

Melville Fire Chief selected as new SVFFA president

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

Melville Fire Chief Aaron Buckingham has been appointed the new president of the Saskatchewan Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, following the organization’s fall AGM at the Swift Current fire school.

The newly elected board confirmed Buckingham’s selection at its first organizational meeting, marking a significant leadership change for the association that represents approximately 4,500 volunteer firefighters across Saskatchewan.

Buckingham, now in his 28th year of service, said the opportunity to lead the SVFFA is both humbling and exciting.

“It’s a huge honour, and there are even bigger shoes to fill,” Buckingham said. “Louis Cherpin has provided dedicated leadership to this board for many years, and I’m grateful for the foundation he leaves behind. As we move forward, our focus remains unchanged—we will continue advancing training for the Saskatchewan fire service and beyond.”

Buckingham joined the Melville Fire Department earlier this year after a long career with the Britannia



JACOB MILLER | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Glow curling fun
The Melville Curling Club held their first annual Glow Curling bonspiel on Nov. 15. The event saw curlers play in the dark while wearing reflective clothing and throw glowing rocks. The Club received assistance with the supplies with funding from the City of Melville. It is one of the Club’s many initiatives to get people out and interested in the sport.

Fire Department, where he began in 1998. He worked his way up through professional certifications, instructor credentials, and leadership roles, taking on the Melville chief position after nearly three decades of service. Known for prioritizing training, safety, and continuous improvement, he has earned a strong reputation within

the fire service community.

The SVFFA Board of Directors thanked both outgoing president Chief Louis Cherpin and incoming president Buckingham, acknowledging Cherpin’s service and expressing full confidence in Buckingham as he steps into the role.

City applies to Green Municipal Fund for sidewalk

Halifax Avenue sidewalk to connect Main Street and Prince Edward Street

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The City of Melville is looking to build a new sidewalk and is targeting federal funding to get it done.

City Council approved the application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund for the Halifax Avenue Sidewalk Connector and School Pathway Initiative. The application was approved during the Nov. 17 Council Meeting.

The initiative proposes to deliver a continuous pedestrian and cycling pathway along the south side of Halifax Avenue from Main Street to Prince Edward Street, linking nearby residential neighbourhoods with local schools, parks, and public facilities; improve safety and accessibility for students, families, and active commuters, and promote active transportation and

reduce greenhouse gas emissions which supports the City’s environmental and climate objectives.

Planning Manager Dawn Ohler told Council that administration was looking for Council’s endorsement of a full application following the pre-application’s success.

Youth Council approved

The pre-application was submitted after the Melville Youth Council supported the pre-application.

“This project reflects Melville’s ongoing commitment to sustainable infrastructure, youth engagement, and safe, active transportation,” said City Manager Joleen Tuchscherer in a letter on behalf of the Melville Youth Council. “The initiative is designed to enhance student safety and promote healthier travel options to and from school through the installation of a new sidewalk on the south side of Halifax Avenue, from Main Street to Prince

Edward Street. This corridor is a vital route for students, and this infrastructure will significantly improve pedestrian safety and accessibility.”

“What makes this initiative especially innovative is the meaningful involvement of the Melville Youth Council, who will not only contribute to the project’s planning but also take leadership roles in its implementation. This intergenerational collaboration reinforces civic engagement and empowers youth to take part in shaping a more sustainable community,” said Tuchscherer.

Ohler added that she liked this program because it involves all the applicants including the Youth Council in the application process.

The full application seeks GMF funding for project design and implementation, with an anticipated grant value up to 80 per cent of the total project

cost, with the City’s contribution consisting of project management, and co-funding up to 50 per cent of the total project

cost.

During the Council meeting Councillor Vince Thiessen said that if possible, he would like the

design of the sidewalk to match the walking trail that already runs down Prince Edward Street.



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Sidewalk plan
The Halifax Avenue Sidewalk Connector and School Pathway Initiative will see a 200 m sidewalk placed along Halifax Avenue to connect the existing sidewalk along Prince Edward Street and Main Street.

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Bill calls for app-based alerts when local ERs close

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan New Democrats are continuing their push for new legislation requiring the province to publicly report hospital emergency room closures within an hour, arguing the change is needed to protect patient safety and rebuild trust in rural health care.

During debate in the legislature on Nov. 13, NDP Rural & Remote Health Critic Jared Clarke introduced Bill 606, The Provincial Health Authority (ER Closure Right-to-Know) Amendment Act, which would obligate the Saskatchewan Health Authority to post real-time

closure notices online or through an app.

Clarke said too many Saskatchewan residents continue to arrive at hospitals only to discover the facility is unexpectedly closed, often with nothing more than a handwritten sign taped to the door.

“We’ve seen far too many instances where folks show up to their local hospital and find a piece of paper on the door telling them that it’s closed,” Clarke told the Assembly. “These situations should not be happening. Saskatchewan people deserve better than that. They should be able to trust their government that health care will be there for them when and

where they need it.

He said hospital service disruptions have risen sharply in recent years and argued the lack of timely information has eroded public confidence, especially in rural communities where residents sometimes bypass their nearest facility because they fear it may be shut down.

Clarke noted the SHA previously published temporary closure information but later changed the policy to list only long-term shutdowns. The practice was also something SHA’s Chief Operating Officer, Derek Miller, confirmed with Grasslands News. However, since the beginning of November, temporary ER closures from multiple facilities across the province have been posted on the SHA’s website, daily at 4 p.m.

“It is a priority of this government to make sure that there are stable services as close to home for everybody across this province,” said Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill in an exchange during Question Period on Nov. 12. “We understand there’s challenges. The Saskatchewan Health Authority has recently started reporting disruptions every day so that people have knowledge of what is available closer to home for them.”

Cockrill has previously pointed to the strides made by the government to address healthcare in the province, and how



RYAN KIEDROWSKI | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Bill proposed
Provincial Rural and Remote Health Critic Jared Clarke initiated the ER Closure Right to Know bill.

initiatives such as the virtual physician program have enhanced care for patients.

“Last week I had the opportunity to update the House that our chronic nursing vacancies across the province are down 56 per cent,” he said. “Thanks to incentives available all across the province in rural and remote communities, when we look at rural and remote nursing vacancies, those vacancies are down 64 per cent. Again, this government is focused on making sure that positions are filled, positions are converted from casual and part-time to full-time positions, and that we have the right incentives in place to attract people

to a great quality of life in rural Saskatchewan.”

NDP MLA Nicole Sarauer, the party’s House Leader, called the proposal “a practical bill” that residents across the province have been asking for. She said enshrining requirements in legislation — rather than leaving them to internal SHA policy — would ensure government accountability.

The SHA’s online service disruption page currently lists temporary or long-term changes to emergency, acute, lab and other services, though it does not provide minute-to-minute updates. Health-care advocates say the page is useful but inconsistent, with some tem-

porary ER closures posted hours after the fact or not at all. Bill 606 would require notification of an ER closure within one hour of the SHA approving the action, and to make that information available to the public via a website or other electronic means.

Clarke said Saskatchewan already has models for real-time public information, citing the Highway Hotline and SaskPower’s outage map. “There’s a lot of templates that could be used,” he said. “People deserve to know in an emergency whether their hospital is open or closed.”

Information on temporary ER closures can be found updated daily at saskhealthauthority.ca.

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Province adds NPs to improve primary care

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan is expanding access to primary care by signing 19 Nurse Practitioners to publicly funded contracts, a move the provincial government says will help thousands of residents find a regular primary care provider and reduce pressure on emergency rooms.

Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill made the announcement Monday, Nov. 17 at NPower+ Health, a Regina clinic operated by three of the newly contracted NPs. The province plans to sign up to 30 contracts in total over the coming months.

“These new Nurse Practitioner contracts put patients first by expanding access to publicly funded primary care services, helping more Saskatchewan families to get the care they need sooner and closer to home,” Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill said. “Our government is committed to improving access to quality care for every patient, no matter where they live.”

The contracts are part of a broader effort to ensure all Saskatchewan residents have access to a primary care provider by 2028. Initially, the province planned to fund six NP contracts following a 2024 commitment to develop a funding model for independent nurse practitioners. But strong interest through a June 2025 expression-of-inter-

est process pushed the government to expand the number to 30.

The Saskatchewan Association of Nurse Practitioners, which partnered closely with the province on the initiative, says the move is a major breakthrough after more than a decade of lobbying for alternative funding models. The 19 contracts announced Nov. 17 equate to almost 20,000 residents being able to find a primary care provider for their long-term health needs.

“It’s significant because working in Grenfell, in the communities around me, there’s a lot of vacant nurse practitioner positions,” SANP President O’Keefe told Grasslands News. “The more NPs that you have working in the rural setting especially, it takes that load off of the people that are working there already.”

For nearby communities that might have an NP living there but no official SHA position, the announcement provides a chance to expand health services.

“This allows them the opportunity to build a clinic in the location where they live, where they’re planning to spend the rest of their lives, and that offers the continuity to the rural residents in that area,” O’Keefe explained. “You often become like the Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman of the community! Increasing the access to rural residents is very important.

And we look forward to expanding this to more locations.”

Unlike private-pay NP services, patients will not be charged for medically necessary care provided by a contracted NP. That brings services in line with the Canada Health Act, O’Keefe noted.

NPs can assess, diagnose and treat acute and chronic conditions, order tests, prescribe medications, perform procedures and refer patients to specialists — many of the same functions traditionally associated with family physicians.

Cockrill said the new model emphasizes patient “attachment” to a regular provider, with clinics operating as team-based practices. He said that stability will help reduce avoidable visits to emergency rooms by ensuring patients have timely access to primary care.

“If I know I can get an appointment next week instead of going to an emergency room for something that should be done in primary care, that strengthens the whole system,” he said.

The NPower+ team — Arnold Esguerra, Tony Tinio and Hanna Latina — said the contracts provide long-term stability for their practice and eliminate the ethical dilemmas of private-pay care.

“It changes the game,” Tinio said. “Before, asking for payment meant we weren’t accessible to everyone. Now we can care for people from all walks

of life.”

Latina, who had considered leaving Saskatchewan before the funding model emerged, said the contract allows her to focus on comprehensive, relationship-based care. “It offers timely access with fewer barriers and leads to better, more holistic outcomes,” she said.

Each NP contract requires a minimum patient roster of 800, with incentives for clinics offering extended hours or taking on more patients. Cockrill said that means the Regina clinic alone will eventually attach around 2,400 patients.

Contracts have been signed in Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Emerald Park, Wilkie and other communities. Cockrill said the model may attract NPs from elsewhere, noting at least one contracted NP has already come from another province.

While the minister continues to face questions about temporary ER closures, he said strengthening primary care is one of several steps needed to stabilize the system.

“At the end of the day, what we’re focused on is getting patients access to primary care,” he told Grasslands News. “What this model really represents is not only access, but attachment.”

Cockrill went on to explain that under the new contracts for NPs, a patient is not only attached to one provider, but the entire team at a particular clinic.



Nurse practitioners
Michelle O’Keefe, president of Saskatchewan Association of Nurse Practitioners and NP based in Grenfell, spoke on the importance of the new contracts.

“I think is a really incredible step forward for nurse practitioners, but more importantly patients, whether they are in an urban setting or in a rural setting,”

More NP contracts are expected in early 2026, alongside upcoming changes to the province’s Saskatchewan International Physician Practice program for internationally trained physicians. Cockrill hinted at changes to SIPPA in an interview with Grasslands News earlier in the year, assuring that an announcement will be coming soon.

“One of them is already in place from an operational perspective, in terms of allowing SIPPA

candidates a choice of communities,” Cockrill said. “Previously, the SIPPA program has been, ‘you shall go to this community’ and I think we should encourage competition within communities, but we should also encourage practitioners - whether they be a nurse practitioner or a physician - to choose a community. If I live in Grenfell, I want to know that my practitioner has chosen to come to my community. That’s going to increase their buy-in. So, we’ve already implemented that change. There’s more coming down the way, which I think will help us improve our retention rate within that program.”

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¹ Annual Report on Government of Canada Advertising Activities 2023-2024, combined with proprietary industry data.
² Totum Research Canada, January 2025. Canadians 18+, n=2418.; Pollara for the Dais. 2025 Survey of Online Harms, Canadians 16+, n=2502.

Liberal budget survives confidence vote by narrowest of margins

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Prime Minister Mark Carney’s minority Liberal government narrowly avoided a winter election Monday after securing enough support — and a handful of well-timed abstentions — to push its federal budget through a confidence vote.

The budget passed 170–168, surviving largely because a single Green MP voted with the government and four MPs — two Conservatives and two independents — abstained. The razor-thin result keeps the Liberals in power and clears the way for the first wave of measures tied to *Budget 2025: Canada Strong*.

Carney had framed the budget as essential to economic stability and national resilience. Defeat would have triggered a snap election at the onset of winter, a scenario most parties appeared eager to avoid.

Conservatives opposed the spending plan almost unanimously, casting 141 votes against it. Only

two members of the party broke ranks by abstaining, though neither voted in favour. Their leader, Pierre Poilievre, said earlier Monday that the budget “spends too much, delivers too little, and burdens Canadians with more risk at a time of uncertainty.”

Hours before the confidence vote, Finance and National Revenue Minister François-Philippe Champagne formally introduced Bill C-15 — the

Budget 2025 Implementation Act, No. 1 — positioning it as a foundational step in the government’s effort to “build one Canadian economy” amid global volatility.

Champagne said the bill, paired with the budget’s broader agenda, aims to catalyze major infrastructure, accelerate clean-energy investment, lower costs for families and protect Canada’s sovereignty in a shifting world.

“The tabling of the Budget Implementation Act is a critical step forward in executing our plan to build a Canada that is confident, secure, and resilient—for today, and for generations to come,” Champagne said in a statement. “The proposed measures are focused on meeting the complexity of this moment: they will build our economy, empower Canadians to get ahead, and protect our country and

sovereignty.”

Bill C-15 contains some of the government’s most ambitious economic proposals.

Central among them is the Build Canada Homes program, a plan to double the pace of affordable home construction over the next decade. The Liberals have billed housing affordability as a defining challenge of the decade and a key component of their survival in Parliament.

The legislation also rolls out the long-promised Clean Electricity investment tax credit, designed to speed development of a larger, greener grid. A suite of clean-economy incentives would be expanded, targeting technologies, manufacturing and carbon capture.

Businesses would receive what the government calls a “Productivity Super-Deduction,” allowing companies to write off a larger share of new capital investments immediately. Ottawa argues the measure will spur competitiveness and counter Canada’s lagging productivity growth, a

consistent concern among economists.

For households, C-15 aims to reshape several portions of the tax system.

It would exempt the new Canada Disability Benefit from income calculations and expand the Disability Supports Deduction — changes advocates say are essential for financial stability for people with disabilities.

A temporary Personal Support Workers tax credit of up to \$1,100 per year would also be introduced.

The bill follows through on a promised increase to the Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption, raising it to \$1.25 million. The government would also eliminate the Underused Housing Tax, arguing its removal reduces administrative burdens without compromising housing policy objectives.

With the budget now past its first political hurdle, the minority Liberals must still shepherd C-15 through committee and further votes — an ongoing test of whether Monday’s fragile coalition of support can hold.

Sask. NDP presses government for action on illegal farmland ownership

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan NDP is calling out the provincial government for what it describes as a lack of meaningful action on illegal foreign farmland ownership, renewing debate over how well the province enforces its farmland ownership laws.

Deputy Agriculture Shadow Minister Trent Wotherspoon criticized Agriculture Minister Darryl Harrison for not responding to a letter sent last week demanding a detailed plan to strengthen oversight of farmland transactions. Wotherspoon accused the Sask. Party government of ignoring concerns raised by producers, rural municipalities, and the Provincial Auditor.

“The Minister would rather write nonsense-filled letters to shut down serious concerns,” Wotherspoon said Monday. “We will keep fighting for producers and a bright future for agriculture in Saskatchewan.”

In its platform, the NDP has pledged to increase resources for the Farm Land Security Board, raise penalties for violations, and improve the collection of ownership information from corporations

and foreign buyers. The party says these measures would ensure transparency and prevent foreign entities from owning farmland illegally.

The call follows findings from Provincial Auditor Tara Clemett, who reported earlier this year that the Farm Land Security Board reviews about 40,000 transactions annually with only six staff. Her audit found that reviews often occurred months after sales closed and that, in half the cases reviewed, the board did not request the required ownership declarations from out-of-province corporations.

The government, meanwhile, has maintained that Saskatchewan’s farmland ownership laws remain among the strongest in Canada and that the Farm Land Security Board continues to review transactions to ensure compliance. The Ministry of Agriculture has previously said it is reviewing the Auditor’s recommendations and will respond accordingly.

The issue of foreign ownership of farmland has long been politically charged in Saskatchewan, where roughly 95 per cent of agricultural land is privately owned and deeply tied to the province’s rural identity and economy.

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RCMP probe three fatal weekend crashes; Piapot woman charged

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan RCMP are investigating three separate fatal collisions reported over the weekend, including highway crashes near File Hills First Nation and on Piapot First Nation, as well as a pedestrian struck in Yorkton.

Fort Qu'Appelle RCMP say officers were called to a two-vehicle collision on Highway 10 around 6 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 16 near the File Hills First Nation junction, about 13 km east of Balcarres. Police report that a semi and an SUV collided on the highway.

The driver and lone occupant of the SUV — a 62-year-old woman from Peepeekisis Cree Nation — was taken to hospital by EMS, where she was later pronounced dead. Her family has been notified. The driver of the semi did not report any physical injuries to police. Local fire crews and EMS attended the scene alongside RCMP. A Saskatchewan RCMP collision reconstructionist has been brought in to assist with the investigation, which remains ongoing. No charges have been announced.

Meanwhile, Yorkton RCMP are investigating

a separate fatal incident that occurred late afternoon Saturday, Nov. 15. Police say they were called around 5:40 p.m. to Mayhew Avenue in Yorkton for a report of a vehicle collision involving a pedestrian. Officers responded and the pedestrian — an 86-year-old man from Yorkton — was taken to hospital by EMS, where he was later pronounced dead. His family has also been notified.

RCMP say the driver of the vehicle involved remained at the scene and is co-operating with investigators. A collision reconstructionist is assisting in that investigation as well. No charges have been announced in that case.

In a third, unrelated incident, Southey RCMP are investigating a fatal single-vehicle crash on Piapot First Nation that left one man dead and sent three others to hospital. Officers were called to the collision at about 9:15 p.m. on Nov. 14. The crash occurred east of Highway 6 on the First Nation.

Police, along with firefighters and paramedics, arrived to find four people inside the vehicle. A 59-year-old man from Regina was pronounced dead at the scene by EMS. His name has not been released, and RCMP say his family has been notified. Two other passengers, both men, were taken to hospital with serious but non-life-threatening injuries. The driver, an adult woman, was also sent to hospital for assessment.

Investigators say the driver, 45-year-old Melissa Watetch of Piapot First Nation, was arrested at the scene and later released pending a court appearance. She has been charged with four Criminal Code offences: impaired operation of a conveyance causing bodily harm, operation of a conveyance with a blood-alcohol level over 80 milligrams causing bodily harm, impaired operation of a conveyance causing death, and operation of a conveyance with a blood-alcohol level over 80 milligrams causing death.

Southey RCMP say the investigation remains active, with a Saskatchewan RCMP collision reconstructionist assisting as officers work to determine the circumstances leading up to the crash. Police have not released further details about what may have caused the vehicle to leave the road, nor have they provided updates on the conditions of the survivors. Watetch is scheduled to appear in Regina provincial court on Jan. 5, 2026.

Tailgating coming next season at Rider games

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Fresh off their Grey Cup championship and looking to elevate the game-day experience in 2026, the Saskatchewan Roughriders are set to benefit from new legislation that will finally bring sanctioned tailgating to Mosaic Stadium.

The provincial government has introduced The Tailgating Act, tabled Oct. 30 by Minister Responsible for SLGA Alana Ross, creating a formal regulatory framework to allow fans to gather, cook, and celebrate before Rider home games.

“Allowing tailgating will build on the sense of community that Rider fans are known for across the nation,” Ross said. “Our shared goal is to set the standard for how tailgating can be done safely and responsibly in Saskatchewan.”

Amendments to The Alcohol Control Regulations, 2016 will accompany the Act, detailing safety requirements, permitting, and SLGA oversight. Once the legislation receives Royal Assent during the spring sitting, the rules will be ready in time for the 2026 CFL season.

Riders President and CEO Craig Reynolds said the move will add even more excitement to Mosaic Stadium.

“Our fans make Mosaic Stadium one of the most electric environments in Canadian sports. Introducing tailgating is another way to celebrate that passion,” he said.

Tailgating would occur in a designated parking zone beside the stadium, with controlled vehicle access, staff supervision, and clear conduct rules.

For now, the plan will apply only to Roughriders' home games, with possible expansion after the 2026 season.

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Turn your ideas into impact - help guide Melville's future!
We're calling on passionate, full-time Melville residents who are Canadian citizens and 18 years or older to apply for positions on our City Boards and Committees.
Appointments are effective January 1, 2026. **Deadline for applications is Monday, January 5th, 2026 at 4 p.m.**
If you are interested, please submit your name, address and telephone number, 2 references and short paragraph as to why you would like to serve on a particular Board or Commission in writing to:
Chelsie Mountney
430 Main Street or Box 1240 , Melville, SK S0A 2P0
cmountney@melville.ca
For further information on the boards and committees' terms of reference, meeting dates, or workload, contact the office at 728-6849.

Name of Committee	Description	Term	# of Vacancies
Police Commission Board	Established by Bylaw No. 8/91. Appointments are made annually. The Board consists of the Mayor, two members of Council and two residents. The purpose of the Board is to deal with policing matters in the City and to deal with items referred to the Board by Council. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month.	1 Year	2
Melville Public Library	Established pursuant to the <i>Public Libraries Act</i> . Appointments are on staggered two (2) year terms. The purpose of the Board is to act as a liaison between the City and the Regional Library Board and set standards for the local library service in accordance with the Public Libraries Act. Meetings are at the call of the Chairperson.	2 Years	6
Regional Park Authority	Established by Bylaw No. 2/97. Appointments of 10 members, on staggered two (2) year terms to December 31st of each year. There are five (5) vacancies for two (2) year terms expiring December 31, 2026 and one (1) vacancy for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2025. The Regional Park Authority administers, operates and controls the use of the Regional Park according to the Regional Park Act. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month.	2 Years	4
Recreation, Culture & Tourism Advisory Committee	Established by Bylaw No. 02/2021. There are twelve (12) voting members on this board representing the interests of culture, heritage, parks, seniors, sports, tourism, youth, the rural area, the school boards and two members at large. The purpose of this committee is to facilitate and enable the development of leisure activities and opportunities for the residents of Melville. Meetings are held a minimum of four (4) times per year.	2 Years 1 Year	5 1 – Parks 1 – Sports 1 – Tourism 1 – Members at Large 1 – Seniors 5 1 – Heritage 1 – Member at Large 1 - Rural 1 - Sports 1 - Youth

NOTE: All volunteers who are appointed to a Board or Commission may be required to provide a clear criminal record check. (There are no fees associated with a criminal record check for volunteers).

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PINION

Budget passed — now Ottawa needs to get to work

Canada narrowly avoided an unwanted federal election this week when the government's budget scraped through Parliament by the thinnest of margins. While the Liberals may be breathing a sigh of relief, no one in Ottawa should mistake this outcome for a vote of confidence. Instead, it was a clear signal that Canadians are exhausted — not just by the rising cost of living and strained public services, but by the constant brinkmanship that has replaced real governance in recent years.

With the budget now passed and an election no longer looming over the next few months, all parties have an opportunity — and a responsibility — to change course. The country cannot afford another season of political theatre, where parties spend more time crafting attack lines than addressing national challenges. Whether they sit on the government benches or the opposition side, MPs need to treat this close call as a wake-up call.

Canadians are facing pressures unlike anything the country has seen in decades. Housing affordability has reached crisis levels, grocery bills remain stubbornly high, health-care systems are strained by staffing shortages, and communities — especially rural and northern ones — continue to struggle with aging infrastructure. These are not problems that can be solved with slogans or partisan point-scoring. They require cooperation, ambition, and a commitment to governing like adults.

In recent years, Parliament has often fallen into a pattern of reactive politics: opposition parties eager to trigger an election and the government more focused on survival than progress. The razor-thin budget vote exposed the fragility of this approach. It should remind every MP that the country expects better than constant political brinksmanship.

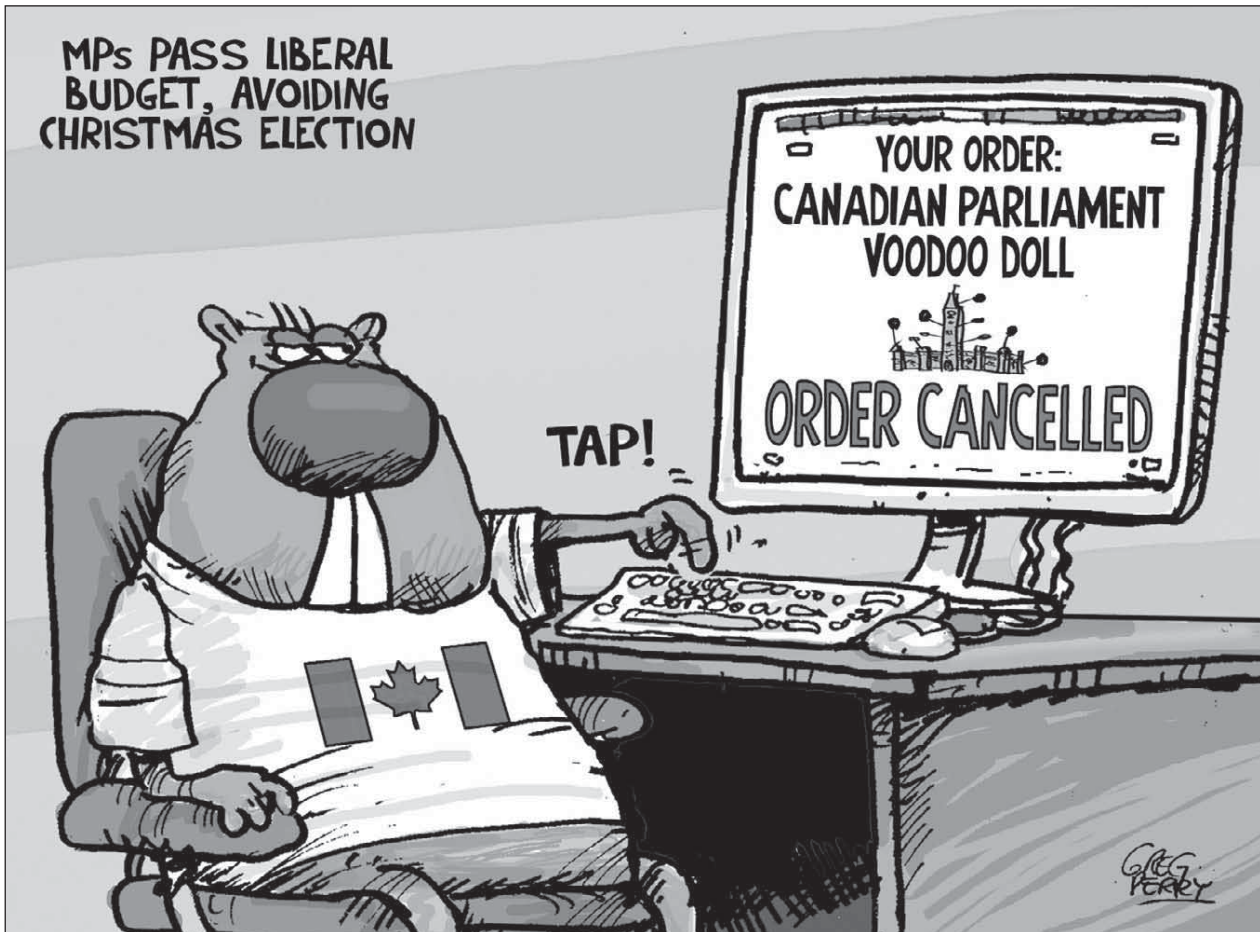
Now that the immediate threat of an election has passed, Parliament must shift its attention to delivering results. That means ensuring housing projects move from announcement to construction. It means addressing health-care bottlenecks by supporting provinces and expanding training and recruitment. It means building the kind of economic environment where small businesses can thrive and families can feel confident about their future.

None of this will happen if parties treat compromise as surrender. Minority governments only work when Parliament recognizes that shared responsibility is not optional — it is the foundation of getting anything done. Some of the most productive periods in Canadian legislative history came under minority Parliaments, where leaders understood that the country comes before the party.

The months ahead offer a chance to revive that spirit. The government must be willing to accept good ideas wherever they come from. The opposition must offer more than criticism; it must present solutions. And all parties must find the discipline to focus on policy instead of perpetual campaign mode.

The budget's narrow passage has bought Ottawa time — nothing more. Canadians don't want another election. They want their leaders to fix what's broken, strengthen what works, and rebuild trust in a political system that feels increasingly disconnected from the people it serves.

The crisis was averted. Now the work must begin.
- Chris Ashfield, Grasslands News



Stuff happens — but do we need so much of it?

Stuff. It seems to dominate our lives. Wanting stuff, getting stuff, wanting more stuff, finding a place for the stuff you have, maintaining all this stuff, and maybe — just maybe — getting rid of stuff.

Is this cycle of want/attain/dispose the preferred trend of consumerism? Is this how we as a society bloat the overall economy, by being good consumers?

I was reading a notice on how the personal effects of Gordie Howe are going up for auction via a company out of Toronto. At first, I felt a little sad — all that nostalgia treated like mere 'things'. Collectors are no doubt ecstatic to own a piece of Mr. Hockey, but what about the keepsakes for Howe's family? Then I realized, it is all just stuff after all. Ole Gordie Howe himself would more than likely approve getting rid of it — after all, he hasn't complained about the auction yet!

As someone who has dragged around stuff through various moves over a few decades, keeping track of all these 'precious' items can take a toll. The physical act of packing, lifting, and unpacking causes the body to ache. All that packaged stuff is heavy, often necessitating a truck or van to transport. What happens if the place you move to isn't large enough to accommodate all your valued collections and memorabilia? Well, there's a whole industry built on storage. A place outside of your place to keep your stuff safe

and secure, all for a monthly fee. Then you can go and visit your stuff whenever it suits you.

But what happens when you interrupt that cycle? Is there not a whole other industry built on decluttering? Heck, Japanese organization consultant Marie Kondo made her last name a noun synonymous with decluttering. Even the fact that a job title related to purging stuff exists ought to give us a clue about the issue of having too much stuff. Personally, I became tired of hauling junk back and forth, to and fro, all in an attempt to hang onto... what? Pieces of the past? An heirloom? Nobody's going to want my junk after I die, what's the use in keeping it now?

Full confession, I still have more stuff than I want; my motto continues to be 'it's not hoarding if your stuff is cool.' Especially when it comes to tools, because as everyone knows, once you give a tool away, that is precisely the moment when you're going to need it.

However, I have gained some level of successfully purging the vast majority of the items akin to Jacob Marley's chains. And the act of letting go is incredibly freeing, not to mention seeing the joy in someone's eyes when they receive a thing you no longer need, but they could find useful. The panic of 'not having enough' is actually replaced with 'not having to maintain more.' Minimalism is not only trendy, but

I would argue environmentally friendly as the cycle of cheap, fast goods is broken. I've always been a big proponent of buying second hand goods (as anyone can tell by my fashion sense), but why not give the items a second life, or repair a broken item in order to extend its use?

Maybe I'm out to lunch on this whole concept, perhaps I'm not being a 'good consumer.' Meanwhile, I've got some stuff to post online for sale.

- Ryan Kiedrowski, Grasslands News

Your opinions are welcome!

Grasslands News encourages and accepts opinion pieces from our readers in the form of Letters to the Editor. Topics can be about local, provincial or federal topics that relate to or have an affect our local communities.

To submit a letter, email it to: editor@gngnews.ca.

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PVSD board re-elects chair and vice chair

Prairie Valley School Division
Grasslands News

Janet Kotylak has been re-elected Chair of the Prairie Valley School Division Board of Education and Terry Berglund has been re-elected as Vice Chair. Both were re-elected at the annual Organizational Board meeting on Nov. 12.

“I am grateful for the continued opportunity to serve Prairie Valley School Division as Board Chair and I would like to thank my fellow board members for their support,” Kotylak said. “Prairie Valley is making significant strides in improving learning opportunities for all students and we are excited to continue this work alongside our dedicated employees, parents and guardians, and School Community Councils.”

Kotylak, who farms near Montmartre, was first elected to the Prairie Valley Board of Education in 2005 and has served as Board Chair since 2012. She has also served on numerous provincial boards

focusing on a wide range of education issues. Kotylak strongly believes in the importance of the board’s role to ensure Prairie Valley communities have a voice in decisions about public education.

Terry Berglund was first elected to the Prairie Valley Board of Education in 2014 and has served as Vice Chair since 2023. Before her election to the Prairie Valley board, Berglund worked as a speech language pathologist and student services professional in southeast Saskatchewan for 34 years.

“I am honoured to serve as Vice Chair for the Prairie Valley Board of Education,” Berglund said. “I’m proud of the work we’ve accomplished together and remain deeply committed to supporting our students, staff, and communities. I look forward to continuing to advocate for meaningful learning experiences that help every student reach their full potential.”

Kotylak and Berglund’s terms are scheduled to run until November 2026.



Re-elected
SUBMITTED PVSD | GRASSLANDS NEWS
Chair Janet Kotylak (left) and Vice Chair Terry Berglund were re-elected for the board leadership roles on Nov. 12.

Conexus CU members receive free admission to Agribition

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

Conexus Credit Union members will enjoy free admission to Canadian Western Agribition simply by showing their Conexus debit Mastercard® or Conexus MEMBER CARD® at the gates. The offer provides significant savings for frequent visitors—up to \$150 for those attending each day of the six-day event.

To qualify for free entry, attendees must present either their Conexus debit Mastercard® or their Conexus MEMBER CARD®. Conexus notes that its credit cards are not eligible for the promotion. Each card grants one free admission per day and cannot be shared between individuals.

Conexus Credit Union will also maintain a strong presence on the grounds throughout the week. Representatives will be stationed at Booth

139 in the International Trade Centre, where visitors can stop in, say hello, and enter a draw to win a cooler packed with local products. Conexus will also operate the Conexus Watering Hole in the John Deere Sale Arena, offering beverages and the opportunity to connect with the organization’s Agricultural Advisors.

As a proud sponsor of Canadian Western Agribition, Conexus encourages members to take advantage of the complimentary admission and experience all the event has to offer. CWA remains Canada’s largest livestock show, combining agriculture, Indigenous culture, education, a broad range of vendors, and the high-energy Maple Leaf Finals Rodeo.

This year’s Agribition promises six full days of activity, entertainment, and community—made even more accessible for Conexus members.



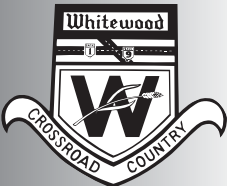
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Town of Whitewood

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

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

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Town of Whitewood Council meets at the town office.
Upcoming Council Meeting Date: Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. Meetings are held via Zoom.

Council Meeting Update - Zoom Attendance Protocol

Due to disruptions during our last council meeting, we are implementing new procedures to ensure a respectful and productive environment for all participants.

- If you wish to attend a council meeting via Zoom:
- You must email cao@townofwhitewood.ca by noon on the day of the meeting to request the Zoom link.
- You must log in with your full name clearly visible prior to the meeting start time.
- Only named participants will be admitted from the waiting room.

We appreciate your cooperation -Town of Whitewood Council

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you have an event you want advertised please email the town office with your dates.

- Every Second Friday – 5 to 9 p.m. – Legion Chase the Ace
- Nov. 23 Christmas Banquet – \$20/ticket contact Gary 306-408-6100 or Linda 306-735-7146
- Nov. 30- 12 to 4 p.m. – Whitewood Legion’s Christmas Craft Market – Soup & Sandwich starting at 12 p.m. Contact Liz 306-853-7615
- Whitewood Food Bank is looking for donations – Drop off nonperishable items at Whitewood Thrift Store or Borderland Co-op

Arena Happenings

- Public Skating & Stick n Puck has been added to the arena schedule, please check online or call 306-735-4415
- Arena is open to the public for indoor walking and skating – Monday to Thursday - 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Nov. 21-22 – U13 Elks Home Tournament
- Nov. 26 at 7 p.m. – U11 Elks vs Esterhazy
- Nov. 29 at 2:30 p.m. – U13 Elks vs Balcarras
- Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. – U11 Elks vs Rocanville
- Curling: Social Tuesday & Thursday afternoons at 1 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday evenings at 7 p.m.

THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to Borderland Co-op. There aren't enough words to express our gratitude for your generous donation of rink boards for our upcoming outdoor rink in the Recreation Park. Thanks to your support, this exciting project will be completed and ready for the community to enjoy next season!

2025 PROPERTY TAX NOTICE

Taxes are due December 31, 2025.
Take advantage of early payment discounts:
Payment Options:

- Online banking (please allow up to 4 business days for processing)
- E-transfer to: cao@townofwhitewood.ca
- Debit and Cash payments accepted at the Town Office

Thank you for your prompt payment.

TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Whitewood Town Council and staff strive to improve the quality of life for the people who live and work in our community. We welcome your comments, questions and feedback. The Town office is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

Phone: 306-735-2210 - Fax: 306-735-2262
Email: general@townofwhitewood.ca

SANTA DAY

Have your picture taken with Santa. Santa will arrive at 5:30.
Free skating from 3:00 - 6:00
Write letters to Santa.
Enjoy Christmas music with Ainsley and students from 5:00 to 5:45 PM.
Take part in sleigh rides from 4:00 - 7:00
Make Christmas crafts.
Enjoy free hot dogs.
Whitewood Arena
Wednesday, December 3, 3:00 - 7:00
Make sure to visit Late Night Shopping which is open until 8:00 p.m.





CHRISTMAS COLOURING CONTEST

PICK UP COLOURING PAGES AT DAIRY QUEEN, THE TOWN OFFICE OR THE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

PRIZES DONATED BY DAIRY QUEEN.

CONTEST ENDS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12.



GARBAGE / RECYCLING

Residents are reminded that Garbage or Recycling Carts must be out by 7 a.m. on collection days.
Upcoming **Recycling** Date: Wednesday, Nov. 26 and Dec. 10.
Upcoming **Garbage** Date: Wednesday, Dec. 3 and Dec. 17.

Alto raises \$900,000 to expand digital home care platform

By **Ryan Kiedrowski**
Grasslands News

A Saskatchewan startup working to simplify how families find and manage home care has secured a major boost from investors. Alto Technologies Inc., a Saskatoon-based digital platform connecting caregivers with people in need of in-home support, announced recently that it has raised \$900,000 in pre-seed funding led by Conexus Venture Capital.

The round, which also included participation from Inverted Ventures, Local Investing YYC and the NW Angel Fund, will help Alto enhance its product, expand across Western Canada and integrate more deeply with public health funding programs.

“I think that’s the magic of venture capital investing - taking people with really big ideas on the world and providing capital in a way that is unique,” said Alex Shimla, principal at CVC. “The experience with at-home care can be confusing for people. When you have a founder working on a problem that is complex and involves people, it’s incredibly rewarding to see those stories happen.”

For Alto founder and CEO Hadi Taherian, the funding marks a milestone in a journey that began years ago with a personal struggle. The idea for Alto came when his family was trying to arrange care for his grandmother. Recognizing the need to navigate a confusing system, he created Alto as a one-stop solution.

“It was difficult to understand a couple of things,” Taherian said. “Number one, why was it so hard to set things up - not specifically for my grandma, but for our family members. There was so much paperwork, running around, and doing interviews.”

Money was another factor as Tahe-

rian said he discovered caregivers were often paid less than half of what agencies charged clients, with little control over their work hours or pay rates. His vision was to build a platform that eliminated those inefficiencies and empowered both sides.

Launched in 2022, Alto allows users to search for and hire vetted caregivers, schedule visits, process payments and manage government reimbursements through one online platform. Families can often arrange care in less than 48 hours. Caregivers set their own rates, handle scheduling digitally and are paid weekly through Alto’s automated payroll system.

Since its beta launch, the company says more than 4,000 caregivers and care seekers have joined, helping to lower average home care costs by roughly 40 per cent compared with traditional agencies.

Alto’s rise has deep roots in Saskatchewan’s growing tech ecosystem. Taherian first developed the idea at Co.Labs, a Saskatoon tech incubator where he met Shimla.

Shimla said he was impressed early on by Taherian’s drive and the problem he was tackling.

“Alto is solving a real pain point for families, caregivers and case managers in healthcare,” he said. “Hadi is one of Saskatchewan’s most ambitious founders and we’re proud to support him as Alto continues to expand its reach nationally.”

Shimla, who co-founded Co.Labs before joining CVC, said he had followed Taherian’s progress for years before the investment.

“When I came into the principal role at Conexus, we started looking at deals that really made sense as we were working towards closing the fund,” he said. “Hadi and Alto are at this wonderful intersection when we look at Conexus

Venture Capital’s mission to back Saskatchewan’s most ambitious founders; a founder trying to help solve a problem in the healthcare space with homecare just seems like a natural fit. And getting to see Hadi’s character and work ethic in that kind of context before gave us a lot of confidence to move forward.”

Conexus Venture Capital led the \$900,000 round through its CVC Fund #2, with Shimla joining Alto’s board of directors as part of the deal.

“It’s about being active, rolling up the sleeves, working with Hadi on trying to open some of those doors and make sure that people understand what the product is, but just continuing to support that geographic expansion and taking this from a solution built in Saskatchewan, working in Saskatchewan. Now it’s about expanding that and making sure that we can make this impact as big as possible.”

Alto’s model benefits the broader system by easing hospital overcrowding and extending the reach of government funding programs.

Taherian explained the new funding will go toward hiring key staff, product upgrades and partnerships with provincial programs. But he’s equally focused on maintaining the platform’s human touch.

“Home care shouldn’t require hours of phone calls and paperwork to administer,” he said. “Our platform brings transparency and simplicity to a system that has long been difficult to navigate. We are working to ensure families get the support they need and that caregivers are treated fairly.”

As Alto eyes growth beyond Saskatchewan and Alberta, Taherian said the company remains rooted in the values that shaped it — accessibility, fairness and community.

“I think every person deserves to feel

safe and supported in their own home,” he said. “If we can help make that process easier and fairer for everyone involved, that’s success for us. I always remind our team that good care doesn’t happen because of technology — it happens because of caregivers, we’re just the tool that helps them do what they do best.”

After speaking with more than 150 caregivers, Taherian found nearly all wanted greater independence and fairer pay but lacked tools to manage their own clients.

“We asked them, ‘if there was an opportunity for you to technically own your own business where you set up your own hourly rate based on the guideline that we provide, you set your own schedule, you pick and choose your own client, how would you feel about that?’” Taherian said. “Ninety-eight per cent right away said, ‘I would do it like in a heartbeat, I just don’t know how to do it’.”

Today, Alto operates primarily in Saskatchewan and Alberta, with coverage in Saskatoon, Regina, Calgary and Edmonton, as well as smaller centres like Moose Jaw, Sherwood Park and North Battleford. Taherian said the company plans to expand into Manitoba.

“The beauty of our platform is there are no restrictions on where we can launch,” he said. “It can work in any community, no matter how small.”

A key part of Alto’s success, Taherian said, is its focus on local caregiving — connecting clients with nearby caregivers to build stronger community relationships.

“That’s been a very successful key for us, where you pretty much know these individuals a few blocks away from you, and then they come in and provide care to you,” he said. “You build that community relationship.”

Travel, and home upgrades top saving priorities says survey

By **Ryan Kiedrowski**
Grasslands News

Travel tops the list of what Saskatchewanians are saving for this fall, even as many households grapple with rising living costs, according to a new survey commissioned by Conexus Credit Union.

The survey, conducted by Insightrix Research between July 22 and 25, asked 805 adults across the province to identify their top five savings priorities heading into the fall. Thirty-four per cent of respondents listed travel or vacations among their top choices, with 18 per cent naming it as their Number One priority. Those planning for winter escapes cited everything from tropical destinations to European holidays and local get-aways.

Adam Thorne, Conexus’ VP of Member Experience, said the trend didn’t come as a surprise.

“I’d expect when we do this again that we’ll see a similar proportion saving for travel and vacations, just because of our climate and people wanting to get somewhere warm for the winter,” Thorne told Grasslands News. “But when you dig through the results, there were still a number of people saving for a rainy day or an emergency fund.”

The survey also found that nearly one-third of respondents — 29 per cent — said they weren’t saving or planning for any major purchases this fall. That figure rose to 39 per cent among people aged 55 and older and 34 per cent among households earning under \$90,000.

Thorne said that doesn’t necessarily mean Saskatchewan residents have abandoned long-term planning, but the way the survey question was framed may have led people to think more about immediate purchases.

“I think it would be wrong to say financial security isn’t a concern,” he said. “I feel like in the market, there’s a lot of concern about the rising costs of goods and services - basically anything to run a household. Saving, budgeting, planning for that rainy day remains important, but it might have just been the nature of the question that led it to be pushed out of the top responses.”

Home improvements and renovations were another major theme. Twenty-four per cent of respondents in-

cluded upgrades in their top five savings priorities, a figure that climbed to 29 per cent among those aged 35 to 54 and 26 per cent among people 55 and older. Only 13 per cent of younger adults — those aged 18 to 34 — listed renovations as a key focus.

Other categories included debt and bills (15 per cent), events and gifts (nine per cent), spending for children and education (nine per cent) and saving for a home purchase (six per cent). Younger adults were the group most likely to name saving for a first home, at 13 per cent.

The open-ended responses revealed a wide range of personal priorities. Beyond vacations and renovations, some respondents were saving for hockey jerseys, comic books, Lego sets, Pokémon cards, a 3D scanner and other very individual goals. Thorne said those answers speak to the variety of needs Conexus sees among its members.

“People have very different hopes and dreams,” he said. “That’s really what the results told us.”

The credit union commissioned the survey as part of its fall campaign planning, which Thorne said is rooted in understanding consumer motivation.

“For the fall campaign specifically, we really wanted to dive into what is it that people are saving for; what are those things that our advisors can talk to them about both their short term and longer term goals and then find a saving solution that’s right for them,” he

explained.

The survey also comes as Conexus promotes a fall savings offer. Until Nov. 27, customers who set up a pre-authorized contribution of at least \$50 a month into a new eligible account for 12 months can earn up to \$250 in cash back.

While \$50 may not seem like a large amount, Thorne said consistency is what matters.

“A pre-authorized deposit really adds up over time,” he said. “Be consistent, start early, and it becomes easier to reach those savings goals.”

He said general guidance suggests setting aside about 10 per cent of one’s income, though that varies by age, stage of life and existing investments.

“There’s a sweet spot for everyone,” he said. “Talk to an expert about your situation so you can figure out what’s appropriate for you.”

As for the survey, Thorne also enjoyed the opportunity to work with Insightrix Research – the province’s leading market research firm.

“They’re a great partner,” Thorne said, adding that he has personally worked with Insightrix for over a decade. “They’ve got the best panel that I’ve come across of research firms available here locally. Insightrix has always been great to work with, very much an expert in the field. They’re always a great sounding board, provide great advice to us and making sure that we get what we need.”

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SCAN ME

Correction

A story in the Nov. 14 issue titled ‘Province introduces reforms to modernize Credit Union Act’ incorrectly referred to Rob Swallow’s position as Director of Communications and Government Relations. His correct position is the Canadian Credit Union Association’s Regional Director of Government Relations in Saskatchewan.

Conexus' famous agtech incubator opens Cohort 5

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

If you're an entrepreneur with a great agricultural idea, Conexus Credit Union wants to hear about it.

Applications are now open for Cohort 5 of the AGTECH ACCELERATOR, offered by Cultivator powered by Conexus until Jan. 9, 2026. The three-month program blends virtual and in-person components, culminating at western Canada's largest outdoor farm expo, Ag in Motion 2026.

The accelerator is designed to bring together agriculture and technology, giving startups the tools, connections, and mentorship they need to grow while addressing challenges in the sector. Since its launch in 2019, the program has supported 62 companies through four cohorts, helping them raise \$161.9 million in private capital, generate \$118.5 million in revenue, secure \$76.4 million in public funding, and create 316 new jobs.

"The AGTECH ACCELERATOR is a leading Canadian agtech program with growing recognition on the global stage," said Laura Mock, Cultivator's director. "What makes the accelerator so powerful is how it brings together founders, farmers, and industry partners to validate innovation and engage technology testers for commercial-level adoption. Cultivator also showcases the program's founders to investors looking to deploy capital to help these startups grow."

Mock emphasized the program's multi-level impact. "All of these immersive connections within Canada's agricultural sector create value on multiple fronts for founders, producers, the ag ecosystem, and our economy," she said.

Each year, the program attracts a growing number of applicants, with Mock noting the quality of submissions has steadily increased. "This year we already have probably six incredibly strong companies that we know would have innovation valuable to prairie agriculture," she said. Traditionally, the cohort selects 15 companies, though organizers are exploring the possibility of expanding that number depending on the strength of applications.

The program offers a blend of virtual and in-person support, providing Canadian and UK startups with access to capital, programming, mentorship, and connections to scale their businesses. Founders receive one-on-one mentorship from industry experts and direct engagement with farmers to test their innovations in real-world settings. Participants also gain exposure to investors actively looking to fund agtech solutions.

Jill Sharko, co-founder of Cohort 4 company AgScouter, described the accelerator as transformative. "The AGTECH ACCELERATOR program not only connected me with incredible mentors and valuable contacts in the Saskatchewan agtech community, but it also gave me the tools and knowledge to make a real impact on our business," she said.

This year, organizers have introduced enhancements based on feedback from previous cohorts, in-

cluding more personalized mentorship and a "mass customization" approach tailored to each company's area of innovation, whether crop production, livestock, or farming efficiency. A new alumni support program, launching in 2026, will continue providing guidance to companies that demonstrate market traction after completing the accelerator.

The program's finale moved to Ag in Motion in Langham this year, an event Mock described as a major success. "We were able to see lots of successes we weren't even anticipating from that move," she said. "The area with our founders was bustling, with producers and industry representatives engaging with the innovations. It was exciting to see the connections being made and the global attention that started to build around Canadian innovation."

Mock highlighted the human side of the program as one of its most rewarding aspects. "I love the founders and the innovators and how passionate they are."

"Also, getting to know and work with farmers," she said. "It's so much more complex and there's so many more challenges around building ag innovation and supporting the adoption of ag innovation."

Mock pointed to the work ethic and risk producers encounter frequently in the industry – pivoting and adapting to unpredictable pressures.

"They've had to evolve a lot, and some of the finance models for funding farms or equipment haven't always kept pace, but producers are still - especially Saskatchewan and Canadian producers - leading the charge globally in terms of quality, crops, sustainable crops, and they're just such great people."

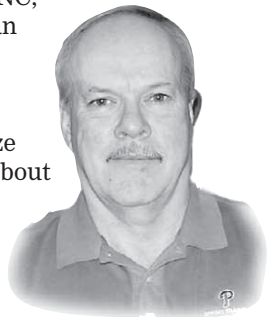
Conexus will continue to support agtech innovation at upcoming events, including Agribition and Canada's Farm Show. Speaking of Agribition, Cultivator powered by Conexus will be featuring the 24-Hour Startup – AGTECH at the Canadian Western Agribition. The entrepreneurs, developers, and designers involved will team up to tackle challenges facing producers. At the culmination of the 24 hours, the teams then pitch their solutions for cash prizes with \$5,000 up for grabs.

For more information or to apply to be part of Cohort 5, visit Cultivator.ca.

Gene Hauta

It's a Strange World

Joseph Greer of Boone, NC, missed the big prize from an "\$8 Million Money Maker" scratch-off \$50 ticket, but a second-chance drawing brought him a \$100,000 prize — **\$71,750 after taxes**. "I about



passed out. It was pretty crazy," Greer said. "I'm still in awe." He plans to put most of it toward his retirement, but is going to treat himself a little better in the meantime. "I'm tired of eating the thin bologna," he said. "I want the thick bologna now." Randy Cassingham of This is True figures the whole story is "a bunch of bologna."

A leaked wedding video showing the daughter of one of Iran's most powerful officials in a revealing dress at a lavish ceremony has sparked outrage and accusations of hypocrisy at the highest levels of the Islamic Republic. Rear Adm. Ali Shamkhani, a key figure in Iran's defense and national security establishment and a close adviser to the supreme leader, is facing a wave of public criticism, including calls for his resignation. The video **showed his daughter in a low-cut strapless gown** and Shamkhani's wife in a backless one. No headscarves can be seen among the visible female attendants. The hypocritical display of apparent wealth and disregard for conservative Islamic norms has struck a nerve in Iran, where many are struggling financially and the government is known for enforcing strict dress codes.

The French national postal service, La Poste, released nearly 600,000 stamps celebrating the "emblem of French gastronomy: the croissant." These stamps actually smell like a butter croissant. The stamps are good for international mail and they come with a souvenir print. They cost 2.10 euros (US\$2.44), about 1 euro more than the average cost of an actual croissant. Mike Straw quipped, **"It will retain its value, until you mail it."**

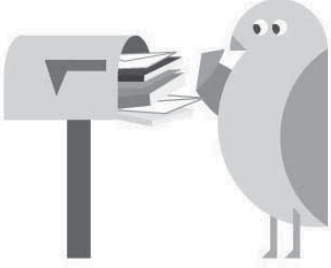
A day after suggesting Nigeria could face sanctions for allegedly failing to rein in the persecution of Christians in the West African country, Trump returned to social media to up his threat, threatening that the US "may very well go into that now disgraced country, **'guns-a-blazing,'** to completely wipe out the Islamic Terrorists who are committing these horrible atrocities." He has designated Nigeria as a "country of particular concern" as it relates to religious freedom, a move that had been pushed by some US lawmakers.

Authorities uncovered an 'unconscionable' find in a hoarder house on Long Island. The house that was owned by an elderly woman was **filled with over 200 animals** — ranging from cats and dogs to chinchillas, flying squirrels, and parrots. All the living creatures were living in unhealthy conditions. On the upper floor, the **95-year-old woman was trapped** in her room by piles of belongings, unable to move freely. While it's not clear to me, a couple -- Samantha Boyd, 57, and her partner, Neal Weschler, 61, -- face animal cruelty charges. Boyd has also been charged with endangering a vulnerable elderly person. It seems like the old woman was trying to save the stressed and dying animals. The animals are now with various rescue groups.

Sadly, it also happened in Alberta, where hundreds of animals were surrendered from a rescue operation as part of an investigation into allegations of animal cruelty. RCMP, along with the Canadian Animal Task Force and the Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society (AARCS), **have taken in 290 dogs, cats, cattle, horses, and rabbits** in varying states of distress from two properties near Valleyview.

A surfboard that had been lost at sea off the southern tip of Australia nearly a year and a half ago has turned up some 1,500 miles away, **caked in barnacles but otherwise intact**. The board's unexpected journey ended when kite surfer Alvaro Bon, a French expat living in New Zealand, spotted it while seeking shelter in a remote harbour after losing his own kite to strong currents. Bon stashed the cream-colored, 7-foot-6 board in the dunes before retrieving it a few days later. The board had a distinctive maker's mark, and social media helped reunite the board with its owner. The board's designer, Josh Fairleigh, said, "This board may have accumulated more ocean time and wisdom than all of us."

Until next time... keep reading between the lines...



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Province commits more than \$22M to municipal policing

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan government is directing more than \$22.3 million to municipal police services across the province next year, pledging continued support for targeted enforcement, mental-health response teams and traffic-safety initiatives.

The funding, delivered through the long-running Municipal Police Grants program and supplemented by Saskatchewan Government Insurance, will support 160 policing positions across nine communities in 2025-26.

In Regina, the province is providing \$6.8 million to fund 49 positions within the Regina Police Service, including officers assigned to online child-exploitation investigations, gang and drug enforcement, human-trafficking response and the city’s Police and Crisis Team.

“Supporting safe and secure communities through targeted policing initiatives is a priority for our government,” Brad Crassweller, the MLA for White City-Qu’Appelle, said on behalf of Public Safety Minister Tim McLeod. “This funding will enhance the City of Regina’s ability to address safety concerns and create a safe place to live, work and raise a family.”

Regina Mayor Chad Bachynski called the funding “vital,” saying it will help police respond to evolving community needs, support vulnerable residents and strengthen public safety. Regina Police Service Acting Chief Lorilee Davies said the grant ensures more officers can be deployed to hold offenders accountable.

Funding in Regina also includes support for 10 Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan officers, with SGI contributing \$900,000 toward five of the positions.

In Saskatoon, the province is investing \$7.8 million to support 54 positions through the Municipal Police Grants program. Funding backs a range of specialized units, including three Police and Crisis Team positions that pair officers with mental-health professionals; nine Crime Reduction Team members

focused on gang disruption; three officers dedicated to investigating child sexual exploitation; and two Saskatchewan Trafficking Response Team roles supporting weapons, drug and human-trafficking investigations.

The city will also continue receiving funding for 10 Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan positions aimed at improving road safety, with SGI contributing \$900,000 toward five of the roles. Additional support includes one Serious Violent Offender Response program position, which coordinates with probation and prosecution services to develop Community Safety Plans to reduce reoffending.

“Policing today is complex and demands collaboration and innovation,” Martensville-Blairmore MLA Jamie Martens said on behalf of Minister McLeod. “This funding will enhance the City of Saskatoon’s ability to stay ahead of evolving public safety challenges and keep people safe in our province’s largest city.”

Saskatoon Police Service Chief Cameron McBride said the provincial partnership is essential: “Without this support, our police operations – and ultimately safety in our community – would be negatively impacted.”

Other communities receiving Municipal Police Grants this year include:

Weyburn — The city will receive \$418,000 to fund three positions: two CTSS roles focused on reducing serious collisions and one member of the Organized/Serious Crimes Task Force. SGI is contributing \$180,000 toward one CTSS role. Mayor Jeff Richards said the funding helps ensure officers have the tools needed to “keep our residents safe.”

Yorkton — The province is providing \$357,000 to continue supporting three RCMP positions. Part of the funding will bolster the community’s PACT program, which pairs an RCMP officer with a mental-health professional. Yorkton Mayor Aaron Kienle said the provincial partnership complements the city’s own \$6.5-million contribution to policing.

Estevan — The city will receive \$656,000 to maintain five police positions,



RYAN KIEDROWSKI | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Funding announcement

Brad Crassweller, the MLA for White City-Qu’Appelle, speaks during a funding announcement on Nov. 12 at Regina Police Services.

including CTSS, Organized/Serious Crimes and PACT roles. SGI is contributing \$180,000 for one CTSS officer. Police Chief Jamie Bluden said the support is critical to maintaining safety as law-enforcement challenges evolve.

Prince Albert — The province is providing \$3.69 million to fund 26 positions connected to gang enforcement, missing-persons investigations, trafficking response, online child-exploitation work and CTSS operations. SGI is supplying \$540,000 for three traffic-safety positions. Chief Patrick Nogier said the investments strengthen proactive policing and improve outcomes for residents.

North Battleford — The city will receive \$833,000 to support seven RCMP positions focused on neighbourhood policing, public education and the PACT program. Mayor Kelli Hawtin said the partnership is key to delivering effective frontline services.

Meadow Lake — The government is investing \$833,000 to continue funding

seven RCMP officers. Mayor Merlin Seymour said the grant provides stability and supports “an essential component” of the city’s public-safety efforts.

Moose Jaw — The city will receive \$836,000 to fund two PACT positions and four CTSS roles, with SGI contributing \$360,000 toward two of the traffic-safety positions. Moose Jaw Mayor James Murdock said the funds ensure officers can continue “vital work supporting residents in crisis and promoting safer roads.”

The Municipal Police Grants program has supported Saskatchewan police services since 1998. Government officials say the steady investment reflects a long-term commitment to community safety.

“Our government remains committed to building safer communities across Saskatchewan,” Prince Albert MLA Kevin Kasun said. “These investments ensure police services have the resources they need to protect the health, safety and prosperity of our communities.”



Town of Kipling

Council Meetings: The second Monday of each month. Town Council Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. All Council Meetings are open to the public.

EMAIL CONSENT FORM

WITH THE MAIL STRIKE THE TOWN OF KIPLING OFFICE HAS AN EMAIL CONSENT FORM FOR TAXES, UTILITIES, ASSESSMENT NOTICES, RECEIPTS, AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE.

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PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE:

- *ONLINE – THE CORNERSTONE CREDIT UNION & THE TD BANK – BILL PAYMENTS *TELPAY
- *AT THE TOWN OFFICE, 301 6TH AVENUE BY CASH, CHEQUE, DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD
- *NEW E-TRANSFER ADDRESS - TRANSFER TO ETRANSFERS@TOWNOFKIPLING.CA. PLEASE INCLUDE THE FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE ACCOUNT YOU ARE PAYING, CIVIC ADDRESS AND WHAT THE PAYMENT IS FOR (EXAMPLES: WATER, PROPERTY TAXES, SWIMMING LESSONS, POOL PASSES, ETC.).

DISPOSAL OF GRASS CLIPPINGS

THE COMPOST SITE TAKES GRASS CLIPPINGS, GARDEN REFUGE FOR DISPOSAL AND SITE IS OPEN UNTIL THE SNOW FLIES. METAL OR APPLIANCES ARE NOT TO BE DUMPED AT THE SITE; IT IS FOR COMPOST ONLY.

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HAVE YOU EVER DREAMT OF BECOMING A MUNICIPAL BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER? DO YOU HAVE CONFLICT MANAGEMENT SKILLS, AND ARE ORGANIZED? THE TOWN OF KIPLING HAS RECEIVED A TRAINING GRANT WITH THE TARGETED SECTOR SUPPORT FUND FOR ONLINE MUNICIPAL BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING. CALL OR STOP INTO THE TOWN OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

HANDY VAN

THE HANDY VAN IS DESPERATELY LOOKING FOR MORE DRIVERS AND THE TIME COMMITMENT CAN BE ONCE A MONTH TO TWICE A WEEK! CALL THE TOWN OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST.

LEISURE SERVICES

CHAIR YOGA - CHAIR YOGA WILL BE 10 A.M. THIS FALL AT THE KIPLING FRIENDSHIP CENTRE TO REGISTER AT ASHADRAPER@HOTMAIL.COM

FRIENDLY REMINDER - ALL LEISURE FACILITIES MUST BE BOOKED WITH THE OFFICE AT 1-306-736-2515 GOING FORWARD.

WINTER WALKING - WINTER WALKING IS TAKING PLACE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE MONDAY TO FRIDAY FROM 7 A.M. TO 1 P.M. BRING YOU INSIDE SHOES, HEADPHONES AND WALK OUT YOUR FRUSTRATIONS! THIS IS OPEN FOR ALL AGES!

STICK AND PUCK AT THE ARENA - CHECK THE TOWN FOR KIPLING WEBSITE FOR THE CALENDAR FOR STICK AND PUCK TIMES.

CONTACT US:

Town Office: 306-736-2515
Email: info@townofkipling.ca
Leisure Services Department: 306-736-8440
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed over lunch.

PUBLIC SKATING TIMES - CHECK THE TOWN FOR KIPLING WEBSITE FOR THE ALL TIMES!

FACILITY PASSES FOR THE SKATING - NEW THIS YEAR, THERE IS A FAMILY FACILITY SKATING PASS FOR \$100.00 PER FAMILY OR \$50.00 FOR ONE.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

DO YOU HAVE A COMMUNITY EVENT COMING UP? CONTACT THE TOWN OF KIPLING OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION AT 306-736-2515 OR EMAIL info@townofkipling.ca

KIPLING AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB- PARADE OF LIGHTS - THE KIPLING AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB PARADE OF LIGHTS IS ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 7TH, 2025 STARTING A 6:00 P.M.

KIPLING FOOD BANK DRIVE - THE KIPLING FOOD BANK DRIVE IS TAKING PLACE BEFORE THE PARADE ON DECEMBER 7TH, 2025, FROM 2 P.M. TO 4 P.M. LISTEN FOR THE FIRE TRUCKS. THE TOWN OFFICE WILL HAVE A BIN FOR DONATIONS OF FOOD DROP-OFFS FOR THE MONTHS OF MID OF NOVEMBER TO DECEMBER.

KIPLING LIBRARY- SANTA’S COMING TO TOWN, SUNDAY DECEMBER 7,2025 FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M. WITH FREE PICTURES WITH SANTA.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB- THURSDAY IS CARD GAMES, AND FRIDAY THE THRIFT STORE IS OPEN.

HOLIDAY FAIR- IS AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AND THE KIPLING SCHOOL ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29TH, 2025 FROM 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M. COME ON DOWN AND GET A START ON YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!

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DID YOU KNOW:

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR EVENTS OR UPDATES, PLEASE HAVE A LOOK AT THE TOWN OF KIPLING WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.



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Call Michelle at 1-306-728-5691 or email ads@grasslandsnews.ca

Chamber sets sights on Spring Spritzer after Hometown Christmas

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

The Melville and District Chamber of Commerce held their monthly board meeting on Nov. 13. During the Meeting the board discussed the potential digital ad sign, Ignite Melville, Hometown Christmas, the upcoming Spring Spritzer and more.

Digital signage

The board discussed the Direct West digital ad board. Chamber Administrator Suzanne Beck said that they had talked with the City and identified which land is zoned as Highway Commercial District (C2), as that is where the signage can go.

The next step for the Chamber is to determine where they think the signage should go and find a landowner who is willing to have the digital ad board installed on their land.

The Chamber Board decided to hold a meeting in the future for members to choose a location for the signage.

Ignite Melville

There was a brief discussion about the Ignite Melville Community Café that occurred on Oct. 29. Beck, who is leading the Ignite Melville's Downtown Revitalization Committee, said that while attendance was lower than expected, they are looking forward to hosting the committee meetings, some of which have already occurred. Beck added that she believes the next step is asking the business owners who are located downtown if they would like to see downtown revitalization and if they are willing to help.

New nuisance control officer approved To work at the Melville Golf Course

By Jacob Miller
Grasslands News

Melville City Council approved a new nuisance control officer at the Melville Golf Course property.

Trevor Sanftleben has been approved to be deemed a nuisance control officer at the Melville Golf Course Property during the Nov. 17 City Council Meeting.

As part of the recommendation read at council, Sanftleben's pest control authority only applies to the golf course lands and may only occur when the front nine are closed to ensure the safety of all patrons.

Beavers an issue at course

Director of Community Services Chris Bruce told Council that the City has a long standing Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit

that authorizes the City to maintain a list of designated pest control officers who may address nuisance wildlife within municipal limits and that the City has historically relied on multiple appointed individuals to assist with ongoing beaver management at the golf course and other municipal locations.

Bruce said that two of the previously approved officers are currently unavailable due to health, leaving the golf course without an active authorized individual.

Bruce said that given the ongoing beaver activity at the Golf Course it's necessary to update the list, as himself has recently had to go out.

Bruce highlighted the damage that the beavers have caused at the Golf Course. The Melville Golf Course has the Crescent

Chamber website

The Chamber is moving ahead with their website project. Beck told the board that she had cancelled the current chamber website subscription due to the costs increasing, so they have to act fast to get a new one. The Board decided to have a meeting with Chantelle Armstrong about getting a new website.

Meet and greet

The Chamber hosted their Meet and Greet on Oct. 28 at Cumberland Villas. Beck told the Board, all of whom were in attendance, that she thought it went great and is becoming one of the better events that the Chamber holds because the discussions are good.

Beck added that next time they hold a meet and greet, they should set up one table so they can have a group discussion instead of separate discussions.

Hometown Christmas

Beck updated the Board on the progress of the Hometown Christmas planning. The event is taking place on Nov. 28 in Melville.

Beck said that she has begun making posts about the event and have sent out posters to be put up. Beck said that they are still looking for a Santa and anyone interested should reach out.

Spring Spritzer

Next year's Chamber of Commerce Spring Spritzer is early in the planning stages. The Board has chosen either April 18 or 24, 2026 to host the event. Beck said she will reach out to the drink vendors and see which date works better for them.



Legionnaire of the Year

SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Padre Jesse Darbe, pictured right, was awarded Legionnaire of the Year. Presenting is Trevor Babcarz, Past President of R.G.Combe VC Legion 61 of Melville.

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Melville Chevrolet Buick GMC - Larry Peterson, left and John Sapara, right.



Canadian Tire, Melville - Larry Peterson, left and Sean Christophers, right.

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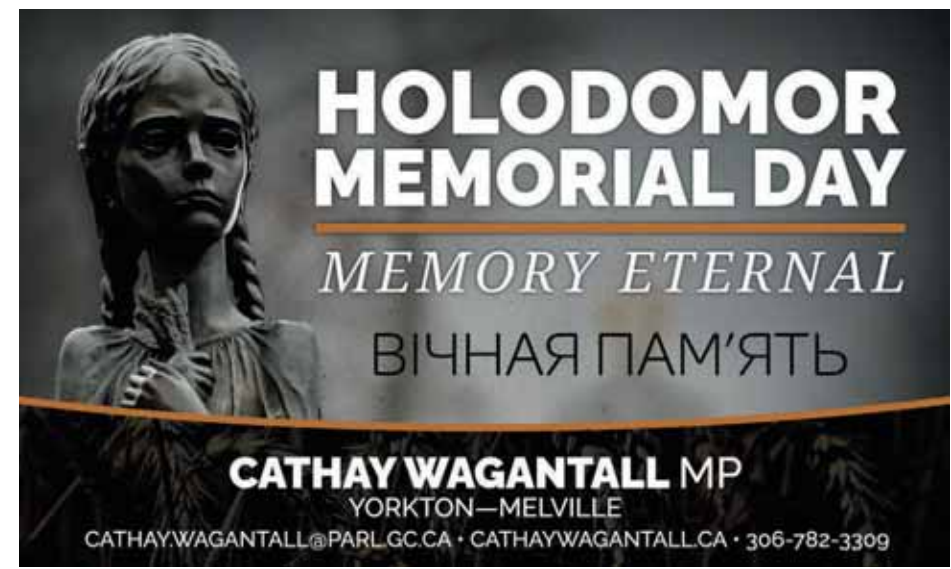
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Melville driver ticketed after collision at intersection

Melville / Ituna Detachment
Cpl Dave Kisters

Reporting period:
Nov. 12 to Nov. 18

Melville and Ituna detachment area had 76 occurrences over the past week.

Traffic

During this time, Melville & Ituna Detachments responded to 39 reported traffic occurrences or traffic stops that resulted in 13 Charges and 10 Warnings.

Two-vehicle collision

Melville RCMP were dispatched to a complaint of a two-vehicle

collision at the intersection of 3rd Avenue West and Dielschneider Road in Melville involving a white SUV and a transit van. Police determined that the adult male driver of the white SUV proceeded from the stop sign and struck the transit van. He was issued a ticket for proceeding from a stop sign before safe to do so (\$230.00). Both vehicles were towed from the scene. No injuries were reported.

During this reporting period, Melville and Ituna RCMP responded to six separate reports of collisions involving wildlife. No injuries were reported

to police.

Assault in Ituna

Ituna RCMP were dispatched to a complaint of an assault on the 100 block of 5th Avenue NW in Ituna. Police were told that the victim had contacted the complainant and said that they needed help. Police attended and located the victim and the accused inside. As a result of this investigation, Clemente Sanchez Barrera, 25, of Chile, has been charged with Assault and Resisting Arrest. Clemente Sanchez Barrera was remanded into police custody and has been set to appear in Yorkton Provincial Court. This matter is

still under investigation.

Break and enter in Melville

Police were dispatched to a complaint of a break and enter to a residence on the 500 block of 5th Avenue West in Melville. The victim reports that some time while they were away, their dwelling unit was entered, and a bottle of liquor and a case of cigarettes were taken. Police are investigating.

Van misplaced

Melville RCMP were dispatched to a complaint of a theft of a motor vehicle in Melville. The complainant told police that they had been tasked with tracking down a ve-

hicle that was supposed to be at the workplace but wasn't there. The complainant believed that an employee had stolen it. The complainant then located the vehicle using GPS and met the police at the van's location. It was later determined that the employee took the vehicle after work due to a scheduling conflict, and that no theft took place.

If you have information

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

CRIME STOPPERS

1-800-222-TIPS



DARCY GROSS | GRASSLANDS NEWS

UFA tank installed

Crews were seen lifting and installing a fuel tank on Nov. 14 at the new UFA card lock located on Highway #47 and Service Road in Melville.

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SPORTS

Cobras eye SHSAA volleyball gold

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

The Melville Cobras’ final push for this year’s provincial high school volleyball championship gets underway Nov. 21 with a preliminary-round match against the hosts from North Battleford’s John Paul II Collegiate.

Melville is among 10 teams vying for the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association’s 4A boys’ title at provincials, which conclude Saturday.

Following Friday’s 12 p.m. game against North Battleford, the Cobras are scheduled to face Moose Jaw Vanier at 3 p.m. and Melfort at 6 p.m., before wrapping up the round-robin schedule against Kindersley at 11 a.m. Saturday.

An eight-team, single-elimination playoff bracket will follow with the bronze medal game slated for 4:30 p.m. and the championship game to be played at 5:30 p.m.

Melville advanced to provincials last Saturday by posting a 3-1 win-loss record, good for second place, at regionals in Moose Jaw. There, the Cobras’ only loss came to Moose Jaw’s Central Collegiate, which ran undefeated through regionals and will play in pool B at provincials.

The 3A boys’ teams from Kipling and Fort Qu’Appelle failed to advance from their regional tournament in Carnduff, with Kipling falling to Esterhazy (19-25, 25-17, 15-10) in the third-place game and Fort Qu’Appelle missing playoffs with an 0-2 preliminary record.

And the 2A boys’ teams from Montmartre and Rocanville both missed playoffs with 0-2 records in preliminary round play at their regional in Montmartre.

Bisons claim silver

The Fort Qu’Appelle Bisons are provincial high school volleyball silver medalists after dropping Saturday’s gold medal game in three sets (18-25, 25-23, 15-4) to Lanigan in Maple Creek.

Fort Qu’Appelle went a perfect 4-0 in preliminary play, sweeping Kipling, Valley Christian Academy and Maidstone in straight sets Nov. 14, then beating Watrous in three sets on Saturday.

The eight-team playoff bracket then saw the Bisons beat Delisle in three sets and Unity in straight sets to reach the SHSAA championship game.

Kipling finished 3-1 in its pool and beat Carnduff in straight sets during the quarterfinal before falling to Lanigan in a three-set semifinal.

Kipling then lost 25-22, 25-22 to Unity in the bronze medal match.

The 2A girls’ provincial tournament saw Montmartre finish third in its pool at 2-2 before falling 26-24, 25-4 to Wakaw in the quarterfinal. (Wakaw went on to claim silver after losing to Wadena in the gold medal match.)



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Going for provincial gold

The Melville Cobras are one of 10 teams vying for the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association’s 4A boys’ title at provincials this weekend.

Local PJHL teams face mixed results

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

It was a busy stretch in the Prairie Junior Hockey League for southeast Saskatchewan’s three local clubs — the Fort Knox, Pilot Butte Storm and Moosomin Steelhawks — with each team seeing action over the past week as the standings begin to tighten.

Fort drops road decision to Regina Capitals

Fort Knox came into the weekend sitting second in the Bill Johnston Division, but saw their momentum halted with a 3–1 loss to the Extreme Hockey Regina Capitals on Nov. 15 at Al Ritchie Arena.

Tanner Wiens scored the lone Knox goal midway through the first period, but the Capitals responded with two power-play markers in the second and third to seal the win. Despite the loss, Knox goaltender Kale Gorski was outstanding, stopping 38 of 40 shots.

The defeat was Fort Knox’s second straight, leaving them at 10–5–0 for 20 points, still good for second place

in the division behind the first-place Capitals, who continue to surge with 25 points.

Fort Knox will try to tighten the gap with a home-ice opportunity as they hosted the Saskatoon Royals on Nov. 19, followed by road games against the Saskatoon Quakers on Nov. 21 and the Martensville Chiefs on Nov. 23.

Storm split pair of games

The Pilot Butte Storm produced one of their strongest outings of the season on Nov. 13, rolling to a 7–2 win over the Regina Silver Foxes at Doug Wickenheiser Arena.

The Storm exploded for four goals in the first period and added two more in the second to put the game out of reach. Sutter Bailly, Tate Olson, Kayden Reeder, Austin Kozakewich and Connor Adams were among the goal scorers, while Kaden Perron made 35 saves for the win.

Two nights later, the Storm hosted a tough Saskatoon Quakers squad and fell 6–2 on Nov. 15 at Pilot Butte Rec

- SEE PJHL, 15

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Dash going to Paralympics to be held in Italy

By **Connie Schwalm**
Grasslands News

You will occasionally hear people talk about “career defining moments” when they achieve a goal that they have worked towards for a long time.

For Gilbert Dash, such a moment arrived last week, as the top-level wheelchair curler originally from Kipling, was named to Canada’s Wheelchair Curling Team for the Milano Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games that will take place March 6-15 in Italy.

Such moments look different for everyone. But there is one commonality that was captured in Dash’s response to the inevitable question, “How do you feel?”

“I feel amazing! Being named to the team is awesome - a huge accomplishment!”

Although Dash has been part of international competitions before, this is different.

“I’ve been part of three World Championships,” says Dash. “But to me, this is the pinnacle. Every country in the world that curls will be sending their best athletes there. And they each put all the resources they can into this, because everyone wants gold.”

Yet for Dash, as is the case with any international competition he has taken part in, the key to success in Italy will rest

on the ability to focus on the moment, rather than on that golden goal that everyone is there to achieve.

“When you’re on the ice and in the middle of a game, you’re not thinking about the gold medal,” says Dash. “You’re thinking about the shot you have to make right now - where you want that rock to be – and what you have to do to help your team win. And if you’re the Skip, yes you have a playbook. But you call the game based on your experience and the knowledge and skills you have from all of those years of playing this game and making those decisions. You have to focus on the moment, because the little things add up to big things.”

Dash joins Ina Forrest, Mark Ideson, Jon Thurston and Collinda Joseph on the Canadian team. He notes that “all of my teammates have been to the Paralympics before” and because the group has curled together often, “everyone on this team is comfortable with each other. So, I know that there is a good chance that we will do very well.”

As he starts preparations for the trip to Italy, Dash says that the support he is receiving from family and friends at home is providing him with the anchor that he needs.

“I’ve received so many messages from people in Kipling, Whitewood, Grenfell, and all through



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Team Canada

Heading off to the 2026 Paralympics as the Team Canada wheelchair curling team will be, back row: Mick Lizmore (coach), Dana Ferguson (coach). Front row: Gilbert Dash, Collinda Joseph, Ina Forrest, Jon Thurston and Mark Ideson.

the area. It has been incredible. For example, Dennis Scott from Whitewood was in Wascana following his accident at the same time I was and has faced so much adversity in his life. He wrote a comment on social media that talked about

looking back at where we were and soldiering on to achieve goals, which we might have thought were impossible. Something like that means so much.

“That’s why, when I was asked during an interview to come up with one word that described

my hometown, the word that came to mind right away was ‘family’. That’s the level of support that I feel from my community.”

Looking at what lies ahead, Dash says that he is honoured to have the opportunity to be a mem-

ber of Canada’s team.

“It feels so good to earn a Maple Leaf that you can’t buy – one that I can wear on my back to show that I am representing my country. This is something I’ve been working towards and I’m ready.”

Hat tricks, tight finishes and big wins mark a busy weekend in senior hockey

By **Chris Ashfield**
Grasslands News

A packed weekend of senior men’s hockey across southeast Saskatchewan delivered everything from nail-biting shootouts to lopsided scoring explosions, as teams in the QVHHL, PMHL, Big 6 and SEHL battled through another round of mid-Nov. matchups. With rivalries heating up and key divisional points on the line, fans were treated to hat tricks, comeback pushes and statement wins—setting the stage for an exciting stretch of upcoming games as the season rolls deeper into fall.

Qu’Appelle Valley Hockey League

Grenfell pushed Balcarres to the limit in a 5–4 shootout loss on Friday night, holding leads at several points in the game thanks to goals from Drew Hoehn, Justin Hollinger, Brett Ducek and Lane Harbor. The Broncos battled back each time and eventually sealed the extra point with the lone goal of the shootout. Grenfell’s Saturday home game against Bethune was cancelled due to a power outage at the arena, but the Spitfires return to action on Nov. 29 when they travel to Raymore.

Balcarres celebrated the comeback victory and now prepares for another tough stretch, beginning with a road game in Southey on Nov. 21. The Broncos then host the Raymore Rockets on Nov. 22 before finishing the month on the road in Bethune on Nov. 29.

Southey continued its strong early-season form with a 6–4 win over the Balgonie Bisons. The Marlins built a 5–1 cushion through two periods, powered by two-goal performances from Jared Legien and Eric Bollefer. Southey now looks ahead to a home matchup against Balcarres on Nov. 21, followed by another home game when Bethune visits on Nov. 29.

Balgonie mounted a late push but couldn’t overcome Southey’s early

surge. The Bisons return to the ice on Nov. 28 when they host the Bethune Bulldogs at the Star Dome.

Raymore and Lumsden did not appear in weekend action but both clubs have important games ahead. Raymore hosts Balcarres on Nov. 22 before meeting Grenfell on Nov. 29, while Lumsden welcomes Bethune on Nov. 22 and hosts Balcarres on Nov. 30.

Prairie Men’s Hockey League

Cupar delivered one of the most dominant offensive displays of the weekend with a 10–2 win over the Valley Warriors. Dane Bonish erupted for five goals and an assist, while Cody Geber scored twice in the opening minute to set the tone. The Canucks now prepare to host the Ituna Avalanche on Nov. 21 and the Valley Warriors again on Nov. 29.

The Valley Warriors had difficulty containing Cupar’s attack but have a quick chance to respond when they visit Indian Head on Nov. 22. They also travel to Cupar for a rematch on Nov. 29.

Indian Head kept rolling with a convincing 9–1 victory over Ituna. Dawson Bostock recorded two goals, Sylvester Webster added four points, and the Chiefs controlled every period. Indian Head next hosts the Valley Warriors on Nov. 22 before heading to Strasbourg on Nov. 29.

Ituna managed a lone power-play marker from Tyson Pryhitka in the loss but now looks ahead to a road game in Cupar on Nov. 21, their final contest of the month.

Big 6 Hockey League

The KW Oil Kings split their two-game weekend. They opened with a narrow 5–4 loss to the Wawota Flyers despite goals from Zack Ulsifer, Trae DeDecker, Jordan Andres and Aaron Roth. On Saturday, KW rebounded with a strong 6–2 win in Carnduff, led by two goals from Taylor Hoedel and a three-point night from Austin Fleck. The Oil Kings now return home for a matchup

against Redvers on Nov. 22 and a second home game against Oxbow on Nov. 29.

Wawota also had a split weekend, edging KW 5–4 before falling 5–2 to the Oxbow Huskies. Chase Robertson scored both Flyers’ goals in the loss. Wawota hosts Moosomin on Nov. 28 before heading to Carnduff on Nov. 29.

Carnduff fell 6–2 to KW on Saturday, with Casey Thompson scoring both Red Devils’ goals. Carnduff now enters a busy stretch with home games against Redvers on Nov. 19, Moosomin on Nov. 22, and Wawota on Nov. 29.

Oxbow picked up an impressive 5–2 road win in Wawota, powered by a natural hat trick from Colton Schell, including a goal just 17 seconds into the game. The Huskies now travel to Moosomin on Nov. 21 and to Kipling for a meeting with KW on Nov. 29.

Sask East Hockey League

Wapella opened their season strong with a 6–1 victory over the Churchbridge Imperials on Nov. 8, but the Blackhawks ran into a much tougher opponent six days later in Langenburg. The Warriors came out flying and handed Wapella an 8–2 loss in a penalty-filled game that saw multiple power plays, fights and game misconducts. Burke Lewis and Evan Armstrong scored Wapella’s two goals, while Rory Poole and Riley Holloway each added assists. Langenburg built a 4–0 lead in the first period and never looked back, striking twice shorthanded and adding goals in every frame as the Warriors’ offence overwhelmed the Blackhawks.

Despite the setback, Wapella now turns their focus to a three-game road stretch. They return to Churchbridge on Nov. 21 for a rematch with the Imperials, looking to repeat their opening-night success. The Blackhawks then travel to Esterhazy on Nov. 28 to face the Flyers before wrapping up a busy month in Russell on Nov. 29 against the Rams.

PJHL games have mixed results

- continued from page 14

Centre. Tyson Nakonechny and Owen Boswell scored for the Storm, but Saskatoon’s offence proved too much, striking twice in each period.

Following the split, Pilot Butte now sits at 4–9–2 for 10 points, tied with the Steelhawks for fourth place in the Bill Johnston Division standings.

Pilot Butte now turns its attention to a challenging stretch with a road game against the Southern Rebels on Nov. 21, a home matchup versus the Saskatoon Westleys on Nov. 22, and a key divisional showdown on Nov. 27 when they travel to Moosomin to face the Steelhawks.

Steelhawks fall in back-to-back games

The Moosomin Steelhawks came up short in both of their recent matchups, dropping a 6–3 decision to the Saskatoon Royals on Nov. 14 at Rod Hamm Arena and falling 5–4 in overtime to Prince Albert on Nov. 15 at the Northern Regional Rec Centre.

In the loss to the Royals, Deagan Reister scored twice and Nathaniel Plourde added another, but Saskatoon capitalized with a huge five-goal second period.

Moosomin responded with a stronger outing against Prince Albert, erasing a 4–2 deficit in the third with goals from Dreolini and Snooks before giving up the OT winner at 4:27.

The Steelhawks remain at 4–12–2 on the season with 10 points, matching Pilot Butte while sitting just ahead of the winless Silver Foxes in the division standings.

The Steelhawks now look ahead to a three-game run that includes a road contest in Carrot River on Nov. 20, a home rematch with Prince Albert on Nov. 22, and a rivalry meeting against the Pilot Butte Storm on Nov. 27 at Mike Schwan Arena.

Sports column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

If Saskatchewan isn’t the top province for Canadian football, then I don’t know which one it would be.

As witnessed in the Grey Cup final in Winnipeg, the Saskatchewan Roughriders came out on top of the Montreal Alouettes in the 112th Grey Cup finale.

Meanwhile, the Saskatoon Hilltops won the 2025 Canadian Bowl for junior football over the Okanagan Sun by a 21-18 count, leaving the University of Saskatchewan Huskies to battle for the university championship, the Vanier Cup, this weekend in Regina.

While there’s no hard and fast rule saying that the Huskies are going to come away winners, the story of how these three teams got to their respective championship is quite compelling.

The Huskies have been rallying behind quarterback Anton Amundrud who was recently diagnosed with lymphoma, and they’d really like to get one more win for him, and they’ll get their chance at Mosaic Field on Nov. 22, with the Montreal Carabins providing the opposition.

Melville’s John Stoll will also be taking part in the game, so I’m certain he’ll have a lot of friends and family bundling up and in attendance to cheer on the Huskies.

What can you say about the Roughriders?

They were the CFL’s top team all season and they basically cemented their season by knocking off the Als 25-17.

How it must have ate at those Winnipeg Blue Bombers’ fans when the confetti cannons fired out a huge load of green and white paper, in tribute to the new champs.

For awhile, it looked like the game was going to be a walk in the park for the Riders, but that changed quickly once the second half began.

The Alouettes, who had difficulty stringing together a bunch of plays for a scoring drive, suddenly found their confidence, and if quarterback Davis Alexander hadn’t been playing on a weakened hamstring, maybe we’d be talking about a different team drinking out of the Grey Cup.

The Riders, like all good teams, were also a bit lucky at times, with perhaps the luckiest play involving a fumble recovery just inside their own end zone, meaning the ball would come out to the 30-yard line.

Six inches shorter, and the Riders are scrimmaging from their own 1-yard line.

It seemed like, as the Riders’ offence sputtered, the Montreal offence came to life, narrowing a three score margin to a two-point converted touchdown by the end of the contest.

But at the end of the day, it was the Riders on the podium accepting the accolades, the cheers of the crowd and the hardware.

To this scribe, it looked as if AJ Ouellette was passed over in favour of quarterback Trevor Harris for the MVP award.

For my money, when the team went, if followed the battering ram, Ouellette, who rumbled out some tough yards in the contest and maybe deserved the nod as the top player.

Most Valuable Canadian Samuel Emilus caught 10 passes for 108 yards and it seemed like every time the Roughriders,needed to extend a drive he was there.

Harris made some good throws, especially early in the game, but later on many fans saw the frustrating part of the Riders’ offence, when they’d need a gain of seven and they’d try a five yard pass.

It’s become a bit of a trend for the Gang Green.

Harris set a record in the game for highest completion percentage, but if you’re coming up a couple of yards short and punting the majority of the time, that’s not a game changing stat by any means.

Still, Harris did enough good things to get the win, and if he’s going to stick around, maybe he’ll get another shot next November in Calgary, or the November after that back in Regina.

There will be plenty of decisions to make over the next couple of seasons, as far as personnel goes.

The Riders would probably like to ride this wave until Regina hosts in 2027, so they’ll have to explore all options.

For now, it’s time to celebrate football in this great province.

It just keeps getting better at every level, and it might have taken 12 years, but now the Roughies have Grey Cup number five.

Six can’t be that far away.

Hawks clip Millionaires in fiery finish

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

The Melville Millionaires pushed late but couldn’t overcome the Nipawin Hawks on Tuesday night, falling 4-2 in a spirited, penalty-filled contest at the CN Community Centre.

Nipawin struck early and often in the first period, setting the tone just 3:59 in when Derouin buried his third of the year off a setup from Cole and Janzen. The Hawks extended the lead late in the frame with a shorthanded marker at 16:58, as Radloff picked off a chance and made no mistake to put Melville in an early 2-0 hole.

Melville found life in the second. After killing off a pair of penalties, the Millionaires grabbed momentum when Lee notched his eighth of the season at 15:32, finishing a feed from

Hicks to cut the deficit to one. The Mils out-shot Nipawin 10-7 in the period but still trailed heading into the third.

The home crowd roared again midway through the final frame when Margolis tied the game 2-2 at 15:10, tapping in his ninth of the season off helpers from Edwards and Gourley. But the Hawks responded with a pair of late daggers.

At 17:22, Gainer restored Nipawin’s lead with his first of the year, converting a quick pass from Derouin. Then with time winding down—and following a flurry of penalties and matching majors—Nipawin capitalized on a power play. Whitter buried his ninth with just nine seconds left, sealing the Hawks’ 4-2 win.

The game’s final minute was chaotic, featuring fights, misconducts, and a spearing penalty as tempers

boiled over. In total, Melville was shorthanded nine times, while Nipawin faced just two penalty kills.

Despite the loss, Melville narrowly out-shot the Hawks 28-27. Nipawin goaltender Roberts earned the win with 26 saves, while Melville split the crease — Aafedt stopping six of eight before Sinagowitz turned away 17 of 19.

A crowd of 746 witnessed the heated matchup, officiated by referees Thomas Bresciani and Brendan Eisnor.

Melville will look to regroup as they face-off against the Yorkton Terriers for a pair of games this weekend, with the team heading to Yorkton on Friday and hosting them in Melville on Saturday. The team will then head north to Warman for a mid-week game on Wednesday. All games begin at 7 p.m

Wolseley Mustangs still have Wizards’ number

By Stephen Scriver
Grasslands News

The Emerald Park Wizards had every reason to feel snake-bit as they left the Wolseley Sportsplex last Saturday on the short end of a 4-3 loss to the Wolseley Mustangs. It was a game that the Wizards dominated for the first 35 minutes, but the Mustangs played well enough to hold them to two goals and then scored the next four to take the lead for good.

Captain Jackson Baran assisted on all four of Wolseley’s goals, while his rookie linemate Kye Englot had a pair of goals and an assist. Other goals were scored by Landon Obleman, who tied the game

late in the second period and Cohler Faubert with the game winner. Period scores were 0-1, 2-2 and the final 4-3.

The Mustangs’ forward lines had trouble finding any chemistry for most of the first two periods and they found themselves down 2-0 halfway through the game. However, their defense-first attitude kept them in the game until their offense caught fire

and scored four straight goals to seal the win. Obleman’s tying goal with one second left in a late second-period power play really took the wind out of the Wizards’ sails, and Emerald Park couldn’t mount much offense the rest of the way. Even the Wizards’ goalie, who had stoned the home team with some phenomenal saves in the first period, was unable to hold off the Wolseley attack in

the third.

Ty Muhr was solid in the Mustangs’ net, and he had stellar help from his blue-line crew. Wolseley had six minors, while Emerald Park had ten minors, a misconduct and a penalty shot against them that was turned aside. Next home action for the Mustangs will see the expansion Davidson Comets visit the Sportsplex next Saturday at 8 p.m.

Bowling Scores, Standings - Melville Bowl Arena

MONDAY P.M. <i>Nov. 10</i> Ladies' High Triple, Linda Bender, 521. Ladies' High Single and Average, Angela Dobson, 209, 163. Men's High Single and Average, Joe Wu,246, 187. Men's High Triple, Doug Brewer, 581 Team High Single and Triple, Bender, 803, 2326. Team Ostlund 24 Dobson 21.5 Bender 20 Stephens 12.5	Blame it on Garry 23 New 14	THURSDAY YBC <i>Nov. 13</i> Girls High Single and Triple, Emmi Hollinger, 180, 493. Boys High Single and Triple, Blaine Curylo, 257, 615. Team High Single, Kohlenberg, 880. Team High Triple, Curylo, 2570. Team Wurts 23.5 Curylo 22.5 Hollinger 17.5 Kohlenberg 16.5
MONDAY COMMERCIAL <i>Nov. 10</i> Ladies' High Single, Triple and Average, Brandy Lechner, 236, 605, 227. Men's High Single and Triple, Lucas, Litzenberger, 276, 739. Men's High Average, Destin Kohlenberg, 220. Team High Single, Gutter Girls, 1277. Team High Triple, Pinheads, 3755. Team Pinheads 27 Professional Amateurs 26 Gutter Girls 26	ST. HENRY'S <i>Nov. 11</i> Ladies' High Single, Angela Morgan, 179. Ladies' High Triple Sherri Kaufman, 491. Ladies' High Average Pat Brown, 166. Men's High Single and Triple, Chris Cheveldae, 296, 759. Men's High Average, Ray Kaufman, 201. Team High Single and Triple, CCJ, 1329, 3902. Team Just 4 Fun 29 CCJ 22 Drifters 21 A Team 8	SATURDAY YBC <i>Nov.15</i> Girls High Single and Triple, Laura Smidt, 114, 285. Boys High Single, Remi Schneider, 219. Boys High Triple, Reid Morgan, 568. Team High Single and Triple, The Enders, 914, 2411. Team Everything 22 The Enders 21 Bravehearts 21 Bowling Superstars 16
TUESDAY YBC <i>Nov. 11</i> Girls High Single and Triple, Amzlee Patterson, 115, 324. Boys High Single and Triple, Jakob Unterschute, 154, 401. Team High Single and Triple, Squishmellows, 797, 2351 Team Squishmellows 20 Bowl Kings 20		

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Sask. painted green as Riders win the Grey Cup

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

For the first time in a dozen years, the Saskatchewan Roughriders are Grey Cup champions. The Riders dominated most of the game, ending with a 25-17 final score over the Montreal Alouettes in the 112th edition of the Grey Cup. The Riders and Als met in Winnipeg, battling for the cup in Princess Auto Stadium.

Ending the first quarter behind Montreal 7-1, the Riders kicked into high gear with 24 unanswered points to lead the second half. The Alouettes tried to stage a comeback in the fourth quarter, but the Riders were able to hold them back and maintain their lead.

“We talked about this moment since the first meeting in training camp,

all the way down to the green and white confetti,” Riders’ head coach Corey Mace told reporters following the win. “I was hoping that it was green and white, and it wasn’t just white or green, so we freaking nailed it, man. To the tee. This is exactly what we expected it to be. It feels pretty good. It was our time.”

Riders’ QB Trevor Harris was named the game’s MVP as the 39-year-old was 23 of 27 passing for 302 yards and a recorded completion of 85 per cent. The Most Valuable Canadian nod went to Samuel Emilus, the receiver making 10 catches for 108 yards.

A few days before the big game, Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Alana Ross signed a proclamation designating Friday, Nov. 14 as “Green and White Day” once again.

“Rider Nation, it is time to show our support for

the Roughriders as they get set to battle the Alouettes for the CFL’s greatest prize - the Grey Cup,” Ross said. “As part of Green and White Day in Saskatchewan, residents throughout the province are encouraged to wear the team’s colours. So, let’s show off our Rider pride ahead of Sunday’s big game. Go Riders!”

As with the initial proclamation signed by Premier Scott Moe and Gainer the Gopher on Nov. 6, fans from across the province were once again encouraged to wear their best green and white as the Riders headed into the championship weekend.

The last time the Riders hoisted the Grey Cup was in 2013 after a 45-23 win over the Hamilton Tiger Cats on home turf at Mosaic Stadium. Montreal’s last big win was in 2023.

Regina will play host to the Grey Cup final in 2027.



RYAN KIEDROWSKI | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Flying the colours
Premier Scott Moe and Gainer the Gopher raised the Riders’ flag at the Legislative Building on Nov. 6.

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Senior Women's League

Bruins win thriller while Prairie Fire battle through tough stretch

By Chris Ashfield
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan Senior Women's Hockey League delivered another weekend of high-energy action, with both the Vibank Bruins and the Grenfell Prairie Fire taking centre stage in games that showcased the division's parity and intensity.

Vibank Bruins

The Vibank Bruins earned one of their biggest wins of the season on Nov. 15, outlasting the Southeast Saints 7-6 in a high-scoring showdown at the Vibank Rink. The game featured a barrage of offence from both sides, but it was Vibank's balanced attack that ultimately secured the win.

Jordan Fry, Jesslyn Gyurek and Shaelyn Myers led the charge for the Bruins, each contributing key goals in a game where momentum swung repeatedly between the two clubs. With the victory, Vibank improved to 4-1-0 and strengthened

their position near the top of the standings.

The Bruins will play one more game before the end of November, hosting the Rouleau Reign on Nov. 23 at 3:15 p.m. at the Vibank Rink.

Grenfell Prairie Fire

The Grenfell Prairie Fire faced a difficult matchup on Nov. 16, falling 10-1 to a dominant Rouleau Reign squad at the Rouleau Skating & Curling Club. Despite a hardworking effort and flashes of strong play, Grenfell couldn't slow Rouleau's relentless offence, which featured two-goal performances from both Rianne Watson and Lila Carpenter-Boesch.

Grenfell sits at 1-4-0 but has opportunities ahead to turn their month around and regain momentum.

The Prairie Fire will return home for two straight games to close out November, first hosting the Yellow Grass Wheat Queens on Nov. 23 at 5 p.m., followed by a matchup against the Southeast Saints on Nov. 29 at 7 p.m., both at the Grenfell Arena & Pool.

Local players to play for Vanier Cup

By GNG Staff
Grasslands News

Melville's John Stoll made two first-half tackles for the University of Saskatchewan Huskies, who led for the final 53 minutes Saturday in a 22-11 home win over the Queen's University Gaels.

The Mitchell Bowl victory sent Stoll and the Huskies to the Vanier Cup national championship, where they will face the Montreal Carabins on Saturday in Regina.

Also playing with the Huskies in the Cup this year is former Broadview Bandits' player Devon Burnham of Summerberry.

Queen's opened the Mitchell Bowl scoring with a rouge on the open-

ing kickoff but gave up a 41-yard touchdown pass near the midway point of the quarter and never led again.

The Huskies took a 14-1 lead into halftime after an 85-yard punt return touchdown from Daniel Kubongo.

Queen's found the end zone for the first time early in the third quarter on a 17-yard pass from Alex Vreeken to Cedric Smith, making it a 14-18 game.

Saskatchewan then scored on a safety to hold a 16-8 lead entering the fourth quarter.

The teams traded field goals in the opening three minutes of the final frame before Huskies' kicker Lukas Scott closed the scoring with a 24-yarder with

three minutes to play.

Stoll was penalized for pass interference during the first half, albeit on a drive that ended in a Queen's punt.

Also in the lineup for Saskatchewan on Saturday was Summerberry product and Grenfell high school graduate Devon Burnham, now in his third year as a Huskies' offensive lineman.

The Carabins beat the Saint Mary's Huskies 49-19 in the Uteck Bowl to punch their own ticket to the Vanier Cup.

Kickoff Saturday is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Mosaic Stadium.

Saskatchewan has won three Vanier Cups, the most recent being in 1998 when they beat Concordia 24-17 in Toronto.

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FREE QUOTES!

Sports Column

Harris, Ouellette key to Riders' Cup victory

By Bruce Penton
Sports Columnist

Now, just like the rabid fan base that lives and dies with the Saskatchewan Roughriders, Canadian Football League fans across the land are green — with envy.

The Riders, who last won a Grey Cup 12 years ago when they blasted Hamilton Tiger-Cats 45-23 in front of their boisterous fans in Regina, finally broke their championship drought Nov. 16 by beating the Montreal Alouettes 25-17.

To make it even sweeter for Gang Green, the Riders displayed their championship chops on the turf at Princess Auto Stadium in Winnipeg, scene of so many battles against their arch-rivals, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

While the Bomber faithful were still drowning their sorrows after a semi-final loss to Montreal, the Riders — boosted by an enormous showing of support from Saskatchewan fans who made the relatively short trek down the Trans-Canada Highway — upended Montreal with an offensive combination that worked throughout the 2025 season: The running of A.J. Ouellette (83 yards, one TD) and the accurate (85 per cent) arm of the game's MVP, quarterback Trevor Harris.

The Roughriders, who, going into the game, had a record of 4-13 in their

Grey Cup appearances, know all about Grey Cup droughts. They won their first title in 1966 and then waited 23 years for the next one, the famous 43-40 win over Hamilton on Dave Ridgway's late field goal. Another 18 years would pass before the Riders again drank champagne, in 2007, when they beat the Blue Bombers 23-19. The Riders were champs again only six years later, when they beat Hamilton in Regina, but the past 12 years have been dry, despite seven winning seasons. In three of those years, the Riders lost in the West final to Winnipeg, making this year's victory in the Manitoba capital so much more meaningful.

Ouellette, an Ohio native who was never drafted, joined the Riders in 2024 as a free agent after four seasons with Toronto Argonauts. His final year in Toronto was his best, with 1,009 rushing yards and an all-star selection. But that paled in comparison to his 2025 season in Saskatchewan. He rushed for 1,222 yards to finish second in the CFL behind only Dedrick Mills of Calgary. He also caught 45 passes and finished the season with nine touchdowns.

Sports Column
By Bruce Penton



"I've always kind of played with a chip on my shoulder," says Ouellette. "Always been the small guy in the huddle."

Ouellette said he lacked confidence early in his pro career. He was cut from two NFL teams, Cleveland and New Orleans, but started building belief in himself when he joined the Argonauts. He's certainly no stranger to the Grey Cup game, having scored two touchdowns in the Argos' 24-23 victory over the Bombers in 2022. It proved that he belonged in the league, said Ouellette.

And where was that 2022 game when Ouellette's two TDs powered the Argos to victory? At Mosaic Stadium in Regina, of all places. Rider Nation may not have been cheering loudly for Ouellette that day, but they were sure full-throated in Winnipeg this year when he helped bring the Grey Cup back to Regina.

- Comedy guy Brad Dickson of Omaha: "Today I began my new online Spanish course. I have a few weeks to learn the language so I can understand the lyrics during the Super Bowl halftime show."
- Vancouver comedy guy Torben Rolfsen: "The Dodgers held their World Series parade in Toronto because half their team was afraid of getting ICE'd."
- Rolfsen again: "Ernie Clement admitted he bought his glove on e-Bay, as opposed to Bo Bichette, who got his on Craigslist."
- Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com: "After winning the Cy Young, Pittsburgh Pirates winner Paul Skenes is denying media reports he wants to be

traded to the NY Yankees. So, he wants to stay with Pirates long enough to sign a billion-dollar different deal with the Dodgers?"

- Greg Cote of the Miami Herald: "Tom Brady cloned his dog: Is the Super Bowl legend-turned-Raiders part owner and mediocre broadcaster quirky, eccentric or just plain weird?"
- Another Rolfsen offering: "Tom Brady cloned his dog? What's next? Gisele?"
- Cote again: "Let us acknowledge and then ignore the NBA Cup, the league's 'in-season tournament' that somehow has survived to its third year despite being thoroughly unnecessary."
- Columnist Norman Chad, on the Washington-Miami NFL game in Spain: "Madrid asked for NFL excitement, and instead they're getting two 3-7 teams trying to remember what competent football looks like. Truly a gift from America."
- Jack Finarelli on his sportscurmudgeon.com site, on the weather in Winnipeg on Grey Cup Sunday: "The weather forecast for kickoff time in Winnipeg calls for the temperature to be 28 F and dropping. Anyone who can watch that game with a cold watermelon rind on his head for three hours deserves my support."
- Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "Super-agent Scott Boras is singing the Blue Jays praises rather publicly. Boras has about a billion dollars in free agents available this winter. He wants some of that Blue Jays money."
- Another one from Simmons: "(Alexander Mogilny) did his Hall of Fame speech on video from Russia. He looked like he was taken hostage and asking for his release."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

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Secret Santa program for Seniors

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

Secret Santa programs will bring holiday cheer to seniors in Broadview, Grenfell and Indian Head this Christmas.

The Student Leadership Council at Indian Head Elementary School has once again partnered with the local Pharmasave to facilitate a Secret Santa for Seniors initiative.

This has been a tradition in the community since 2017 and provides gifts for more than 100 seniors each year.

Wish lists are available at Pharmasave for each participant. Gifts purchased from Pharmasave and Home Hardware will receive a 20 per cent discount.

Community members should return the gifts, with the original wish list, to Pharmasave by Dec. 10. If community

members prefer that volunteers shop on their behalf, monetary donations are also accepted at the elementary school and pharmacy.

About a dozen slips of paper decorate a small tree at Pharamsave in Broadview. Each one provides gift ideas for a resident at Broadview Centennial Lodge, offering community members an opportunity to brighten a senior's holiday.

After selecting a tag

from the tree, gifts can be purchased from any retail outlet, including Broadview Pharmasave or Broadview Finds thrift store. Both those stores are offering a 15 per cent discount for Secret Santa purchases.

Gifts for Centennial Lodge residents should be returned, along with the tag from the Secret Santa tree, to the pharmacy in Broadview by Dec. 19.

Grenfell Family Pharmacy will also have a Secret Santa tree for local seniors this Christmas. Details were unavailable by this week's press time, but community members are encouraged to visit the store for further information.



BROADVIEW PHARMASAVE FACEBOOK | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Secret Santa
A tree at Broadview Pharmasave holds gift tags for a Secret Santa initiative; similar programs are being organized in Grenfell and Indian Head.

Cumberland Villas in Melville host many worthwhile events

Submitted by Diane Exner
Grasslands News

At Cumberland Villas in Melville, community and connection continue to shape everything we do.

As part of our commitment to the Four Pillars of Wellness — Mental, Physical, Spiritual, and Emotional — November has been a month rich with learning, engagement, and meaningful moments.

We were pleased to welcome Lisa Markham, who presented Understanding the Psychology of Chronic Pain. Her practical strategies and compassionate approach supported both emotional and mental wellness for our residents.

We also enjoyed a helpful and informative

session called Dazzling Dentures, presented by Sarah Mann, a third-year university student passionate about oral health and accessible denture care.

A highlight of the month was welcoming the Melville Air Cadets for a special Remembrance ceremony. Following the formal portion, cadets and residents spent time together playing games, sharing stories, and getting to know one another. It was a beautiful inter-generational moment — full of laughter, connection, and mutual appreciation.

Later in the month, Tryna Odland offered a clear and informative session on Power of Attor-

ney, equipping residents with valuable knowledge for their future planning.

As we move toward the holiday season, excitement is building for our first-ever Outdoor Christmas Display, which will be featured in the upcoming Tour of Lights at the Regional Park. Residents and staff have been working together to create something festive and memorable for all to enjoy.

Lastly, Cumberland Villas currently has only a small handful of suites available for rent or sale. Book your tour and enjoy a complimentary lunch — come experience why our residents call this exceptional senior's community 'home'.



SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Wellness events
The Melville Air Cadets recently spent time at Cumberland Villas in Melville, playing games, sharing stories and getting to know the residents.

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, Nov. 23:
2:00 p.m. Worship Service and Sunday School
Tuesday, Nov. 25:
7 p.m. Worship Committee Meets
* * *
-- at Neudorf/Lemberg --
Sunday, Nov. 23:
*9 a.m. Worship at Trinity Lemb
*11 a.m. Worship at Christ Neud

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH
Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.
306-720-0589
*Services Every Second Sunday
Nov. 23:
10:30 a.m. Eucharist Service

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
5th Ave. E. & King St.
Rev. Brian Mee, 306-335-7611
website: firstunitedmelville.org
Sunday, Nov. 23:
11:00 a.m. Worship Service with Kerry Bartake

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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
258 - 10th Ave. W.
Ph. 306-728-3971
Pastor Ronald Shumba
facebook.com/gslcmelville
Nov. 20: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
Nov. 21: 7:00 p.m. Youth Group
Nov. 22: 10 a.m. Men's & Mugs
Nov. 23: 9:15 a.m. Choir
10:30 a.m. Communion Service
Nov. 24: 7:00 p.m. Comm. Choir
Nov. 25: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Day
Nov. 27: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

ST. GEORGE'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Corner of 3rd Ave. E. & Manitoba St.
Fr. Basil Malowany
basilmalowany@gmail.com
306-540-5102
Sunday, Nov. 23:
4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy
Sunday, Nov. 30:
11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

MELVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
473 - 8th Ave. W.
Office Ph. 306-728-5022
Pastor Jon Pettinger
Associate Pastor: Jesse Darby
Sunday:
Connections at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service at 11 a.m.
Online services can be found at:
www.melvillebaptist.com

BETHANY EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH
5th Ave. W. & Queen St.
Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001
Sunday, Nov. 23:
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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: zlcpcastor@myaccess.ca
www.zionlutheranmelville.com
Sunday, Nov. 23:
11:00 a.m. Divine Service
Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on 940 CJGX Radio, Yorkton

Whitewood & Area Churches Welcome You

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

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

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Tomy Mandapathil
Sunday, Nov. 23
11:00 a.m. Mass Service

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday, Nov. 23:
10:30 a.m. Worship Service with The Rev. Cheryl Johnson

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA
Sunday, Nov. 23:
No Worship Service

WHITEWOOD UNITED CHURCH
Sunday, Nov. 23
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

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
Nov. 30:
Advent One Lay Service

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

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

ST. ANNE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
418 First St., Kipling
Priest: Father Joseph Villamartin
306-538-2163
Saturday, Nov. 22:
Mass 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Fort Qu'Appelle Churches Welcome You

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

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
202 Bay Ave. S.,
Phone - 306-551-6213
Hall Contact - 306-563-7451

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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The District of Katepwa is accepting sealed tenders for the sale of a 1991 Champion 740A Series III Motor Grader (210 HP, 8,877 hours, articulating, heated cab, snow gate, no known mechanical issues). Sold as is, where is.

Viewing available at the Maintenance Shop during regular business hours by appointment (foreman@katewpabeach.ca or 306-332-6645).

Tenders will be accepted until 3:30 p.m. on December 11, 2025 by email at cao@katepwabeach.ca or at the District Office. Tenders will be opened by Administration on December 12 and presented to Council on December 16.

If you are the successful bidder, you are required to make full payment by the date and method you specified in your tender.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. GST applies.
Full tender document available at: <https://katepwabeach.ca/grader-tender/>

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



CLASSIFIEDS

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

Obituary

Bruce Neill
Nov. 10, 1952 – Nov. 14, 2025

Garnet Bruce Neill, of Indian Head, SK, passed away peacefully at home on Friday, Nov. 14, 2025, surrounded by his loving family after a brief battle with cancer.

Bruce was born on Nov. 10, 1952 to Delbert (Harold) Neill and Edna (Mae) Somers in Winnipeg, MB. He enjoyed a lively childhood growing up in a “busy household” with his four siblings: Lynda, Kathy, Doug and Ken.

After graduating from Transcona Collegiate, he went on to receive a Bachelor’s degree and a PhD in Entomology from the University of Manitoba. During these years, he met and married his first wife Claire Peters in Winnipeg on June 21, 1975, and the couple moved to Indian Head for Bruce’s work in December of 1977. During their 24 years of marriage, they had two children, a son, Richard and daughter, Erin.

Bruce had accepted a position as an Entomologist and Head of the Investigation Section at the federal PFRA Tree Nursery (later known as Agroforestry Development Centre within the Agri-Environment Services Branch) in Indian Head. He found great meaning in his work and spent his entire career of 33 years at the Centre. Bruce retired as the manager in 2011.

A new chapter of life started for Bruce when he met his soulmate and partner Laura Poppy in 2001. These two peas in a pod were married on May 12, 2007. They shared many of the same passions and hobbies and the main ones being nature conservation, community service, playing drums and travelling nationally and internationally with the RCMP pipe band. One of his crowning achievements was playing snare drum at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Scotland on three occasions, 2015, 2019 and 2024. With their active lifestyle, together they enjoyed cross country skiing, camping, hiking and extensive, adventurous travel.

His community work and volunteerism was evident during the Grand Theatre restoration project in Indian Head and his 20-year service as the drum sergeant of the Saskatchewan RCMP Pipes, Drums and Dancers based out of Regina, SK, just to name a few. In appreciation of his dedication to volunteerism, Bruce (and Laura) received the Queen’s Jubilee Medal in 2023 and The King’s Coronation Medal in 2025 as well as the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal in 2025. Bruce also felt honoured to be a torch bearer for the 2010 Winter Olympics in recognition of his passion for community service.

In his spare time, Bruce loved being a grandfather and as a talented musician, played music with his daughter, Erin any chance he got! They enjoyed their annual Christmas sing-along at the Indian Head Library and more recently playing with their band during Open Mics at the Gallery Coffee House. He was also well loved, and is dearly missed, by a large group of like-minded friends.

Bruce is survived by his loving wife, Laura Poppy; his children, Richard (Heather) Neill, Erin (Douglas) Lamb; and his grandchildren, Rylee, Sydnee, Joni and Matthew; sisters, Lynda (Shaun) Parisian and Kathy Neill (Dennis Derksen); brothers, Douglas (Lorrie) Neill and Ken Neill (Carey Duncan); father-in-law Bruce Poppy; brother-in-law Lee (Malina) Poppy; sister-in-law Shannon Poppy (Brian Poniatowski); and all of his many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his beloved parents, Harold and Mae Neill; and mother-in-law Charlene Poppy.

Bruce’s family would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the staff at the Allan Blair Cancer Centre, the staff at the Indian Head Union Hospital, the palliative care team, and the staff at the Indian Head Pharmasave. Your care for Bruce went above and beyond and we are eternally grateful.

A celebration of life with live music, stories and images will be held in the Memorial Hall in Indian Head on Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. Informal dress attire – please wear your favourite sports jersey or goofy shirt to honour Bruce’s vibrant spirit. The celebration will be livestreamed with the link that will be posted on www.tubmanfh.com A private interment will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: www.grandtheatre1904.com and/or www.cancerfoundation-sask.ca

Online condolences may be made at www.tubmanfh.com



Obituary

Carole Esther Elizabeth Westcott (Maki)
1937 – 2025



Today there is a new angel in heaven. Carole passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025, in Medicine Hat, AB at the age of 88 years, beloved wife of the late Gerald (Gerry) Westcott.

She will be dearly missed by sons, Douglas, Donald and Craig; grandsons, Clifford, Sam, Eric and Cam; brother, Wayne Maki, of Granum, AB; sister-in-law Gwen (Ray) Westcott, of Lanigan, SK and brother-in-law, Allen (Karen) Kolman, of Whitewood, SK; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She was predeceased by her husband, Gerald; parents, Donald and Signe Maki; Gerald’s parents, Clifford and Dorothy; step-father, Wellington Kolman; Gerald’s sister, Mona Palmer (Westcott); as well as maternal and paternal grandparents.

Carole was born on her uncle’s farm near Tantallon, SK on June 11, 1937, to Donald and Signe Maki. She attended Grove Park School for grades 1 to 10 then Whitewood High School for grades 11 and 12. Carole went on to get her Registered Nurses designation at Regina General Hospital School of Nursing, graduating in 1959. Carole loved her nursing profession and continued to work in the medical field for almost 40 years.

On June 11, 1960, Carole walked down the aisle with her high school sweetheart to start their dance of life. Their union was joined by three sons in rapid succession. Upon graduation she began working at the Whitewood Hospital. In 1969 the family moved to Lynn Lake, MB where she worked at Sheritt Gordon Mines Hospital. While in Lynn Lake nurses learned many other skills such as taking x-rays, simple lab procedures and emergency flights to and from First Nations camps and to Winnipeg, she enjoyed the action. 1975 saw the family move to Medicine Hat, AB. Carole was one of the first female paramedics in Alberta, she worked with the Medicine Hat Ambulance for several years. She worked in the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital Emergency Department until retirement.

Carole loved to travel, she visited Mexico, New Zealand, Fiji, Cuba, Hong Kong, Thailand, Korea, China, several trips to the USA and western Canada. She also loved trying different things such as mountain hiking, golf, skiing (cross country and down hill) dragon boating and many types of physical fitness. She loved to learn new things and took classes in oil painting, photography, Brazilian embroidery as well as many sewing classes.

At Carole’s request there will be no funeral services. There will be a graveside service in Whitewood, SK at a later date. In lieu of floral tributes, please donate to Ronald McDonald House Charities, 569 4 St SW, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 4G2 or to your favorite charity. Condolences may be sent to condolences@saamis.com subject heading Carole Westcott.

Funeral arrangements are entrusted to Saamis Memorial Funeral Chapel and Crematorium, “The Chapel in the Park”, Medicine Hat, AB. Should you wish any additional information, please telephone 1-800-317-2647.

Memoriam

GESSNER – In loving memory of our dear mom, grandma and great-grandma, Kay, who passed away 15 years ago on Nov. 21, 2010.

As each day dawns we think of you,
As each night falls we pray for you,
And throughout our lives no matter where,
In our hearts you are always there.

–Loved, remembered and missed every day, Brenda and Jack; Darcia and Bill; Kathie and Perry; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memoriam



MILLER – In loving memory of my very, very dear grandpa, Jacob Miller, who joined the Canadian Army in 1914, fought in the front line battles at Ypres, Somme, Arres, Paschendale and Vimy. Grandpa was wounded while carrying a message across enemy lines. 3 men were sent, only grandpa arrived. He was later decorated with the Meritorious Cross. When the First World War ended in 1918, grandpa chose to stay overseas to help care for the many wounded and sick. He arrived home in Neudorf on March 24, 1919. Grandpa, for all you’ve done, for all you’ve been, my heart is filled with love, gratitude and thanksgiving. I will always remember.

–Forever your granddaughter, Linda (Miller) Hanowski.

For Sale

FOR SALE – First rate treadmill, paid \$1,400, asking \$600; Rotary Foredom Flexshaft tool, paid \$400, asking \$175. Both in good working order. Phone 306-760-1945, Melville. M26-nc

Laundromat for Sale

BROADWAY Laundromat for Sale in Fort Qu’Appelle. \$195,000. Call or text, 306-501-7078.

For Rent

FOR RENT – 1- and 2-bedroom apartments in Squire’s Court, Melville. Appliances included. Phone Steve at 306-730-7242.

FOR RENT – 2 bedroom apartment in Melville. Equipped with fridge, stove, AC, off-suite storage, plug-in parking and free laundry. 306-260-7447 for inquiries. M8/tfnc

Janitor Wanted

JANITOR WANTED at Broadway Laundromat in Fort Qu’Appelle. Evening cleanup. Call or text, 306-501-7078. F13-4p

\$ Paying Cash \$

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

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SEALED TENDERS must be submitted in an envelope marked “Property Tender” addressed to the Village of Kennedy: Box 93, Kennedy, SK S0G 2R0. Tenders must be postmarked by 3:00 p.m. on December 31, 2025. Highest, or any tender, not necessarily accepted. Successful bidder will have 90 days to provide payment of the property purchase.
Dated the 13th of November, 2025.

Jennifer McMillan
Administrator
Village of Kennedy

1-844-GNG-NEWS

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(based on 25 words or less)



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1-844-GNG-NEWS

Email: classifieds@grasslandsnews.ca

Farmers Protest Canada this Saturday

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

Farmers from across Canada will unite on Saturday, Nov. 22 for a series of peaceful protests aimed at drawing national attention to rising operational costs, increasing regulatory pressure, and the growing financial strain facing Canadian agriculture.

Coordinated events are taking place at centers across Canada including Ottawa Parliament Hill from 12 to 4 p.m. by those protesting against government overreach and Bill C-8 & Bill C-9.

For those closer, there are a few listed places on social media showing where to gather including at the Saskatchewan-Manitoba border, at the Regina Legislative Building at 12 p.m. meet time, Main Track Truck Stop in Weyburn with an 8 a.m. meet time, a 9:30 a.m. meet time at Prairie Oasis Road in Moose Jaw and also the convoy for Saskatoon will meet on the south end of Martensville, Range RD 3054A at 10:30 a.m.

Convoys are converging to underscore how agricultural challenges impact producers across the Prairies and beyond. Organizers say the movement is peaceful, non-partisan, and focused on protecting the future of Canadian farming and rural communities.

“Producers are at a breaking point,” the report on social media stated. “Input costs are at historic highs, transportation delays have been crippling, and new policies are being implemented without proper consultation. We’re showing up to make sure the people who feed this country are heard.”

A Manitoba participant added, “This movement is about protecting our ability to farm. We’re proud of what we do, but we can’t keep carrying the burden alone.”

Organizers expect participants from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta, with convoys emphasizing the scale of concern. Members of the public are welcome to attend in support of local producers, and traffic delays may be encountered at some places.

The protests aim to highlight the many challenges facing Canadian farmers, including escalating fuel, fertilizer, and equipment costs, unpredictable federal and provincial regulations, transportation and supply chain delays, grain market instability, land-use policies affecting farm operations, support for young and transitioning farmers, and mental health pressures in rural communities.

Organizers emphasize that the demonstrations are family-friendly, constructive, and focused on securing meaningful government action to support the agricultural sector. “This is not about politics. It’s about survival,” the organizing committee stated. “If we want family farms to be around in 20 years, action needs to start now.”

Farmers Protest Canada stands united for freedom, fairness, and the future of farming in Canada. The mission of the movement is to defend farmers’ rights, protect Canada’s food security, and shed light on government overreach threatening rural livelihoods. Through peaceful, coordinated slow-roll convoys and city demonstrations, the organization seeks to bring national and global

attention to the struggles of Canadian farmers, demand accountability and transparency from the CFIA and federal government, and inspire Canadians across the country to stand together for truth, justice, and sovereignty.

This movement is not just about farmers — it is about every Canadian who believes in freedom, integrity, and a sustainable future. “We are peaceful, we are proud, and we are united. Together, we are making history,” organizers said.

To ensure the movement remains peaceful, all participants are asked to follow a code of conduct emphasizing respect, safety, and professionalism. Violence, threats, or harassment will not be tolerated.

Emergency vehicles and the public must always be respected, and participants are asked to

keep convoys slow, safe, and unobstructed. Positive messaging and Canadian flags are encouraged, while hate symbols or divisive rhetoric are strictly prohibited.

Participants are reminded to follow road safety rules, ensure vehicles are roadworthy, remain sober and alert, and support fellow Canadians with compassion and unity.

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TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

Rural Municipality of Kingsley No. 124
Province of Saskatchewan

Notice is hereby given under the Tax Enforcement Act that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land described in the following list are fully paid before the 21st day of January, 2026 an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

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

Description of Property	Title No.	Total Arrears	Costs Advertising	Total Arrears & Costs
Pt. SW 35-13-04 W2	154851554	\$942.37	\$54.00	\$996.37
SW 34-15-06 W2	138460619	\$373.90	\$54.00	\$427.90

Dated at Kipling, Saskatchewan this 21st day of November, 2025 Holly Heikkila, Treasurer



PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT BYLAW NO. 482/2025

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

INTENT:
The proposed Bylaw will:

- Simplify the definition for corner site;
- Add a definition for irregularly-shaped (non-rectangular) lots; and
- Add considerations for reducing yard setbacks on irregularly-shaped lots.

REASON FOR THE AMENDMENT:
The proposed amendment will provide clarification in Bylaw regulations and accommodate a proposed residence on an existing residential site.

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

PUBLIC HEARING:
Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions on the proposed Bylaw on December 15, 2025 at 7 p.m. at the Town of Balgonie Council Chambers. Council will also consider written submissions received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing. For further information, please contact the Town Office at 306-771-2284.
Issued at the Town of Balgonie this November 14, 2025.

Karen Craigie, Administrator

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Balcarres hosts annual Remembrance service

By Judy Hershmiller
Grasslands News

A nice crowd was in attendance at the Remembrance Day Service held at the Balcarres Lions Hall.

The ceremony began with the marching in of the colours by the Legion and a member of the RCMP.

O Canada was sung followed by “They grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We Shall Remember Them”.

The Balcarres Roll Call of Honor was announced: 1914-1918 Frank Brabant, Ernest Colter, Elija Dickson, Patrick Dumphries, John Earl, Arthur Forbes, Edward Greenhow, Edison Greenhow, Harold Heighton, Richard Johnson, Fred Lindridge, Robert Morrison, Harold Oakley, George Prizeman, Charles Spitco, Andrew Walker, Gordon Travis, Robert Webster.1939-1945: Gorge Cann, William Douglas, William Daniels, Harold Dyer, Walter Figgitt (Jr), Cyril Grubb, William Hamilton, Melvin McDonald, Thomas Morris, Jack Morrison, Jack Warner.

The Last Post, and Minute of Silence was observed before the Reveille.

Wreaths were placed on the crosses on stage representing various national and provincial government branches, armed forces, local businesses and individuals.

The hymn “O God of all the Many Lands” was sung followed by the Call of Worship by Lee Ann Lucyk.

Legion past president Geoff Turtle introduced the speaker, Gene Figley of Regina. Gene spoke of the origin of the poppy that commemorates the lives of veterans, and of the names of 120,000 who died in conflicts, contained in eight Books of Remembrance. His son was killed in Afghanistan,

and he also spoke of the brotherhood of veterans who helped bring peace to his soul as they support each other. He concluded by talking of the 10,000 homeless veterans in Canada and the need to build tiny homes for the veterans who fought in conflicts for us. The closest tiny home complex being built for veterans is in Winnipeg.

Following Figley’s address, the hymn “O God of Endless Ages” was sung. A collection was taken and will be donated to the Balcarres Integrated Care Centre Recreation Dept. to go towards the activities of the residents.

In Flanders Field was read by Dan Sandercock.

The draw was made for the Legion quilt and the lucky winner was Dan Bellegarde. God Save the King was sung to conclude the formal part of the service.

An interesting display of Legion photos and memorabilia was on exhibit. Everyone was invited to stay and visit and enjoy a lunch prepared by the Legion.

Several members of the Legion and friends also went to the BICC to take their program to the Centre and lay a wreath following the service at the hall.

A thank you is extended to the community for your continued support of the Balcarres Legion Branch #84. The Legion is always looking for people to join their ranks, and if you are interested give contact Georff Turtle or Alan Lyd a call.

Golden Age News

A reminder that the Seniors will host their coffee time every Tues. at 9:30 a.m. and every Thurs at 2:00 p.m. A warm welcome is extended to anyone who is 45 years or older who would like to join the Golden Agers. Membership is \$40 for the year. Please note that if you don’t drive the members will gladly arrange to pick you up and bring

you back home. Call pres. Carol Flight for details 306-334-2449.

The seniors center will also host a crib tournament each Saturday during the winter months at 1:30 p.m. You don’t need a partner. The cost is a tonnie and the winner takes the pot. You are also welcome to come and play pool, shuffleboard, crokinole, and there are lots of board games or you can bring your own game to share and spend an afternoon of great social activity. You don’t need a membership for crib tournaments. There will be no crib games Nov. 29. Many members have signed up that day to go on an Engleheim Bus Trip to Caronport and are looking forward to attending their Christmas program at Briercrest followed by a Christmas supper in Moose Jaw.

The next general meeting of the Golden Age Club is after coffee time on Dec. 9.

The Seniors Christmas party takes place at the Center on Dec. 10 with a supper and entertainment.

The monthly birthday party for November will be combined with December, and the date planned is Dec. 17.

Fruit pies, perogies and cabbage rolls continue to

be available for sale and for more information contact Sandy 306-331-7455.

The Sewing Club generally meets every second Tuesday. Most members usually come and enjoy Tuesday coffee and then begin sewing. They bring their lunch and make a fun day of it. The sewers have done wonderful works such as making pillowcases, and donating them to cancer patients of all ages. They have also created and donated neonatal quilts.

Chair yoga is also planned for another season with Florence Milne co-ordinating the event weekly, Mondays starting at 10 a.m. This is a free exercise for everyone who likes to stay in shape.

Coming Events

Nov. 20 and Nov 21: Christmas themed Garage Sale and Bake Sale at the

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TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

Village of Killaly Province of Saskatchewan

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Tax Arrears Listing as of November 20, 2025

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

Description of Property		Total	Advert.	Total Arrears
Alternate #	Lot - Blk - Plan	Title #	Arrears	Costs & Costs
505000700-01	14 1 62665	154955346	\$1,402.94	\$15.19
500003600-01	16 & 17 3 62665	152438553 & 152438564	\$2,188.40	\$30.38
505004800-01	11-13 4 62665	155921171, 155921238 & 155921249	\$358.64	\$45.57
				\$404.21

Dated this 20th Day of November, 2025.

Audrey Ulmer, Administrator



Town of Broadview Call For Nominations By-Election

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of: **Councillors for the Town of Broadview (Number to be Elected – 3)** will be received by the undersigned on the 17th day of December, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST at the Municipal Administration Office, 609 Main Street, Broadview, Saskatchewan, and during regular business hours on 20th day of November to the 17th day of December, 2025, at the Municipal Administration Office, 609 Main Street, Broadview, Saskatchewan. Nomination forms may be obtained at the Municipal Administration Office, 609 Main Street, Broadview, Saskatchewan. Dated this 20th day of November, 2025.

Chantelle Outhwaite
(Returning Officer)

PUBLIC NOTICE RM of Stanley No. 215

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Stanley No. 215 intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend its Zoning Bylaw.

Intent: The purpose of the proposed bylaw is to add the Special Service Area of Duff to the Hamlet District of the Zoning Bylaw.

Affected Land: The amendment will affect all lands located within the boundaries of the Special Service Area of Duff.

Reason: This amendment is required to reflect the restructuring of the former Urban Municipality of Duff into a Special Service Area under the Hamlet jurisdiction of the RM of Stanley No. 215. The zoning change ensures appropriate land use regulation under the current municipal structure.

Public Inspection: The proposed bylaw may be inspected by any interested person at the RM of Stanley No. 215 office during regular office hours. Copies of the bylaw are available at cost.

Public Hearing: Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 10 a.m. The public hearing will be held at the RM office in Melville, SK. Any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw is welcome to attend or to submit comments prior to the meeting. Council will consider all comments received. Issued at the RM of Stanley No. 215 November 7, 2025.

Rhonda Schmaltz, Administrator

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Quilt stitched by many hands hanging in library

By Sarah Pacio
Grasslands News

A brightly colored quilt stitched by many hands is now hanging in Grenfell Library. The sewing project began about three years ago and was inspired by a book.

“Most of the things that I do here start from a book. I see a book that someone has ordered, and I think, ‘That’s really cool!’ Then I find someone who is interested in a project, and we find a way to teach some of the kids,” explained Librarian Sheila Warne-Peter.

Grenfell resident

Leona Acoose was happy to partner with the librarian for a quilting project. She shared her sewing expertise by first guiding young library patrons in creating star panels from fabric.

Youth learned how to cut and stitch each piece together, becoming familiar with basic sewing steps and the particular pattern. The shape used for the library project is a Texas Star, but Acoose took the opportunity to also explain the significance of star blankets for Indigenous cultures. Instruction on quilting techniques was provided and then Acoose began

preparing a larger, co-operative project.

Community members were invited to help hand-sew a star quilt, made from donated materials. Acoose laid out the design, then she and the librarian prepared take-home kits with diamond-shaped fabric pieces for youth and adults to sew together.

“She is really an artist when it comes to quilting,” commented Warne-Peter.

After the individual fabric stars were sewn and returned to the library, they were assembled to make a quilt in all shades of the rainbow. Another volunteer, Cheryl

Bieber, contributed many hours using her skills to hand-quilt the final product. The names of everyone who participated in the project will be added to the stars using fabric markers.

The blanket now hangs as a work of art in the library. The colourful textile is a demonstration of the beauty that can result from community collaboration.

“Everything was done

by hand. It really was a thrilling moment for us last week when it was done,” the librarian said. “It’ll be here forever; quilts are that kind of thing, they’re a memory.”



Library Quilt
Cheryl Bieber happily displays the star quilt that was stitched by community members at Grenfell Library.

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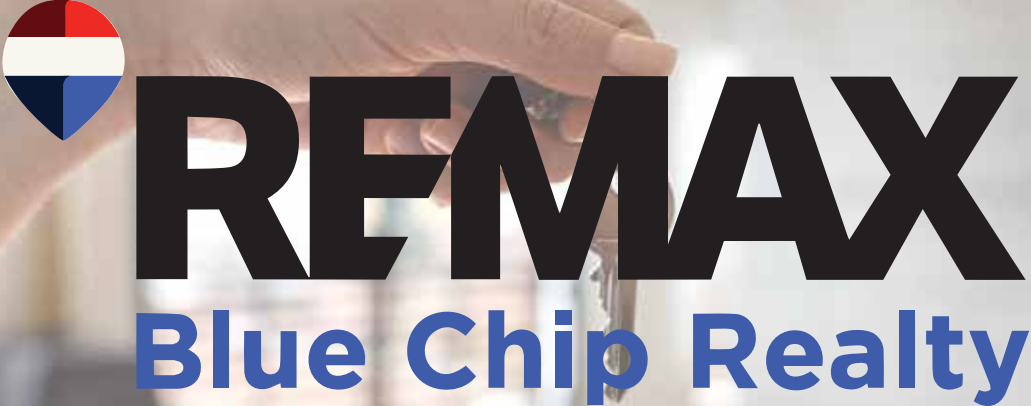
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159.36 Acres
MLS®SK021083

RM of Sliding Hills



\$675,000

Land & Buildings
4-BDM, 2-BATH, 2,942 SQ.FT.
90.18 acres MLS®SK010198

RM of McLeod



SOLD
\$659,000



WAYS TO MAKE YOUR HOME STAND OUT IN A COMPETITIVE MARKET

- Improve curb appeal
- Make renovations big or small
- Choose professional photography
- Focus on staging
- Hire a real estate agent for marketing and guidance