haul trailer; 1,000 gal. metal tank on trailer; Plasma arc cutter/ AC-DC stick welder; pipe bender/gear pullers/drill press; building fan; Coleman Power Mate generator; 4800 watt heater, sand blaster, grinders, floor jacks, large assortment shop tools, 525 JD F lawn mower, roto tiller, yard sprayer, 1970 Snow Cruiser (ran when parked). **THIS IS A LIVE ON SITE AUCTION**

KEY "M" AUCTION SERVICES
Dellan Mohrbutter
306-452-7847
www.keymauctions.com

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Brad 306-551-9411,
Nicole 306-660-7377

www.2sauctioneers.hibid.com
PL #333133
tfc

Auction June 14

ACREAGE MOVING AUCTION for **GARNET and HELEN FAWCETT** Saturday, June 14, 2025 10 a.m.
MOOSOMIN, SK
2 miles South of Moosomin on Hwy. #8, 1-1/4 miles West on #709 (Lake Road)

Includes: 1984 256 Versatile loader tractor; fork lift and bale spear attachment for 256 Versatile; 1981 Case 580 D Construction King backhoe (good shape); 1956 1600 truck; 6 ft. Terrain gyro mower; Massey Harris pony tractor (restored); Allis Chalmers WF (restored); Elk Rite 2200 elk squeeze; 30 ft. Elk stand up panels (15), 2 -10 ft. cattle panels; 30 ft. feed trough; assort. fence posts; assort. dimensional lumber and heavy wall metal; CPR wagon and CN wagon; antique dressers/ washing machine; Fridays Quebec Carleton Place stove/Canada B9- 20 1907 stove; platform scale; a large selection antiques and collectibles. sand blaster/pressure washer/bench grinder; various misc. power tools; large selection carpentry related power tools; pallets of bolts and wire; huge assortment steel pipe - various lengths and sizes; large and small landscaping rocks, assortment garden tools.

THIS IS A LIVE ON SITE AUCTION
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Dellan Mohrbutter
306-452-7847
www.keymauctions.com



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Indian Head Branch No. 114

General Meeting 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.

President - Matt Smith

Contact Don Ford 306-530-3222 and Myrna Scott 306-727-3733

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(based on 25 words or less)

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Additional weeks: \$7.50 • Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 noon

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RCMP investigating fatal rollover near Dunleath

Submitted
Grasslands News

On Thursday, May 22, at approximately 5:15 p.m., Yorkton RCMP received a report of a single-vehicle rollover on Highway #10,

near Dunleath, SK.

Officers responded along with local fire and EMS. The sole occupant of the vehicle was declared deceased by EMS at the scene.

He has been identified as a 34-year-old male from

Keeseekoose First Nation. His family has been notified.

Yorkton RCMP continue to investigate with the assistance of a Saskatchewan RCMP collision reconstructionist.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Village of Edenwold is holding a public auction for the Edenwold Memorial Rink dispersal sale closing at 2:00 p.m. on June 19, 2025. All bidding is on-line through McDougall Auctioneers. Certain interior fixtures, assorted materials -- various items, along with roofing metal; has been posted to their online website.

Viewing on June 17, 2025, will take place 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the rink civic address of 120 – 2nd Avenue, Edenwold SK. No payments received onsite; release dates June 23 and June 24, 2025 held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information, you can visit the McDougall Auctioneers website – remarketing, or call 1-800-263-4193 <https://mcdougallauction.com>

You may also contact the Village office in Edenwold at 306-771-4121 for more information Monday to Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Public Notice

RM of Lajord No. 128

Zoning Bylaw Ammendment

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Lajord No. 128 intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 2022-13, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT: To amend the Zoning Bylaw by:

1. Adding Dwelling Groups and Small-Scale Manufacturing Steel Services as discretionary uses in the Country Residential 1 District (CR1); and
2. Rezoning all that portion of the SE ¼ 23-13-16 W2M shown within the red outlined below, from Agricultural District (A) to Country Residential 1 District (CR1).

AFFECTED LANDS: Country Residential 1 District (CR1) lands within the Rural Municipality of Lajord No. 128 and that portion of the SE ¼ 23-13-16 W2M. As shown below.

REASON: To accommodate a dwelling group within the SE ¼ 23-13-16 W2M.

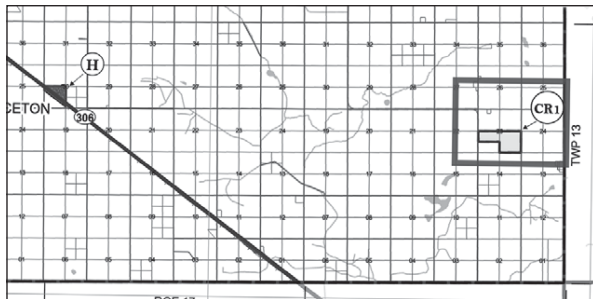
PUBLIC INSPECTION:

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the Rural Municipality of Lajord No. 128 office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council will hold a Public Hearing on June 10th, 2025, at 9 a.m. at the RM Office to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the Municipal Office before the hearing.

Issued at the Rural Municipality of Lajord No. 128, this 22nd day of May 2025.

Lynette Herauf, Chief Administrative Officer



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matthewsfuneralhome.ca

Flower boxes prepared for seasonal planting

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

With the return of warm weather gardens began to take shape this week.

Members of Fort Qu'Appelle's Communities in Bloom were busy

on Tuesday changing the soil and fertilizing the 70 planters that the group maintains around town throughout the summer.

The national program is designed to beautify and foster pride in participating communities.

The theme this year is

"Edible Gardens."

Bloomers will be co-operating with the food bank to grow tomatoes, vegetables and edible flowers.

The flowers and greenery in the parks and the planters around town will be planted this weekend.



Edible Gardens

Bloomers Cathy Boehme, Evelyn Lee and Jacqui Bangle dig in to prepare the flower boxes that will be planted this weekend.

ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

AUTO MECHANIC WANTED

We are looking for an experienced, skilled and dependable mechanic to join our team. If you have a passion for fixing cars and take pride in quality work, we would love to hear from you. Journeyman training an asset.

Experience in diagnostics, repair and maintenance of automotive vehicles, knowledge of a wide range of vehicles, have own tools, (preferred but not required), strong work ethic and reliability.

We offer compatible pay, steady work, a supportive team with flexible hours and growth opportunity.

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PH: 306-735-2224 or email resume to: whitewood@oktire.com



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Contact: gmgrenfell@bluecrescent.ca

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6.79%		Wed: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm Sun: Closed
lease and finance rate on select vehicles		Thurs: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

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Broadview RCMP respond to 155 calls in last week

By S/Sgt. Dallyn Holmstrom
Broadview Detachment

The RCMP Report is back. I have upset more people in the past few months by not writing this report than I have 19 years of policing. That being said, this paper is dedicated to my high school English teacher, Mr. Morrison, who I'm sure is shocked and appalled that any newspaper would publish something I wrote.

Let's get this going – there were 115 calls for service in the Broadview/Moosomin Detachment area over the past week. There were 31 traffic tickets in the Broadview Detachment area. Not only did the top speeder get multiple complaints called in about him, he also passed about 10 off duty police officers that were very happy to see the vehicle stopped. The white speeding Volkswagen GTI was clocked going 186 km/hr on Highway #1 near Broadview and received a \$1,089 fine. I also thought I should mention when the driver was asked why he was travelling so fast he told the officers his tire was leaking air and he needed to get to a tire shop, seems safe to me! The male driver was also arrested for dangerous driving and had his vehicle impounded. Coming in Second place this week was a speedster driving a Nissan Kicks travelling 152 km/hr on Highway #1 near Broadview and received a fine of \$708.

New Equipment

RCMP in the area are now all equipped with body cameras. These cameras are going to help us immensely with all our investigations as they will capture everything our officers encounter throughout their shifts. We fully expect these cameras to assist us in several ways, especially our court proceedings. I should also note that these body cameras are both video and audio equipped.

I know this call isn't from the past week, but I thought I would include it given its nature. On May 9th, RCMP responded to a complaint of an impaired driver on Ochapowace First Nations. It was reported that the vehicle narrowly missed several pedestrians. RCMP located the male suspect at home and arrested him for impaired driving. The male was transported to the RCMP detachment to provide samples of his breath. The male then became agitated by his circumstances and attacked one of the male police officers while in the cell block. The intoxicated male had to be tasered by a fellow RCMP officer so the RCMP could take control of the situation. This male suspect has remained in custody since

this incident and has been charged for his actions. The RCMP officer that was assaulted received some minor cuts to his lip during the altercation. This incident was fully captured on bodycam and was played in court.

On May 13th, RCMP were called to a complaint on Kahkewistahaw First Nations where a male was highly intoxicated at a residence and was refusing to leave. RCMP attended the residence and arrested the intoxicated male and provided him a safe place of sanctuary at the RCMP Bed and Breakfast.

On May 13th, RCMP were called to an assault at the ball diamonds on Kahkewistahaw First Nations. RCMP learned that an intoxicated female had become upset with some kids and tried to swing towards them. The kids then took off running and were not hurt. The female then got mad and upset with another adult female that they assaulted and threatened to kill. The intoxicated female was arrested and charged for her behaviour and was released once she was sober.

On May 14th, RCMP were called to an intoxicated, unwanted male at a residence on Zagime Anishinabek. The male was refusing to leave. RCMP attended the residence and arrested the male. The intoxicated male spent some quality time at the RCMP Bed and Breakfast and departed once he was sober.

On May 14th, RCMP were called to the Broadview town garbage dump. Two males had cut the locks at the dump and left numerous bed mattresses in the dump. The males were located and arrested for mischief. One of the males remained in custody as he had been serving a previous jail sentence in the community on conditions.

On May 15th, RCMP were called to an assault at a residence on Kahkewistahaw First Nations. The assault took place in the residence prior to RCMP's arrival. When RCMP arrived both parties were out yelling at one another in front of the residence. A male was arrested on scene and transported back to the RCMP Bed and Breakfast. He was charged with assault with a weapon.

On May 15th, RCMP were called to an intoxicated male who was covered in mud walking on Kahkewistahaw First Nations. RCMP located the male who advised he was from Regina but was staying with family. RCMP provided the male a ride back to his family's residence where he agreed to stay until he was sober.

On May 15th, RCMP were called to a motel in Broadview where an intoxicated male was banging on the back door and

refusing to leave. RCMP attended and arrested the male for being intoxicated in public. The male was then provided a free night stay at the RCMP Bed and Breakfast, which, might be what he was looking for all along.

On May 15th, RCMP were dispatched to a panic alarm from a residence in Wapella. RCMP attended and learned that the panic alarm was caused by an issue with the alarm due to the moisture from the rain. These technical difficulties are impossible to predict.

On May 16th, RCMP received a call from a residence on Zagime Anishinabek First Nations. The caller stated that their shed had been broken into, and a lawnmower and several other tools were stolen from the shed. The caller provided the RCMP with two suspects. RCMP is requesting anyone with information about this theft to contact the Broadview RCMP by calling 306-696-5200. Information can be submitted anonymously through CrimeStoppers by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submitting a tip online at www.saskcrimestoppers.com

On May 16th, RCMP were called to a residence on Kahkewistahaw First Nations where an intoxicated female was getting agitated and trying to start a fight in the residence. RCMP attended and arrested the intoxicated female who spent the night at the RCMP Bed and Breakfast and was released once she was sober.

On May 17th, RCMP received a complaint of a male curled up on the side of #1 Highway sleeping. RCMP attended and located the male who was now walking and trying to catch a ride. RCMP warned the male that he could not sleep on the side of the highway and that it was extremely dangerous.

On May 17th, RCMP received a report of a horse on Highway #210 near Broadview that was trying to stirrup trouble. RCMP attended and located the horse foaling around in the ditch. RCMP located the owner who said sometimes it was a night-mare keeping his horses in but, that he would do his best to rein it in.

On May 18th, RCMP received a call of a serious assault that took place on Kahkewistahaw First Nations. RCMP attended along with EMS and the victim was treated for a head injury. The suspect had already left the residence and was not located by RCMP on the night in question. The male is currently wanted for assault causing bodily harm.

On May 20th, RCMP received a call of an assault that took place at a residence on Ochapowace First Nations. RCMP at-

tended and placed the male under arrest for assault. The male was brought back to the RCMP Bed and Breakfast and started to fight with RCMP members when he was escorted to his room. The male ended up having to be O.C. sprayed to gain compliance. This was another great example where it was very beneficial to have body camera audio and video of the entire incident. The male was charged with the original assault, as well as, assault police officer and has remained in custody.

Kieasha Bitternose attended the Broadview RCMP with her family and performed a cultural dance and made a tobacco offering with RCMP members to spread awareness and honour Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. It was very important for her to dance outside the RCMP detachment in hopes to foster a growing relationship between First Nations and the RCMP.

Scam of the Week

Artificial intelligence (AI) voice scams – New generative artificial intelligence (AI) can imitate anyone's voice or image and are now widely available to the public.

Scammers are using that technology to fool people. AI can be used to create 'deep fakes' – impersonating the voice or appearance of someone famous. That celebrity then asks you to put money into an investment, telling you it's a great opportunity and you should act right away. But in the end, it's a scam.

If you get a call like this, first take a breath and pause. Slow down and verify who the caller really is. You can protect yourself by having a special word or phrase that

only you and your family members know the answer to. If in doubt, hang up and call the person back using a number you trust.

It's okay not to be okay!

I want to ensure that if someone needs help the Suicide Prevention line is always available in the paper for them. We want to encourage everyone to reach out for help and talk to someone if they can. No matter how bad things may seem, remember they can always get better. Life can be very difficult to say the least. Please reach out and check in with friends, co-workers, and family to see how they are doing.

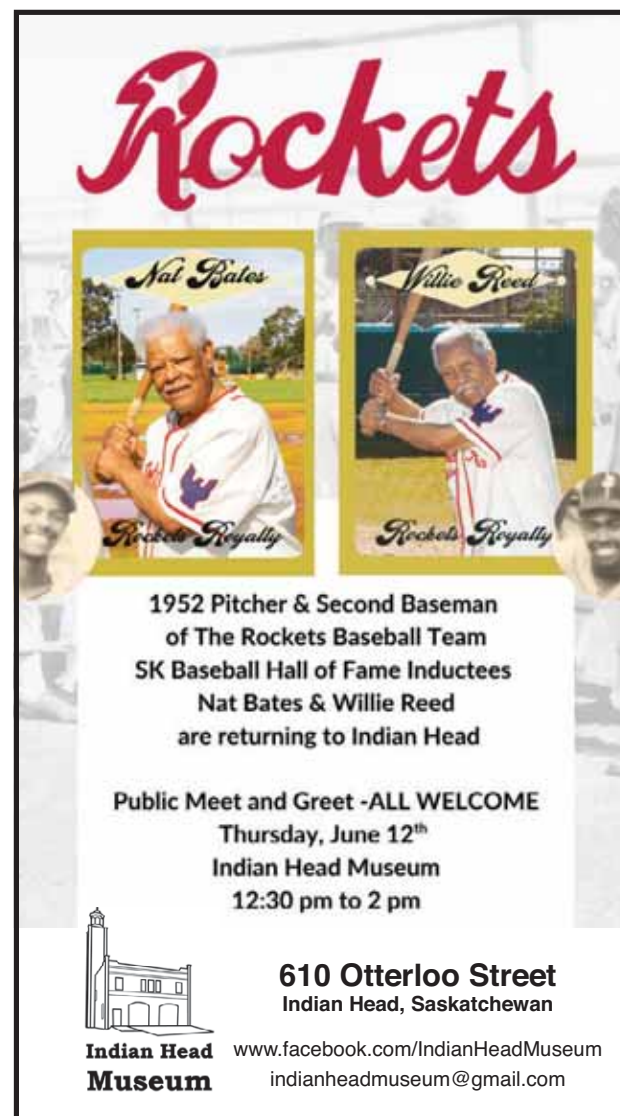
It's a perfectly normal question to ask people how they are doing. Don't let people suffer in silence. If you see someone that you believe needs some help but won't accept help from you, please let the police or their family know. In Saskatchewan you can call/text the mental health crisis line at 9-8-8 Counselling Connect Saskatchewan Canadian Mental Health Association 1-306-384-9333.

Police Joke

Cop: Do you know why I stopped you?

looks back at my trailer full of donkeys

Driver: "Because I'm Hauling ass"



Rockets

Nat Bates *Willie Reed*

Rockets Royalty *Rockets Royalty*

1952 Pitcher & Second Baseman of The Rockets Baseball Team
SK Baseball Hall of Fame Inductees
Nat Bates & Willie Reed
are returning to Indian Head

Public Meet and Greet -ALL WELCOME
Thursday, June 12th
Indian Head Museum
12:30 pm to 2 pm

610 Otterloo Street
Indian Head, Saskatchewan

Indian Head Museum www.facebook.com/IndianHeadMuseum
indianheadmuseum@gmail.com



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