



Friday, July 11, 2025

Prairie Soles opens studio on Grand Ave

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

The board and teachers at Prairie Soles Dance are excited for the opportunities that a new studio space in Indian Head will bring the group. An open house was held at 611 Grand Ave. on June 28 and summer programming started earlier this week.

Prairie Soles Dance was established in 2020 by Melissa Moses and other parents whose daughters were enthusiastic about participating in tap, ballet and other forms of dance.

“I wanted to create a positive environment for kids to learn dance,” Moses explained. “It teaches kids so many different things: confidence to get up in front of strangers and perform; a sense of belonging to a group; how to stand out but also be in the background to allow others to be the star; coordination, flexibility, discipline, and emotional expression.”

A board was formed, and instructor hired for the new non-profit organization. Other local families became interested and the group grew from 11 dancers in 2020, to about 25 dancers last season.

For the past few years, the group rented the Elks Hall on the corner of Dewdney and Boyle Street, but they are excited to have a new space in which to hold classes. Prairie Soles is leasing the renovated main floor



SARAH PACIO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Parade routine

Prairie Soles Dance studio joined Indian Head parade (above photo) and held an open house at its new studio on June 28. Prairie Soles Dance opened a new studio at 611 Grand Ave. in Indian Head. Board members and staff pictured below (left to right): fundraising co-ordinator Siobhan Brown, teacher Amber Dixon, treasurer Janine Moses-Randle, teacher Rebecca Walker and president Melissa Moses. Not pictured: Secretary Victoria Sutherland.

of 611 Grand Ave., which includes a large room to practice dance routines, washrooms, and a kitchenette accessible to teachers and students. Moses noted several benefits to leasing a dedicated space for the dance studio, including that it provides a larger area for classes to practice.

“Having the studio allows us to expand the classes we offer, the days of the week and the times we offer them,” she added. “Our dancers will be able to have a practice area on non-dance days; we can run summer and non-school day camps.”

The dance group employs two teachers, Rebecca Walker and her sister Amber Dixon, who are well-trained in various styles of dance including ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, hip-hop, acro and musical theatre.

Several workshops and camps are scheduled for this summer. This includes dance classes on Tuesdays in July as well as an acro workshop at the end of the month. A creative movement and craft camp for ages 3 to 6 will be held on Aug. 17, along with additional dance camps for older

children and youth on July 27 and Aug. 23.

In the fall, teachers will facilitate weekly classes and guide the students in preparing routines for dance competitions that they will attend next spring. Children are typically grouped according to age from 3 to 17 years old and a full schedule of programming is available on the group’s Facebook page.

The studio on Grand Ave. will accommodate other activities as well as Prairie Soles’ programs. Walker not only teaches dance but is a yoga instructor and offers Reiki healing. She also has a photography business which may operate from the dance studio. Moses said the venue could be available to rent for birthday parties or classes such as Christmas wreath-making.

For more information about Prairie Soles Dance, visit the group’s Facebook page or send an email to priariesolesih@outlook.com.



RCMP investigating fatal rollover

Saskatchewan RCMP
Grasslands News

On July 3, 2025 at approximately 11:35 a.m., Indian Head RCMP received a report of a single-vehicle rollover on Grid Road 606, south of Sintaluta, SK.

Officers responded along with local fire and EMS. One of the vehicle occupants was transported to hospital by EMS

where he was later declared deceased. He has been identified as a 51-year-old male from Carry the Kettle Nakoda Nation. His family has been notified.

A second vehicle occupant was transported to hospital by EMS with injuries described as serious in nature.

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



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New swimming pool
Gerry Fisher, left, makes the ceremonial cutting of the ribbon to open the Montmartre new swimming pool, along with Kemoca Park Authority Chairman Ken Weichel, and Moosomin-Montmartre MLA Kevin Weedmark.

BRAD BROWN | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Montmartre celebrates new swimming pool in Kemoca RP

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

The pool came without water. It came without sliding. It came without splashing and lifeguards and diving. But the sound wasn't sad. Why, this sound sounded merry. It couldn't be so. But it was merry. Very. Yes, even with a late-breaking delay in the

completion of the new swimming pool at Kemoca Regional Park, the Montmartre community turned out en masse Saturday to celebrate the facility's grand opening. Bookended by attractions that included a car show, parade, beach volleyball tournament, slo-pitch, bounce castle, slip and slide, an outdoor market and a cabaret featuring music from Third Degree Birnz, park authority board chair Ken Weichel made the facility's opening official by inviting longtime Montmartre resident Gerry Fisher to cut the ribbon in front of the new office and change room facility. The park board had announced earlier in the week that the pool would not be open to the public as hoped due to weather-related delays. "We've had many setbacks, not their fault," Weichel said of Saskatoon company Paradise Pools, which was contracted to build the pool area itself. "It's just the way life has been. Things don't show up. The weather doesn't cooperate. All sorts of stuff. They assure us we'll be swimming in a week or so and we look forward to that day coming." He then invited Fisher to cut the ribbon, officially opening the office building to the public, who were then invited in for tours. Fisher, Weichel said, volunteered his time to help develop the park in the early 1970s and was also in attendance for the grand opening of the park's original pool in 1971. "I think this is unbelievable just to see the amount of people that came out," Fisher told Grasslands News. "It really, really stunned me." Fisher recalled that the original office and change rooms were housed in a retired schoolhouse that

was imported from neighbouring Candiatic. That structure was then lost to fire, which led to the construction of the previous building – itself just torn down in the past 12 months to make way for version three. The newest iteration also comes with deep local roots as it was designed by Montmartre School graduate Emma Brenner. Brenner graduated in 2021 and now works as a project manager for CCR Construction, where she created the conceptual design and floor plan for the company's successful bid to construct the outbuilding. She said her design included an intimate knowledge of both the park board's wishlist and those of current and future employees, based on her own past experience working as a lifeguard at the previous pool. Improvements to the new facility, which the public was able to tour Saturday, include an accessible family washroom, an accessible corridor for families with strollers or users in wheelchairs, an equipment storage room and a staff-only washroom, in addition to facilities for the general public. "It means a lot," said a beaming Brenner. "Helping build a building for Kemoca that they really want and to be able to enjoy for generations to come, it was huge and being that I grew up here it's kind of cool to say in years to come, I can tell my kids I played a part in having this building come to life. It means a lot."

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Unfair legal fees part of a broader problem in First Nations law

- continued from Page 3

Likewise, Mainville said that “poison pill” clauses are not common in most law firms.

“It’s not a good model retainer, not best practice to use those kinds of [clauses] that suggest that there’s sort of a poison pill if you try to terminate that law firm,” Mainville said. “All my clients have the right to terminate me, they all have the right to seek another lawyer and there’s no penalty for them going elsewhere.”

Westaway agreed — “No First Nation should ever be punished for choosing a different service provider,” she said.

In its statement, Maurice Law blamed its competitors for “encouraging clients to challenge our fees.”

“While they claim to be doing this for noble reasons, the truth is they are being opportunistic. Many of our competitors would never have taken these claims on several years ago, when the client could not afford to pay and the prospect of success was uncertain. These firms wait until Maurice Law has advanced the claim to the finish line, after years of work with no or minimal compensation, and then attempt to lure our clients away at the last minute, when success is guaranteed due to the hard work of Maurice Law.”

Protecting Indigenous clients

Indigenous organizations are pushing for urgent reforms to how law societies regulate legal fees charged to First Nations.

In December 2023, the Assembly of First Nations passed a resolution demanding that the Federation of Law Societies and all provincial and territorial law societies create rules — developed in partnership with First Nations — to ensure legal fees are fair and reasonable.

The Indigenous Bar Association has called for specific measures, including caps on the percentage lawyers can charge in contingency fee agreements, standardized forms for contingency fee

arrangements, mandatory training for lawyers working with Indigenous clients and bans on fees that aren’t justified by the actual legal work performed, rather than simply being tied to the size of settlements.

Requests for an interview were sent to the AFN and bar association, but no responses were received by deadline.

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada told Canada’s National Observer it cannot comment on legal fees charged to First Nations by independent law firms. The department says it does not provide legal advice to First Nations during negotiations, nor does it advise them on which firms to use. Lawyers are regulated by law societies in each province and are accountable to their clients.

A spokesperson for MLT Aikins LLP, the firm representing Bready’s in the matter involving Maurice Law, declined to comment, saying Maurice Law has initiated a defamation lawsuit in Alberta against the firm and three MLT Aikins lawyers in their personal capacity.

In an emailed statement, the Law Society of Saskatchewan said it is aware of the court decision and is reviewing it. The society said that its authority to investigate legal fees is tied to the courts under The Legal Profession Act, 1990, meaning the courts first decide if a contingency agreement or legal fee is fair and reasonable before the Law Society can investigate for potential breaches of its Code of Professional Conduct.

The Law Society noted it provides guidance to lawyers through practice advisors, management courses, and ethics rulings and participates in national reviews of ethical rules — including those addressing the needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis clients — through the Federation of Law Societies’ Standing Committee on the Model Code of Professional Conduct.

“This shouldn’t be happening in today’s society ... I hope a lot of other First

Nations review and take into consideration the path moving forward,” Ananas, Beardsy’s and Okemasis Cree Nation chief, told Canada’s National Observer.

He said the court’s decision sets a precedent for Indigenous communities across Canada to assert their rights so more settlement funds can be directed to community priorities instead of legal fees.

“At the end of the day, we’re saving millions and millions of dollars. Which First Nation out there doesn’t need millions to be saved? There are so many shortfalls we overcome on a daily, yearly basis. Fighting for that extra dollar was definitely well worth it.”

Broader trend

The Saskatchewan judge’s ruling is part of a broader trend of First Nations challenging the fairness and transparency of legal fee arrangements, especially in high-stakes, historic claims against the Crown.

In 2024, Mikişew Cree First Nation sued Maurice Law, claiming the firm took over \$8 million in legal fees from their “Cows and Ploughs” settlement but failed to provide proper invoices or records. Mikişew says Maurice Law promised to return two per cent of the settlement (about \$2.7 million) but only paid back \$250,000, and then stopped. The First Nation also says it was not given a chance to challenge the fees at the time, and Maurice Law’s handling of loans and insurance was unclear. Mikişew is now asking the court to order the return of at least \$2.25 million and to review all legal fees paid to the firm.

In 2025, Sweetgrass First Nation went to court after Maurice Law demanded immediate payment of over \$5.4 million in legal fees from a settlement trust. Sweetgrass had already ended its contract with the firm and wanted the fees reviewed first. The judge ruled that Sweetgrass’s right to have the fees assessed comes first, and Maurice Law

cannot demand instant payment before a review. The court also found that the law firm’s agreements did not give it a special claim to the settlement money and ordered the funds to be held until the fees can be fairly assessed.

In 2016, the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal found that Maurice Law had already been hired on an hourly basis to represent Sakimay First Nation in land and flooding claims, but after a multi-million dollar settlement was nearly finalized, the firm pushed Sakimay to sign a new deal that would give Maurice Law a three per cent bonus on the settlement. The court decided this bonus agreement was unfair and unenforceable because Maurice Law misled Sakimay about what other lawyers were charging, failed to advise them to seek independent legal advice, and did not clearly explain that the original hourly contract already covered the new work.

Beyond Maurice Law, the push for fairness and transparency in legal fees is happening across the country and involves other law firms as well.

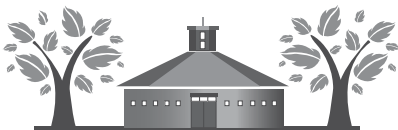
In 2024, two Ontario First Nations — Atikameksheng Anishnawbek and Garden River — challenged a massive \$510-million legal bill related to the \$10-billion Robinson Huron Treaty settlement, arguing the amount was excessive and should be reviewed before lawyers are paid.

In Alberta, Tallcree First Nation challenged a 20 per cent contingency fee agreement with Rath & Company that would have paid the law firm \$11.5 million from a \$57.6-million agricultural benefits settlement. The court found this fee was unreasonable, given the expected work and outcome, especially since the actual legal work was valued at less than \$400,000. In 2022, the Alberta Court of Appeal upheld a lower court’s decision to slash the fee to \$3 million, ordering the law firm to refund more than \$8.5 million to Tallcree.

— With files from Matteo Cimellaro



Town Page



For more information call the Town Office: 306-695-3344
or Indian Head Community Development: **306-695-2742**

Small Town Strong, Canada Proud: Parade Days a Big Success

The 2025 Indian Head Parade Days was a celebration of community spirit, local pride, and Canadian culture — and we couldn’t be more grateful for the incredible support we received.

With beautiful weather, a fantastic turnout, and an unforgettable parade, this year’s event truly lived up to its theme: Canadian Proud! From families enjoying the festivities to visitors exploring our town, the energy and enthusiasm were felt everywhere.

A sincere thank you goes out to everyone who participated – from those who decorated floats and hosted events to the volunteers who kept things running smoothly and all who came out to celebrate. Your involvement makes Parade Days more vibrant each year.

We’d also like to extend a special thank you to our generous sponsors, whose support allows us to grow and improve this event every year. Thank you to the Rural Municipality of Indian Head No. 156, Delage Farms, Firefly Rentals, Trifon’s Pizza, Wooden Nickel Saloon, Hayes Haven Personal Care Home, Woodley Acres Pet Resort, and New West Concrete Ltd. – your contributions are deeply appreciated.

Indian Head continues to show what it means to be *Small Town Strong, Canada Proud*. Thank you for making Parade Days 2025 one to remember!

Great Opportunities for Summer Programming

Don’t miss the art exhibits, theatre performances, and cultural programs happening in Indian Head this summer!

- the Grand Theatre will offer Arts & Culture summer programming for all ages; exploring Métis culture and learning from many local artists.
- the library hosts a free kids’ summer camp activity every Wednesday,
- The Indian Head Museum opens daily starting July 2, offering a glimpse into our local history,
- Little Castle Childcare also runs a fun-filled summer program. Each week has a new theme, activities and outings!
- Centre 48 will host a Gymnastics Camp July 28 – August 1 at Memorial Hall. Register with child’s name, an email address & contact # by text (306)424-7048 or by email centre48.southsask@gmail.com

Visit the Town website’s Events page for more information and links. There’s something for everyone!

Request for Proposals – Museum General Repairs

The Town of Indian Head invites sealed proposals from qualified contractors for General Repairs at the Indian Head Museum, 610 Otterloo Street Indian Head. View the full details of the project on the Town website.

Proposals will be accepted via mail or in person at the Indian Head Town Office, 419 Grand Avenue, P.O Box 460, Indian Head, SK, S0G 2K0 during working hours Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Proposals will be opened and reviewed at 7 p.m. on Monday, July 14th, 2025 in the Council Chambers at the Indian Head Town Office.

Thinking of Becoming a Lifeguard?

Looking for a summer job that’s fun, active, and makes a real difference? Consider becoming a lifeguard right here in Indian Head! We’re encouraging local youth to take the plunge and start training now—we’ve got plenty of options to help you get there. Sign up for the Junior Lifeguard Club to spend a day in the with one of our Guards and learn all about what it takes. If you are at least 13 years old, you can take advantage of Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross courses happening this summer. Whether you’re just starting out or ready to take the next step, there’s a path for you. Join the team and help keep our pool safe and welcoming for years to come. Visit our website for full details and to register.

Apply now for Harvest Hoedown Craft Show & Sale

The Harvest Hoedown Craft Show & Sale is now accepting vendor applications. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, July 15!

This year’s Show will be Saturday, October 18th, 2025 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To apply, please email harvesthoedowncommittee@gmail.com

Upcoming Community Events

July 11 – Little Castle Childcare Golf Tournament

July 15 – IHARF Crop Management Field Day

July 18 – Mobile Early Learning Summer Family Fun

July 20 – Bell Barn Birthday Bash

August 10 – Horticulture Society Annual Garden Show

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 indian-headcdc@sasktel.net. Don’t forget to schedule your community event on our sign at least one week before your event date.

www.townofindianhead.com



Busy weeks ahead in southeast communities

By **Connie Schwalm**
Grasslands News

Given how eagerly we wait for its arrival, summertime can often seem to be far too brief a season. The days might be longer, but they can pass more quickly than we might expect. So, finding ways to make the most of the summer days we have (however that might look for each one of us) is important.

For those who enjoy going out to attend summertime events, there are plenty of opportunities to do that over the next few weeks. Here are just a few of the events planned in our area.

Friday, July 11 will see the 5th Annual Pipestone Bull Bash take place at the Whitewood Rodeo Grounds, where 24 of the best bullriders from across Canada will compete for some of the top prize money in Canada.

Sunday, July 13 will be a particularly busy day. The annual Bekevar Service and BBQ will be held at the old church beginning at 11 a.m. and organizers observe that “It has never rained on Picnic Sunday.”

At the Kennedy Rodeo Grounds, the Summer Sizzler Rodeo beginning at 9 a.m. will feature young cowboys and cowgirls taking part in a variety of activities ranging from Pole Bending and Barrel Racing to the ever-popular Goat Untying and Undecorating.

Then on Sunday afternoon the Emily Dubois Fiddle Concert will take place at the Langbank United Church beginning at 2 p.m. Emily will be attending the Canadian Grand Masters Competition in Kamloops, BC and the concert is a fundraiser to assist her with expenses.

Kennedy will once again become the destination of choice for rodeo fans as the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo will take place on July 19 & 20. The Annual Rodeo Parade will be held on Saturday afternoon beginning at 3 p.m. with rodeo action set to start at 6 p.m. Sunday will feature a Pancake Breakfast at the Kennedy Friendship Center beginning at 9 a.m. followed by a Cowboy Church Service at the Rodeo Grounds

at 11 p.m. Rodeo action on Sunday will begin at 2 p.m.

The Glenavon Fair will take place on Saturday, July 26 beginning with breakfast from 7:30- 9:30 and the parade at 10:30. A variety of activities including a Horse Show, Slo-Pitch and various kids’ activities will take place throughout the day.

Those fortunate enough to have tickets will also be able to take in two shows featuring Quick Dick McDick at the Glenavon Curling Rink on Friday, July 25 and Saturday, July 26.

On Aug. 1 and 2 at Oly’s Trading Post north of Whitewood, there will be an Open/NAIRCA Rodeo held, starting at 3 p.m. on Friday and 2 p.m. on Saturday. Events will include bareback, saddle-bronc, tie down roping, breakaway roping, steer wrestling, barrel racing, team roping and bull riding.

Wawota Heritage Day will take place on August 2 in the valley north of town and once again promises a “fun-filled day celebrating our local heritage and community spirit.”

Then on Sunday, August 3 those interested in learning more about the unique pioneer history at Cannington Manor can take in the annual Cannington Fair which will begin at noon that day.

For anyone still needing more rodeo action, the 25th Annual Whitewood/Chachas CCA Rodeo will take place on Aug. 15 and 16 at the Whitewood Rodeo Grounds. The rodeo will begin both nights at 7 p.m. and include all major rodeo performances. A full canteen and beer gardens will also be on site.

Before the rode begins on Friday night, at 6:30 p.m., there will be an Indigenous dance group performing with live entertainment provided by Shaya Istace following the rodeo. Saturday night after the rodeo there will be DJ Music by CRT Sound playing until 2 a.m.

The intermission on Friday night will have human chuck wagon races take place while Saturday’s intermission will cater to the young ones with muttin’ bustin’ being held.

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PLEASE NOTE there will be **NO PUBLICATIONS** **JULY 25 AND AUGUST 1**. Our offices in Melville and Whitewood will be closed from July 21 to August 1. Regular Office hours will resume Tuesday, August 5 and regular deadlines will resume Tuesday, August 5 at 12 noon for the Friday, August 8 issue.

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OPINION

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

SK government failed to control spending in 2024

By Gage Haubrich
Canadian Taxpayers Federation

If you find yourself digging deeper into a dark financial hole, the first thing any wise friend will suggest is to stop digging and stick to a budget.

A budget makes sure you are only spending money on things you can afford, not on fast food or new accessories for your truck.

But a budget only works if you stick to it, and the Saskatchewan government has been failing to stick to its budget for years and it's costing taxpayers mega bucks.

The government blew past its spending estimates by almost a billion dollars in 2024. The government originally projected it would spend \$20.1 billion last year. The newly released public accounts marking the end of the fiscal year 2024 show the government spent \$21.1 billion.

That's about \$970 million more than what the government said it was going to spend.

The government is spending more than budgeted in nine out of 11 of its main departments. That includes \$8.5 million in overspending in a slop bucket vaguely labelled “general government.”

Taxpayers should be very skeptical about the financial chops of a government that can't stick to its spending plan in “general government.” And this isn't a new pattern. The Saskatchewan government regularly tells taxpayers one thing at budget time and then surprises them with huge increases in spending at the end of the year.

In 2023, the government blew past its budget by \$2.2 billion. In 2022 it was \$1.4 billion. And in 2021 it was \$2.5 billion.

All that overspending has seen the government keep shovelling more money onto Saskatchewan's mountain of debt. When Scott Moe became premier in 2018, Saskatchewan's debt was about \$11 billion. At the end of this year, it's projected to be \$23.5 billion. Moe's government more than doubled the debt in seven years. It took former prime minister Justin Trudeau nine years to double the federal debt.

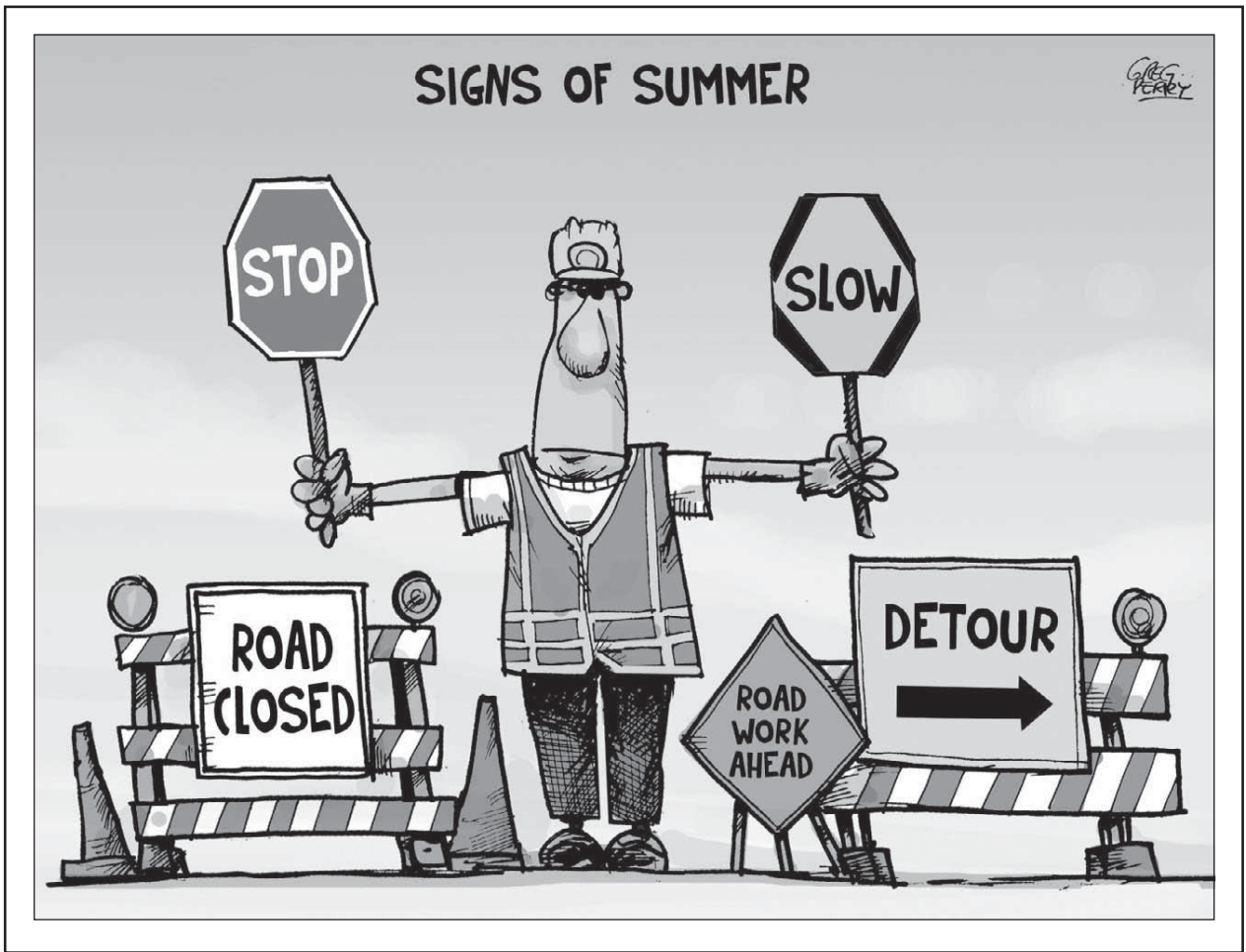
But that's not the worst part, the debt could go even higher this year if the government continues to blow past its own budget projections.

And that has consequences for taxpayers because debt isn't cheap. Taxpayers are forced to pay millions of dollars in interest every year to cover government loans.

In 2024, debt interest payments cost taxpayers about \$699 million, or about \$560 per person. This year, debt interest payments will cost taxpayers \$878 million, or about \$702 per Saskatchewanian.

That per person number is more than double what a family of four making \$75,000 can expect to pay in the gas tax this year. That means every dollar you and your family pay in taxes at the pumps isn't being used for road maintenance or new highways, it's being flushed down the drain to pay for interest charges on the debt.

That's a waste. And the government can reduce the amount of money being wasted on interest payments by not blowing its budget. That's because government revenue also increased by about \$994 million compared to the 2024 budget. If the government hadn't increased spending by almost the same amount, it could have used



that extra cash to start paying down debt and reduce the annual interest bill.

But it couldn't resist the urge to spend. And taxpayers are, literally, paying for it.

A budget isn't supposed to be a suggestion; it's supposed to be a serious commitment about how much the government is going to be spending every year. It's a document that the government should follow to the letter and it's something that taxpayers should be able to

look at to know where their money is going every year.

Failing to follow that budget makes the government less dependable because taxpayers can't trust the numbers coming out of the legislature.

Finance Minister Jim Reiter needs to stick to his budget and stop spending money as fast as it comes in to reduce the cost of government for taxpayers.

Gage Haubrich is the Prairie Director for the Canadian Taxpayers Federation

Letter to Editor: Why are the productive people leaving Canada?

Dear Editor,

You want to know why the smarter and more productive immigrants are leaving Canada?

Ask an immigrant.

Ask me.

Canada could be a free and beautiful democratic society, an incredible place to live, but, if nobody wakes up, and comes out of that insidious WOKE and one-sided Indigenous coma, it will soon be lost.

While our American neighbours are fighting tooth and nails to protect their democracy, Canadian politicians are fighting even harder to get rid of it, denying the people a multi-member Proportional ballot that would put an end this political insanity.

Another huge difference is how the media is relating events to the public. The American media is very engaged, and not afraid of telling the truth.

In Canada the media has abandoned their sacred freedom of the

press to become one-sided, woke, and virtually irrelevant, while protecting and promoting Eby's and Trudeau's toxic Indigenous narratives, leaving the doors wide-open for the Chiefs and their lawyers to engage in what has become a massive and complex multi-billion-dollar scam. A vibrant social media info-swamp is attempting to fill the void.

The ugliest part of this disaster is how our mainstream media is denying the people an honest forum to participate in an open exchange to explore how to resolve what has become a disaster of historic proportion.

The relationships between that 6% of the Canadian people who are descendants of the 1600 a. d. pre-colonial earlier arrivals in Canada, and the remaining 94% who are the later arrivals who continue to arrive from all corners of the world, blending colour and cultures, is constantly diluting the blood in the

veins of all Canadians resulting in the inevitable extinction of many. While we are all becoming Canadians, we continue to cherish and celebrate our heritage and cultures.

Defying the spirit and intent of the UNDRIP protocols claims for compensations have become illusive bordering fake, that should be resolved on the basis of the amount of indigenous blood remaining in the claimant's veins. In the official guide to citizenship, immigrants are not told one word about the scope and nature of these massive claims.

Canada is no longer the land of opportunity, where everybody is working hard to enjoy a better quality of life. Instead, Trudeau's disastrous immigration policies has transformed Canada into a world class refugee camp, while the 'economic immigrants' we desperately need to grow our economy are leaving through our back doors.

- Andy Thomsen
Kelowna, B.C.

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NEWS | PRINTING

Fort Qu'Appelle Times • Indian Head-Wolseley News • Kipling Clipper
Melville Advance • Whitewood-Grenfell Herald Sun • Quad Town Forum
Issued Fridays by Grasslands News Group from the office
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(*Available in limited communities)

Mailed in Saskatchewan:
\$55.00 per year

Mailed in Canada:
\$75.00 per year

Electronic Edition:
\$40.00 per year

Make cheques payable to **Grasslands News Group**
Send e-transfers to accounts@grasslandsnews.ca

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Romance scammer finally arrested

Connected to women in the area and across Canada

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

In April 2024, a local woman identified in Grasslands News as Cindy, the Farmer’s Wife, put out a warning to women in the area to be cautious of a man who is a romantic scammer using women to access their finances after meeting them on social media.

This area woman met the fraudster in Grenfell, SK. He was working as a truck driver, crossing Canada and continuing to fraud people of large amounts of money. As many as five women have been working together since 2020 to have him arrested and he will now appear in court in August.

The man, Michael Paul Snow, was arrested June 24, 2025, and has been criminally charged after allegedly scamming a B.C. woman he met online out of \$110,000, according to authorities.

The victim, a 53-year-old woman from the Sunshine Coast, reported the alleged fraud to police and as result of a comprehensive investigation by Sunshine Coast RCMP, a charge of Fraud over \$5000 was approved and a Canada-wide warrant was issued for Michael Paul Snow. During the investigation several additional victims were identified and reports of large amounts of money that were fraudulently obtained were received. It is not known how many, or what further charges, may be filed against Mr. Snow.

“Over the course of several months, Michael Paul Snow gained this Sunshine Coast woman’s trust and convinced her to participate in a business venture that was later learned to be non-existent,” a spokesperson for the Sunshine Coast RCMP wrote.

“This type of offence is commonly referred to as a romance scam.”

Eventually, some of the women became aware of each other and of the scamming that was taking place. The victims wanted him exposed as soon as possible to



MICHAEL PAUL SNOW

save other women from being scammed as the police continued their investigation. “Snowed – the Michael Snow Fraud Story” is a Tic Tok series done by his victims. The story can also be found on Facebook as “Michael Snow is a Fraud.”

The videos were being shown to raise awareness to other women in the area and across Canada as his victims state he has frauded and scammed women from coast to coast and works through relationships with several women at one time. It is believed that Maple Creek, SK. is his residence.

On June 24, 2025 Michael Paul Snow was located by Maple Creek RCMP in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan and arrested on the Canada-wide warrant. Mr. Snow was released to appear in Sechelt Provincial Court on August 13, 2025. The man has reportedly served sentences for scams in the past.

RCMP are asking anyone else who may have had fraudulent business dealings with Michael Snow to contact your local police department or Sunshine Coast RCMP at (604) 885-2266 and reference file number 2023-3581.

SK Party hides amid rural emergency room closures

Submitted
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan NDP says negligent leadership from the Sask. Party has made access to healthcare in rural communities unreliable and dangerous.

Rural communities across Saskatchewan including Kipling, Broadview, Watrous, Edam, St. Walburg, Paradise Hill, Herbert, Porcupine Planes, Preeceville, Shellbrook, Leader and Arcola, have all experienced healthcare disruptions in the last 2 weeks.

“And those are just the ones we know of,” said Keith Jorgenson, Saskatchewan NDP Associate Shadow Health Minister.

“The truth is the Sask. Party tries to hide its failures in healthcare. We hear from people who arrive at these facilities desperately seeking care only to find a sign on the door saying it’s closed.

“It is unbelievable that the Sask. Party sits on its hands while rural emergency rooms — which could be the difference between life and death — close without warning. This shouldn’t be happening and, when it unfortunately does, there needs to be more than a sign on the door telling people. Someone is going to die rushing

to an emergency room that isn’t even open.”

With no consistent communication from the Saskatchewan Health Authority, the Town of Watrous has resorted to posting emergency room updates on Facebook to keep the community informed. Residents say they’re often unaware of the closures until they arrive at the hospital.

On Monday, another notice appeared that the emergency room was closed as of noon and would not reopen until Wednesday at 8 a.m.

“We’ve counted more than 30 closures at the Watrous emergency room since the year began — and still the local Sask. Party MLA, the Minister, the Premier, nobody says a thing. This isn’t leadership, it’s cowardice.

The emergency room Kipling is currently closed for 10 days, according to a sign on the door of the facility.

“Where is the accountability?” Jorgenson said.

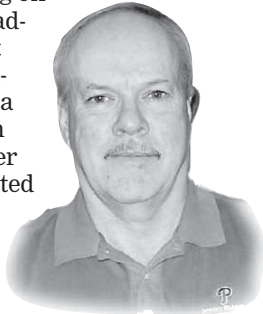
“Where is the plan to get us out of this mess?”

“Saskatchewan, you deserve leadership, you deserve a government that will fix healthcare and ensure it’s there for you and your loved ones. We don’t have to settle for this — we can choose a new government that’s focused on the future and on delivering quality healthcare right across this province.”

Gene Hauta

It’s a Strange World

His commitment to being on time for a job interview is admirable. His execution, not so much. In Cromwell, Connecticut, a trooper clocked a Mercedes doing 132 mph on a local interstate. The driver “failed to stop and accelerated away while making unsafe lane changes and weaving in and out of traffic.” The trooper called off the chase in the name of safety, but easily tracked down the vehicle’s owner. The owner, presumably a parent, explained that 19-year-old Azmir Djurkovic had the car at the time. Azmir then confessed and explained that he was late for a job interview. He faces a number of charges, including reckless driving and engaging police in a pursuit. “No word on whether he got the job *or will ever get the car again,*” wondered my source.



Police in Germany *arrested five teens in a raid* against a neo-Nazi group believed to have organized attacks against migrants and designs to topple the nation’s form of government. The male suspects were taken into custody in three states in eastern and central Germany on suspicion of belonging to, or supporting, domestic terrorist organizations. Two of the suspects were charged with attempted murder and arson. This has been interpreted as right-wing extremist terrorism knowing no age. The group, called the Last Wave of Defense, was started by young people in April 2024. Prosecutors said it’s responsible for attacks against political opponents and on buildings that housed people seeking asylum. Online chats linked to the group praised the Nazi regime and promoted major acts of violence.

“I didn’t hear anything,” says Johan Helberg of the 5:00 a.m. incident at his home in Byneset, Norway. “Five meters further south and it would have entered the bedroom,” where he was sleeping. His house is just a few feet from the Trondheim Fjord of the Norwegian Sea. *The “it” that narrowly missed his house: a 135m (443 ft) container ship* that ran aground. Helberg only learned of the close call when a panicked neighbor, who had watched it all happen, ran and rang his doorbell “at a time of day when I don’t like to open.” In fact, he didn’t open it, and the neighbor had to call him on the phone. An unnamed Second Officer, who was on watch duty on the NCL Salten, admitted that he had fallen asleep, and has been charged by local prosecutors with negligent navigation.

“I just went to the store and my girlfriend asked me to get her one of those drinks with her name on it,” noted Argus Hamilton. “I bought her a can of Monster, and that’s how the fight started.”

In Miami, police responded to multiple reports of vandalism in progress at 4:45 a.m. A woman had been seen *smashing three parked cars with a baseball bat*, and some of the damage had been captured on security camera. It turns out she had left her disabled child alone in her own car a block away. Officers witnessed her return to the scene to attack one of the car owners, a woman. The three targeted cars belong to her relatives, and she allegedly also attacked her boyfriend because “she had caught him cheating.” The 21-year-old woman was charged with three counts of felony criminal mischief of \$1,000 or more, plus a count each of child neglect, aggravated battery, and resisting arrest. Her name? Antoneisha Fail.

A Vernon driver, who has *racked up 32 driving prohibitions or suspensions* since March 19, 1993, as well as 16 24-hour driving bans, failed to convince a British Columbia judge he should get a lighter sentence than normal for drunk driving because more than six months in jail could get him deported to India. Gurinder Pal Singh Bajwa, a 57-year-old permanent resident of Canada who *escaped deportation in 2019* on an impaired driving conviction with a sentence of five months and 29 days, got a reduced sentence this time because Mounties captured him on surveillance cameras using the toilet in a holding cell after he was arrested for impaired driving again. This violated his Charter right to be free from unreasonable search and seizure. Bajwa immigrated to Canada from India’s Punjab region over 34 years ago. I can feel sorry for his troubles, but this type of serious criminality must have consequences. After considering the Charter breach, Judge David Patterson of B.C.’s provincial court sentenced Bajwa to 198 days (just over six months) in jail for the impaired driving conviction, fined him \$2,000 and banned him from driving for three years. For driving while prohibited, the judge handed Bajwa another 120 days behind bars to be served consecutively, for a total of about 10 months in jail.

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By Grasslands News Staff
Grasslands News

In the heart of Canada's prairies, where the vast fields stretch into the horizon, a new wave of convenience arrived for both locals and travelers alike. FlixBus, the well-known European transportation company, made its grand debut in Saskatchewan on July 1, launching daily bus trips connecting the province's major cities.

For years, Saskatchewan had been underserved by intercity transportation options since the end of the Saskatchewan Transportation Company and Greyhound services on the prairies. The province, with its sprawling distances and sparse population, had long relied on personal cars, regional

airlines, or the occasional road trip for getting from one city to the next. But that was about to change with FlixBus, which now owns Greyhound and has been running other routes in other Canadian provinces since 2022. With its trademark green buses, comfortable seating, and free Wi-Fi, FlixBus aimed to offer something that Saskatchewan's residents and visitors had been craving: a modern, accessible, and affordable way to travel across the province.

On the first day of operation, a bright yellow FlixBus pulled into the station in Regina. A small crowd of eager passengers gathered, some first-time travelers, others seasoned adventurers who had previously made long road trips through the province. Among them was 25-year-old Emily, a university student from Saskatoon. "This is a game-changer," she said, adjusting her backpack as

she boarded the bus. "It's so much easier to travel back and forth without worrying about gas prices or driving myself for hours. Plus, the Wi-Fi is great, so I can catch up on assignments."

The company will operate out of hubs in Regina, Saskatchewan and North Battleford with connections to Calgary, Edmonton and Red Deer.

FlixBus will be a direct competitor to Rider Express, which runs routes between Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert, and offers connecting routes to Edmonton, Calgary and Winnipeg from Saskatchewan. Rider Express buses make several stops at smaller communities between its hubs however where FlixBus routes between cities will be direct.

In a press release, FlixBus highlighted its commitment to sustainability. The company's use of eco-friendly buses aimed to reduce carbon emissions, a promise that resonated with many who appreciated the company's commitment to greener travel solutions.

For FlixBus, launching in Saskatchewan was just the beginning. With plans to expand routes to other parts of Canada, the company hoped to redefine travel in the Great White North—one affordable, comfortable, and eco-conscious trip at a time.



New bus line

A new passenger bus has launched daily trips in Saskatchewan. The buses will run between Regina, Saskatoon and North Battleford and on to Alberta.

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Summer camp re-opens near Wolseley under new name

Love Reins Ranch Wolf Creek

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

After a year of diligent facility improvement efforts, a summer camp near Wolseley reopened this week under its new name: Love Reins Ranch Wolf Creek.

Camp History

The facility south of Wolseley was established in 1985 under the name Circle Square Ranch Wolf Creek. It was originally part of a network of camps that were overseen by Crossroads Christian Communications. It was later operated by InterVarsity Canada but closed in 2023 because the ranch had encountered financial difficulties from Covid pandemic restrictions and there were impending costs to repair aging infrastructure at the camp.

Norm Bonk was involved with the initial establishment of Circle Square Ranch Wolf Creek, but had since then moved to BC where he and his wife Joanne operated Love Reins Ranch Okanagan. After hearing about the situation at the Saskatchewan camp, they began a campaign to restore the facility.

Generous donors enabled the Wolf Creek ranch to be brought under the auspices of Debt of Love Missionary Ministries and renamed Love Reins Ranch Wolf Creek. A celebration took place at the ranch in June 2024 and marked the beginning of a year-long renovation and refurbishing of the grounds, infrastructure and amenities. Countless hours of labour were invested by volunteers who played a key role in preparing the facility for reopening.

Re-Dedication Service

Staff and camper registration began early in 2025 and a rededication service was held on July 6, shortly before the first group of campers was welcomed back to the ranch. Approximately 175 people gathered in the hall on Sunday afternoon for a time of music and encouragement. Norm Bonk led the program; he and Joanne are spending the summer at the ranch. Special guests sang and local pastors shared meaningful words from the Bible. This was followed by a BBQ supper of locally sourced food.

Campers Welcomed

Seventeen children arrived at Love Reins Ranch on July 7 for the first week of camp. A dozen staff members provide care and guidance for children at the ranch this summer.

One of the staff, Phoenix, recalls attending a Circle Square Ranch near her home in Alberta. Her experience at that ranch was so positive that she chose to assist with the opening week at Wolf Creek.

"I thought it would be really cool to be here for the first week that it reopened, which I think is really impactful because it's the foundation," she shared. "It could be the kids' only time that they hear about Jesus and about his love for them. Some kids don't feel loved, so them being able to feel love is super impactful, and

the fact that we get to do that is such a pleasure."

The main building at Love Reins Ranch includes an office, lounge area with couches, a large kitchen and dining room, as well as accommodations for about 65 people. Elsewhere on the grounds there are 12 covered wagons, each with eight bunks. There is also a tuck shop, a barn that currently houses a dozen horses, a riding arena and a small pond for swimming.

Cooks provide healthy meals and snacks for campers who enjoy participating in a variety of activities such as horseback riding, archery, bouldering and group games. There are also BMX bikes for campers to use on a maintained course. As a faith-based organization, staff members lead Bible sessions for the campers throughout each week.

"If they can walk away from here with hope and peace and truth, that would be amazing," Joanne Bonk stated. "Our slogan, 'Tell the children, Jesus loves them,' sums it up well."

Registrations are still being accepted for the remaining three weeks of summer programming which run from Monday to Friday and are open to children ages 7 to 12. There may also be an opportunity for a weekend of Family Camp following the children's camp. The facility is winterized, so Bonk is optimistic that additional programming can be offered at the ranch after summer camps have concluded. This could consist of retreats for quilters, homeschool families or other groups, as well as public school trips.

Community Support

Bonk noted that many positive connections have developed with local community members over the past year, and the ranch leadership is grateful for the collaboration that has enabled the camp to reopen.

"We have had nothing but support from the local community; everything we need to run camp is here," she shared. "We've had people from B.C. to Ontario come for a day or two, or a week or two, to help us and we are truly, truly grateful. It has been such a community effort that has spanned five provinces."

Naturally, there will be ongoing financial requirements for operations, so donations continue to be accepted. These will assist with expenses such as meals and camper sponsorships. Volunteer opportunities may also be available for future programming and leaders greatly appreciate ongoing prayers for the ranch.

Along with providing a fun experience and fostering lasting friendships between campers, Bonk said their desire for Love Reins Ranch is "that we could reach kids and change their lives with hope, with love, with recognizing that they can say prayers and God hears them."

Anyone interested in supporting the ranch or registering for programs can visit www.lovereinsranch.com/wolf-creek for more information.



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Camp

Love Reins Ranch Wolf Creek, formerly Circle Square Ranch, re-opened this week.

Have a great vacation!

Your Grasslands News team will be on vacation from July 21 to August 1, 2025

PLEASE NOTE there will be **NO PUBLICATIONS JULY 25 AND AUGUST 1**. Our offices in Melville and Whitewood will be closed from July 21 to August 1. Regular Office hours will resume Tuesday, August 5 and regular deadlines will resume Tuesday, August 5 at 12 noon for the Friday, August 8 issue.

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Indian Head High School class celebrates 50th reunion

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Indian Head Parade Days provided an ideal opportunity for high school graduates to return to the town and re-connect with former classmates.

Sixty-two former Indian Head High School (IHHS) students gathered for a reunion on June 28. Several from the class of 1975 marked the 50th anniversary of their graduation from IHHS. They were joined by classmates who had attended school with them in Indian Head but moved away before graduation.

Those who arrived early enough, joined the parade on Saturday morning and celebrated “A Homegrown Hurrah.” They sat atop a large flat-bed trailer, courtesy of Lakeview Farms, that was decorated with blue and white balloons, a banner and the old high school

logo.

In addition to participating in the procession through town and enjoying other Parade Day activities, the group visited the high school and Grand Theatre in the afternoon. Current teacher Lynn Dunham provided the former students with a tour of Indian Head High School. This offered them an opportunity to see changes that have been made in the building and reminisce about their youth while walking the halls. Afterwards, Don Jewitt guided them through the theatre, where many could recall attending shows.

“We had a wonderful visit in the theatre because all of these guys grew up going there,” Jewitt shared with Grasslands News. “It was the Gary Theatre back then; they ran in and found their seats and everything!”

Along with visits to the

theatre and school, those attending the reunion also enjoyed a banquet and heard from the 1975 class president Don Jewitt. Valedictorian Dalyce (Williamson) Peterson shared a poem and a few words as well.

“Fifty years ago is a long time from most perspectives, but not so much from where we sit now,” Jewitt said when he addressed the group. “I know that in a moment I can flash back to our school days and feel that it was like yesterday. The joys, the sadnesses, the wins, the losses, the events that really shaped our lives and I hope we are able to revisit some of those over the next couple hours.”

He went on to recall political, entertainment and sports-related highlights from their graduation year and give honourable mentions to the teachers who had shaped their school years.

A similar look back at the IHHS yearbook for 1974-1975 shows a graduating class of 56 young men and women. The same class photo was included in the book *Heritage Indian Head: High School Grads 1914-1984*, published by Indian Head Museum in 2024. It is accompanied by anecdotes that indicate



INDIAN HEAD MUSEUM ARCHIVES

IHHS Class of 1975

Indian Head High School’s Class of 1975 held its 50th reunion during Parade Days on June 28. Back row: Ken Reisdorf, Ken Nichols, George Sanson, Bob Lemon, Steve Przepiorka, Russ Hewson, Richard Gray, Jim Routledge, Peter Lemon, Kirk Williamson, Wayne Briant, Tim Glass. Third row: Don Jewitt, Denny Chambers, Ron Stranger, Lorne Holzapfel, Tim Keslering, Hal Willoughby, Jim Curry, Lyle Miller, Alec Wlodarczyk, Don McDonald, Mark Beaulieu, Ben Friesen, Randy Blair, Lloyd Crookshanks, Roger Geremia. Second row: Debbie Clark, Donna McCullough, Evelyn Longeau, Eileen Malbeuf, Lee Peach, Debra McCullough, Leta Lowey, Cathy Harkness, Val Dirksen, Debbie Hancock, Denise Beaulieu, Janice Holden, Sharon Hubbs, Dalyce Williamson. Front row: Linda Reynard, Bev Pike, Faye Thompson, Lynda Calcraft, Heather Dixon, Barb McCaw, Veronica Przepiorka, Margaret Henty, Laurie Huntley, Carla Bitschy, Elaine Scott, Pat Sauer, Marj Copithorn, Wanda Patterson, Carole Petty.

opened that year, and an accumulation of snow and rain caused flooding in Indian Head and the surrounding area.

Along with the class photo and many other pictures, the IHHS 1974-1975 yearbook also includes a message from Don Jewitt, Student Council President and a copy of Peterson’s

valedictory speech. Both yearbook messages reflected on the challenges and successes of the class’s high school experience. The valedictorian also expressed an optimistic outlook:

“Whatever joys and difficulties that are ahead will be our own. But, we feel that if the future deals

with us as kindly as the past has done, then life will be very good indeed.”

The reunion in June gave Peterson, Jewitt and others the time to discuss those joys and difficulties that had filled the intervening years and shaped a life that was “very good indeed.”

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Friends and Neighbours

Canada Day, something to celebrate in Indian Head and beyond

By Allison Kydd
Grasslands News

“What did you do in your summer holidays?” It was a standard essay topic when we came back to school each fall and often set the tone for the year that followed. In those days of elementary school, I was glad there were also more exciting essay topics from which to choose. Now I see things somewhat differently, and I’m always interested in hearing what friends and neighbours have been doing, whether their adventures are large or small.

That’s why I’m interested in how people celebrated Canada Day. In fact, it’s particularly important this year, when Canadian identity is being challenged from a couple of directions. First, there’s the current U.S. administration with its insults and its egocentric policies, and second, there’s the political blackmail and threats of separation coming from certain leaders within our own country. Harking back to elementary school again, I remember never being convinced by the old saying “Sticks and stones will break your bones, but words will never hurt you.” In fact, words do matter, and most Canadians agree this of all years is a time for us to stand up for our country.

So, how did you spend Canada Day? No doubt many from Indian Head were resting up after their exertions for Parade Day and the car show that followed. For instance, I noticed members of the Cochrane Family from The Gallery Coffee House in the parade. I also knew that Susie Hilton of Grace and Thyme had organized the Vintage and Antique Market held in the Memorial Hall.

“This was the second annual event, and we had vendors from Winnipeg, Alberta and across Saskatchewan,” says Hilton.

In the previous issue of the *Indian Head-Wolseley News*, Sarah Pacio describes many of the events that took place over the parade weekend. There was, as we say, something for everyone, and the same was true for Canada Day, though I’m only going to touch on a couple of events.

For the equestrians among us, Dee Lyke of New Hope Ranch hosted an open house on July 1st. She says it was “a way to invite people to see the changes that have been made and all that the property has to offer.”

It also gave Lyke the chance to relax and chat, as she’s usually too busy to visit. Guests came from all over, she says: Regina, Lumsden, Vibank, Ft. Qu’Appelle, etc., some new faces along with old friends.

Susan Turpin and Kate Grunert, both of whom ride regularly at the ranch, were also there on Canada Day and had high praise for the event. Lyke also men-



Lyke and Braam mounting ramp.

PHOTO BY CHARLIE HORSE CREATIONS | GRASSLANDS NEWS

tions a visit by Cathy Ringdal, whom she met during the former’s first Stage Left Players production, *A Snow White Christmas*. Ringdal has been doing makeup and hair for the Indian Head community theatre group for over ten years.

Lyke laughs as she admits she didn’t immediately recall how they were acquainted, when she saw Ringdal at the open house, though she had a sense she knew that face and voice very well. (After all, actors do see their makeup artist at close quarters—and vice versa.) Audiences will be pleased that Lyke expects to be involved with Stage Left again in the fall. Spring and summer are simply too busy for her to participate in extra-curricular activities, she says.

Among the activities on offer at New Hope Ranch on July 1st were wagon rides, not only pulled by horses but also by a mule hired for the occasion. In the arena, both adults and children could ride under the supervision of one of Lyke’s assistants. There were games as well: corn hole (a version of the bean bag throw) and axe throwing. The axes are thrown from horseback, but the axes are plastic, so it’s less dangerous than it sounds.

“It’s a lot of fun,” says Lyke. “After all, there’s such a thing as mounted archery, etc.”

Family occasions also require refreshments, and Lyke provided complimentary soft drinks, hamburgers and hot dogs as a show of appreciation for her customers both present and future.

Nor will there be any lack of activity at New Hope Ranch in the fall. There is a Barn Rats session, where young people learn what’s involved in caring for horses, going on right now, and there will be a new session starting in September.

“The kids really enjoy the social part of it, seeing their friends, etc. at the ranch,” says Lyke. Presum-

ably this includes seeing their equine friends. Lessons will start up as well. These are usually sold in packages of ten. Though many riding students settle into a routine of weekly lessons, there’s also some flexibility, since young people often have to work around sports teams and other activities.

Lyke is also looking forward to a working equitation competition she’ll be hosting in September.

“There are only two working equitation events planned for Saskatchewan this year,” she says, “and both are being held at New Hope Ranch.”

For the benefit of those who are unfamiliar with the term “working equitation,” it highlights the functional use of horses in ranch work and might involve working cattle, maneuvering around obstacles, the partnership of horse and rider, etc. Watch for more on this event later in the summer or fall.

On Canada Day, one didn’t have to travel far from New Hope Ranch to the open air market at Qu’Appelle. This market is held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday from the beginning of June through to the end of September, near the intersection of North Railway Avenue and Qu’Appelle Street. (The location has a park-like atmosphere, shaded as it is by a row of huge Walker poplars, and includes the visitors’ centre.) The “park” is unnamed at present, but apparently some discussion about that is underway. The number of booths at the market varies; sometimes there are as many as twenty. On July 1st, offerings at approximately seven booths varied from handicrafts, leather crafts, jams and jellies, jewellery and tie-dye creations, to pet treats and equipment as well as pet-inspired novelties. Most vendors accepted e-transfer as well as cash.

Barbequed hamburgers and hotdogs were also available, served up by the editor of *The Qu’Ap-*

pelle Spirit, Alyen Arthur, and the mayor of Qu’Appelle, Brian Bogdan, while Qu’Appelle’s librarian, Shellynn Fretz, provided cold drinks and condiments. Money from the sale of refreshments goes to various community groups, and on July 1st, the library was to be the beneficiary. According to later reports, \$374.00 was raised during the two-hour meal slot. A taste of complimentary Canada Day cake donated by Domo Gas finished off the meal very nicely.

Mayor of Qu’Appelle since November 2024, Bogdan was born in Indian Head hospital and has lived in Qu’Appelle for most of his forty-two years, though he did spend short periods in Regina and Mexico. His parents and a brother also

live in Qu’Appelle, while his sister, Kelly Bogdan, lives in Indian Head.

Brian Bogdan also represents Qu’Appelle’s Communities in Blooms initiative, which means taking responsibility for the fifty-five flower barrels one sees around town and for the fifty-four banners displaying the work of a number of local artists. The artists, says Bogdan, range in age from nine to ninety. Bogdan also served previously on the council, from 2008 to 2012.

Busy as he is with mayoral duties, Bogdan also has a day job. He’s a technician for the agro-forestry group at the Indian Head’s former “Experimental Farm,” moving there from what was known as “the forestry farm,” where he had worked since the age of eighteen. Between the two centres, Bogdan has worked a total of 24 years.

Visitors to the open air market will notice that Bogdan is much in demand – both in his role as mayor and for his efforts helping vendors set up booths and get things organized. On Canada Day, as he was sitting at a picnic table entertaining visitors, several local people came by to discuss community concerns. He also finds himself invited to events at neighbouring small towns and sometimes is even asked to make speeches at these events. All in all, however, he is quite modest about the honour of becoming Qu’Appelle’s mayor.

“It’s hard to find volunteers. Somebody had to step up,” he says.

At the same time, Bogdan wouldn’t mind occasionally having someone else take his place at the Saturday market. Much

as he likes meeting people and visiting, he bought a hundred-year-old house six years ago and, since he doesn’t have much spare time, feels as if it has been in a constant state of renovation ever since.

According to Bogdan, this is the fourth year for the market. It’s location beside the visitors’ centre is a boon, especially as the centre now boasts a kitchenette and hot running water in the washroom. As in many small towns, organizations work in partnership. For instance, the town’s Fifty Plus group manages the visitors’ centre, so that’s one responsibility that doesn’t fall on the mayor’s shoulders.

I’m proud to give the final word on Canada Day celebrations to Roberta Gehl, who says the following:

“Dave and I didn’t join in on any organized Canada Day celebrations this year, but we did take a bit of time for reflection. We both agreed that we are grateful our grandparents decided to immigrate to Canada and make it their home. We know that they considered themselves fortunate to live here, as do we.”

Gehl continues: “We are also keenly aware that our good fortunes came at great expense to the indigenous peoples who have always lived here. [Because of that,] we are grateful we can be part of the reconciliation process that is taking place in Canada. This process is long overdue and worth celebrating.”

As always, contact akyddwrt@sasktel.net with comments or suggestions.

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SPORTS

Kipling hosts 35+ Twilighter Men's Provincial Championship

By Connie Schwalm
Grasslands News

The ball diamonds in Kipling were busy once again last weekend, as seven teams (Riverhurst, Regina Drifters, Wawota, Gull Lake, Lanigan, Assiniboia and Moose Mountain) came to take part in the 35+ Twilighter Men's Provincial Championship. The three-day tournament not only featured some top-quality baseball but also provided an opportunity for players and their families to get together and reconnect with old friends they may not have seen for far too long.

Tyler Vargo (Captain of the host Moose Mountain Team and one of the organizers of the tournament) says the decision to bring the tournament back to Kipling was made last year.

"When we got together to start planning the team out last year, we found there was no host for the 2025 tournament yet. So, our team talked about what we would need to do to host it here in Kipling. I've been told that the tournament was last here sometime during the early 2000's. So, we thought it was time to host it here again and we felt we could make it work."

Vargo notes that recent improvements at the ball diamonds made a noticeable difference during this event.

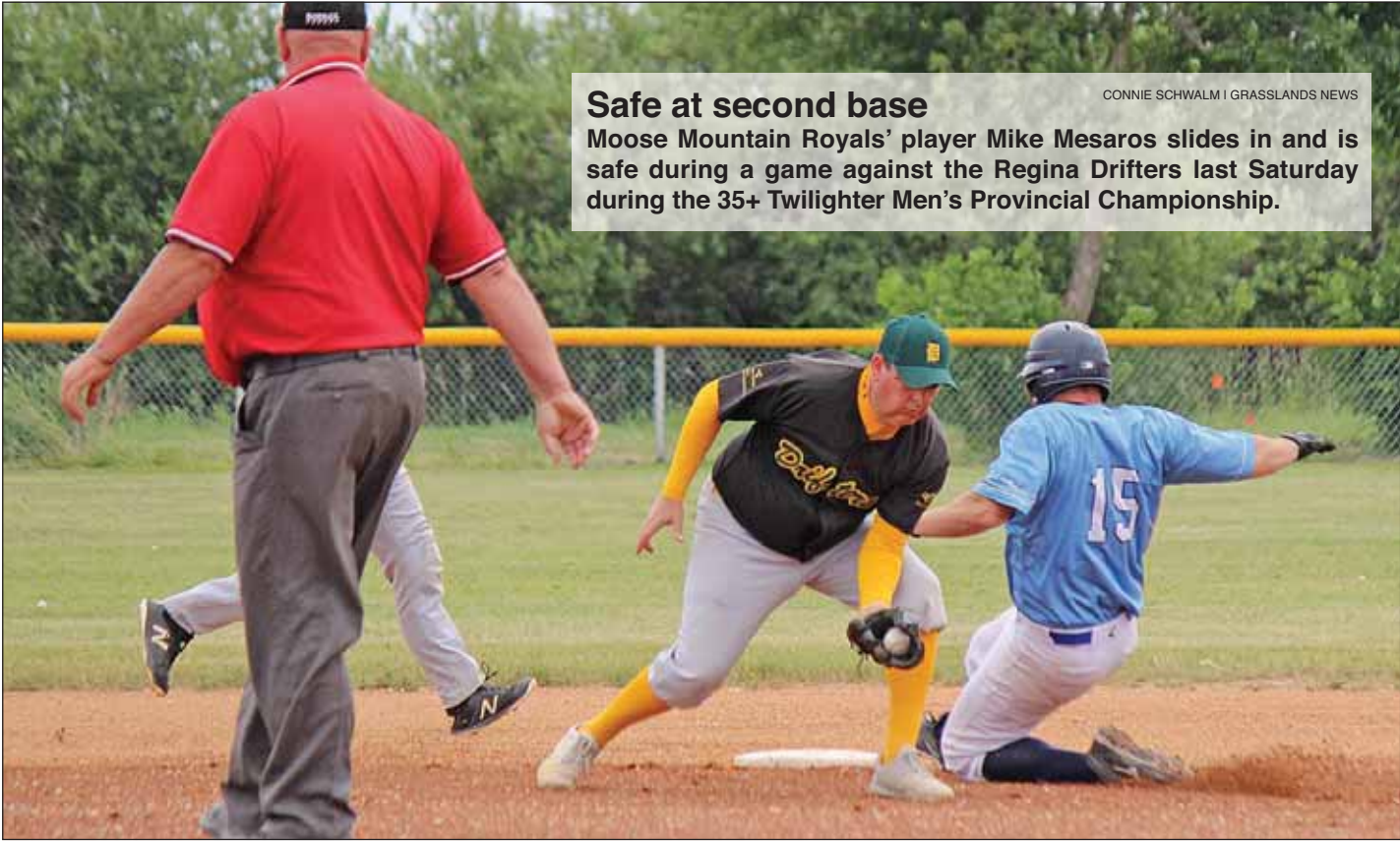
"It made everything so much easier to have good facilities for both the canteen and the beer garden right where we need them to be. That really helped to make the tournament a success, because it's a huge thing to be able to host and have all the amenities right at the ball diamonds."

He adds that the tournament also provided an opportunity to ensure that baseball would continue in Kipling this summer.

"Our senior baseball team is taking a year of absence and there's no U18 baseball. So, other than Slo-Pitch games, the diamonds weren't going to be getting any use for baseball. I think it's a good thing to get baseball going in the community again and hopefully get people out to enjoy these games."

Peter Champagne, who has acted as umpire in various leagues for many years was asked to be one of the umpires at this tournament, and praises organizers for hosting a successful event that featured some top-quality baseball.

"It was very good quality baseball at



Safe at second base
Moose Mountain Royals' player Mike Mesaros slides in and is safe during a game against the Regina Drifters last Saturday during the 35+ Twilighter Men's Provincial Championship.

CONNIE SCHWALM | GRASSLANDS NEWS

this tournament. In fact, I thought that what I saw in Kipling was the best 35+ baseball I've seen so far. The tournament itself also went really well. Everything ran like clockwork and the diamonds were well looked after. There were just a lot of good things to be said about the people there and the tournament they put on."

However, Champagne notes that the tournament also gave him the chance to reconnect with some baseball players that he worked with years ago.

"I also coached for a goodly number of years and ran into two players I coached at this tournament that I was very happy to see. One of those players was Tyrell Thorpe who is originally from Langenberg but was playing on the Regina team. I've known Tyrell for a long time. He was on a Pee Wee team that I took to Italy for a tournament years ago and later came to Melville to play regularly on the team I was coaching there.

"The other player was Tyler Vargo. In Bantam and Midget, you were allowed to pick up players from outside your zone

and I'd heard about Tyler Vargo. So, I went and checked him out and invited him to come to Melville and play with us. He did that and played with us in our provincial tournament and in a couple of special tournaments that we took part in.

"So, I worked with both of these players, and it was great to have the chance to connect with them again last weekend. I'm really proud of those two boys. They've done very well and are still excellent ball players."

Vargo says that catching up with old friends was also a highlight of the weekend for him.

"There were a couple of players here for the tournament that I played with during my minor ball days when I was in Weyburn and Melville (during my last year). There were also some other guys from Regina I ran into that I played Junior Ball with and haven't seen for 17 years. And I was really happy to see Peter again. So, this tournament is a chance to catch up with them and see where they're going with their lives. It's a great thing to get together and share

memories with old buddies and people that you played against too."

He goes on to say that the tournament also gave players an opportunity to enjoy the game they love and make some lasting memories with their families.

"There are a lot of good baseball players on these over 35 teams who can still play really well. So, it's nice to have the chance to get out and enjoy the game. And for some guys who don't get out to play too often, this is their one big tournament.

"Being the age we are, most of us also have families that want to come and hang out at the tournament too. We all get together after the games for potluck meals and our kids all play together. It's like a big reunion for these families. There are guys that talk about going to tournaments like this when they were kids and watching their dads play. We want our kids to have memories like that too. So, being able to host the 35+ Twilighter Men's Provincial Championship and give people a chance to make those memories here in Kipling was great.

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Skubal sparks Tigers' rise from the depths

By Bruce Penton
Sports Columnist

While Toronto Blue Jays are needed having an unexpectedly great season, baseball fans in general are enjoying a terrific season on a number of fronts as Major League Baseball passes its halfway mark.

Trying to project a World Series winner in July is a fool's game, but it was hardly in doubt back in April when most of the game's followers were declaring the Los Angeles Dodgers to be a repeat winner of the October (that runs into November) Classic. And why not? The Dodgers dominated the 2024 season and returned with almost the same powerful lineup but with one key addition: Slugger Shohei Ohtani was returning to the mound. The Dodgers in a cake-walk, right?

Not so fast. The first team to get to 50 victories this year was somewhat of a surprise: The Detroit Tigers, who grabbed a wild-card playoff berth last year after languishing at or near the basement of the American League Central for nearly a decade. As the calendar flipped from June

to July, the Tigers and Dodgers had identical records atop MLB's 32 teams. Leading the way for the Tigers is arguably the best pitcher in baseball, Tarik Skubal, who won the AL's triple crown of pitching last year (wins, ERA, strikeouts). He's back at it again this year, with a 10-2 record, 2.13 ERA and 138 strikeouts in 109 innings.

But while the Tigers were the first to 50 wins, all teams in the American League must keep their eye on New York Yankees, who would likely prevail in a best-of-seven championship series against the Tigers. Outfielder Aaron Judge is having another sensational season and is the mid-season favourite to win the MVP again. Free-agent pitcher pickup Max Fried is earning his hefty salary, going 10-2 with a 2.13 ERA at mid-season.

While the Dodgers posted the best half-season record, they're far from an automatic World Series participant. Chicago Cubs are having a season to remember, and Philadelphia Phillies and NY Mets appear to be the class of the NL East, and any one of those teams has the firepower to dislodge the Dodgers



Sports Column
By Bruce Penton

in a short series.

Individually, there have been some breakout stories. Catcher Cal Raleigh of Seattle has become the new Sultan of Swing, bashing 35 home runs in his first 87 games, a pace that would give him 65 homers. Judge is on his heels, with 32 homers and a league-leading OPS (on base percentage plus slugging) of 1.202. And a youngster by the name of Jacob Misorowski of Milwaukee Brewers reminded baseball fans of Fernando Mania of 45 years ago by making a huge rookie splash. In his first two starts, totalling 11 innings, the 6-foot-7 23-year-old did not give up a single hit. In his third outing, he was touched for three hits in five innings and outdu-

eled Pittsburgh mound sensation Paul Skenes. Opponents are batting .061 against him.

Meanwhile, Blue Jays fans are enjoying watching their team flirt with first place in the A.L. The season's second half should be exciting.

- Vancouver comedy guy Torben Rolfson: "France is replacing Russia in Olympic hockey next year, so berets over weird fur hats will be in fashion."

- Rolfson again: "U.S. law enforcement has cracked down on gang violence. When are they going to get to the WNBA?"

- Globe and Mail columnist Cathal Kelly, on Masai Ujiri trading "anchor" Andrea Bargnani to the Knicks in exchange for valuable draft picks: "If sports had a criminal code, that trade would have been a Class A felony."

- Another one from Kelly, with advice to fans in a column about blistering heat at Wimbledon: "If you feel faint, then for God's sake don't pass out while a point is being played. It will distract the players."

- Manitoba premier Wab Kanew, on the Jets signing Jonathan Toews to a contract: "It'll be really great for the documentary

they make about the Winnipeg Jets winning the Stanley Cup."

- Torben Rolfson again: "Joey Chestnut on cover of Hot Dog 26 video game."

- Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Joey Chestnut once again won the 4th of July hot dog eating contest, eating just over 70 hot dogs in six hours. The real loser in this? Joey Chestnut's plumber."

- American political commentator George Will, (snipped from Jack Finarelli's sportscurmudgen.com site): "Football combines two of the worst things in American life. It is violence punctuated by committee meetings."

- Headline at fark.com: "I don't want to say that gambling has ruined ESPN but here's an article on the odds of the July 4 hot-dog-eating contest."

- One more from Cathal Kelly, on waiting 18 minutes in line for strawberries and cream at Wimbledon: That is "something I would not normally do. One of my rules for life is that the only things I (grudgingly) line up for are airport security and the checkout at Costco."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Southeast Men's Fastball League Finals set to go

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

The table is set for the first round of play-offs in the Southeast Men's Fastball League (SEMFL) with four of the six teams having a chance at clenching the league championships while the other two teams will be playing for a consolation title.

The first round, all best of three se-

ries, will see the first place and defending champions the Grenfell Gems take on the fourth place Ochapowace Young Bucks while the second place Neudorf Posse will take to the field against the Whitewood Falcons. The winners of each series will then advance to the final round to play off for the SEMFL championship.

There will also be a league consolation series played which will see the fifth place Cowessess Royals take on the sixth place Round Lake Bears. The winner

will be crowned the league's consolation champions.

The first round series began Wednesday night with Ochapowace in Grenfell but results from the game were not available at press time. Game two of that series will be July 14 in Ochapowace and game three, if necessary, will be back in Grenfell on July 16. All games begin at 8 p.m.

The first game of the Whitewood/Neudorf series is starting July 10 at 7 p.m. in

Neudorf with game two in Whitewood on July 14 at 6:30 p.m. If necessary, game three will be played in Neudorf on July 15 at 7 p.m.

The consolation series begins July 10 with Round Lake at Cowessess for game one. Game two of the series will be July 15 (played at Ochapowace) with game three, if necessary, played July 17 back at Cowessess. All games in this series begin at 8 pm.



Borderland League champions

The Kipling U11 Girls had a great season of softball and ended with a big win and clenching the U11 Borderland League. Front row, left to right, are, Kessel Schiller, Arizona Kish, Emma Dew, Kelly Lariviere, Emma Gartner, Austyn Heikkila, and Holly Heikkila (coach). Back row, left to right, are, Kim Gall (coach), Harper Gall, Leighton Adams, Scarlett Stamm, Drew Sproat, Kate-Lynn Potgieter, Kendal Jones, Mersadie Hazell, and Melissa Hazell (coach).

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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

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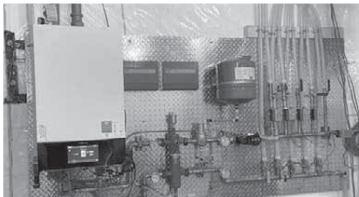
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White Butte baseball teams perform well

Canada’s Largest Minor Baseball Tournament in Melville

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The White Butte Broncos performed well during the Melville Minor Ball Association Baseball Tournament.

The tournament took place from July 4-6 at the Melville Regional Park.

While none of the Broncos teams brought home the championship, the teams performed well in the tournament, with some playing in the championship games or conso-

CORRECTION

In last week’s edition it was reported that the Fort Qu’Appelle “Canada Ball” golf was held by Echo Ridge Ladies. The event was actually hosted by the Katepwa Ladies with the invited guests the Echo Ridge Ladies. We apologize for the mix-up.

lation games.

The 11U AA Broncos Blue faced some tough teams, losing against the Carnduff Astros, Watrous Lakers, Regina Wolfpack, and Munster Red Sox.

The 11U AAA White Butte Broncos found more success, winning 16-9 against the Yorkton Cardinals, and 15-5 against the Sask Central River Pirates. They lost 19-17 against the Estevan Brewers.

The 11U AAA Broncos ended up as the number 2 seed but fell in a close game against the Sask Central River Pirates, losing 11-10. They ended up playing against the Yorkton Cardinals in the consolation game.

The 13U AAA Broncos earned the number one rank in the B Pool during the three-day tournament. Over the three days the team won 13-10 against the Bonivital Black Sox, tied 5-5 with the Regina White Sox, won 10-4 against the Sask Central Pirates, and

won 14-4 against the Regina Athletics. The team made it to the championship game where they lost against the Winnipeg South Wolves.

The 15U AA White Butte Broncos faced tough luck throughout the weekend, losing 11-6 against the Lumsden Cubs, 9-7 against Parkland Twins Blue, 11-3 against the Medicine Hat Majestics, and 15-0 against the Lumsden Cubs.

The 18UAA White Butte Broncos placed fourth in the A pool. In the first day of the tournament the Broncos won their first game 10-7 against the Esterhazy Cyclones, and tied their second game 14-14 with the Macklin Lakers. On day two the Broncos fell 8-7 against the Regina Blue Jays and 4-3 against the Elmwood Giants. On day three the Broncos won 10-4 against the Regina Athletics and played in the consolation game against the Regina Blue Jays.



JACOB MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS

13U AAA Final game
13U AAA White Butte Broncos pitcher Garrett Stephen opened things up against the Winnipeg South Wolves in the 13U AAA Championship at Father Tom in Melville.



PUBLIC NOTICE RESORT VILLAGE OF FORT SAN Notice of Discretionary Use Application

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Resort Village of Fort San that pursuant to section 55 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* gives notice that a discretionary use application has been received and the details are as follows:

Discretionary Use Permit: Boathouse with loft
– Lot A, Block 2, Plan GC1610

INTENT: The applicant is seeking approval to construct a boathouse that includes a loft on the upper level.

PUBLIC INSPECTION: Any person may inspect the proposed application at the Village Office during normal office hours, Tuesday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available to interested persons at a cost.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 7 p.m. The public hearing will be held at the Fort San Village Office at 120 Broadway Street W., Fort Qu’Appelle, SK. Any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed application is welcome to attend or to submit comments prior to the meeting. Council will consider all comments received.

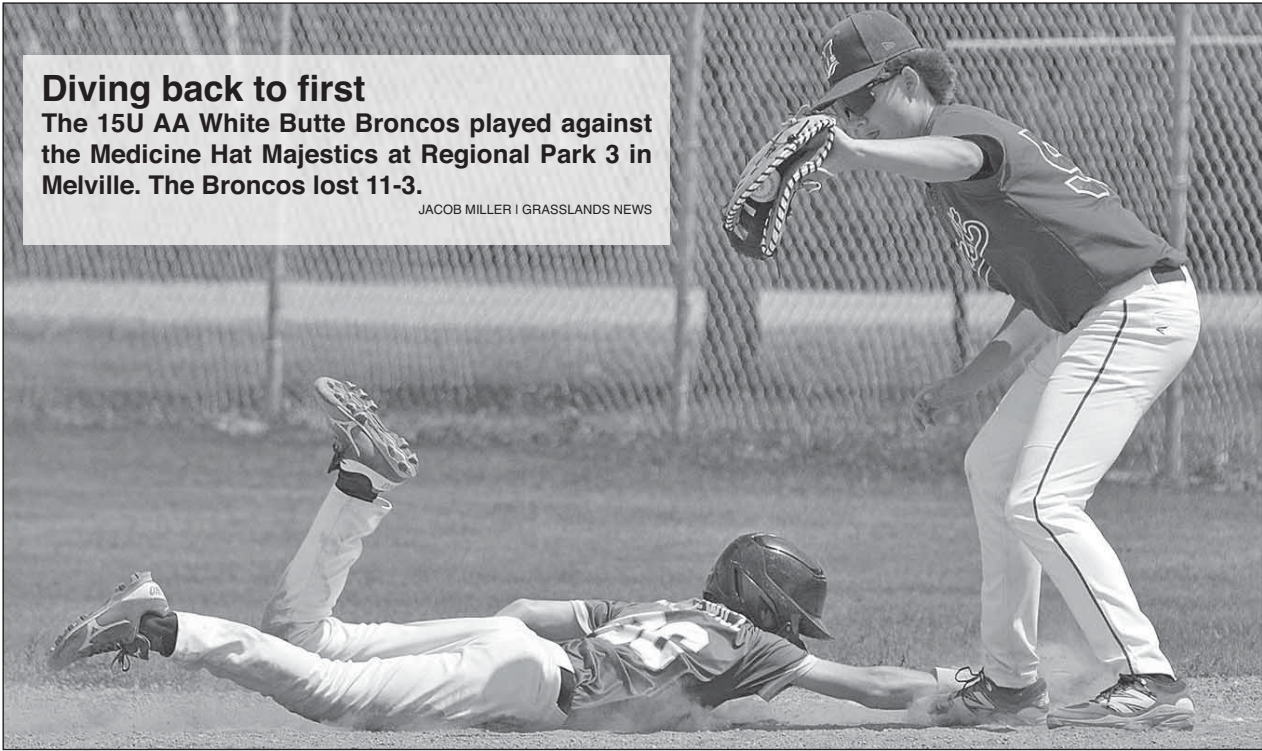
Issued at the Resort Village of Fort San June 24, 2025.

Amy Railton, CAO

Diving back to first

The 15U AA White Butte Broncos played against the Medicine Hat Majestics at Regional Park 3 in Melville. The Broncos lost 11-3.

JACOB MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS



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Close play at third
The 11U AAA White Butte Broncos faced off against the Estevan Brewers at Regional Park 1 in Melville. The Broncos lost in a close game against the Brewers. losina 19-17.

Campground donates to Hospital Foundation



MARG OLLETT | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Proceeds net \$1,050

Submitted by Marg Ollett
Grasslands News

The Indian Head Campground held a burger and wiener roast for their seasonal campers on June 29 and donated the proceeds to The Indian Head and District Hospital Foundation Inc.

The seasonal campers added to this with a donation bucket and the combined donation came to a

whopping \$1,050. This was presented by campground employee John Heisler and Trista Cherkowich (right) to Marg Ollett (far left) and Lisa Craigie (second from left) of the Foundation. They are most appreciative of this generous donation and grateful to campground owners Marion and Kelsey Calder. The Indian Head Campground plans on making this an annual event.

CLOSED for HOLIDAYS!
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Friday, July 25 and Friday, Aug. 1

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Sunday, July 20:
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Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m.

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5th Ave. W. & Queen St.
Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001
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(Lutheran Church - Canada)
502 - 4th Ave. W. - Church Office
Ph. 306-728-5689
Email: zlcpcastor@myaccess.ca
www.zionlutheranmelville.com
Sunday, July 13:
11:00 a.m. Divine Service
Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on 940 CJGX Radio, Yorkton

St. Mary's RC Church, Grayson
St. Elizabeth's RC Church, Killaly
St. Michael's RC Church, Lemberg

CHURCH SERVICES
July 12-13:
Grayson 11 a.m.
Killaly 7 p.m.
Lemberg 9 a.m.

Whitewood & Area Churches Welcome You

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

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

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Tomy Mandapatil
Sunday, July 13:
9:00 a.m. Mass Service

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday, July 13:
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
with The Rev. Cheryl Johnson

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA
Summer Services as follows:
Sunday, July 13:
10 a.m. Lay Service
Sunday, Aug. 10:
10 a.m. Lay Service

WHITEWOOD UNITED CHURCH
**No Services until September*



Fort Qu'Appelle Churches Welcome You

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

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

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Obituary

Maureen Julia Fafard
(née Beaton)
Oct. 8, 1936 – July 2, 2025

With deep sadness and profound love, we announce the passing of Maureen Julia Fafard (née Beaton) of Broadview, Sask., who passed away peacefully in the Broadview Centennial Lodge on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at the age of 88.

Maureen is lovingly remembered by her husband, Laurie Fafard and their three sons: Jim, Allan (Sandra) and Danny (Judy). She was a proud grandmother to Kurtis (Teri), Marc, Chelsey (Daniel), Dean (Laura) and Jasmine; and a cherished great-grandmother to Wyatt, Levi, Bronwyn, Calvin and Henry. She was predeceased by her parents, Mel and Mae Beaton, and brother, Jim Beaton (Wanda).

Born in Whitewood, Sask. on Oct. 8, 1936, Maureen was raised in Broadview, where she completed her schooling and excelled in track and field. In Grade 9, she met Laurie, who had come into town from the farm to attend Broadview School. He sat behind her in class and eventually wore her down – and they've been by each other's side ever since. They were married on July 19, 1957 in Regina, and would have celebrated 68 years of marriage this year.

Maureen completed two years of teaching at Logwood School and Cowessess Day School before leaving the profession to help on the farm and raise her three young boys. She and Laurie farmed from 1957 until 1999, when Maureen finally got to move back into town – a milestone she'd long been looking forward to. After they sold their cattle, Maureen and Laurie were able to travel more freely, visiting places like Cuba, Mexico and Italy with friends. They shared a life rich in companionship, laughter and long friendships.

She was a woman of many talents with endless interests. Maureen grew tremendous gardens and planted hundreds of flowers every year, eventually building her own greenhouse. She was active in Communities in Bloom and took great pride in her competitive entries of flowers and vegetables. She was also a gifted crafter and creator – gardening, scrapbooking, card-making, crocheting, reading, sewing – there was nothing she couldn't do with care and precision. Every family member has a Care Bear lovingly sewn by her, a drawer full of her famous crocheted dishcloths and handmade cards "Hand Stamped by Maureen." She was an avid collector – of coins, souvenir spoons, turtles and crystal figurines. Her desserts were legendary within the family, and whatever the task, she tackled it with unmatched efficiency. Maureen had a sharp mind and a remarkable memory – if you tried to argue, you'd quickly find she had the facts on her side.

Some of the most cherished family memories were made at the cabin on Sunset Beach at Crooked Lake, where Maureen and Laurie created a summer haven. Wiener roasts, fishing, tubing, paddleboating, mini golfing, bocce ball games, flea market outings, the game of Life – these were the golden days for her children and grandchildren.

In keeping with Maureen's wishes, no formal funeral service will be held. She will be laid to rest in the columbarium at the Broadview Cemetery at a later date.

Though she may be gone from our sight, those who loved her will carry pieces of her with them always. Her memory is stitched into every corner of family life – from the gardens she grew to the keepsakes she made – and she will be missed beyond words.

Online condolences may be made at www.tubmanfh.com



Memoriam



WASSILL – Helen. In memory of our mother who passed away 15 years ago, July 15, 2010.
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–Leonard, Dennis and Michelle.

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Coming Events

FLETWODE Annual Church Service, Sunday, July 27 at 2:30 p.m. Potluck lunch to follow. Please bring your lawn chair. Everyone welcome. *Located in the Kennedy district and RM of Hazelwood.*

THE QU'APPELLE VALLEY Art Guild is having its annual Show and Sale at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Lebreton on **Saturday, July 12 and Sunday, July 13**, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$2 admission, door prize is a \$300 painting, refreshments available. There are 30 members at the show so there is a nice variety of mediums, sizes and subjects.

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Playground and Splash Park open in Balcarres

By Judy Hershmiller
Grasslands News

The Lions Playground and Splash Park is open again for the summer with Addison Ward and Jalysa Hyndman hired to organize games and activities in the patio area. Lots of fun is planned for children who visit for the summer. Concession snacks are available as well as the games and activities.

The Splash Park is open Monday to Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – perfect for kids and families to beat the heat and have some fun in the sun. Come to the park on July 16 for the Family Picnic Day, enjoy a free barbecue, games, family activities and more.

Coming Events

July 12 and July 13: Qu'Appelle Valley Art Guild is hosting its 53rd Annual Art Show and Sale at Sacred Heart Catholic Church from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days with a \$2 admission.

A featured painting by Shelley Cochrane will be raffled, and an all artist progressive painting will be one of the highlights of the two-day show. Come and see what the painters have been doing this year!

Van stolen in Kelliher

Submitted
Grasslands News

On Friday July 4, at 1513 hrs. the RCMP received a report of a stolen van from 2nd Avenue in Kelliher, SK.

A white sprinter van used for delivery service was taken. The vehicle is a white late model Ford cube van, Sk licence plate 008 MYC.

Please advise police via 310-RCMP, 310-7267 if you observe this vehicle in the area.

If you have information related to this advisory please call 310-RCMP for immediate response, or you can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

July 18: Quilt Show at the BICC, 1 p.m. hosted by the Friendship Club. Jellybean Guessing Contest takes place all month long at the Public Library and town office. Be sure to come in and give staff your best ideas! \$1 per guess. Library hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays 12 noon to 6 p.m.

Balcarres Care Centre Update

The summer has started with a nice mix of showers and sunshine. The flowers that the residents helped plant are looking happy. Appreciation to the Friendship Club for their contributions to the Mother's Day and Father's Day events in May and June. They helped to elevate our celebrations for the residents.

A big thank you to the volunteers who helped at the Perennial Plant and Garage Sale on June 20. Appreciation to the community for their support of the plant/garage sale and hotdog sale.

June was filled with a variety of summer events. To kick off June the residents visited the Lemberg

Library Book Sale and barbecue. Residents enjoyed the monthly birthday party and happy hour. Residents also enjoyed many snack socials out in the courtyard.

The BICC welcomed students from the Grade 1-3 classes from the Balcarres Community School. Students played a variety of lawn games alongside the residents and enjoyed a cool treat. Residents enjoyed various entertainment and ended June with a successful visit to the Motherwell.

Outings for July are planned to have coffee at the Golden Age Center, walk to Turtle's for some treats, explore the Abernethy Fair and to take in the beauty of the lakes. Many more courtyard activities, entertainment, physical activities, spiritual activities and cognitive activities are planned. Lastly we are hosting a Quilt Show on July 18 from 1 to 3 p.m. hosted by the Friendship Club and sponsored by Balcarres Nutrien Ag.

As always, thank you to everyone for your continued support of the

BICC and your various contributions to helping increase the quality of life for the residents and helping them feel connected to the community. Have a great summer.

Golden Age Events

Visitors and members are welcome to come and enjoy coffee every Tuesday morning at 9:30, and Thursday afternoon at 2 p.m. Free to attend and open to the public.

The sewing club meets every second Tuesday after coffee time, and work on their projects through the day. They have completed pillow cases which

have been taken to the Allan Blair Cancer Clinic to be donated to cancer patients, and also worked lately on neonatal blankets for little ones.

Birthdays of members are celebrated on the third Wednesday of each month at 2:30.

Cabbage rolls and lazy cabbage rolls are available at the Centre – two pkgs (10-12) rolls are \$14 and/or lazy cabbage rolls \$10 ea. Stop by the Centre Tuesdays at 9:30 or contact Sandy Lang at 306-331-7285 to make other arrangements.

Around Balcarres

Balcarres citizens celebrated Canada Day in various ways in the community, with family gatherings, sports activities and by visiting our neighbouring town of Fort Qu'Appelle to take in the annual parade and fireworks, or down to Katepwa to enjoy the planned activities in the Provincial Park and amazing fireworks that followed.

Sincere sympathy to the families and friends of Jim Hartman and Garth Profit of Esterhazy who passed away suddenly.



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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Council of the City of Melville will consider adopting a bylaw under *The Municipalities Act* to provide for the closing of a Municipal Road or Street.

INTENT: The proposed bylaw, subject to the consent of the Minister of Highways will close and transfer the municipal road or street portion described as: All that portion of Street/Lane 14, Plan T3111 described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner Block 70, Plan T3111, thence Easterly to the Southwest corner Block 71, Plan T3111, thence Northerly to the Northwest corner Lot 34, Block 71, thence Westerly to a point at the intersection of the Westerly production of the North boundary of Lot 34, Block 71 with the East limit of Block 70, Plan T3111, thence Southerly to the point of commencement shown on the Road Closure Sketch Plan dated March 17, 2025 to the adjacent land owners.

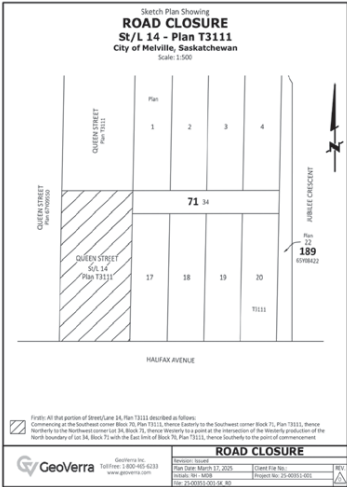
REASON: The reason is to allow the City to close and transfer portions of an undeveloped road plan to the adjacent land owners to consolidate with the existing parcels.

PUBLIC INSPECTION: Any person may inspect the bylaw online at melville.ca, or by contacting the City Office located at 430 Main St., Melville, SK S0A 2P0 between the hours of 9 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays. The office can also be reached by phone at (306)-728-6840. Copies of the proposed bylaws are available at the City office at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council will hold a public hearing on July 14, 2025 from 6:05 p.m. at the City Council Chambers for verbal submissions. Written submissions to Council pertaining to this bylaw are also permitted. Written submissions must be received by July 7, 2025 by 4 p.m. either by email or delivered to the City Office.

Issued at the The City of Melville this July 4, 2025.

Dawn Oehler | Planning Manager | City of Melville



Royal Canadian Legion

Indian Head Branch No. 114

General Meeting 2nd Thursday at 2 p.m.

at the Indian Head Memorial Hall

President - Matt Smith

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

NOTICE Tax Enforcement Act

RM of Cana No. 214

TAKE NOTICE that the Rural Municipality of Cana No. 214 intends to be registered as owner under the above Act of the land described at the foot of this document. The municipality claims title to the land by virtue of an interest based on the tax lien registered against the existing title to the land in the Land Titles Registry as Interest Number **200574840, 200574716, 200574750** and you are required to **TAKE NOTICE** that unless you contest the claim of the municipality or redeem the land pursuant to the provisions of the above Act within six months from the service of this notice on you and, subject to the further provisions of The Tax Enforcement Act, a certificate of title will be issued to the applicant and you will thereafter be forever estopped and debarred from setting up any claim to, or in respect of, the land.

The amount required to redeem the land may be ascertained on application to the Administrator of the municipality.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2025.

Kali Apps, Treasurer

Brenda Mae Mountney
(Name of Assessed Owner)
Lot 27, Block 2, Plan W2614. Title #156116785
Lot 28, Block 2, Plan W2614. Title #156116796
Lot 29, Block 2, Plan W2614. Title #156116808
(Legal Description of Lands, including title number(s))

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Help prevent the spread of invasive species

By Shaynee Modien
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Fishing and boating are popular family pastimes in Saskatchewan. Whether you're enjoying Lac Pelletier, Saskatchewan Landing or Cypress Hills Park, it's essential to remember a few key things to keep our waters clean and free from invasive species.

The most important thing to keep in mind is ensuring your boat is dry and clean after being in the water. This avoids cross-contamination as you move from one body of water to another.

After coming out of

the water - whether it's a river, lake, or pond - make sure to inspect and clean your watercraft after each use.

This includes not only powercraft like motorboats and jet skis but also non-motorized craft like kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards. Additionally, clean and inspect equipment you've used, such as life jackets and fishing gear. Don't forget to clean your trailer and keep it clear of debris.

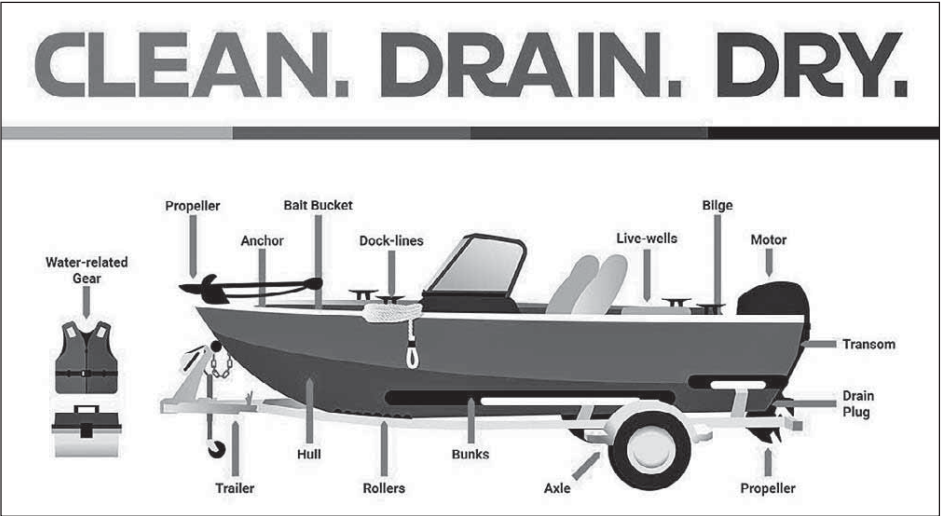
Inspecting for visible aquatic invasive species, plants, mud, seeds, and standing water in all areas of the watercraft is crucial.

Standing water poses

a significant risk due to the ability of microscopic aquatic invasive species to survive in water or moist conditions for extended periods and spread from one waterbody to another.

When cleaning your water gear, remember that products that can stay moist - including ropes, anchors, life jackets, and tubes - can easily transport microscopic invasive species unless fully cleaned and dried.

The Government of Saskatchewan plays a secondary role in preventing cross-contamination through inspectors. According to the Saskatchewan Government



website's Water Inspection Program, "Every summer, Saskatchewan watercraft inspectors

work at points throughout the province to inspect watercraft and equipment for aquatic invasive species. Watercraft inspectors are designated officers under The Fisheries Act and have the authority to visually and physically inspect watercraft, including interior compartments, and water-related equipment such as angling gear, ropes, anchors, and life jackets."

Inspectors are hired to ensure cross-contamination doesn't occur by inspecting your watercraft and equipment. Watercraft owners who have cleaned, drained, and dried their watercraft and equipment typically pass through inspection stations quickly, as they have removed most of the threat of spreading

aquatic invasive species by following these best practices.

As inspecting officers work for the government, remember that if you've been directed to an inspection station or told to wait for direction from Ministry of Environment staff, you're legally required to ensure your watercraft and equipment don't contact Saskatchewan waters until an officer performs an inspection/decontamination or provides direction to proceed.

Failure to comply may result in fines, and your watercraft may be subject to quarantine.

So, clean and dry your watercraft and equipment after use to ensure you're ready for your next family fun-filled watercraft activity.

Whitewood is one of 40 Challenge finalists

Winners to be announced July 21 or July 22

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

The fun events are all over, and the result, so far – Whitewood is now a finalist in the national ParticipACTION Community Challenge that the community participated in throughout the month of June.

The challenge is an annual physical activity and sport initiative sponsored by Participaction, Novo Nordisk and funded in part by the Government of Canada. It encourages everyone in Canada to get active in search of Canada's Most Active community.

The 40 finalist com-

munities across Canada have now been asked to complete and to submit an application to be named Canada's Most Active Community and win \$100,000.

Two finalist communities from each province and territory (26 in total) and 14 more communities with the highest scores on the national scoreboard are in the 40 finalists.

In the finalists along with Whitewood (Broadview), SK. are Ituna, SK. and 6 communities from AB, 5 from BC, 2 from MB, 4 from NB, 2 from NL, 2 from NS, 2 from NT, 1 from NU, 7 from ON, 2 from PE, 3 from QC and one from YT.

ParticipACTION an-

nounces Canada's Most Active Community and the most active community in each province and territory on Monday, July 21 or Tuesday July 22, 2025.

The national prize is \$100,000 and there are 12 (one per provincial/territorial prizes, excluding the province or territory who wins the National Prize) of \$7,500 or \$15,000 (dependent on funding commitment from each respective province or territory). Saskatchewan's Provincial/Territorial Prize is \$15,000.

Individuals were invited to sign up during the Challenge on the ParticipACTION website to count towards their com-

munity's score and organizations participated by registering on the website where they recorded their activities towards their assigned community's score by tracking their organizations activities and tracking the number of participants that took part.

Good luck to Whitewood on becoming a provincial or the national finalist and if you are not successful – there were a lot of great activities that were great fun for all ages and successful efforts succeeding to keep our community active. Thank you to all who participated!

Watch for the results later this month.

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Old Iron Show ‘n Shine held in Fort Qu’Appelle



ALAN HUSTAK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Vintage bikes admired

Allen Madland explains the difference between a shovelhead, a panhead and a knucklehead Harley-Davidson at the recent bike show in Fort Qu’Appelle.

By Alan Hustak
Grasslands News

Sporting leather jackets, flowing beards, patches, head bandanas and tattoos, bikers from across the province roared into the Old Fort by the campground on the weekend for the Old Iron Show and Shine show. The exhibition of hundreds of vintage bikes was organized by the Bohemians Motorcycle Club.

“We’re like a hockey team with Harley’s, there’s a camaraderie among our members,” said Club president Colin Daniels who has been riding since he was a teenager.

“It is all about the open road to freedom. You travel in a different way and experience the country in a different way. It is deep therapy.”

It is the third year the Old Iron show has been

held in Fort Qu’Appelle.

“This year we’ve opened it up to include newer models, all classes. No matter what you ride you’re in,” said Allen Madland, who came with his 1977 lowride Harley Davidson, which was the first year the company produced the machine.

The first choppers were produced in 1903 by William Harley and Arthur Davidson and established a huge following during the Second World War. It manufactured new models every year including knuckleheads, pan heads and shovelheads.

Marlon Brando is credited with turning the brand into one of the world’s most iconic brands in the 1950s with his portrayal of a biker in the movie “The Wild Ones.”

The weekend in the Fort was billed as a celebration of “bikes, music and community.” It included tattoo artists, face painting and a program of hard driving rock with a live band.

Collector Mike Sali from Fort San took the award for “best in show”

with his 1947 Knucklehead and Colin Daniels the award for the best Shovelhead, a 1978 FHL.

Mayor Brian Strong, himself a motorcycle

enthusiast and rider described the exhibition as “a great event,” for the town.

“We absolutely want a show like this.”

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