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"Freedom of the press ... is not the publisher's right to print. It is the citizen's right to know." - Arthur Hays Sulzberger

Baseball Saskatchewan

Steelers win first provincial championship

Local 11U AA Tier 5 team wins gold

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

The Quad Town Steelers are provincial baseball champions for the first time in the program's history.

The Steelers ran the table while hosting Baseball Saskatchewan's under-11 Tier 5 provincial tournament July 18-20 in Odessa, culminating in a 3-2 championship game win over the Naicam Vikings.

Quad Town previously defeated the Gull Lake Greyhounds, Maple Creek Red Sox, Eston Ramblers and Tisdale Rangers to advance to the gold medal game.

That win followed a provincial bronze medal for the Quad Town U11 softball squad, after a 6-5 win over Wawota on July 6. That result placed the Steelers third out of 17 teams at the tournament played in Moosomin, as the Quad Town club divided into A and B squads at that age group for the first time in its history.

"Our goal was to challenge the kids," Steelers coach Amber Lockert told Grasslands News in a phone interview. "We knew we weren't going in to win the league but if we did it would be an awesome year, and it turned out to be a great success story anyway. Our goal was ultimately provincials, and with our last three games having to play them back to back, what more do you want from 10-year-old kids? That's a win itself."

The Steelers lost their semifinal game 6-4 to the Pipestone Valley Vixens, placing them in the bronze medal game rather than the championship match. Prior to provincials, Quad Town had placed 10th in the Regina Minor Softball League with a 1-13 win-loss record, but played its best ball when the games mattered most.

"The games weren't lost and we weren't blown out," said Lockert. "It just came down to one inning usually, four or five runs. But the confidence and level of experience they gained was what probably



QUAD TOWN MINOR BALL | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Quad Town Steelers bring home gold

July 18 to 20 was an exciting time in Odessa as the 11U AA Tier 5 Provincial games saw the Quad Town Steelers take gold on their home turf, beating the Naicam Vikings in the final 3-2. Games were played in Odessa and Kipling throughout the weekend.

carried us into provincials.

"We couldn't have asked for any more from those kids."

Four-peat stymied

Beyond her coaching duties, Lockert was also a member of the Odessa Country Steelers women's softball team that played its seventh season in the Borderline Ladies Fastball League.

The revived Country Steelers joined the Borderline league in 2018, and have competed ever since, minus the 2020 season which was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Three-time defending league champions, Odessa finished this year second in the league with a 6-4 regular season record before falling in the playoff quarterfinals to the third-seeded Weyburn SheHawks. The Weyburn White Lightning went on to win the league championship, with SheHawks players Emily Pokletar and Whitney Lightfoot winning playoff MVP and best pitcher awards respectively.

"I think biggest story this year is half of our team also coaches in Quad Town minor ball so we're pulling girls up from younger age groups and trying to give those kids opportunities to keep this program going into the future," said Lockert. "It's been a really good year."



BRAD BROWN | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Country Steelers

Kelsey Seitz throws a pitch for the Odessa Country Steelers during the club's 2018 home opener.

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Canada Post labour dispute escalates

Nationwide postal strike and business disruption at risk

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

A drawn out labour dispute between Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) is threatening to plunge Canada into another postal crisis, with potential implications for businesses, consumers and government policy.

CUPW, representing roughly 55,000 mail carriers, clerks and parcel handlers, has overwhelmingly rejected Canada Post's latest "final" contract offer — despite its inclusion of a 13 per cent wage increase and modest cost of living adjustments over four years. The union insists the offer fails to address key concerns such as job security, resistance to expanded permanent part time staffing, and weekend delivery arrangements.

In response, CUPW initiated a full overtime ban in May 2025, signaling a readiness to escalate toward a full strike if negotiations remain stalled. Canada Post swiftly rejected the union's proposal to resolve the standoff via binding arbi-

tration, arguing it would undermine long term stability in collective bargaining.

For Canada Post, this crisis compounds a severe financial decline. Once commanding over 60 per cent of Canada's parcel market, the Crown corporation's market share has plummeted to approximately 26.7% in 2024, largely due to competition from FedEx, UPS and regional courier services. Since 2018, Canada Post has lost more than \$2.7 billion and posted consecutive losses, prompting warnings of an "existential crisis" absent deep structural reform.

Implications of a Strike

If a full strike eventuates, the effects could ripple across Canada's economy and daily life. During the lengthy 2024 strike, nearly 10 million packages went undelivered. Small and medium sized businesses incurred over \$1 billion in losses as holiday shipments were delayed or cancelled. Many are expected to permanently shift to private couriers, accelerating Canada Post's erosion of

market share.

Remote communities, Indigenous populations, and individuals relying on mail delivered government services — like social assistance cheques or voter cards — would face heightened disruption. During past stoppages, some municipalities even failed to notify residents of public meetings, and passport distributions were delayed for hundreds of thousands.

In addition to business losses, a prolonged strike may pressure the federal government to consider legislation. Historically, essential public sector industries such as postal services have been subject to federal "back to work" orders or binding arbitration mandates via Parliament—most recently used to end the 2024 strike under Bill C 89.

Community newspapers such as those owned by Grasslands News said they are prepared for a possible strike to ensure their readers continue to receive their newspapers.

"In several local area communities, we already have key-coded pick-up boxes in use and are prepared to install more into other communities should a strike or the threat of a strike happen. For subscribers outside those local communities, they will be able to access a pdf edition of the newspaper through our website," said Grasslands News publisher Chris Ashfield.

Looking Ahead

Unless Canada Post and CUPW return to

meaningful bargaining—with government support to allow genuine concessions and modernization—Canada risks another service shutdown just ahead of the fall and holiday peak season. Analysts warn that continued labour unrest could send Canada Post's parcel market share into the teens by late 2026 if customers permanently defect to private carriers.

Union president Jan Simpson has appealed for a serious return to negotiations, demanding respect for collective bargaining without government interference. Canada Post is said to be evaluating its next steps amid rising pressure on both sides to avert a national strike.

With labour action now stretching into its



POSTMEDIA

Strike looming?

A dispute between Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers has Canadians facing another postal crisis.

20 plus month, Canada Post's capacity and financial health hang in the balance—and millions of

Canadians may be bracing for the real possibility of interrupted mail and parcel services this fall.



Hon. Travis Keisig

MLA for Last Mountain - Touchwood Constituency

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US tariffs rattle Sask's resource and ag sectors

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan's resource-heavy economy is facing growing uncertainty following the United States' imposition of sweeping new tariffs on foreign imports, with agriculture, energy, and forestry sectors already feeling the impact. While many exports remain protected under the USMCA trade agreement, the broad scope of the new U.S. measures—combined with additional tariffs introduced by former U.S. President Donald Trump—has rattled producers and raised questions about the provincial government's response.

On August 1, the U.S. implemented tariffs of up to 35% on a wide range of goods, including several Canadian agricultural and industrial products. In addition, Saskatchewan steel has been hit with a 50% tariff, and lumber with a 34% tariff, prompting fresh concerns over long-term access to the province's top export market. Premier Scott Moe has emphasized that most provincial exports are still covered under trade protections, but market reactions and new economic data suggest trouble is brewing.

Recent figures from Statistics Canada show Saskatchewan's agricultural exports to the United States have dropped 16.5% year-to-date, energy exports have fallen 13.4%, and forestry products are down nearly 24%. Overall exports to the U.S. are down 13.3%, while shipments to China—Saskatchewan's second-largest trading partner—have plunged by 26.3%. Retail sales in the province also dipped by 0.2% in the most recent data release.

In rural communities, producers are reporting increased volatility and buyer hesitation. Lisa Cowan, a grain exporter

near Moose Jaw, said some U.S. buyers are already backing away from long-term contracts. "When tariffs are in play, it creates volatility—and volatility scares away long-term contracts," she said.

While key commodities like potash and crude oil remain technically exempt from direct tariffs, analysts warn the broader trade climate is causing indirect harm through supply chain slowdowns, increased border inspections, and rising costs. Derek Hall, an energy analyst with Prairie Economics Group, said that even untariffed goods are being affected. "With these kinds of trade disruptions, everything gets slower. Border inspections increase, and costs go up across the board."

Saskatchewan companies that rely on U.S.-made equipment and parts are also reporting significant cost increases due to Canadian retaliatory tariffs. Farm and oilfield machinery, much of it sourced from the United States, has increased in price by 15 to 25 percent in recent months.

Premier Moe has called on the federal government and other provinces to remove retaliatory tariffs, but critics argue this position undermines Saskatchewan's negotiating stance during what is effectively a new trade war. The Saskatchewan NDP has accused Moe of being out of touch and failing to stand up to American protectionism. "Scott Moe wants to paint a rosy picture of our province because he has no plan to respond to the Trump trade war and no plan to secure Saskatchewan's economic future," said Kim Breckner, NDP Trade and Export Development Shadow Minister. "We hear from working people every day who can barely make ends meet."

Breckner also pointed to declining economic indicators and job growth data

to argue that Moe's leadership has failed to deliver results. Between 2018 and 2024, Saskatchewan created just 35,700 jobs—among the lowest in the country—compared to 80,800 in Manitoba and 70,400 in Nova Scotia. The most recent forecast from TD Bank projects a 22% decline in Saskatchewan's economic growth in 2025 and a 40% drop in 2026. The bank also predicts that the province will add only 1,200 jobs in 2026.

In light of the shifting trade landscape, industry associations are calling on Ottawa to accelerate efforts to diversify export markets and invest in domestic processing facilities to reduce reliance on

cross-border trade. Former farmer and agricultural economist Cam Goff said value-added processing could provide more stability. "We need to process more grain, more canola, more beef right here in Saskatchewan."

As the province enters the fall harvest and peak export season, producers are watching the situation with increasing concern. With global trade tensions rising and economic indicators turning downward, many worry that Saskatchewan's rural economy—still recovering from years of market disruption and extreme weather—could face another period of hardship if no meaningful action is taken.

Province confirms four locals to Crown boards

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan government has announced its full complement of 66 board members for the province's six commercial Crown corporations.

The coming year's directors were announced in a July 23 news release, including 15 newcomers to Crown boards, five members who were re-appointed to a different Crown, 24 individuals who were re-appointed to their previous Crown position, and 22 others whose terms were not up for renewal.

Among this year's Crown board appointees are Brad Schultz of Melville (SGI), White City's Steve Kemp (vice-chair, SaskWater), Blair Ross of Pilot Butte (chair, SaskGaming) and Whitewood's Timothy Bear (SaskGaming).

"These individuals have the skills, knowledge and abilities to perform their duties as effectively as past board members have," Crown Investments Corporation minister Jeremy Harrison said in a government news release. "Many of the outgoing board members have served multiple terms and have helped lead initiatives that truly benefited Saskatchewan people."

The Saskatchewan NDP

criticized the appointments with Opposition leader Carla Beck posting online that current appointees to Crown boards have donated \$170,000 to the Saskatchewan Party in the past.

Among those dollars, according to Elections Saskatchewan's website, were \$6,625 donated by Kemp as an individual from 2016-22, \$13,535 donated by Ritenburg & Associates (where Kemp serves as president according to his LinkedIn page) from 2016-23, \$1,400 donated by Ross as an individual from 2016-17, and \$3,300 donated by Security Resources Group from 2016-19, with whom Ross's LinkedIn profile states he is the co-founder and chief operating officer.



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Conexus, Cornerstone, and Synergy

Credit Union merger moves ahead with new name and CEO appointed

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Following a successful member vote last month, Conexus, Cornerstone, and Synergy Credit Unions have formally agreed to merge, marking a major milestone in Saskatchewan's credit union landscape. As part of this unification, leaders have revealed the new credit union will carry forward under the Conexus Credit Union name, with Celina Philpot appointed as the new CEO, effective January 1, 2026.

The decision to adopt the Conexus name came after an in-depth market assessment and consultations among the Boards of Directors of all three credit unions. According to the assessment, the Conexus brand resonated most strongly with members and communities across the province.

"We are honoured that the Conexus name will carry forward into this exciting new chapter," said Ken Kosolofski, Board Chair of Conexus Credit Union. "It reflects not only our shared values and commitment to serving members, but also our collective vision to grow

stronger—together for a thriving Saskatchewan."

That sentiment was echoed by Cornerstone and Synergy leadership.

"While each of our credit unions brought strong identities to the table, the decision to move forward as Conexus Credit Union signals a fresh chapter and was selected to reflect a provincial, member-focused organization that resonates across Saskatchewan," said Heidi Schofer, Board Chair of Cornerstone Credit Union. "It represents our ambition to serve communities province-wide with strength, stability and purpose."

Neil Carruthers, Board Chair of Synergy Credit Union, added: "The name Conexus is recognized and respected across Saskatchewan, making it a powerful foundation for our new, unified credit union. It reflects the trust we've built in our communities and gives us a strong platform to grow from—together, as one organization serving members throughout the province."

In addition to the new name, the Boards have jointly appointed Celina Philpot, current CEO of

Conexus Credit Union, to lead the merged organization. Philpot brings extensive experience in the financial sector and a reputation for purpose-driven leadership.

"Celina brings a proven track record of leadership grounded in purpose, collaboration and a deep understanding of what matters most to our members," said Kosolofski. "Her appointment ensures continuity and confidence as we move into this exciting new chapter."

Schofer added, "We're proud to support Celina Philpot as the new credit union CEO. Her strategic vision and member-first mindset will be instrumental in building a credit union that delivers long-term value for communities across Saskatchewan."

Carruthers noted, "Celina's leadership style—rooted in accountability, service and community—will greatly support her as she guides the new organization forward. We're confident she will lead with integrity and help shape a future that reflects the best of all three partner credit unions."

Philpot expressed gratitude for the opportunity

to lead the new organization during this transformational time.

"I'm honoured to lead the new Conexus Credit Union into this exciting next chapter," said Philpot. "This merger marks a powerful commitment to our members and communities across Saskatchewan. I'm deeply grateful for the trust placed in me and look forward to working alongside our dedicated employees and

Board to build a stronger, more resilient credit union that is deeply rooted in community and focused on the future."

With over \$15 billion in assets under management, the merged credit union will serve more than 200,000 members across 57 branches in 50 communities, employing approximately 1,400 people province-wide.

As the three organizations move toward full

unification on January 1, 2026, focus will now shift to integrating systems, products, services and operations to enhance the member experience.

Until that date, Doug Jones and Trevor Beaton will continue to serve as CEOs of Cornerstone and Synergy, respectively, working closely with Philpot and the transition teams to ensure a smooth and successful integration.



CUPE Rally

CUPE 5430 members from St. Peter's Hospital and St. Paul's Lutheran Home held a rally on July 30, 2025, outside of the Melville-Saltcoats constituency office in Melville to push the government to sign a deal.

JACOB MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS



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Council Meeting

The next Town of Fort Qu'Appelle Council meetings are Thursday, August 14th at 7 p.m. at the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle Municipal Building. All meetings are open to the public. Come and see your council in action.

Office Hours

Reminder that the office is closed over lunch from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

2nd Street Paving

Citizens are reminded that 2nd Street is closed for reconstruction. Reconstruction will continue until the end of August.

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Reminder to residents that when making an e-transfer payment to the Town Office, please specify your civic address and what payment you are making.

Elm Pruning Ban

Reminder that it is prohibited to cut or prune Elm trees from April 1 - August 31.

Garbage & Recycling

Garbage and recycling dates for June are as follows:

Area A Garbage – August 15 & 29 Area A Recycle – August 8 & 22
Area B Garbage – August 8 & 22 Area B Recycle – August 15 & 29

Welcome Sign Tender

The Town of Fort Qu'Appelle is seeking tenders for the design and construction of a new Welcome to Fort Qu'Appelle sign. The sign should pay homage to the ancestral home of the First Nations who first inhabited the area, the historical Qu'Appelle Valley and the reconciliation that is occurring with the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle.

For further information, please contact Don R. McLeod CAO, RMA, fortcao@sasktel.net at the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle for further specifications. Preference will be given to local artists who have experience in large scale projects.

Tenders will be accepted until August 12, 2025. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

2025 Property Taxes

Taxes are due December 31, 2025. Tax payments must be received by our office on or before the due date. If paying through your bank or mobile banking app, please pay at least five (5) business days prior to the due date to allow for processing. After December 31, 2025, there will be a 15 per cent (%) interest charge added to any outstanding taxes. E-transfers can be sent to fortreception@sasktel.net ONLY.

McDonald House

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Over \$2.49 million in charitable gaming grants awarded in Sask.

Local communities receive more than \$86,500 in support

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan communities have received a boost in funding, with more than \$2.49 million in charitable gaming grants distributed by Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan (LGS) in the first quarter of the 2025-26 fiscal year. Of that, 21 communities in the Grasslands News region shared over \$86,500 in grant funding.

"Our government is committed to delivering for Saskatchewan communities, and one of the ways we do that is through charitable gaming grants," said Jeremy Harrison, Minister Responsible for LGS. "Proceeds from gaming in Saskatchewan support charitable organizations and activities across the province, including the

arts, culture and sport, hospital foundations, service clubs and more."

A total of 250 communities across Saskatchewan benefited from the program this quarter. Saskatoon groups received over \$498,000, while Regina organizations were granted more than \$410,000.

In Melville, 10 groups received a combined total of \$38,718. The Melville Millionaires Junior "A" Hockey Club received the lion's share with a grant of \$32,910. In Fort Qu'Appelle, nearly \$12,998 was distributed among five groups, with the Fort Knox Junior B Hockey Club receiving over \$8,906.

Other local communities also saw grant funding distributed as follows:

- Balgonie – \$4,940
- Bangor – \$289
- Broadview – \$365
- Cupar – \$1,636

- Grayson – \$1,505
- Grenfell – \$625
- Indian Head – \$3,372
- Ituna – \$8,487
- Kipling – \$1,444
- Lemberg – \$1,308
- McLean – \$579
- Montmartre – \$891
- Odessa – \$165
- Pilot Butte – \$2,653
- Stockholm – \$740
- Stoughton – \$1,121
- Wapella – \$365
- Whitewood – \$459
- Wolseley – \$2,845

Charitable gaming grants are issued quarterly to eligible organizations that conduct licensed charitable gaming events such as bingo, raffles, breakopen ticket sales, Texas Hold'em poker tournaments, and Monte Carlo nights. Grants are calculated at 25 per cent of the net proceeds from each event, up to a maximum of \$100,000 annually per organization.



Waiting for supper

A hawk perched on a highway sign outside of Kronau, waiting for its next meal to appear in the tall grass along the country road.

ASHLEY SCARFE | GRASSLANDS NEWS

SHA adopts new guidelines to respect Indigenous hair traditions

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) has implemented a new policy aimed at protecting and respecting Indigenous hair traditions within the province's health-care system. This initiative acknowledges the deep spiritual and cultural significance that hair holds in many Indigenous communities, and seeks to ensure that Indigenous patients feel culturally safe and respected while receiving medical care.

Under the new guidelines, health-care staff are required to engage in

meaningful conversations with Indigenous patients and their families before any hair is cut or handled during treatment. Whether it's shaving for surgery or managing hair in emergency situations, informed consent must be obtained, and patients must be given the opportunity to have their cultural and spiritual beliefs respected. The policy also includes a commitment to return any removed hair to the patient or their family, in accordance with their cultural protocols.

For many Indigenous people, hair is far more than just a physical feature—it is a symbol of identity, strength, and spiritual connection. In some traditions, hair may be braided as a daily practice of mindfulness or care, or only cut during significant life events such as mourning or healing ceremonies. Improper handling or disposal of hair can cause emotional and spiritual distress, especially if it is done without consent or understanding.

This new SHA policy is the result of ongoing

efforts to make Saskatchewan's health-care system more inclusive and responsive to the needs of Indigenous peoples. It was developed in consultation with Indigenous advisors and is part of a broader strategy to embed cultural humility and respect within public services.

Health-care providers across the province will now receive training to better understand the cultural importance of hair and how to implement the new guidelines in practice. These sessions are expected to focus on communication, consent, and proper handling procedures, ensuring staff are equipped to uphold the policy consistently and respectfully.

Indigenous leaders and advocates have welcomed the move, saying it represents a meaningful step toward reconciliation. While the policy may appear minor on the surface, they argue that it reflects a growing recognition of the importance of cultural safety in institutions that have historically caused harm or overlooked Indigenous voices.

The SHA's policy stands as an example of how seemingly small acts—such as returning a lock of hair—can carry deep significance and foster trust between Indigenous patients and the health-care system. As the policy rolls out across the province, its impact will be closely watched, with hopes that it sets a precedent for similar measures in health care and beyond.

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OPINION

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Pipelines key to Canada's economic growth

By Bronwyn Eyre
Guest Columnist

Canada's economy is running out of steam, and without pipelines to drive new growth, the country risks falling further behind. But unless Ottawa fixes its broken approval system, the projects we need will never get built.

Support for pipelines is strong across the country, including in Quebec. A February SOM-La Presse poll found 59 per cent support for Energy East in Quebec, with just 22 per cent opposed. Earlier MEI polling showed 49 per cent of Quebecers in favour of new pipelines to tidewater, compared with 28 per cent against.

Energy East, cancelled in 2017, would have carried Alberta oil to refineries and ports in Eastern Canada. Northern Gateway, cancelled in 2015, was planned to deliver oil to the B.C. coast for export to Asia. Both were lost opportunities, and Canada can't afford more. Without projects like these, we lose billions in potential revenue, thousands of high-paying jobs, and crucial tax dollars that could fund health care, infrastructure and defence.

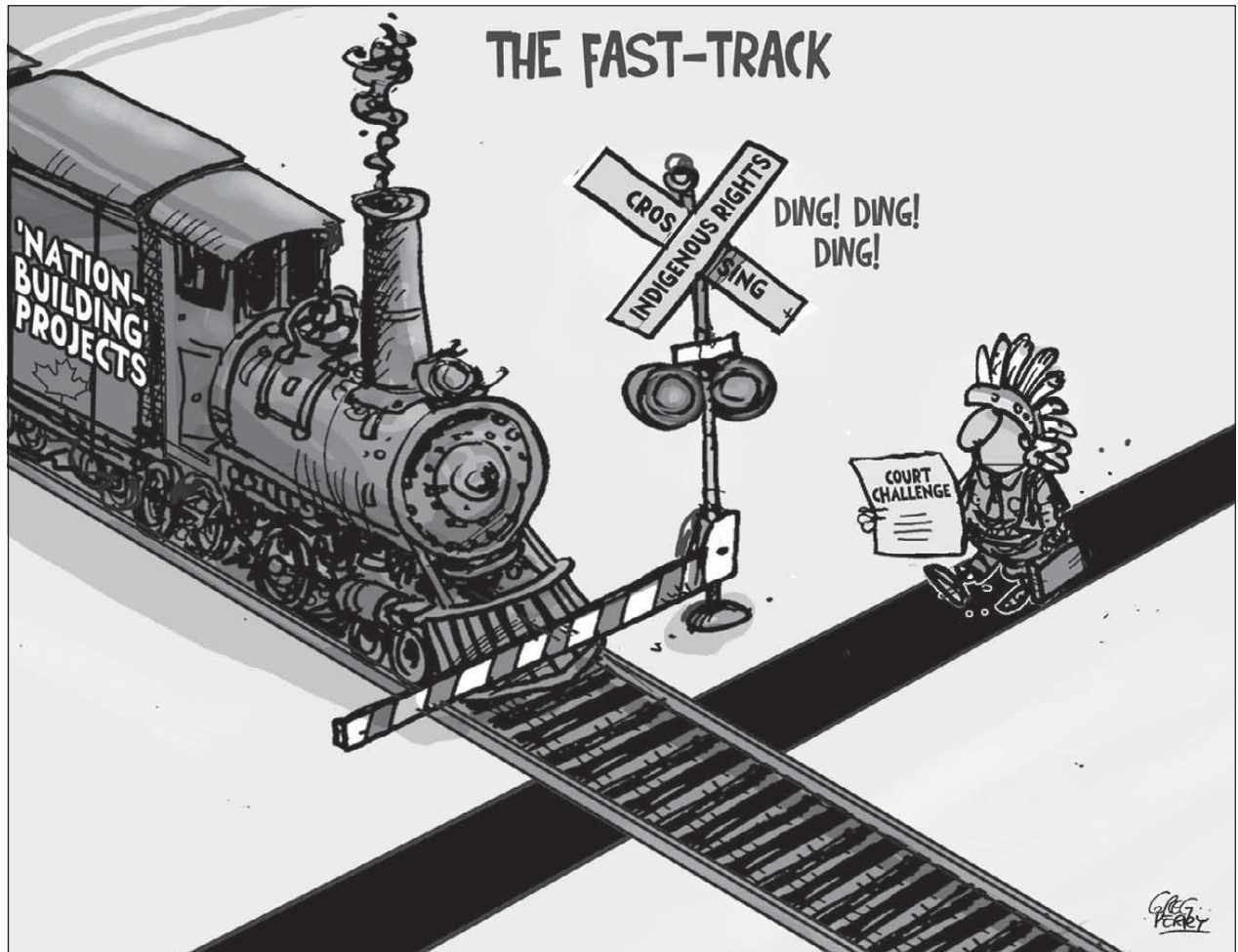
Bill C-5, the One Canadian Economy Act, a new federal law meant to speed up approvals for projects deemed in the national interest, was supposed to change this. It promised approvals in under two years. Yet the 20 projects now stalled in Ottawa's environmental approvals process have already taken well over that. In the meantime, global investors are looking elsewhere, especially south of the border, where approval systems are faster and regulatory certainty is higher.

Bill C-5 could override parts of the Impact Assessment Act (IAA), better known as the "no more pipelines" bill. The IAA, passed in 2019, gave Ottawa sweeping powers over natural resource projects, even in areas of exclusive provincial jurisdiction. The Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional in 2023. Yet it remains on the books, along with other federal rules that critics say discourage investment, including the Clean Electricity regulations and the oil and gas emissions cap.

That leaves plenty of uncertainty. Provinces and Indigenous groups may hold a veto under Bill C-5. The prime minister first suggested he and his ministers could unilaterally approve major projects. But when pressed by a reporter about whether he would push through a pipeline opposed by Quebec or B.C., he said: "No, we need to have consensus from all provinces and Indigenous peoples." That response, in my view, raises serious doubts about whether the bill will ever deliver on its promise.

Last week, Prime Minister Marc Carney said it was "highly likely" that a pipeline would make its way onto his government's to-do list of nation-building projects. However, he added that he couldn't guarantee it, given that proposals must come from the private sector. That's telling. Kinder Morgan advanced the Trans Mountain expansion until 2018, when it pulled out, citing mounting political and regulatory uncertainty. Taxpayers are now footing the bill. No private company wants to repeat that experience.

Bill C-5, as it stands, won't fix that uncertainty. Entrepreneurs and investors will still spend millions on proposals while hoping their project catches the eye of the right officials in Ottawa. Only then will they see the faster approvals Bill C-5 promises. All other projects, no matter how beneficial, risk being mired



in the same broken process.

This is more than an economic issue—it's about Canada's energy security. Without new pipelines, we remain vulnerable to global supply shocks and are forced to import oil we could easily produce at home. A reliable, self-sufficient energy system means Canadians aren't at the mercy of volatile global markets or geopolitical crises.

Environmental concerns are real, but they should not be used as a blanket excuse to stop development. Modern pipelines are built with strict safety standards, advanced monitoring technology and the ability to transport oil more safely than rail or truck. Critics argue that blocking pipelines doesn't reduce global emissions: it only shifts production and shipping to countries with weaker environmental rules.

If Canada is serious about growth, Bill C-5 cannot apply only to a handful of government-chosen projects. It must extend to all practical, private-sector proposals, including pipelines. Reviving Energy East or Northern Gateway would give Canada a crucial first-mover advantage in world markets and help keep investment dollars from heading south.

By passing Bill C-5, Ottawa has admitted the current approval system is broken. Now it must finish the job. Approvals should be swift by default, not by exception. With Canada's economy struggling to grow, time is of the essence.

- Bronwyn Eyre is a senior fellow at the Montreal Economic Institute, a think tank with offices in Montreal, Ottawa and Calgary.

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Saskatchewan exceeds the national average in licensed nurses per capita

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan continues to lead the way in nursing supply across Western Canada, outpacing both regional and national averages in the number of licensed nurses per capita, according to a new report from the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).

The Nursing in Canada 2024 report highlights a decade of steady growth in the province's nursing workforce, with over 2,700 new nurses added since 2015—a boost of 18.3 per cent. As of 2024, nearly 17,500 nurses are licensed to work in Saskatchewan, giving the province a supply of 1,411 nurses per 100,000 people. That figure significantly exceeds the national average of 1,207 and is the highest among the Western provinces.

Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill said the figures reflect Saskatchewan's commitment to building a strong health care system. "Not only does this latest data show that our nursing workforce is growing, it also confirms it is one of the country's largest on a per capita basis for both urban and rural areas," said Cockrill. "These numbers represent thousands of dedicated professionals helping patients and families every day across Saskatchewan."

The report also found Saskatchewan led Western Canada in per capita numbers of Registered Nurses (1,009) and Nurse Practitioners (23), while ranking second in Licensed Practical Nurses (315) and Registered Psychiatric Nurses (64).

This growth is attributed in part to the province's Health Human Resources (HHR) Action Plan, which has driven key recruitment and training initiatives. Some of the notable achievements include:

- Hiring nearly 2,300 nursing graduates through the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) since April 2023.
- Recruiting almost 400 registered nurses from the Philippines now working in Saskatchewan communi-

ties.

- Hiring more than 1,420 new RNs and RPNs during the 2024-25 fiscal year, resulting in a net gain of over 900 nurses.

- Filling 250 of 315 new full-time nursing positions created to stabilize staffing in rural and northern areas, with 60 of 65 new rural RN positions also filled.

- Adding 77 new and enhanced full-time positions in 30 rural and remote communities to improve local health service delivery.

- Expanding post-secondary education with over 340 new first-year seats in nursing programs province-wide.

"Saskatchewan Health Authority is committed to hiring every new nursing graduate in the province," said Mike Northcott, SHA Chief Human Resources Officer. "We're seeing the impact of our recruitment work, with a 37 per cent reduction in chronically vacant nursing positions and a 50 per cent drop in rural and remote areas."

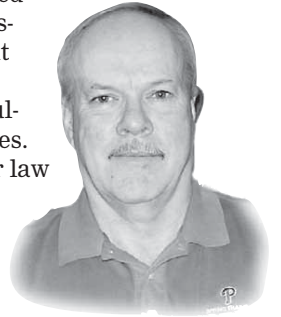
Recruitment gains have also reduced SHA's reliance on contracted nurses by approximately 30 per cent, helping to stabilize care delivery across the province.

To further bolster rural health care, the province continues to offer significant financial incentives. These include a Rural and Remote Recruitment Incentive of up to \$50,000 for full-time nurses, a \$40,000 relocation grant for nurse practitioners moving to smaller communities, and up to \$20,000 in student loan forgiveness for nursing grads working in rural or mid-sized areas. Additionally, the Graduate Retention Program now offers up to \$24,000 in tax credits for post-secondary graduates who remain in Saskatchewan.

"These improvements are a testament to our government's commitment to strengthening the health workforce," said Rural and Remote Health Minister Lori Carr. "We are proud of the progress made and will continue to support our nurses to ensure Saskatchewan residents have access to reliable care, close to home."

Gene Hauta It's a Strange World

A review of lawsuits filed against the Trump administration shows the president and his appointees out of compliance with judges' rulings in one-third of the cases. The complete disregard for law is really disturbing to me. This administration does whatever it wants, and fires any opposing forces. The judges have been slow to take action when their orders are defied, allowing the administration to remain in noncompliance. One strategy was highlighted in January, when Office of Management and Budget released a memo freezing all federal grants and loans. After opponents won an injunction, the White House rescinded the memo but kept the freeze in force. It is obvious when noncompliance is not corrected, "it further erodes respect for courts and for the rule of law."



A man was killed at Milan Bergamo Airport, Italy's third-busiest airport, after being sucked into a jet engine. The victim was not a passenger or an airport employee, and had reached the runway area from outside the airport. It was determined that it was a successful suicide attempt. Incidents like this are highly unusual given the strict security measures typically in place on airport tarmacs, though not unprecedented.

A music teacher called "a beacon of kindness and understanding" for students at a New Orleans Catholic school was fired after a parent's discovery of the obituary of the teacher's husband, revealing the educator's same-sex marriage. Dragging that info into the forefront unleashed community backlash and a debate over the school's employment policies. Mark Richards, who had worked at St. Francis Xavier in Metairie, Louisiana, for 22 years, said in an email to the school community that he was terminated for being in a same-sex marriage, which violates the archdiocese's morality clause prohibiting "contracting a marriage in violation of the rules of the Catholic church" and "actively engaging in homosexual activity." Richards said he signed the contract containing the morality clause with "a wink and a nudge since it was no big secret that I am gay," adding that the school community was "very sympathetic and supportive" after his husband's death — until the parent's complaint.

The more I see clips of ICE agents in action, the more it seems obvious that they are bounty hunters, not police. ICE is giving opportunities to make \$132K to 185K for supervisors, and \$306K for concentration camp managers (and isn't it sad that such jobs are even available in the USA?) Both jobs have no educational standards. Meanwhile, the average starting salary for teachers is \$46,526, while nurses can start at \$68,485. Both those professions require university degrees. "It's a lie that we can't pay teachers and nurses. An uneducated and sick populace is easier to control, creates higher crime rates, and feeds the prison industrial complex. This is by design." It is also sad and unbelievable!

A Long Island man was critically injured after he entered an MRI room without permission while a scan was in progress. The 61-year-old was wearing a large weightlifting chain around his neck that caused him to be sucked into the machine, resulting in a "medical episode." An update noted that Keith McAllister's wife, Adrienne Jones-McAllister had completed getting an MRI on her knee at a medical office in Westbury, N.Y., and asked for her husband, Keith McAllister, to be brought in to help her out of the machine.

There were numerous protests as Venice's Ministry of Tourism estimated the celebrations will generate almost 68% of the city's annual tourism turnover in just one weekend — but demonstrators have rallied against what they perceive to be a take-over of the idyllic Italian archipelago city by some of the world's wealthiest people.

"This USA Today headline kind of encapsulates today's media," wrote Janice Hough. "Idaho shooter funny, popular, outgoing even as he sketched swastikas." She thought the headline of "man who ambushed & killed two firefighters was a Nazi sympathizer" would be more accurate.

"The Michigan Governor asked Trump to halt the spread of the deadly Asian carp in Lake Michigan," noted Argus Hamilton. "So, Trump put a 125% tariff on all Asian carp."

His answer to everything...keep reading between the lines...

Two-thirds of businesses may drop Canada Post if strike resumes

Submitted
Grasslands News

New data from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) finds that a postal strike could push nearly two in three (63%) businesses to walk away from Canada Post permanently.

"The constant back-and-forth with strike mandates is driving away one of Canada Post's last remaining profitable customer groups — small businesses," said Brianna Solberg, CFIB Director for the Prairies and Northern Canada.

According to CFIB research, four in five businesses still use

Canada Post. Nearly three-quarters (73%) of those businesses use it for sending cheques, while 61% send other letter mail. Over half (58%) like to use Canada Post for its low cost and convenience (50%), while reliability (25%) and customer service (9%) ranked much lower.

CFIB estimates the 2024 strike cost small businesses between 75 million to \$100 million each day. Most businesses (71%) responded to the disruptions by encouraging customers to use digital options, nearly half (45%) turned to private couriers, while 27% delayed mail.

In its most recent annual report, Canada Post reported having only 24% of the market share in parcel

delivery compared to 62% in 2019. CFIB recent data shows small businesses (73%) mostly rely on private couriers for package delivery. If Canada Post doesn't change its business model, it will continue losing critical market share making it impossible for the corporation to turn around its losses currently measured at \$10 million per day.

"The current model at Canada Post is in dire need of massive reform. It's long overdue for the federal government to implement the well-studied changes that have been required for over a decade," added Solberg. "Small business owners deserve a long-term plan and a postal service they can count on."

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More than \$1 million invested in 19 municipal projects

By Provincial
Grasslands News

The Government of Saskatchewan is investing more than \$1 million in municipal projects through the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative, including some in The RM's of Sherwood, RM of Edenwold, Town of

Ituna and Village of Kennedy.

"The TSS Initiative encourages municipalities to come together on projects to support their regions and continue to make Saskatchewan a great place to live, work and raise a family," Government Relations Minister Eric Schmalz said.

"We are pleased to invest in projects that promote and support the growth, strength and vitality of this province."

The TSS Initiative supports joint municipal projects to assist in supporting more efficient and effective municipal service delivery through increased regional coop-

eration, capacity building, municipal corporate transition, relationship building and dispute resolution. Funding is provided through cost-shared grants, covering up to 75 per cent of eligible project costs, up to \$100,000.

Local project approved include:

- Regional fire and emergency services evaluation in the RM of Sherwood (\$48,750) and the RM of Edenwold (\$75,375)

- A training session for municipal bylaw enforcement between the Village of Kennedy and 17 municipal partners (\$9,486)

- Planning and amalgamation of fire department governing bodies between Ituna and three other municipalities.

The Saskatchewan Association of Urban Municipalities (SUMA)

administers the program and funding on behalf of the TSS Steering Committee. The TSS Steering Committee consists of representatives from SUMA, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities (New North) and the Ministry of Government Relations.

"SUMA is grateful for the Government of Saskatchewan's continued investment in the Targeted Sector Support Initiative," SUMA President Randy Goulden said. "As development and service demands increase, this program plays a key role in helping municipalities work together to meet the growing needs of our communities. We are proud to support the TSS and cele-

brate the innovative municipal projects it makes possible."

"Congratulations to all the successful recipients of this current round of project funding! SARM continues to encourage rural municipalities across Saskatchewan to take advantage of the Targeted Sector Support funding for cooperative regional initiatives," SARM President Bill Huber said. "We hope the new continuous application intake process provides our members with even more opportunities to access this valuable resource, strengthening inter-municipal collaboration and fostering regional growth in their communities."

Since 2020, the TSS Initiative has allocated over \$6.5 million to 168 projects.

— Wawota community happenings —

By Myrna Olson
for Grasslands News

A celebration of life was held at the Carscadden Funeral on July 18th for the late Karen Hall. She passed away on July 10th at the Southeast Integrated Care Centre in Moosomin. She was 70 years old and leaves her husband, Vern and their family of Donald and Denise and their families. Interment was in the Kelso Cemetery.

All Saint's Church at Cannington, Manor was the site of a graveside service for Alice Dennis of Winnipeg. She passed away on Dec. 14, 2021 and she was 78 years old. She was a daughter of Arthur and Lily Dennis and a sister of Lynda, David, Ken, Keith and Lorna.

Happy 80th birthday to Dianne Wright on July 18th.

Several local residents attended the baby shower for Rory Greenbank on July 12th at the Canolta Hotel Boardroom in Moosomin.

Family and friends gathered at the Lion's shed at the ballpark to help David Brimmer celebrate his 80th birthday on July 19th. (Actual birth date was July 8th)

A group of family members joined together at the United Church on July 19th to remember the late Trevor Greenbank. Trevor passed away on July 23rd, 2024 at the age of 53 years. A funeral service was held in Saskatoon Aug. 2nd, 2024. He was the son of Bill and Margaret Greenbank and a brother to sister, Marcy and her family of Emily and Benjamin. Interment was in the Kelso Cemetery.

Rochelle Friesen and Zoey and Jaime Finlay and Jordi enjoyed a 21-day trip overseas. The girls took part in Scottish dance in Scotland, and they all enjoyed the sights of England and France. Total kilometers for the trip was 17,000 by plane, train and automobile.

Wawota 4-H members who participated in Whitewood and won awards were Curtis Hewitt, Austyn Brehaut, Georgia Clemence, Kruz Hebert, Lexi Brehaut, Tessa Brehaut, and Clara Brehaut. Congratulations to all the members for their dedication and hard work.

Born to Garrett and Keri Le Poudre, a son on July 1st. He was named August Taylor and he is a brother for Tommy, Gemmy and Rueben. He is also a grandson for Don and Joanne Le Poudre of Davidson and Garth and Lorraine Taylor and a great grandson for Mary Walker of Saskatoon.

Carey Lamoureaux and Will and Nash Irving travelled to Minot to attend the North Dakota State Fair. The boys especially enjoyed the Limp Bizkit performance.

The descendants of Edward and Alice

Dennis gathered at the farm, Sunny Brae for a family reunion and to celebrate 125 years of farm ownership. Family members gathered from across Canada to enjoy the visiting, food, displays and the Saturday night dance. Sunday featured a pancake breakfast followed by a church service.

Jeff Corkish, Owen and Mason from Cottage Grove, MN made a brief visit to Saskatchewan last week. They and Grandma Shirley Corkish attended the Rider's game on Friday night.

Stacey Heffernan, Kate and Sarah of Regina spent several days last week visiting with family and friends in the area.

Visiting with Micheal and Erica Wyporowich was Erica's mother, Cindie, her daughter, Ashley and nine-month-old Zelenia from Thermopolis, Wyoming. Zelenia took two independent steps at Soul Feast on Saturday. By Tuesday she was walking. They left for home last Thursday.

Chase Wilson and his daughter, Aspyn enjoyed a trip to London, England to visit Chase's sister Lauren.

Sympathy to the family and friends of Pat Dean. He passed away at Kennedy on July 20th. He was 68 years old. He leaves his wife, Shirley (Richards), son Andrew, Ben Bedore and his Troop13 Brothers. A private interment will be held at a later date.

Vince and Sarah Cardinal and Rylin from Moose Jaw visited with his parents, Michael and Cardinal.

Visiting with Dan Legris and Mel Anthony last week was Mel's sister, Tina La Lande from Ontario.

Esme Corkish from Regina spent last week with her grandmother, Shirley Corkish.

Family and friends gathered at the Lion's Shed last Sunday at the ballpark to attend a celebration of life for Keith Olson, Keith passed away on Feb. 7th at the age of 84 years. At this Hootenanny a history of Keith's life was read, his request of Consider the Lilies was played, and a slide show shown. A lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, dessert and refreshments was served. All of the family was home. Cindy Olson Emma and Morgan Buhr from St. Albert, AB, Stacey Heffernan, Kate and Sarah, Kenton and Stacey Olson, Carter and Emmett all from Regina, Craig Olson and Mikey from Taiwan, Jake and Carey Lamoureaux, Jack and Will, Justin Olson, Tamara Buckingham and Callie from Saskatoon, Kale Broad from Kelowna, BC, and Brittany and Rylie Schnell from Vancouver, B.C. Other family members that were home were Myrna's brother, Wayne and Jean Brehaut from Athabasca, AB, and two MacKay cousins, Ian from Rosetown and Ian from Saskatoon.

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'Mining-induced' earthquake confirmed in Esterhazy

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

A minor earthquake shook the town of Esterhazy on Aug. 1, startling residents and raising questions about the region's seismic activity. Earthquakes Canada confirmed the 3.3-magnitude quake occurred at approximately 7:35 p.m. CST and was centred just half a kilometre beneath the surface. While the agency has not officially determined the cause, it has listed the event as likely mining-induced.

The town is home to one of the largest potash mining operations in the world, operated by Mosaic. The company confirmed that workers were underground at the time of the quake, but no injuries were reported. Mosaic's director of government and public affairs, Marnel Jones, acknowledged a connection between mining and seismic activity, explaining that rhythmic movements are often caused by salt removal and injection opera-

tions within the mine. She also noted that the geological makeup of the region, particularly the Prairie evaporite formation, makes the area naturally prone to such events. Jones said no unusual impacts occurred as a result of Friday's tremor.

Residents reported brief but noticeable shaking during the incident. Kringle Sarmiendo, who was at home with her one-year-old daughter, told CBC she felt the roof vibrating as if someone were stomping on it. "We felt dizzy, we knew that it was an earthquake," she recalled, adding that while such events are common in her native Philippines, she never expected to experience one in Saskatchewan.

Others described the shaking as short but unsettling, describing the quake as lasting just a few seconds, but was strong enough to make bottles and picture frames tremble. "The floor was rumbling," one witness reported saying.

Earthquakes are not unheard of in the Esterhazy

area. A 3.8-magnitude quake was recorded in 2016, and Earthquakes Canada has documented 19 tremors of similar strength in the region since 1981. While Friday's event was minor, it serves as a reminder of the seismic potential beneath Saskatchewan's surface, particularly in areas where industrial activity intersects with natural fault lines.

More events added to annual Whitewood Fun Day

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

With a few new ideas and more helping hands, the Town of Whitewood's annual day of fun activities planned for this Saturday, August 9th has added more activities for community residents and visitors to enjoy.

Something that hasn't taken place for a few years and has been missed is the parade. Well, it's back this year, starting at 10 a.m. Participants will be assembled at the Flag Garden at the end of Lalonde Street at 9:30 a.m. Kids are invited to join in the fun with their bikes in the parade, meeting at the Flag Garden at 10:45 a.m. The parade route is heading down Lalonde Street from the Flag Garden to the school corner, turning left down 5th and turning to pass through the Nursing Home to South Ave and proceeding down

South Ave to Lalonde, turning left on 5th to go to 3rd Ave. and end at the arena.

The day is designated summer fun but since the arena ice is installed for the Western Prospect Hockey Development summer camp, Western Prospect is hosting an U11 & U13 age groups 3 on 3 Hockey Tournament.

Also contributing this year to the day's events is Whitewood Tourism & Heritage Association who have organized a Summer Mini Market and is calling all gardeners, bakers, crafters, etc. to set up a table at the museum from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or another absolutely delicious idea, enter their cinnamon buns baking contest. Bring a dozen cinnamon rolls and for fun, you may just be crowned the winner in the baking contest.

From noon – 6 p.m. will be street curling at Whitewood Pickleball

Courts in the park by the pool, which of course will be an attraction along with the ever-popular bouncers for the kids.

Or maybe pop in at the park between 1 to 5 p.m. to view Bubble Soccer near the Whitewood Pool area while you grab a snack or beverage from one of the food trucks also set up nearby.

There will also be food trucks located near the Whitewood Community Centre until 2 a.m. during the street dance with entertainment by The Registrars.

Local artist Shaya Istace will be entertaining beginning at 6 p.m. in front of Whitewood Community Centre so enjoy her entertainment while you enjoy a meal or refreshment.

Don't let the weatherman dampen your spirits. Watch for announcements if events have to be changed or moved.

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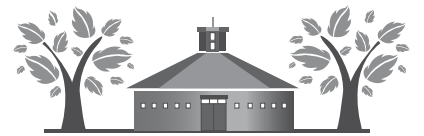
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Wheels for Wellness Shuttle Now Scheduling Rides

Wheels for Wellness is now accepting ride requests for wellness appointments! You can call or text 306-660-9677 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to book your scheduled wellness appointment. Rides officially begin on September 1, 2025. If you contact us outside booking hours, just leave a message — our dispatcher will return your call the next morning. This volunteer-run shuttle is here to help you get to your out-of-town medical and wellness appointments safely and comfortably. Thank you for your support — we look forward to serving Indian Head and the surrounding communities!

Join us for the Community Expo

We're excited to launch a brand-new event this summer—the Indian Head Community Expo & Trade Show on Saturday, August 23!

This event is all about bringing people together, showcasing local groups and services, and helping residents—especially newcomers — learn about the many opportunities to stay active and get involved in the community.

From sports teams and clubs to local businesses and services, there's something for everyone. Want to take part? Sign up as a vendor or volunteer to help organize—your involvement will make this event a success! Contact indianheadcdc@sasktel.net for more information or to register. Visit our website for more details: <https://townofindianhead.com/.../indian-head-community-expo/>

Sign Up for Utility Ebills & Tax Notices

The Town of Indian Head is now offering residents the opportunity to receive specific municipal notices as attachments in an email rather than by regular mail.

If you would like to start receiving Utility Bills and Tax Notices by email, please fill out the form below and return to the Town Office by:

- Email: townofindianhead@sasktel.net
- Mail: P.O. Box 460, Indian Head, SK S0G 2K0
- In Person at the Town Office 419 Grand Ave

If the office is closed, the form can be left in the secure library book return slot. If you sign up at least 15 days before the next Utility Bill is scheduled to come out, you will receive your bill by email only.

For more information, and the registration form, visit our website: <https://townofindianhead.com/taxes-rates-fees/>

Pay Property Taxes by August 31 to Receive Discount

We would like to remind Residents of the 5% discount on your municipal taxes if they are paid on or before August 31st, 2025. Please note that this is the date your payment is received at the office, not the date you pay online. There is no discount if taxes are paid after this date. 2025 property taxes are due December 31st, 2025.

There are several options of payment available. You can pay cash, cheque or debit at the Town Office. You can also pay online through your bank using the account number on your tax/utility bills - if you are not sure how to set this up speak to your bank or call our office 306-695-3344. Please check your bank's holiday hours to ensure your payment gets to the Town Office on time.

The last day to pay taxes in person at the Town Office is Friday, August 29.

Horticulture Society Garden Show Aug. 10

The Indian Head Horticulture Society is hosting their annual Garden Show on August 10 at the Heritage Club Hall. The Show is open to the public from 1-4pm, with awards being presented at 3:30pm. Entries are also welcome for the Garden Show. For more information or to get a copy of the show book, call Kathy at 306-332-7977.

The Horticultural Society is a community group with deep-rooted history in Indian Head. It was inaugurated on November 10, 1926 (99 years ago!). Then and now, their aim is to stimulate a love of gardening in the community.

Bell Barn Society Horse Fair Aug. 17

We invite you to attend our annual Historic Bell Barn Horse Fair with activities for the entire family! Enjoy all the activities including wagon rides, petting zoo, food trucks, horse pulls, art vendors, kids' activities and demonstrations. Tickets will be available at the gate.

Adults (age 16+) – \$12

Children (age 15 and under) – \$2

Are you a local VENDOR interested in selling your wares at our annual Horse Fair in Indian Head? We'd love to hear from you! If interested, please apply at bellbarn.ca

Upcoming Community Events

August 10 – Horticulture Society Garden Show

August 17 – Prairie Soles Dance Camp

August 17 – Bell Barn Society Horse Fair

August 23 – Indian Head Community Expo

August 24 – Swimming Pool Fund Day

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



ALVIN NIXON | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Giving way to time

This iconic barn located along Highway 9 north of Langbank, which over the years had been a popular shot for photographers, started to give way to its age and nature this summer. The photo on the left, taking in March 2024, shows the barn still standing straight and tall, despite a few boards and doors missing. The photo on the right, taking in July 2025, shows the one side of the barn that has now collapsed from age and wind.

2024 saw most fatalities on rural roads in six years

Saskatchewan RCMP
Grasslands News

Last year, Saskatchewan RCMP officers responded to 77 fatal collisions that resulted in 88 deaths.

More people were seriously injured from collisions, too. There were 271 collisions involving serious injuries in 2024, up 43 per cent from the previous year. These collisions resulted in 321 people seriously injured, up 48 per cent from the previous year.

“First off, we want to send our condolences to all the families affected by these tragedies,” says Supt. Grant St. Germaine, officer in charge of Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services. “It’s important

when we talk about statistics to remember that there are numerous lives that are changed forever behind each of these collisions. We all need to do our part to try to prevent every collision we can.”

What are the causes?

There were four primary factors in fatal and serious injury collisions in 2024: impaired driving; distracted driving; dangerous driving behaviour (primarily speeding); and failure to use a seatbelt in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction.

Saskatchewan RCMP statistics show that male drivers are more likely to be at fault in both serious and fatal collisions.

Whatever your gender, the age group at highest risk of being involved in a fatal

and/or serious collision in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction is those aged 16 to 25.

Supt. St. Germaine also pointed out that collisions are taking place later in the day. More than 60 per cent of them happened between noon and midnight. Another important thing to know is that most of them are single vehicle collisions.

Rising road fatalities remains a concern

As we move through 2025, the numbers of fatalities continue to rise on Saskatchewan roads.

To date, there have been 51 fatal collisions and 54 deaths. That’s 13 more lives

lost than there were last year at the same time. Nearly 40 per cent of these deaths were related to someone not wearing their seatbelt.

“It’s unfortunate that I have to keep repeating the basic driving safety tips. But we continue to see risky driving behaviour contributing to serious collisions,” Supt. St. Germaine says. “Remember, always obey posted speed limits, never drive impaired by alcohol or drugs, put the phone down and always remember to wear your seatbelt – it may keep you alive.”

Indian Head and Esterhazy students among recipients of Access Communications scholarships

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Two local students from Indian Head and Esterhazy are among 20 Saskatchewan high school graduates awarded scholarships through Access Communications Co-operative’s 2025 Doug Alexander Scholarship Program.

Jillian Heidecker of Indian Head and Kiah Shields of Esterhazy each received \$1,000 for their academic achievements

and dedication to community service. The scholarships are part of Access’s annual commitment to supporting Saskatchewan’s youth and future leaders. In total, \$27,000 in scholarships were distributed this year to students across the province.

“We are inspired by the drive, resilience, and community spirit of this year’s recipients,” said Carmela Haines, President and CEO of Access Communications. “As a community-owned co-operative, supporting education and local talent is

one of the most meaningful ways we can give back to Saskatchewan.”

The Doug Alexander Scholarship Program is named in honour of the late Doug Alexander, Access’s former Community Relations Manager, who was a passionate advocate for youth and community development.

In addition to the high school awards, Access also presented a \$2,000 Film & Video Scholarship and two \$1,000 Entrance Scholarships through the Fred Wagman Scholarship Program, which supports students attending the University of Regina in film, media, and communications. Two \$1,500 scholarships were also awarded to students enrolled in networking and telecommunications programs at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.



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AUGUST

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Wednesday 20th Regular Sale	9AM
Wednesday 27th Presort Featuring Yearling Sale	10AM

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 3rd Regular Sale	9AM
Wednesday 10th Presort Sale Yearling & Calves	10AM
Wednesday 17th Presort Sale - All Breeds	10AM
Friday 19th Bar-Lynn Stables Fall Production Sale	5PM
Wednesday 24th Presort Sale Simmental Influence	10AM

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Salesman, Kelvington Contact
Clint Peterson
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Salesman/Foreman
Brian Rathgeber
306-730-9225

Office Manager
Virginia Vargo
306-783-9437
Fax: 306-782-4110



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2025 FIRED UP! CLASSIC CAR SHOW

RM of Edenwold was Fired Up! In July

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY RM OF EDENWOLD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

On July 19, the RM of Edenwold hosted its annual Fired Up! Classic Car Show at the Emerald Park Fire Hall. Over 150 cars and two bikes lined up along the parking lot to be admired by car enthusiasts and casual visitors alike.



Classic Winners

First Place winner was Brian Senft's 1959 Plymouth, left. Second place went to Graham Wallace's 1964 Volvo, right. Third Place went to Dale Warren's 1965 Thunderbird, (not shown) and the Judge's Pick went to Craig Strudwick's 1952 Chevy 1300, centre.



Enjoyed by all

Lawson and Lakelyn give their thumbs up at the car show.



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Balgonie arrest leads to court date

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

A pair of Esterhazy residents were scheduled to appear in Regina Provincial Court earlier this week to face drug trafficking charges following their January arrest in Balgonie.

A 49-year-old female and 49-year-old male were arrested Jan. 10 at a business at the intersection of Highways #1 and #46.

Officers searching the suspects' vehicle found 58 grams of cocaine, a small amount of fentanyl and cash.

The male suspect's court appearance was scheduled for Tuesday while the female suspect's appearance was

slated for Wednesday.

ATV Rollover

23-year-old man is dead following an all-terrain vehicle rollover near Odessa, SK on Friday, July 11.

RCMP said in a news release that they were called to the scene around 7 p.m. along with STARS air ambulance and local paramedics.

The deceased individual hailed from Fenwood, SK, 20 kilometres northwest of Melville. He was the only occupant of the ATV and was pronounced dead at the scene.

The man's family was notified and his name was not released publicly.

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Town of White City Notice of Intent to Restructure

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to The Municipalities Act, public notice is hereby given that the Town of White City intends to restructure by adding the following lands from the Rural Municipality of Edenwold No. 158. The lands to be added to the Town of White City include:

Legal Land Description:
SW 19 17 17 2 Ext 0
SE 19 17 17 2 Ext 0
Blk/Par A-Plan 101742320 Ext 0

The proposed development aligns with the Town's growth objectives as it is located east of White City—an area identified for future expansion with the RM of Edenwold No. 158. The request, initiated by the landowner, is supported by a demonstrated need for additional growth lands, is consistent with planning frameworks, and can be serviced through the extension of existing municipal infrastructure.

A Public Meeting to discuss the proposal will be held:
Tuesday September 2, 2025
6:30 p.m.
White City Council Chambers
14 Ramm Avenue East, White City

Any persons who wish to object to the proposed restructuring may file a written objection, stating clearly their reason for their opposition to the Town of White City Box 220 Station Main White City, SK S4L 5B1 or via email: townoffice@whitecity.ca. A written notice of objection must be received by the Town of White City no later than September 5, 2025.

Beginning August 8, 2025, the proposal may be viewed online at whitecity.ca or at the White City Town Office between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Dated at the Town of White City, Saskatchewan this 29th day of July 2025.

Town of White City
14 Ramm Avenue East, White City
† 306-781-2355 | e townoffice@whitecity.ca | www.whitecity.ca

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RM OF EDENWOLD No. 158

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intent to Amend the Zoning Bylaw

Pursuant to Section 207 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, the Council of the RM of Edenwold No.158 gives notice to amend Zoning Bylaw 2019-20 as follows:

Bylaw No. 2025-16 - Zoning Map Change: - To re-zone 4 hectares (10 acres) in Parcel B, Plan 102384165 from CR1 – Country Residential 1 to AR – Agricultural Resource & to rezone 2.02 hectares (5 acres) in proposed Parcel C from AR - Agricultural Resource to CR1 - Country Residential 1 in the NW ¼ 34-16-17 W2M for a new residential yard site.

Intent: To make the appropriate Zoning Bylaw amendment to accommodate the subdivision of a new residential yard site (Parcel C) and the rezoning and consolidation of the existing Parcel B back into the quarter section.

Public Inspection: Any person may inspect the bylaw online at www.rmedenwold.ca or at the RM of Edenwold No. 158's office, 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

Public Hearing: Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions, written or verbal, on the proposed bylaw at **10 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday, August 26th, 2025**, in the Council Chambers of the RM of Edenwold No. 158, 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan. Written submissions will be presented to Council and can be sent by mail or email. For further information please contact Jessica McCartney, Planner at 306-540-5600 or planning@edenwold-sk.ca. Dated this 30th day of July, 2025, at Emerald Park, in the Province of Sask.

Shauna Bzdel, Chief Administrative Officer

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SPORTS

Chris Kunitz inducted into Sask Hockey Hall of Fame

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

“Yep, the scouts were wrong about Chris Kunitz and Pascal Dupuis weren’t they?”

Yes they were, Bob Errey, yes they were.

So went the assessment of the Pittsburgh Penguins’ television colour commentator as a mix of ball caps and sock monkeys (seriously) hit the ice following Kunitz’ third goal of a March 2013 game against the New York Islanders.

Twelve years on from that moment – the fourth and final hat trick of Kunitz’ National Hockey League career – the Saskatchewan Hockey Hall of Fame also recognized his unlikely path to professional stardom when it inducted the former Melville Millionaire at a dinner July 26 in his childhood hometown of Regina.

Kunitz scored 146 points in 123 Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League games for Melville before embarking on a four-year NCAA career at Ferris State University.

Overlooked at the draft by the entire NHL three years running, he signed his first NHL contract April 1, 2003, joining the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim (now known more simply as the Anaheim Ducks) as a free agent.

From there all he did was go on to play 1,022 regular-season games (for the Ducks, Penguins, Tampa Bay Lightning and Chicago Blackhawks), score at least 20 goals in six of his 15 seasons, win four Stanley Cups and help Canada to an Olympic gold medal.

“When he was in Yorkton playing midget AAA no one thought he’d play in Melville. When he was in Melville no one thought he’d play in Ferris State. When he was in Ferris State no one thought he’d play in the NHL. So I’m very proud of him,” Steve Young, who coached the Millionaires during Kunitz’s two SJHL seasons, told Grasslands News in a phone interview Tuesday.

Young remembered Kunitz as a player who led by example and earned every opportunity he was given.

“One of the first impressions for

sure was his work ethic,” Young said. “He wasn’t someone that sat still and watched things happen. He went out and made things happen. He had no fear on the ice, he worked hard in every situation and was a very good team player.

“I think Chris would be the first to admit that any team he went to, the people on the next team above weren’t sure about him ... but he’s just the kind of guy where when they work that hard, you just know things are going to work out well for them.”

Firsts and Lasts

Kunitz made his NHL debut with the Ducks on Jan. 17, 2004 in a 2-1 win over the hometown Vancouver Canucks. That night he recorded four shots on goal in 7 minutes 7 seconds of ice time.

Eleven nights later he picked up his first NHL point, assisting on a Steve Rucchin goal in the third period of a 4-3 overtime loss to the Los Angeles Kings.

Thanks to the NHL lockout that torpedoed the 2004-05 season, his first goal was almost two years in the making from there, but he finally tickled the twine Nov. 1, 2005, beating Nashville Predators goalie Tomas Vokoun in the third period of a 4-1 Anaheim win.

He scored his first NHL hat trick Nov. 19, 2006, putting three pucks past Phoenix Coyotes goalie Curtis Joseph.

He won his first Stanley Cup on June 6, 2007, as Anaheim beat the Ottawa Senators in six games, and his last on June 11, 2017, as Pittsburgh beat Nashville, also in six games.

In between there was also an Olympic gold medal with Team Canada at the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. There, Kunitz scored his only goal of the tournament in the third period to cap the scoring in Canada’s 3-0 championship win over Sweden.

He recorded his final NHL point as a Blackhawk, beating Anton Khubodin in a 6-1 win over the Dallas Stars on April 5, 2019, and played his final NHL game the next night, skating 7:46 in a 5-2 loss to Nashville.

Kunitz has spent the last six seasons working with Chicago as a player development advisor.

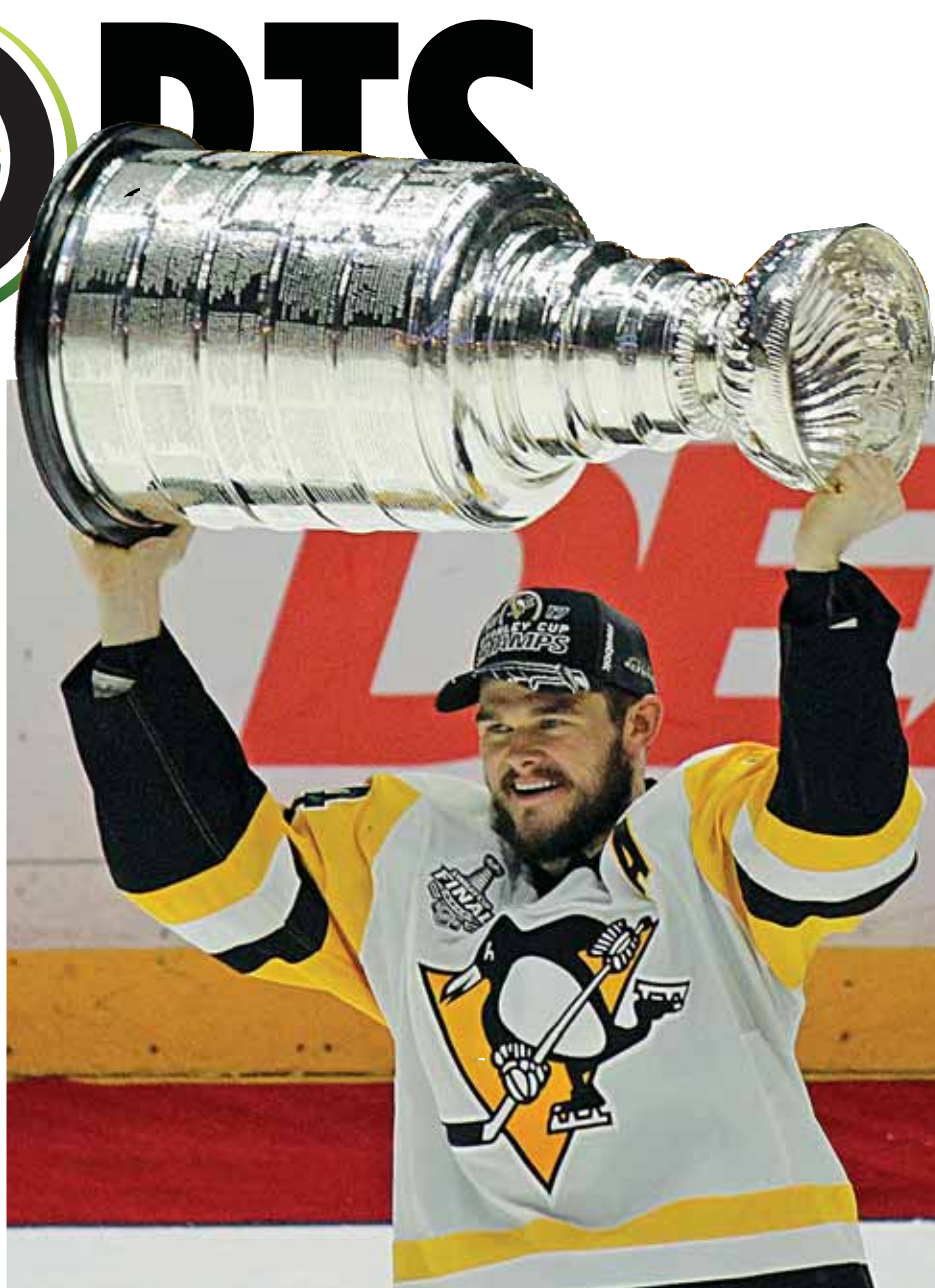


PHOTO BY MICHAEL MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Hoisting the ‘Cup’

Former Melville Millionaires’ forward Chris Kunitz celebrates his fourth and final Stanley Cup win after assisting on Patric Hornqvist’s game-winning goal against the Nashville Predators in 2017.

Not Bad Company

In addition to the rarified air of being a perfect 4-0 in his Stanley Cup Final appearances, Kunitz also holds another unique place in NHL history as one of just 13 players since 1927 (when the NHL took sole possession of the Stanley Cup) to assist on multiple Cup-winning goals.

His first came on Max Talbot’s championship clincher in 2009 when Kunitz outworked pinching Detroit Red Wings defenceman Brad Stuart for a loose puck in the Pittsburgh zone and chipped it past Wings forward Jiri Hudler to Talbot, who opted to shoot on the ensuing 2-on-1.

The other kickstarted the chain of events that led to Patric Hornqvist’s Cup winner in 2017. Kunitz kept the Penguins’ offensive zone cycle alive by chipping the puck off the side wall to teammate Justin Schultz, whose shot went wide of the Nashville net. Hornqvist collected the rebound off the end boards and banked

it into the net off the back of Predators goalie Pekka Rinne.

With that point, Kunitz remains one of four players to have achieved such a feat in the last 40 years. (The others: Cory Stillman, Steve Yzerman and Scott Niedermayer.) And only Montreal Canadiens legend Bernie “Boom Boom” Geoffrion (three) has assisted on more Stanley Cup winners in the last 99 years.

All this of course is to say nothing of arguably Kunitz’s finest game as a pro, when he scored twice and added an assist in a 3-2 double-overtime win over Ottawa in Game 7 of the 2017 Eastern Conference final. That night Kunitz’s own game winner was teed up by none other than frequent linemate Sidney Crosby, who dished to Kunitz at the top of the left faceoff circle and watched as Kunitz one-timed a flutterpuck past Sens goalie Craig Anderson.

- SEE OTHER INDUCTEES, 15

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Sports column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

Hats off to Melville Minor Ball!

This feisty group has pulled it off once again – twice, if you count this past weekend's U-11 baseball provincials, as well as the previous weekend's gargantuan event.

Being a sports reporter with The Advance for a number of years, I've seen firsthand the dedication that goes into making this event one of the best in the province, as it was again this year.

If you think a lot of blood, sweat and tears go into playing in this event, you haven't seen volunteers out at 7:30 a.m., armed with shop vacs and pumps as well as a drying compound for the diamonds, doing everything in their power to get the games in.

When you're dealing with such numbers as far as participating teams, you really have to dig in for the folks who have travelled great distances, some over provincial borders, for this first-class minor baseball event.

I've been hearing rumblings that this group was charged a pretty exorbitant rate to use a canteen that was on site.

The price tag on it was \$250 a day, and while I can't fully say that this is a fact, but from my catering days this would be the most expensive kitchen in the city to rent, and when you're running a tournament that does so much for the Melville Regional Park, for their board to ask for that kind of money is a bit rich, especially when you consider that the equipment within that very canteen was gifted to the park by minor ball, after receiving it from a senior team.

As an entity, independent of the golf course, which I believe also falls under the Regional Park banner, this baseball weekend is the park's biggest money-maker, with every single campsite booked for the entirety of the event.

If you're a big-picture kind of person, it doesn't take long to figure out that the Regional Park would have a whole lot less in its coffers over the year, without this event.

To gouge a group that works its collective butt off for this event every year, just does not sit right with this scribe.

While I didn't have the opportunity to take in any of the games this year, I did drive through the city a few times, and saw a huge number of out of towners frequenting Melville's many shops, restaurants and gas stations.

I can't imagine the total amount of money spent in the city that weekend – the direct result of a Melville Minor Ball event – but it had to be a pretty substantial number.

Don't get me wrong, the Regional Park is a fantastic venue, with eight ball diamonds that get used all summer long by Melville Minor Ball, and it's part of the attraction for many of the teams that come to Melville to compete, but in my books, any group that brings in as much business as Minor Ball does with this tourney, shouldn't have to part with one thin dime to use the facilities, although a damage deposit wouldn't be a bad idea.

One year, as a reporter covering the event, I had a nice conversation with a fellow from Warman, who said that Melville's Regional Park is the best set-up he'd ever seen, as far as camping and baseball are concerned.

He was impressed with the spirit of volunteerism that seized Saskatchewan's smallest city during the weekend event and added that it would never be as good if held anywhere else.

I agreed, proud of all the folks who put in the hours and hours of work to make this tournament viable.

The next year, we met at the same spot and spoke like old friends,

Once again, the amount of hard labour that went into this event did not go unnoticed.

Certainly, everything wasn't the best of the best, but everything was as good as it could be, and this was not lost on my acquaintance.

I'm fairly certain that's how it went again this year, and it speaks volumes on the kind of volunteers we have here in Melville.

You've all done yourself proud.

Enjoy your rest.

You've earned it.

Tennis pro Pospisil calls it a career

By Bruce Penton
Sports ColumnistSports Column
By Bruce Penton

Vasek Pospisil wasn't the biggest name taking part in this year's National Bank Open in Toronto, but he was likely the best player to retire at the end of the competition.

Pospisil, a 35-year-old from Vernon, B.C., has been the only Western Canadian on the world tennis circuit in recent years. Our country's best male players — Felix Auger-Aliassime, Denis Shapovalov and Milos Raonic — are all Easterners. Once ranked in men's singles as high as 25th in the world, Pospisil's on-court heroics were often surpassed by the three aforementioned Easter Canada players, and the resulting media coverage was, to say the least, lacking.

But Pospisil did have some great moments. He paired with American Jack Sock to win the Wimbledon doubles crown in 2014. In 2017, at the semi-major Indian Wells tournaments in California, he scored a second-round victory over Britain's Andy Murray who, at the time, was ranked No. 1 in the world. He made the final in three ATP tournaments in his career, and was a doubles' winner seven times. Pospisil also helped Canada win its first Davis Cup in 2022 and represented Canada twice at the Olympics.

A feature story on Po-

spisil in the Globe and Mail said the tennis pro "made his mark as an advocate for players' rights, joining Novak Djokovic in founding the first-ever Professional Tennis Players Association in 2019."

Pospisil didn't make much of a splash at the National Bank Open, falling to Argentina's Bagnis Facundo, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 in the first round. He has battled numerous injuries in the last three years. "It's a really, really tough sport, physically and mentally, and at some point you burn out. At least I did," Pospisil said in a Globe and Mail story following his elimination.

Now that he has retired from the pro game, said the Globe story, he's "keen to help with any Davis Cup duties, should Tennis Canada ask him."

Helping to develop future Canadian tennis stars will also be high on Pospisil's post-retirement agenda.

"Nothing would make me happier than to help young juniors in less privileged positions," he told the Globe and Mail. "I learned through years of trial and error, so if I can

help expedite the learning curve for somebody who is a good person, or two or three or more players, then I would find that fulfilling."

Meanwhile, Canada's national open had a shadow cast over it before it began when the three biggest names in the game — world No. 1 Yannik Sinner of Italy, No 2 Carlos Alcaraz of Spain and 25-Grand-Slam winner Novak Djokovic of Serbia — all announced they were withdrawing from the event. That left the competition wide open, with spotlight on the best Canadians. Unfortunately, Auger-Aliassime and Shapovalov were both eliminated in the round of 64.

But while the ATP tour carries on, Pospisil, whose family came to this country from Czechoslovakia just before Vasek was born, stays behind. He's a proud Canadian who had a decent career on the world stage.

• Hall of Fame football coach Don Shula: "Sure, luck means a lot in football. Not having a good quarterback is bad luck."

• Cathal Kelly of the Globe and Mail, after the Blue Jays were dominant in taking three of four from the Tigers in Detroit: "It was like watching a bouncer slap around an overserved customer."

• Kelly again, on disappointing free-agent signee Anthony Santander, who

signed a \$93.5 million contract with the Jays: "He was so terrible that when he got injured, the team got better."

• Janice Hough of left-coastsportsbabe.com, after an MLB game in which Colorado fell behind 9-0 in the first inning and later won 17-16 over Pittsburgh: "I remember Little League games like this. Especially in tournaments when teams run out of pitching."

• Headline at fark.com: "Pirates put up nine runs in the first inning against the worst team in baseball. Add seven 'insurance' runs. Lose."

• The late Bob Uecker, Mr. Baseball: "The biggest thrill a ballplayer can have is when your son takes after you. That happened when my Bobby was in his championship Little League game. He really showed me something. Struck out three times. Made an error that lost the game. Parents were throwing things at our car and swearing at us as we drove off. Gosh, I was proud."

• Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "With a name like Seranthony Dominguez, shouldn't he be playing for the Royals? Can you just see him on British television – up next, Sir Anthony, he's a Royal."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Other inductees into Sask Hall of Fame

continued from 14

Humble Hero

Among this year's other inductees to Saskatchewan's hockey shrine were Balcarres product Barry Trapp, in the builder category, and Ryan Getzlaf – a teammate of Kunitz's for most of four seasons from 2005-09.

Also inducted last month: Dirk Graham and Doug Wickenheiser (players), Bill Liskowich and Al Hubbs (grassroots), Brad Howard (official) and the 1987-88 Regina Pat Canadians (team).

"I have a tough time looking at myself as a person that should be inducted to go along with some of the great names and players who have done amazing things in the NHL or for hockey in Saskatchewan or Canada, (but) it truly is a great honour," Kunitz said in a video message recorded

for Hockey Saskatchewan.

"To be going in with a teammate, Ryan, is very special. We got to, very early on in our careers, spend a lot of time together. And to be there even with that age gap, to be able to go through it and be in this room with people that you love, and got to watch us do things together, is very special. It's a lot of great stories."

Kunitz also reflected on some of his earliest hockey mentors.

"When I actually sit back and think about all the steps and phases to how I got to where I was, it all starts with how we got taught to play the game. And if that's minor hockey in Regina with all the dad coaches who came out and blew their whistle for us to learn to skate, or

stop on a puck, or back-check or finish a body-check, those are things I actually had to do ... years later when I was playing in the NHL."

He continued: "I'm very grateful for all those coaches and family members that watched us and taught us things all the way through life growing up before we left Saskatchewan."

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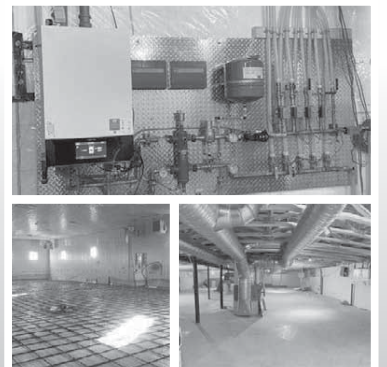
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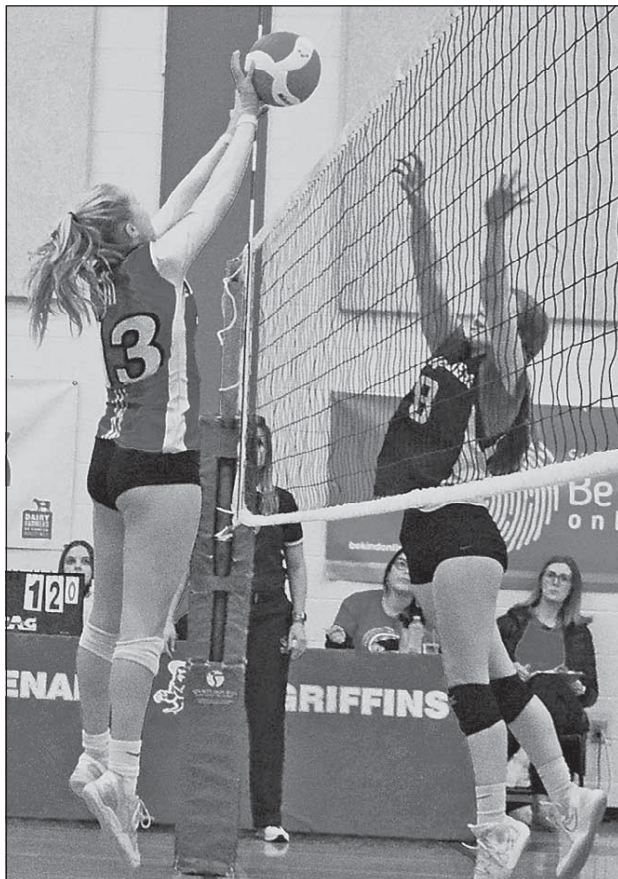


Canada Summer Games

Locals to represent Saskatchewan in seven sports

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

Eight athletes, one manager and three mission staff from southeast Saskatchewan will be among the province's contingent at this year's Canada Summer Games



BRAD BROWN | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Big block

Alexa Smith (13) makes a play for Balgonie's Greenall Griffins during the 2022 Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association provincial volleyball championships.

which run August 8 through Aug. 25 in St. John's, Nfld.

Among them are women's box lacrosse players Keariah O'Watch, from Sintaluta, and Maedy Moen of White City.

Alexa Smith (White City) will represent the province on the women's beach volleyball team while Hailey Tulik (Fort Qu'Appelle) will do the same on the indoor court.

Landon Hebig (Balgonie) will suit up for the men's baseball squad, Jorge Gutierrez Carabias (White City) for the men's swimming team and Frederick Comfort (White City) for the men's indoor volleyball team, while Ayva Delainey (Grayson) will compete in the women's wheelchair 100 metre, 400 m and 1,500 m races.

Prairie Junior Hockey League

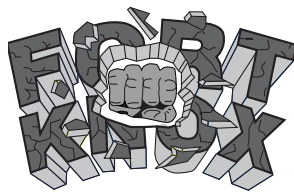
New teams, longer schedule for 19th season

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

Fort Qu'Appelle will have to wait – but only for a night – to officially welcome the town's defending Prairie Junior Hockey League champions back to the ice when the new season gets underway next month.

The Fort Knox is scheduled to open the 2025-26 campaign on home ice Sept. 27 against the Pilot Butte Storm, one night after the regular season kicks off with games in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert.

Each team will play 42 games this season for the first time since 2009-10, up from the 40-game slate



that has been in place for all but two of the past 15 seasons, as the league welcomes the expansion Moosomin Steelhawks to the Bill Johnston Division.

The addition of Moosomin also gives the league an equal number of teams in both its divisions for the first time since 2013-14.

Steelhawks fans will have to be patient though, as the club's first home game doesn't come until Oct. 10 – 13 days into the season – when Moosomin hosts the Assiniboia Southern Rebels.

The Steelhawks will see the Fort Knox for the first time Oct. 11 in Moosomin, with a return date scheduled for Oct. 14 in Fort Qu'Appelle. They'll also host the Storm for the first time Oct. 24, with their first trip to Pilot Butte planned for Nov. 22.

The Storm meanwhile will open the season with a pair of road games before hosting the Regina Silver Foxes in their own home opener Oct. 4.

Local fans will get their first looks at another newish franchise when the Martensville Chiefs visit Moosomin on Nov. 8, Fort Qu'Appelle on Nov. 9 and Pilot Butte on Feb. 15.

The Chiefs relocated to Martensville after 17 seasons in Delisle. The Chiefs reached the league final twice in that time and were awaiting their semifinal series when the 2019-20 season was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

All teams will play each divisional rival six times this season, along with one home game and one road game against teams from the opposite division.

The regular season is scheduled to wrap up Feb. 15 and, following league playoffs, the Saskatoon

The province's management team will include Amber Moon (Riceton) on the female box lacrosse team, while Faye Matt (Balgonie), Eric Honetschlage (Edenwold) and Chelsey Exner (Grayson) will serve as mission staff for the province.

Saskatchewan finished seventh in the overall medal table at the COVID-postponed 2022 Canada Summer Games in Niagara Falls, Ont. with 32 medals – three of them gold.

Local medalists that year included White City's Alex Ellert who helped Saskatchewan's baseball team to a bronze medal and fellow White City resident Laura Desautels who helped coach the province to a silver medal in platform diving.

Royals will host the Central Canada Cup regional championship tournament (formerly known as the Keystone Cup) in April.

Fort Qu'Appelle will play four times while the Storm and Steelhawks will play twice each during an exhibition schedule that runs Sept. 7-21.

Trading Spaces

Earlier this offseason, the Pilot Butte Storm and Fort Knox were involved in a trio of transactions as they began to establish their rosters for the coming PJHL season.

With Zane Winter aging out of junior B hockey and playoff goaltending saviour Jackson Miller unlikely to return for his 21-year-old season, the Fort Knox have traded for 2005-born goalie Drew Pereyma.

Pereyma comes to Fort Qu'Appelle as future considerations in a convoluted trade that originally involved the Prince Albert Timberjaks, and two seasons as a backup for the Regina Capitals, where he posted an 18-6 regular-season win-loss record along with save percentages of .888 and .893.

With Miller leaving, the Knox also announced over the summer that Tadem Anardi and River Banks will be the team's two 21-year-old players this coming season, both returning for a fifth year with the club.

Banks finished third in Knox scoring last season with 40 points in 37 regular-season games while Anardi led the team's defencemen in scoring with 19 points in 35 games.

Also in May, the Knox acquired 2006-born forward Devante Pratt from the Saskatoon Quakers in exchange for a "player development fee" (cash). Pratt played 23 games of junior B and eight games of junior A last season for four different teams, recording eight goals and three assists. All but two of those points came in his 14 games with the Quakers.

The Pilot Butte Storm also made a goaltending move, sending last season's backup tendy, Ty Fehrenbach, to the Martensville Chiefs for cash and future considerations.

League Mourns Dybvig

The PJHL will also enter the coming season mourning the loss of former league president Bob Dybvig, who died sud-



BOB DYBVIG

denly June 20 at the age of 77.

According to the league website, Dybvig served two seasons as vice-president from 2008-10 before beginning a seven-year run as president.

A recent submission to Saskatoon city council by his son Stacy states Dybvig additionally served as North Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League president from 1995-2007 and was instrumental in merging that circuit with its southern counterpart to form the modern-day PJHL.

Dybvig was also a former president of the Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association, a director with Hockey Saskatchewan, and a longtime hockey, fastball and high school volleyball coach.

He received the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletics Association's Merit Award in 1985 and the Commemorative Saskatchewan Centennial Medal in 2005.

The PJHL's North Division was renamed after Dybvig ahead of the 2017-18 season.

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Neudorf and Grenfell claim fastball championships

By Brad Brown
Grasslands News

The Neudorf Posse and Grenfell Gems both ended the 2025 softball season as winners, even after Grenfell beat Neudorf 6-1 to win the South East Men's Fastball League championship.

The hometown Gems repeated as league champs July 31 at Lions Park after winning the best-of-three series opener 10-0 on July 22 and dropping Game 2 in Neudorf by a 3-2 score on July 29.

Neudorf was still able to celebrate however, after a 5-4 win July 27 in Saskatoon over the Earl Grey Rockets to win the Softball Saskatchewan men's open provincial championship.

The Posse finished the tournament with a perfect 6-0 record, beating Earl Grey, Piapot and Wynyard in preliminary play, then besting the Saskatoon Merchants and Dry Creek Penguins in the playoff round en route to the title game rematch with Earl Grey.

Grenfell, the 2022 and 2023 provincial champion, was eliminated after a 6-5 loss to the Rockets in the semifinals.



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Provincial Champions

Neudorf Posse victorious after a 5-4 win July 27 in Saskatoon over the Earl Grey Rockets to win the Softball Saskatchewan men's open provincial championship.

Roughriders dominate Alouettes with a 34-6 victory in Montreal

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

In a one-sided showdown between two of the CFL's top-performing clubs, the Saskatchewan Roughriders delivered a commanding performance to defeat the Montreal Alouettes, 34-6, at Percival Molson Memorial Stadium on Aug. 2.

With the win, Saskatchewan improved to 7-1 on the season – four points ahead of the 5-3 Calgary Stampeders in the Western Division standings – while Montreal fell to 4-2 in the East.

From the opening kickoff, the Riders set the tone defensively, denying Montreal a single touchdown all game. The Als' lone points came from field goals, as Saskatchewan's defence stood tall at home to stifle every attempt in the end zone. Three key statistics defined

the outcome: Montreal had zero touchdowns, Saskatchewan forced multiple turnovers, and consistently won the field position battle through punting and placement strategy.

On offense, Saskatchewan was far from passive. Quarterback Trevor Harris connected on key strikes, including a 13-yard touchdown pass to Tommy Nield in the second quarter and strategic drives that resulted in a scoring run by Tommy Stevens in the first half, converted by kicker Brett Lauther. The Riders' ground and aerial mix kept Montreal off balance and sustained long drives, allowing their defense to rest.

Both teams entered the game missing critical personnel. Saskatchewan was without top receiver Samuel Emilus, and Montreal was missing its starting quarterback Davis Alexander, plus receivers Austin Mack, Tyler Philpot, and

safety Marc Antoine Dequoy, who exited early due to injury. Despite those gaps, the Alouettes couldn't mount an effective offense, while Saskatchewan overcame its own absence without missing a beat.

This road victory was Saskatchewan's first win in Montreal since 2021, and it stands as their most impressive performance of the season to date. Joel Gasson of 3DownNation called it "a rare showing of dominance... the Riders' most impressive win of the season." The Riders came in focused and maintained momentum throughout, executing their game plan with clinical precision.

The victory sets Saskatchewan up for another home showcase on August 16,

when they host the Hamilton Tiger Cats, while Montreal looks to regroup before facing the Edmonton Elks at home on Aug. 8.

With the win, the Roughriders continue a dominant start under Head Coach Corey Mace and General Manager Jeremy O'Day, now sitting at 5-1 in their division following their first loss (to Calgary) in July. Meanwhile, Montreal is under Head Coach Jason Maas and GM Danny Maciocia, carrying a solid 4-2 record but facing questions about depth and consistency on both sides of the ball.

Saskatchewan's next matchup will be Aug. 16 when the Riders host the Hamilton Tiger Cats.



PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF WHITE CITY | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Revitalized courts

On Monday, July 21, the Fernwood Park courts officially re-opened to the public after being resurfaced. Funds for the revitalization projects were raised through the Employment and Social Development Canada's New Horizons Seniors Grant. The project was supported by the Town of White City/Emerald Park Pickleball Club and the Town of White City.

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20th Annual Threshing Bee held near Balcarres

By Judy Hershmillier
Grasslands News

Threshing at Meikle Farm

The 20th Annual Threshing Bee held at the farm of Jim and Margaret Meikle was held July 27.

It was a sunny day and a nice crowd of approx. 100 gathered to see how the harvest was completed many years ago.

The 103 year old Rumely Oilpull tractor was purring as it began the work of operating the antique threshing machine not far away. When the rack carrying sheaves which were to be fork fed into the threshing machine arrived, pulled by two beautiful horses owned by Louie Bartake and his son David formerly of Dysart/Lestock and now of Broadview, the crowd gathered to watch history in motion. Cellphones and recording devices were in hand.

Some men climbed onto the rack to help fork the sheaves into the threshing machine.

Watching this work, watching the tractor and large moving belt, the horses standing patiently, the threshing machine accepting the sheaves, and then spilling out grain and chaff on the opposite side of the threshing machine brought back memories for some of years past, and for others a part of prairie life they had never seen before.

It is early in the season to have sheaves ready for the threshing day, and these had been harvested last year and saved and stored safely away for the threshing day.

In the morning before the threshing demonstration, a log sawing demonstration took place giving everyone a chance to see how lumber was made back in the day with a sawmill under the direction of Norval Budd, who now lives in Regina, and family.



Harvest Bee

The annual threshing bee took place near Balcarres at the Meikle farm on Sunday, July 29.

There was lots of things to see at the farm, antique tractors, antique machinery, cream separator demonstration, and a small museum on site. New this year was an interesting fur and taxidermy display, courtesy of Rene Roy and Jim's sister Margie Roy of Stoney Plan, Alberta.

The Meikles also have a clay oven, and homemade biscuits were made, topped off with strawberry jam and homemade ice cream, which is also a tradition.

Visitors also were entertained with live music with singers and musicians from Ituna, Yorkton, Melfort and Foam Lake.

Visitors came from Regina, Stoney Plain, Alta, Foam Lake, Yorkton, Kelliher, Ituna, Lumsden, Fort Qu'Appelle, Melville, Tyvan, Southey, Abernethy, Balcarres, Lebre, Calder, Lipton, Hubbard, Weyburn, Tyvan, Lang, and Broadview to name some of the centers from Marg's guest book.

A supper concluded the interesting afternoon, and everyone went home with a

wonderful sense of how the prairies gathered with friends and family, worked together and then relaxed and enjoyed each other's company.

Hats off to Jim and Marg Meikle for the hard work they have done to keep this history current.

Art Show and Sale

A very successful two-day art show and sale was held at the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Lebre, hosted by the Qu'Appelle Valley Artists Guild.

The event was the 53rd anniversary of the art show and members were delighted to invite family, friends and guests to come and see what they had been busy doing this year.

Approximately 350 people attended the event to view the many paintings on display in various mediums of oil, acrylic and water colour in various themes.

The show is a feast for the eyes depicting the talent of the guild's individuals.

The door prize painting by Shelley Cochrane was won by Michael Firth, and the child's door prize starter acrylic painting kit offered for children was won by Margot McCall of Saskatoon.

The Guild has frequently had artists demonstrating their artistic ability during the show and this year featured all members who picked up a paintbrush and put their touch on the same painting. This year's theme was a painting by Norman Rockwell of a small red haired girl wearing disheveled clothes and a black eye sitting on a bench outside the Principal's office, waiting patiently for her turn to enter his office to tell her side of the story of why she is there. It was a whimsical look back at a time. The painting was completed by the end of the Show and will be donated to a seniors long term facility in the very near future.

Members of the Art Guild include: Fort Qu'Appelle: Christine Akrigg, Wendy Barker, Marlene Bennett, Debbie Dewar, MJ Dornstauder, Christine Rumancik, Eleanor Sinclair, Sandra Schlamp, Darlene Clarke, Janet Strayer, Jill Whiting, Alison Sundeen, Darlene Huber, Maureen LaBrash, Gwen Lowe; Balcarres: Judy Hershmillier, and Jenny Gibbons; Qu'Appelle: Debra Maley; Good Spirit Acres: Marie Happy; Regina: Shelley Cochrane, Jenn Jordan, Linda Fox; LeJord: Pauline Leippi; Punnichy: Janice Schlosser; Kenaston: Janice Moser; Indian Head: Linda Thorseth; Dysart: Ethel Sulea; Cupar: Tina Waters; Weyburn: Lise Allaire; Whitewood: Kathleen Wallack. 17 members brought their paintings to the two day show.

Many of the Qu'Appelle Valley artists took their paintings to the library in Fort Qu'Appelle, throughout the year and once again some members have a small display at the Tourist Booth train station.

Saskatchewan faces legal challenge for delaying coal phase out

By Natasha Bulowski
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Saskatchewan is facing a judicial review for its recent decision to extend coal power generation in the province beyond 2030.

Federal regulations require all coal-fired power plants (except those outfitted with carbon capture technology) be shut down by 2030 to clean up Canada's electricity grid but Saskatchewan is not playing ball. In mid-June, news broke that the government and SaskPower plan to continue using coal-fired generation past the deadline and a handful of individuals and organizations filed for a judicial review to try and stop this from happening.

The application, filed on July 18 by three individuals plus the Saskatchewan Environmental Society and Citizens for Public Justice, argues the province's decision is "unreasonable" and should be reviewed by the courts due to a lack of public consultation, a disregard for Canadian and international law and potential implications on Canadian Charter rights.

"The climate crisis is urgent and we need our institutions, including the ju-

dicial system, to respond," said Glenn Wright, the lawyer representing the applicants, in a press release. "It is truly time for all hands on deck and we cannot let the coal decision stand without some judicial scrutiny. These applicants are taking an important stand for the benefit of all Canadians."

The individual applicants are a 12-year-old from Saskatchewan, Saskatoon resident Sherry Olsen and a farmer from Manitoba.

"The emissions from coal burned in Saskatchewan don't stay within Saskatchewan's borders," said Matthew Wiens in the press release. "They cross over into Manitoba and beyond, and impact the atmosphere that we all share."

He said the wildfire smoke that blankets much of Canada makes him fear for his children's long-term health, citing cancelled sports practices due to poor air quality. And as a farmer, he's feeling the effects of climate change driven largely by greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels like oil, gas and coal.

"Weather extremes of heat, torrential rains, and drought are impacting my crops and livestock with increasing frequency," Wiens said.

The application is set for an initial hearing in Chambers at the Court of King's Bench in Saskatoon on Aug. 12, 2025, to address any preliminary issues and determine when the hearing of the application might be scheduled, according to the press release.

The province did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the application. This article will be updated when comment is provided.

Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe and Alberta Premier Danielle Smith have opposed the federal Clean Electricity Regulations at every opportunity. Both premiers say the 2030 deadline is unreal-

istic and they will work towards net-zero grids by 2050.

Ontario was the first province to phase out coal-fired electricity under Premier Kathleen Wynne in 2014. Last summer, Alberta transitioned its last coal plant to natural gas to complete the coal phase-out. New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan still use coal-fired electricity.

Citizens for Public Justice was an intervenor in a landmark challenge brought by seven young Canadian activists against Ontario Premier Doug Ford's rollback of the province's 2030 emissions target.

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Sask. RCMP break-ins remain stable, residential break-ins are down

Provincial RCMP Grasslands News

Saskatchewan RCMP report that break and enters in Saskatchewan remained relatively stable between 2023 and 2024, with a 2% increase noted year over year. Officers indicate break-ins to non-dwelling places, such as sheds, outbuildings and abandoned houses, are the driving force of this increase. In contrast, residential break-ins continue to decrease in Saskatchewan, dropping 15% over the last decade.

Although the number of residential break-ins is decreasing, break-ins to residences remain the most common type of break and enter in Saskatchewan.

"If there is one place that people want to feel safe, it is within their own homes. Property crime, such as break and enters, can take away that feeling of safety. Although break-ins may not cause physical

harm, they are violating and intrusive," says S/Sgt. Jill McLaren, the officer who leads Saskatchewan RCMP's Community Safety and Wellbeing Unit. "While break and enters can affect anyone, it's promising to see that its impacting 15% less residences than it did a decade ago – that's over 300 fewer households dealing with this issue. Though we can't speculate on the cause of this decrease, staying alert and reporting suspicious activity can make a difference. Every tip helps officers better understand crime patterns and respond more effectively. The eyes and ears of the public are key to us seeing these rates drop even further."

The Saskatchewan RCMP takes property crime seriously, following up on all credible information that is provided to police. For instance, in June 2025, a string of rural property break and enters were reported in the Swift Current Rural detachment area. Officers thoroughly investigated, and with the assistance

of the public's crime reporting, officers arrested two individuals and laid more than 80 charges. As a result of further investigation, officers linked the suspects to two additional residential break-ins in Maple Creek's detachment area.

How to Deter Break-ins

Break and enters are a crime driven by opportunity – when a place looks unoccupied and unsecured, it becomes an easy target for thieves. Saskatchewan RCMP advise the public to take the following precautions to help continue this downward trend of residential break-ins:

- **Have eyes on your property:** Consider installing a monitored security or alarm system. Install motion-sensor security lights and timer lights that turn on at sundown to illuminate your property and discourage trespassers. Trim trees and other brush in your yard to make for easy property monitoring.
- **Out of sight is best:** Limit the number of valuable items in your home

that someone could see from a window or entryway. Do not leave spare keys in an obvious spot. Keep valuable items in a safe that is hidden.

- **Make sure its locked:** Lock and secure your doors and windows – even if you are home and in your backyard.

- **Ensure it looks occupied:** An empty house is a thieves' playground. Make your home appear inhabited – even if it's not. If you're going away, ask someone you trust to stay at your place or keep an eye on your property. Avoid posting details on social media that imply you are not home.

If you witness suspicious activity, or if you are a victim of property crime, report information to Saskatchewan RCMP by calling 310-RCMP or by using the Saskatchewan RCMP's Online Crime Reporting tool. The public can also report information anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.

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Melville Churches Welcome You

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
238 - 3rd Ave. E.
Office Ph. 306-728-2551
Office Hours: Mondays 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Clergy: Deacon Kevin Prouten
www.stpaulsmelville.ca
Sunday, Aug. 10: 2:00 p.m. Worship at St. Paul's

*9 a.m. Worship at Trinity, Lemb
*11 a.m. Worship at Christ, Neud with Holy Communion

Melville Churches Welcome You

ST. HENRY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
729 Main St. - Office Ph. 306-728-5702
Res. Ph. 306-728-2305
111 - 8th Ave. W.
Father Melchor Samonte

Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Lutheran Church - Canada)
502 - 4th Ave. W. - Church Office Ph. 306-728-5689
Email: zlcpastor@myaccess.ca
www.zionlutheranmelville.com
Sunday, Aug. 10: 11:00 a.m. Divine Service
Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on 940 CJGX Radio, Yorkton

Kipling Churches Welcome You

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

KIPLING UNITED CHURCH
102 Nelson Ave. — 306-736-2237
email: kwpc@sasktel.net
Next Regular Service is Aug. 17

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

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH
Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.
Church Office 306-728-5764; 306-720-0589
*No Services for August

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
5th Ave. E. & King St.
Rev. Brian Mee, 306-335-7611
website: firstunitedmelville.org
Sunday, Aug. 10: No Service

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

CHURCH SERVICES
Aug. 9-10: Grayson 7 p.m.
Killaly 9 a.m.
Lemberg 11 a.m.

ST. ANNE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
418 First St., Kipling
Priest: Father Joseph Villamartin
306-538-2163
Sunday, Aug. 10: Mass 11:00 a.m.

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

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

Whitewood & Area Churches Welcome You

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
258 - 10th Ave. W.
Ph. 306-728-3971
Pastor Ronald Shumba
facebook.com/gslcmelville
Aug. 10: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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

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

ST. GEORGE'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Corner of 3rd Ave. E. & Manitoba St.
Fr. Basil Malowany
basilmalowany@gmail.com
306-540-5102
Saturday, Aug. 9: 7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy
Sunday, Aug. 17: 5:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy

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

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

MELVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
473 - 8th Ave. W.
Office Ph. 306-728-5022
Pastor Jon Pettinger
Associate Pastor: Jesse Darby
Sunday during Summer Months:
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
Online services can be found at:
www.melvillebaptist.com

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Tomy Mandapathil
Sunday, Aug. 10
11:00 a.m. Mass Service

Kipling Interdenominational Summer Services

All Services are at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday, Aug. 10: Service at Calvary Baptist Church

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

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday, July 20: 10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
Sunday, July 27: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with The Rev. Cheryl Johnson
Sunday, Aug. 10: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Rev. Cheryl Johnson

Indian Head Church Welcomes You

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

Growing in Faith Together

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA
Summer Services as follows:
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

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

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

Obituary William Stanley Acton

Nov. 27, 1931 - July 26, 2025

Surrounded by family, William Stanley (Stan) Acton, late of Lemberg, Sask., passed away Saturday, July 26, 2025 at the age of 93 years. Stan was the fourth of five children and was the only son of Robert and Sarah Acton.



Stan is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Marjorie; children: Scott (Tammy) Acton, Brenda (Todd) Campbell and their sons Kelton and Brayden and Andrew (Yvonne) Acton and their children Kelsey and Corin; sister Audrey Lyke; brothers-in-law Bob (Helen) Burrows and David (Virginia) Burrows; and numerous nieces and nephews.

After graduating from the School of Agriculture at the U of S in 1951, Stan returned to the family farm where he farmed until recent years. He married Marjorie Burrows in 1962 and they raised their family on the farm south of Lemberg. In 2004 they moved into Lemberg where they remained until his passing.

Stan was a charter member of the Lemberg Lions Club and volunteered for many years as the treasurer of the Grace United Church.

Stan was predeceased by his parents Robert and Sarah Acton; sisters Vera Brown, Lillian Acton and Shirley Acton; brothers-in-law Lorne Brown, Elmer Lyke and Lyle Flavel; and sister-in-law Beth Flavel.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Cancer Foundation of Saskatchewan, 200 - 4545 Parliament Avenue, Regina, SK S4W 0G3 or Memorial Fund, Grace United Church, Lemberg, SK S0A 2B0.

The funeral service was held in Grace United Church, Lemberg on Friday, Aug. 1, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Sharron Bodnaryk officiating. A reception followed the service in Lemberg Community Hall and the interment took place in the Ellisboro Cemetery, Ellisboro, Sask. at 5:00 p.m. The service was livestreamed and the link and place to leave an online condolence can be found on www.tubmanfh.com



Obituary Anna Kerley

Oct. 14, 1931 - July 29, 2025

Anna Kerley of Broadview, Sask. was born on Oct. 14, 1931 and passed away on Tuesday, July 29, 2025 in Broadview Centennial Lodge, Broadview, Sask. at the age of 93 years.



Anna was preceded in death by her husband Richard; her son Walter; parents John and Mary; sister Bernice and brother Tony. She is survived by her daughter Teri; grandchildren Melissa (Dustin) and Jennilee (Shawn); daughter-in-law Sharon; seven great-grandchildren; and her beloved nieces and nephews of the Weidl and Randall families.

At Anna's request, there will be a private family graveside service at a later date.

Anna loved life, her happy, positive nature will be dearly missed. Share a laugh and raise a glass in celebration of her journey home. We extend a heartfelt thank you to the nurses and staff of the Broadview Centennial Lodge for their kind and compassionate care.

Online condolences may be made at www.tubmanfh.com



Obituary Wayne Horsman

July 18, 1939 - July 18, 2025

Clarke Wayne Horsman was born July 18, 1939. His parents, Cliffe and Grace Horsman farmed in the Squirrel Hills District. During his school years he played ball, hockey and football, took piano lessons and learned to play the saxophone. He joined Boy Scouts and, as an adult, served as District Commissioner for the Wolf Cub District for a time.



In 1965, Wayne married Karen Bennett and later two sons made the family complete. Wayne farmed for several years until an allergy to grain dust required a change in occupation. He began working at the Weyburn Co-op and a year later was transferred to the Maple Creek Co-op. After two and a half years, he went to work at the Maple Creek Credit Union in public relations, and started an insurance, real estate and travel department. In 1980 Wayne purchased Indian Head Agencies and the family returned to Indian Head.

Wayne was a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Shrine Club, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Royal Canadian Legion. He belonged to the United Church of Canada and for some time conducted choirs at congregations in Maple Creek and Indian Head.

His first love, aside from his family, was music. He played in many bands, including the Wa Wa Steel Band of Indian Head which he was instrumental in forming.

Wayne was predeceased by his father, mother and brother Garry.

Left to cherish his memory are his loving family: wife, Karen; sons Darren (Virginia) Horsman of Indian Head; Kent of Wainwright, AB; grandchildren: Lucas and Noah of Regina and Annaja of Jasper, AB; brother Glenn (Dora) Horsman from Indian Head; and his many nieces and a nephew.

A funeral service will take place in late September, please check Tubman Cremation & Funeral Services website for updates.

Donations in Wayne's memory can be made to any Shrine Hospital's Patient Travel Fund. In Regina you can donate at 2065 Hamilton Street, Regina, SK S4P 2E1.

Online condolences may be made at www.tubmanfh.com



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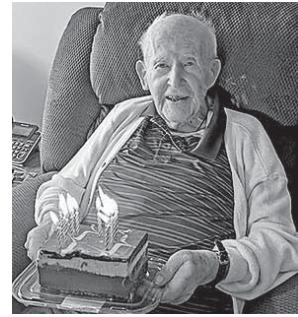
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Obituary Allan Ray Guy

May 18, 1926 - July 12, 2025

Dad was born in the farming community of Senlac, Sask. to Villa Rae Hobbs and John Campbell Guy on May 18, 1926. Dad and his older sister Margaret were raised in Senlac, and he worked on the family farm before attending Saskatchewan Teacher's College at the University of Saskatchewan.



Dad taught in Radisson, SK where he met and married Sylvia Evangeline Harach in 1951. Together they had three children, Marcine Evangeline, Murray John and Maureen Catherine. In 1954, Dad moved his family to La Ronge where he was the school principal for 10 years.

His love of the North and the people who lived there eventually led Dad to a 15 year political career. In 1960 Dad was elected as the Liberal MLA from Athabasca to the Saskatchewan Legislature. He acted as the Opposition Critic for Northern Affairs and Indigenous issues. He served in the Cabinet of Premier Ross Thatcher as Minister of Public Works from 1967 to 1970 and was then appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs and Minister of the Department of Indian and Metis Affairs which was a new department that addressed the issues of poverty facing First Nation Reserves particularly in Northern Saskatchewan.

It was during his time in office that Dad met Marjorie Pearl Hastings and her daughter Beverly Pearl Totten. Dad and Marge were married in 1967.

After leaving politics in 1975, Dad became principal at Prud'Homme Central School and later worked as a property manager for the Remai family in Saskatoon.

Dad loved all sports but curling, golf and football were his favorites. He was a die hard Saskatchewan Rough Riders fan and loved the Green Bay Packers. If you knew our Dad, dogs were his favourite "people". His lifelong love of his dogs started on the farm in Senlac and extended throughout his life including all the family and visiting pets which brought him immense joy in his later years.

Dad lived an amazing life and enjoyed 44 years of retirement travelling around the world with his wife Marge. They spent their winters golfing in Texas and summers were spent at Taylor Beach where they resided with daughter Bev and son-in-law Jim Paskaruk for 25 years. Dad and Marge's final years were spent in Regina at Trinity Manor.

Allan was predeceased by his mother Villa Hobbs (1926); step-mother Louisa Chapman (1936); father John Guy (1964); sister Margaret Guy (1983); first wife Sylvia Guy (2013); daughter Beverly Paskaruk (2023); and beloved wife Marjorie Guy (2024).

He is survived by his children: Marcy (Larry Rice), Murray Guy (Joanne Ogradnick) and Maureen (Rick Tash) and son-in-law Jim Paskaruk; 10 grandchildren - Jonathan Paskaruk, Jason Paskaruk (Amanda), Christopher Rice (Stacey), Carmen Richardson (Paul), Brittany Tash, Dustin Tash (John), Michael Tash (Cathleen), Amanda Muller (Deane), Kayla Bell (Bryce), Taylor Guy (Orishia); 12 great-grandchildren - Adalynn and Grayson Paskaruk, Felix and Oliver Rice, Jackson and Hazel Bell, Holden, Everett and Sloane Guy, and Benjamin, Lucas and Eliana Tash.

Dad's happy place was on the lake at Taylor Beach and it is fitting that we will gather there with our family and a few close friends for his celebration of life and the final kick off.



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Obituary Deadline

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Obituary

Audrey Bess Lidin

June 15, 1928 - July 14, 2025

With a life lived to the fullest and a heart that touched many, Audrey Lidin (nee Beck) passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, at Wentworth Manor in Calgary, AB, on Monday, July 14, 2025, at the age of 97 years.

Audrey was born in Wakaw, SK, on June 15, 1928, where her spark for life began. It was also in Wakaw where she met her first love, Peter Mamchur. The two married in 1947 and began an adventure together that followed the CN Rail line through small-town Saskatchewan. They eventually made their home in Welby, where they welcomed two sons, Gary and Grant, before finally settling in Fort Qu'Appelle, with memorable stops in Edgeley and Lebret.

Audrey was always a hard worker with a big heart. In Fort Qu'Appelle, SK, she balanced family and community with jobs at the Fort Hotel, the Legion, and a long career with the Department of Indigenous Affairs. After Peter's passing in 1982, Audrey embraced her next chapter with grace and grit. Always social, she kept close friendships, loved to curl and golf, and was a proud and active member of the Legion. True to her adventurous spirit, Audrey earned her pilot's license — a testament to her courage, independence, and love of trying something new.

In a beautiful twist of fate, Audrey reconnected with an old classmate, Jerry Lidin, at a class reunion in Wakaw. Sparks flew again, and they married in 1998, building a joyful life in Summerland, BC. Together, Audrey and Jerry danced through retirement — golfing, curling, and enjoying the camaraderie of the Legion and the Red Hat Ladies. Audrey even managed the local fitness club well into her senior years — because slowing down simply wasn't her style.

Audrey cherished the bonds she built throughout her life, including a special connection with Jerry's children, Cheryl Watkins and Gerald Lidin, and their families. She embraced the role of grandmother to their children with warmth and love. Audrey was endlessly proud of her grandchildren — Jocelyn, Ashley, Andrea, and Joel — all of whom she lovingly supported as they carved their own successful paths. Becoming a great-grandmother was one of her greatest joys, and she lit up with every hug and giggle from her great-grandchildren. After Jerry's passing, Audrey moved to Calgary, AB, to be closer to family in her later years.

From Fort Qu'Appelle, SK, to Summerland, BC, and beyond, Audrey made deep, lasting friendships and collected more stories, laughs, and happy memories than most. Her legacy is one of resilience, generosity, and joy. Audrey will be dearly missed, but her spirit — independent, kind, and a little bit feisty — will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Condolences, memories, and photos may be shared and viewed with Audrey's family at www.MHFH.com.

In living memory of Audrey Lidin, a tree will be planted in the Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area by McInnis & Holloway Funeral Homes.



McInnis & Holloway
403-243-8200



Obituary

Ivan Isidore Ottenbreit

April 4, 1948 - July 6, 2025

It is with deep love and sadness that we announce the passing of Ivan Isidore Ottenbreit, who left us peacefully on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at the age of 77.

Born in Melville, Sask., on April 4, 1948, Ivan was the son of Michael and Rose Ottenbreit. He grew up on the family farm west of Grayson and was the second eldest of eight children.

After graduating from St. Henry's School in Melville, Ivan pursued Mechanical Technology at SIAS in Moose Jaw, although he briefly entertained a path in dentistry first. His career began with Saskmont Engineering and SaskPower, where he worked on significant projects like the Shand Power Station in Estevan, for which Ivan was proud to have drafted blueprints. While balancing work and family, he also returned home to farm part-time.

While living in Regina, Ivan met the love of his life, Vicki, after being set up on a blind date arranged by their mutual friends. Together, the two decided to build a beautiful life and raise three beautiful children, Ryan, Danny, and Naomi.

Later, Ivan followed his heart back to farming full-time after his father's glaucoma diagnosis. He decided to move with his family to the Grayson area, where Ivan took over the family farm and built a family cabin at Crooked Lake. It was not long after, Ivan and Vicki decided they wanted to turn their cabin into a home and raise their little family full-time at the lake.

Ivan had a deep appreciation for farming, fishing, hunting, skiing, and politics. He served on the school board, ski



club, and was a councillor for the RM of Grayson for many years. He also was part of the small group of farmers who came together to form what is known as APAS, which gave Saskatchewan producers a voice and say in policy making.

After years of running around with children in skiing and other activities, Ivan and Vicki were able to travel to warmer destinations like Mexico, Cuba, St. Martin, Arizona, and his favourite, Hawaii.

Ivan bravely battled cancer over the past four years, all while continuing to live life to the fullest. He continued to travel with his wife and friends, lent a hand on the farm, spent cherished time with his grandsons, and enjoyed countless days at the lake surrounded by family, friends, and neighbours.

Married for nearly 45 years, Ivan is survived by his beloved wife, Vicki, and their children, Ryan (Jenn), Danny (Dani and Orin), and Naomi (Duke and Oakland). He is also lovingly remembered by his sisters, Veronica (Renee), Geralyn, Karen (Todd), and Michele (Greg); his sister-in-law, Mary, and brother-in-law, Jack. Ivan was predeceased by his parents, Michael and Rose; his brothers, Jim, Dennis, and Rian; and brother-in-law Gary.

The Ottenbreit family would like to express their deepest gratitude to the Allan Blair Cancer Clinic, especially Dr. Hagel, and the kind and compassionate care from Kim Rutzki and Jamie Schlechter as well as the nurses at St. Peter's Hospital in Melville for the exceptional care Ivan received.

Ivan's funeral service was held on Friday, Aug. 1, 2025, at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Grayson, with the Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Kuruvilla, MST officiating, assisted by the Rev. Victoria Mwamasika. The cross bearer was Bev Ottenbreit, the St. Mary's Choir led the hymns and the eulogists were Naomi Ottenbreit and Brian Zytariuk. Michele Happy read scripture and the urn bearers were Ryan Ottenbreit, Danny Ottenbreit, Orin Ottenbreit-Glennie and Oakland Nguyen.

Arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Melville.



Obituary

Scott Paquin

Feb. 22, 1985 - July 19, 2025

Scott Paquin passed away on Saturday, July 19, 2025, at the age of 40 years.

Scott was born on Feb. 22, 1985, to Guy and Wendy Paquin. This will be hard to believe, but he spoke very rarely in his first couple of years!! IMAGINE! Once he started using his words, there was no stopping him, as you all well know. He had an active Whitewood School life through all twelve years — he thought you only go to school for the sports!!!

Scott graduated in 2004 and was accepted into the Katimavik program, where he was assigned to Ontario, New Brunswick and Alberta. He made lifelong friends during this endeavour. After arriving home in 2005, he tried various jobs, one of which was bartending at Poncho's, but Scott knew Dad knew best, and he followed him into the plumbing trade. He used this trade at Holloway's, Cando, and Bear Claw Casino. His final venture was with CORE at Mosaic. Not surprisingly, he made a lasting impression with all his co-workers.

Scott played all his minor sports in Whitewood. As an adult, he played with the Whitewood Falcons, Orioles, Poncho's and Whalers Rec teams. He then became an expert at both ping pong and darts.

Scott will be forever cherished by his parents, Guy and Wendy; sister Carline (Gary); brother Mark (Janet); two favourite nieces, Lea and Gema; Grandma Kay Williams; numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Scott was predeceased by his Grandpa Rene and Grandma Lea Paquin; Grandpa Dale Williams; and two of his best four-legged friends, Starsky and Charlie. We will be forever grateful for the many ways Scottie touched so many lives with his humour, smiles, waves and generosity.

Thank you, Scott, for 40 fabulous years.

A graveside service was held on Friday, August 1, 2025, in the Whitewood Cemetery with Heather McEwen officiating. A celebration of Scott's life followed the interment, at the Whitewood Legion Community Hall.

Arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Whitewood and Melville.



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Obituary

Mary Irene Serfas

May 4, 1932 - July 18, 2025

On Friday morning, July 18, 2025, my mother, Mary Serfas, said goodbye to her old life and welcomed her new life that she was promised on the day of her baptism 93 years ago.

Mary Irene Serfas (Litzenberger) was born to Valentine and Caroline Litzenberger on May 4, 1932. She grew up on the farm in the Melville district, one of the eldest children in a family of seventeen; two of those children died in infancy, but fifteen survived.

Mom grew up in the Depression years when an abundance of anything was not a household word. However, there was always a huge garden and food on the table. Bread was baked three times a week and a large cake on Sundays, mostly for guests. It was in these years that a strong work ethic was instilled in my mother. She lived by the motto, "save for a rainy day".

My mother married my father, Albert Serfas, on Nov. 18, 1953, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Melville, the same church where she was baptized and confirmed. Even though I was an only child, the garden size and the amount of canning and baking was reminiscent of the large family she grew up around. Our home was always open to extended family, friends and neighbours, often stopping for an unexpected visit, and, of course, all were treated to a delicious meal or huge lunch after an evening of visiting and playing cards. She was a hard-working farm wife and worked side by side with my father with whatever needed to be done. She always said that you didn't need to be wealthy to have things clean. Consequently, the house was kept immaculate, the garden and flowerbeds weedless, and the clothes washed and ironed.

When my parents semi-retired and bought a house in Melville in 1995, the garden was a little smaller, but the good cooking and baking continued until Mom didn't have the strength or the desire to do things at the same scale or pace any longer. After Dad died in 2020, she managed to live on her own at Caleb Village (now Cumberland Villas) for a couple years until she became a resident of St. Paul Lutheran Home in December of 2022. There she was well cared for by the dedicated and caring staff until her death. My family and I are very grateful for the compassionate care that she received from her healthcare providers and all the team members.

Mary is survived by her son, Dennis, and his wife, Elaine; her only grandchild, Jessica (Brian) Grosskleg; her two great-grandchildren, Emma and Benjamin; her siblings, Bill, Fred (Maxine), Lydia, Doreen, Allan (Marj), Wilbert, Evelyn, Elroy, Carl (Sharon), Harold (Marilyn) and Linda (Delbert); sisters-in-law Elsie and Emma; along with numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Albert; her parents, Valentine and Caroline Litzenberger; brothers Ed and Ernie Litzenberger and their wives, Audrey and Mary; her sister, Eleanor and husband Chris Weisgerber; her in-laws, John and Caroline Serfas; brothers-in-law Herb Schmidt, Fred and Arlin Maurer, Frank Albus and Alfred Maurer; and sister-in-law Pauline Litzenberger.

Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you because I am humble and gentle, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke fits perfectly, and the burden I give you is light."

Mary's funeral service was held Thursday, July 31, 2025, at 11:00 a.m., at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Melville, with the Rev. Dawn Myrfield officiating. Pianist Elaine Serfas led the singing of the hymns, Jocelyn Hodel performed, and sang, a special song on guitar, Dennis Serfas gave the eulogy, and Jessica Grosskleg gave a tribute from her only grandchild. Interment took place in Melville City Cemetery with Dennis Serfas acting as urn bearer.

Arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Melville.



Services

Indian Head Library

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Obituary

Scott Michael Dales

June 6, 1956 - July 14, 2025

Scott Michael Dales (affectionately known as Scotty or Chink) was born on June 6, 1956, in Melville, Sask., the second son of Robert (Buster) and Doreen (Griffin) Dales. Born three months prematurely (weighing a mere 2 lbs. 13 oz), Scott entered the world with a tenacity that he would carry throughout his lifetime until his peaceful passing at home in Melville with his family and treasured cat Bob by his side on July 14, 2025.



Scott's roots were firmly planted in his hometown of Melville. He completed all schooling in Melville, and his work ethic was evident early on as he began working at Bell's Dairy throughout his high school years. Following graduation, Scott became a delivery man with routes that traversed East-Central Saskatchewan. In 1976, Scott began his long career with Morris Industries. His commitment and skillset propelled him through many different positions at Morris, culminating in his role as the west plant foreman (from which he retired in 2016). After retiring, Scott took a "lateral promotion" as a summer student for Kristie in Manitoba during the busy spring seasons in 2018 - 2020, a title he wore with pride and humour.

Scott and Cheryl were married Sept. 20, 1980; they had a marriage of nearly 45 years, sharing a life built on love, laughter and support. Together they created a warm and caring home, raising their two children, Kylan and Kristie. Later in life, Scotty embraced the role of honorary grandpa and formed lasting bonds with each of Kristie's bonus children, their spouses and kids.

Scott had fun playing fastball with the Melville Marijuana Pickers in the 70s and early 80s. He enjoyed taking part in bonspiels with friends and was also an active member of the Melville trap shooting club. Scott coached his kids' sports and was a Cub Scout leader. Scotty was also an avid outdoorsman and found joy in the forest of Porcupine Plain. He cherished camping, hunting and fishing at McBride Lake, where the family held a seasonal campsite for 35 years. Scott's love of the land extended to his fondness for agriculture. He especially loved the harvest season and enjoyed being part of the operations for many years on the family farm. He valued the time spent helping a close friend with his farm, always eager to lend a hand, never missing a chance to get behind the wheel of a grain truck.

Scott was predeceased by his parents, Robert and Doreen Dales. He is survived by his beloved wife, Cheryl; son Kylan (Eili Tytlandsvik) Dales; daughter Kristie (Todd) Walker; siblings Colin (Sandie) Dales, Kevin (Enid) Dales, Lori (Reg) Rivers, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In all his endeavours, Scott spent countless hours creating lasting memories with family and friends. His support touched the lives of many and will leave a lasting impact on all who had the privilege of knowing him. He had a sharp wit, a quick comeback for everything, and a gift for

making people laugh - whether they wanted to or not. We will remember the way he would lift his glasses to wipe his eyes because he was laughing so hard. Scott leaves behind a legacy of love and a deep appreciation of the outdoors. In lieu of flowers, and in remembrance of Scott, any contributions may be directed to the Melville Fish and Game League.

A graveside service was held for Scott at Pheasant Forks Cemetery, Duff district, on Saturday, July 19, 2025, with the Rev. Brain Mee officiating.

Arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral home, Melville.



Obituary

Janet Loveridge

Aug. 23, 1923 - July 8, 2025

On Aug. 23, 1923, Janet was born to Robert and Chris-sie Dales on the family farm in the district of Colmer, SK. She was the fourth child in a family of eight.

Janet grew up in the Depression years of the 1930s. She had an eventful youth and experienced much of the troubles of those years, including the loss of friends during World War II.

Janet received her education at Colmer School up to Grade 10. She continued on to take a stenographer business course in Saskatoon and then later worked as a steno-bookkeeper for Dr. W.J. White of the Dominion Forage Lab, University of Saskatoon.

Janet married Stewart Wurts in November 1946. Together they raised their family on their mixed grain farm in the Colmer district. Five children were born to this marriage; they were blessed with Robert, Janice, Faith, Joy and Grant.

Janet was always involved in community life. For over 60 years, she was a faithful member of the Duff United Church. She was involved with the 4H Beef Club and spent countless hours on many other activities in the district. Janet also enjoyed many crafts and took in all of the Community College Courses offered, such as pottery, ceramics, art and creative writing. Yes, she loved writing and spent much time sending and receiving cards and letters from across the country. Janet painted many pictures. She stitched with needlepoint and, over the years, designed and quilted many blankets for family and friends. Janet continued to take courses in her art, creative writing and French language studies throughout her retirement years.

Following Stewart's passing in 1973, Janet married W. Hector Loveridge of Duff, SK. They farmed together at Duff until 2000, at which time they retired and moved into Melville. Hector and Janet travelled extensively through the



prairie provinces and from the East to the West Coasts of Canada. They had a very enjoyable time together.

Eventually in 2018, Janet moved into St. Paul Lutheran Home and lived there until her passing.

Janet was predeceased by her parents, Robert and Chrissie Dales; her husbands, Stewart Wurts (1973) and W. Hector Loveridge (2003); her siblings, Celia Matthews (Wes), Doris Kraigsley (Vic), Edwin Dales (Esther), Connie Standish (Miles), Robert Dales (Doreen) and Lewis Dales; brothers-in-law Gordon Matthews, Cecil Wurts (Myrtle), Ivan Wurts (Eleanor) and Alex Wurts; and sisters-in-law Alma Loveridge (Cecil), Mildred Wurts and Gladys Stafford (Roy). She leaves to mourn her passing and cherish her memory: her children, Robert and Carole Wurts, Janice Yanko, Faith Friesen and Bill, Joy and Lloyd Stilborn, and Grant and Melanie Wurts; one sister, Florence Matthews; one sister-in-law, Joan Dales; 14 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild; also many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, including nieces Lynn Hahn (Gordon) and Anne Stafford, along with their families.

Janet's family, nieces, nephews, along with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, were the joy of her life.

Janet's funeral service was held Saturday, July 19, 2025, at Matthews Funeral Home, Melville, with the Rev. Brian Mee officiating. Interment followed in the Duff Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Duff Cemetery Fund.

Arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Melville.



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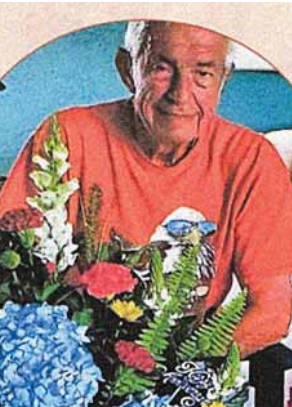
Words cannot say how much we miss you every day.

Memories of you we hold so dear

Wishing so badly you were still here.

Forever loved and missed.

-Love always, Rose, Marie, Dennis, Mason, Landen and Shaelah



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We'll love you forever, honey!

-Francie, Cory, Robin and families

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ful community of neighbors, card players, friends and relatives with which to share his 95 years. Thank you so much for your acts of kindness, especially during his most senior years.

With gratitude, Adele, Jack's family – Jared and Krista, and Jason, Brenda and Jim, Robert and Shauna, Howard and Brenda, and Eric and Tami, and their families.

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Card of Thanks

Our family would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all who attended Calvin's/Dad's Celebration of Life. We are aware that many came from afar, and others changed plans to be with us. It meant a lot. Having Ethel Demyen, of Dawson Creek, Cal's only remaining sister, be here with us, was so special. Much thanks to Geri and Wendi Demyen for that. Thanks to both The Cottage for the family meal, and the Bekevar Ladies for the afternoon lunch.

Whether it be flowers, food to the house, cards, phone calls, on-line condolences, or visits and sharing stories, we appreciate them all.

Utmost gratitude to Marlene Tarr for her heartfelt words at the viewing; Chris Toth for words of comfort and hope at Graveside; and Geri Demyen, MC at the Celebration of Life. We are especially grateful to Heidi and Amy Szakacs for sharing their talents. How Calvin/Dad loved fiddle music!

Thanks also to the staffs at Kipling Hospital, Moosomin Hospital and Kipling Longterm Care. Cal/Dad always looked forward to the weekly visits by the Home Care nurses. We are so appreciative of the care and company you gave.

We are grateful for the help and guidance of Tammy and staff at Tubmans. They made the many decisions easier to work through. Cal/Dad had such a wonder-

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RCMP responding to increase in violent offences

Submitted
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan RCMP officers are responding to an increase in firearms offences and violent crime across the province as the number of affected victims continues to climb, according to annual crime statistics.

Last year in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction, there were approximately 6,700 more victims of reported violent crime than 10 years ago – a 45 per cent increase. In 2024, 21,907 individuals reported they were victims of violent crime, compared to 15,160 victims in 2015, and 21,304 victims in 2023.

“The impacts of violent crime are felt in communities across Saskatchewan long after police investigations end,” says Insp. Ashley St. Germaine, Senior Investigative Officer with the Saskatchewan RCMP’s Major Crimes Branch.

“At the end of the day, we can’t police our way out of this rise in violence – a multi-faceted response is required. Saskatchewan RCMP continues to work with health partners, social services, and

community stakeholders to combat the root causes of dangerous crime in the province and make it a safer place for all those who call it home.”

Violent crime offences include Assault, Harassment or Uttering Threats, Sexual Assault or other sexual offences, Firearms, Robbery, Forcible Confinement, Kidnapping, Attempted Murder and Homicide.

Of the 21,907 victims of violent crime in 2024:

- Assaults (including aggravated assaults, common assaults, assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm) accounted for 62 per cent;
- Harassment/Uttering Threats accounted for 25 per cent;
- Sexual Assaults and other sexual offences accounted for seven per cent;
- Firearms (use of, discharge, pointing) accounted for two per cent;
- Robbery accounted for two per cent;
- Kidnapping / Forcible Confinement accounted for one per cent;
- Other persons offences accounted for one per cent; and
- Homicide and Attempted murder accounted for less

than one per cent.

In 2024, Saskatchewan RCMP’s North District accounted for 51 per cent of the total violent crime, while the Central District accounted for 28 per cent and South District for 21 per cent.

“The reality is this situation requires a complex policing response from the Saskatchewan RCMP,” says Insp. St. Germaine. “Frontline officers work alongside specialized units to address the drivers of violent crime every day. Our police officers are in communities working tirelessly to remove illicit drugs, seize illegal weapons, and arrest offenders.”

There are not only more victims of violent crime reporting to Saskatchewan RCMP, but those victims are also experiencing more severe forms of violence.

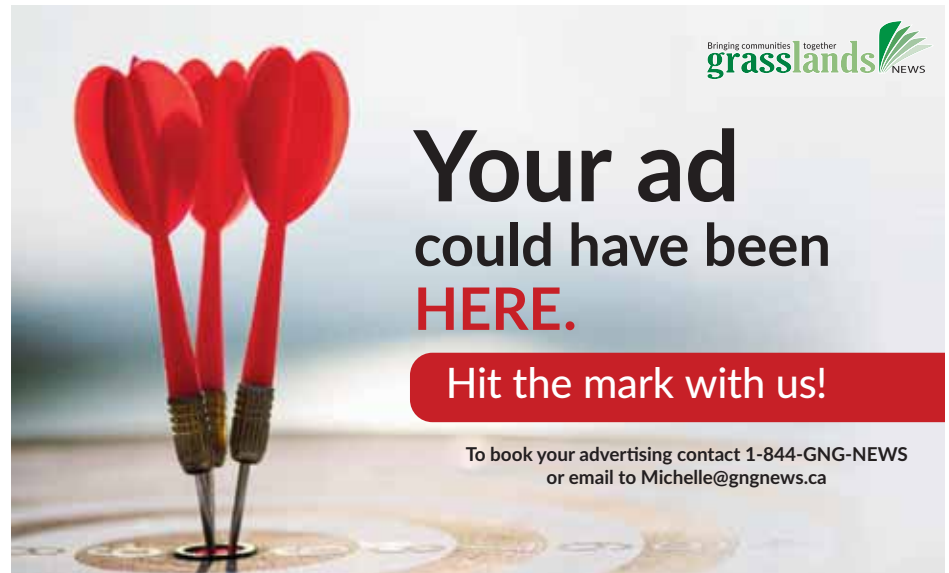
In the last 10 years, vio-

lent firearms offences (use of, discharge, pointing) have more than tripled in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction – increasing 252 per cent from 140 reported incidents in 2015 to 493 in 2024. Furthermore, the Saskatchewan RCMP has some of the highest rates

of violent firearm offences in the country.

In Saskatchewan RCMP’s North District, violent firearm offences have increased 485 per cent in the last 10 years. The district accounted for 73 per cent of the total violent firearms offences in 2024.

Central and South districts have increased 67 per cent and 65 per cent in the last 10 years and account for 18 per cent and 9 per cent of the total violent firearms offences investigated in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction in 2024.



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