

# Kipling welcomes home a champion

By **Connie Schwalm**  
Grasslands News

It's hard to surprise the people in your hometown.

People who have watched you grow up all know where you started and have seen you at your best and at those times when your best was more than you had to give.

Often the people in your hometown have walked enough miles with you that they will simply nod their head when you reach the various destinations that you will travel to during your life.

But now and then, the path will take a turn that nobody expected.

For Kipling's Gilbert Dash, that happened 20 years ago, when a skiing accident forced him to change direction completely.

Nobody, including Dash himself, imagined then that he was starting down a road towards years of success at the national and international level in wheelchair curling. Nor did anyone predict at the beginning of his journey, that this would bring him to the Paralympic Winter Games in Cortina, Italy this year, where as part of Team Canada, Dash would capture a Gold Medal in Wheelchair Curling.

Last Saturday, May 9, between 150-200 people came out to the Community Center in Kipling to honour Gilbert Dash and celebrate both his journey and victory with him.

The event was hosted by the Town of Kipling and Mayor Pat Jackson welcomed Dash home, thanking him for being a great role model at a time when that is so desperately needed. Recreation and Culture Manager Tara Carter says that she was excited to be able to organize this event for Dash.

"Gil deserved to be recognized for all his accomplishments and in the ten years that I've been here, nothing like that has been done for him. So, I'd thought about doing something before the Paralympics. But when he won gold, he was barely off the ice when I messaged him and said that I wanted him to come to Kipling for a celebration. He messaged back and said, 'That's a great idea - but can we talk about it more when I get back to Canada?' He was busy celebrating. So, maybe I was a bit too eager!"

Carter goes on to say that she was thrilled by the number of people who came out to take part in the event

"How often do we get together like this and celebrate something wonderful like this? Too often people get together this way for a funeral. But this was about laughter, fun and people sharing stories. That's something that I hope we can find reasons to do more often, and I was so proud of Kipling for the way that this community



## A community's pride

There was a joyous celebration at the Kipling Community Centre last Saturday as old friends, family, neighbours and fans welcomed Gilbert Dash home.

showed up for this."

Dash was also impressed by the turnout.

"I thought that there were quite a few people there, especially since I know that the farmers were out seeding, and I know a lot of farmers," Dash says with a laugh. "And what was amazing was that people came a long distance - from places like Brandon, Estevan and Regina. For example, there were five women who came from Regina. They were all about five years older than me - they are my brother's age. One was a figure skating teacher, and the rest just know me well. They took the time to come and told me that they had watched every game that we played. Wow. It was so nice of people like that to come all that way."

Dash goes on to say that he was equally touched by the number of people who reached out to express their regret for not being able to attend.

"I've had messages and phone calls from people saying, 'Sorry I couldn't come'. That was nice too. It feels good to know that so many people are thinking of you and supporting you."

Of course, the people you grow up with also know all of the sketchy stories and crazy memories that give our lives flavor. Monica Olson and Jeff Balogh are old friends who took the opportunity to share some stories and memories like this about Dash. For example, Olson talked about Dash's "competitive" side, noting that this had been partic-

ularly evident during dodgeball games at school. Balogh shared several stories about various adventures that he and Dash, along with their teammates and friends had as they grew up playing hockey together.

Yet old friends remember the good stuff too.

Balogh highlighted one incident specifically, after their team had "won the cup in game seven against Wapella" which he felt demonstrated Dash's true character.

"The thing that I remember the most about Gibby's speech is that he said, 'Thanks for letting me play guys,'" Balogh recalled. "Such a classy, humble statement from a classy humble person."

Balogh also took the time to praise Gilbert's parents.

"For my second story, I'm going to take Gilbert out of the spotlight for a bit. Gilbert's parents, Bob and Leona, have not only been great parents for Gilbert, but they have helped to make Kipling a great place to live and grow up in. Their community involvement, strong work ethic, caring personalities and positive attitudes have made them pillars of the community."

Olson led the crowd in cheering for Dash's success and for the positive impact he has had on so many. She observed that although he no longer lives in the community, Dash is proud to call Kipling "home."

"You can tell how important Gilbert's roots are to him when

you watch his live interviews and read the articles written about him Olson pointed out. "He is very proud to be from Canada, from Saskatchewan, and most of all from Kipling. For example, you will find Kipling, not Regina, listed as his home on the official Curling Canada website. So, he is a great ambassador for our community and for the sport of wheelchair curling!"

As well, Olson shared a message from Crystal Leggett, Dash's sister, who was unable to attend the event.

"Gil's achievements as a wheelchair curler are many and as Paralympic wheelchair gold medalist, are nothing short of remarkable" Leggett said in her message. "My brother didn't just compete on the world stage—he won a Paralympic gold medal! His years of dedication, perseverance, and relentless work ethic have inspired not only those in the world of sport, but everyone fortunate enough to know him personally." Leggett acknowledged the important role that Dash's partner, Angela Rygh has played as well, noting that "you are truly his angel, The support you have shown him and the rest of our family is unwavering and does not go unnoticed."

She also wrote about the impact that the community has had on her brother.

"Through every challenge and every victory, Gil has shown what can be accomplished with determination, courage, and

heart. That achievement didn't happen overnight. It came from years of resilience, determination, and the kind of quiet strength that small towns like ours know so well....To that end, my brother's victory is his. But it's also a reflection of the values this town instills in all of us. It's a reminder that greatness can come from anywhere—even from a small prairie town with a big heart."

Those who were there to celebrate with Dash had the chance to see and hold his Paralympic Gold Medal. It is a substantial thing. As Dash observed, "It's bigger than the National medals, and yes, it's heavy. There's supposed to be about 500 grams of very pure silver inside it with six grams of gold plate on the outside."

But for Gilbert Dash, the afternoon in Kipling was also an opportunity to celebrate something that is worth more to him than a Gold Medal.

"It's super good to spend an afternoon like this - to be here with people from my hometown - and to know that this community still has my back. These are the people who have always been there for me, from the beginning. I will treasure the memories of all this even more than I treasure the medal itself. Because when people you've known all your life tell you they're proud of you and what you accomplished has made them proud to be Canadian, that's a good feeling. Even gold can't beat that."

## 2025 MARKED 80 YEARS AS A TUBMAN FAMILY BUSINESS



www.summit-memorials.com 306-698-2557 | 800-667-8962

# Kipling petition reignites ER closure debate in province

By Ryan Kiedrowski  
Grasslands News

A 25-page petition calling for the government to make a service disruption map of Saskatchewan Health

Authority facilities public was presented in Legislative Assembly last week.

Keith Jorgenson, the NDP MLA for Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood noted he collected the 25-page list of signatures “in about an hour last week in the beautiful town of Kipling.”

“Saskatchewan’s hospitals are experiencing hundreds of disruptions in services affecting patient care and putting people’s lives at risk; and that the residents of Saskatchewan deserve to know what care is available and when it is available in their community in real time; and that the SHA maintains a service disruption map and a comprehensive list of service disruptions but does not allow the public to access this website,” Jorgenson read.

Later, during Question Period, Jorgenson accused Premier Scott Moe and Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill “voted against transparency in rural health care” when third reading of the amendment of Bill 606 was defeated recently.

“The mayor of Kipling endorses Bill 606 and even joined me in downtown Kipling collecting signatures pressuring this government to do the right thing,” Jorgenson claimed. “If this minister won’t listen to us in the opposition, will he listen to the people in Kipling and the rest of rural Saskatchewan?”

In his response, Cockrill thanks Mayor Pat Jackson “for her continued advocacy for health services in her community and really her whole region of the province,” adding that he and Minister of Rural and Remote Health Lori Carr have met with Mayor Jackson “at different points over the last several years.”

“What we are focused on is our patients-first health care plan, which again ensures that patients can get the right care at the right time and as close to home as possible,” Cockrill said. “That’s what we’re focused on — filling chronic nursing vacancies, training more physicians, training more nurse practitioners, and improving outcomes for all patients in this province.”

Meanwhile, Jorgenson continued to rally for another look at The Provincial Health Authority (ER Closure Right-to-Know) Amendment Act.

“People in rural Saskatchewan deserve to know the most up-to-date information about emergency rooms,” he said. “Literally every single person that we spoke to in downtown Kipling is on board with Bill 606, yet this

government opposes it. Will the government reverse their decision today and join with the people of Kipling and their mayor in endorsing Bill 606?”

Cockrill pointed out that the SHA has doubled efforts in reporting, not listing service disruptions on their website in the morning and afternoon each day.

“We directed the Saskatchewan Health Authority to increase the frequency that they’re updating where we may have temporary service disruptions to at least twice a day or as soon as practically possible,” he said, underlining the importance of providing accurate information to the public. “We continue to work with the Saskatchewan Health Authority, again to provide accurate and up-to-date information to patients that’s accurate.”

He ultimately ended debate on the matter with a quick jab regarding the departure of former NDP MLA Betty Nippi-Albright, now sitting as an Independent representing Saskatoon Centre.

“Last week the members opposite had four health critics and zero ideas. Now they have three health critics and zero ideas,” he said. “What we have is a patients-first health care plan focused on 50 next steps for patients. That’s what we’re going to stay focused on.”

Petitions presented by MLAs are recorded and saved in the archives but carry no obligation for the government to act on them. Aside from serving as a sign of public pressure, petitions rarely affect actual change.

Canadian Fiddle Champion  
**SCOTT WOODS**  
Fiddle Country  
Featuring multi-talented band




**TUFFNELL**  
June 5 at 7pm

Tuffnell Community Hall,  
Railway Ave.

Proceeds support the Foam  
Lake Cultural Collective

For tickets call  
1-855-726-8896  
or online  
www.scottwoods.ca

**CRIME STOPPERS**

Have information?

LEAVE A TIP!

1-800-222-TIPS

saskcrimestoppers.com

## Report from the Legislature

Momentum continues to build across our province as the economy grows, services expand, and key supports strengthen for families and communities. Our government remains focused on stability, opportunity, and strong outcomes for residents.

Economic performance remains strong. Saskatchewan's GDP reached \$85.4 billion in 2025, the highest level in our history. This reflects broad strength across major sectors and continued confidence from investors. Competitive taxes, responsible fiscal

management, and expanding trade opportunities are helping attract new projects and create jobs.

Thanks to our strong and growing economy, we can invest in things that matter most to people like healthcare. Saskatchewan is training more physicians to support a growing and sustainable health care workforce. In 2026-27, our government is investing \$4.3 million to add 20 new seats in the Undergraduate Medical Education program at the University of Saskatchewan's College of

Medicine. We are proud to invest in these additional opportunities to ensure more Saskatchewan students can study and build their practices here at home. To learn more about the program, visit [medicine.usask.ca/programs/undergraduate-md.php](http://medicine.usask.ca/programs/undergraduate-md.php).

Our government's efforts in expanding health care in our province are reflected in our surgical capacity reaching new heights. More than 100,000 surgeries and procedures were completed in 2025-26, exceeding provincial targets and reducing wait times. Nearly 92 per cent of surgeries were finished within eight months. Additional investments are expanding surgical volumes, supporting robot-assisted procedures, and improving care for patients requiring back surgery and pain management.

In line with expanding care in our province, work to enhance mental health and addictions care continues with the passage of *The*

*Compassionate Intervention Act*. This legislation creates a structured framework that allows involuntary addictions treatment for individuals in the most severe stages of substance use disorder who are unable to seek help on their own. Regulations are being finalized ahead of the Act coming into force this fall. Information is available at [saskatchewan.ca/compassionate-intervention](http://saskatchewan.ca/compassionate-intervention).

Saskatchewan is moving forward with confidence. Strong economic performance, expanded supports in areas that matter most to the people of Saskatchewan.

*If you have any questions about a provincial program or service, please contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.*



**Hon. Warren Kaeding**  
MLA for Melville-Saltcoats  
(306) 728-3881  
warrenkaedingmla@sasktel.net

**Travis Keisig**  
MLA for Last Mountain-Touchwood  
(306) 334-3444  
mla@traviskeisig.ca

**Kevin Weedmark**  
MLA for Moosomin-Montmartre  
(306) 435-4005  
office@kevinweedmark.ca

**Brad Crassweller**  
MLA for White City-Qu'Appelle  
(306) 520-5018  
mla@wc-q.ca

**David Chan**  
MLA for Yorkton  
(306) 783-7275  
office@yorktonmla.ca

# NATIONAL NURSING WEEK

MAY 11-17, 2026

THE POWER OF NURSES TO TRANSFORM HEALTH

## Registered Nurses safe, trusted care in Sask

Editorial by College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan  
Grasslands News

Safe, trusted health care does not happen by chance. It depends on skilled nurses and a strong system that sets clear expectations for safe practice.

National Nursing Week, May 11 to 17, is a time to recognize the important role nurses play in the health of people across Saskatchewan. This year's theme, The Power of Nurses to Transform Health, reflects what many people already see every day: nurses make a real difference in our communities. They improve access to care, support better health outcomes, and help strengthen the health system.

At the College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan (CRNS), we regulate the nursing profession in the public interest. Our role is to help ensure Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners provide safe, competent, and ethical care. We do this by setting entry requirements, approving nursing education programs, and establishing standards for practice and a code of conduct.

The CRNS provides guidance and sets expectations for ongoing learning. Nurses keep their knowledge and skills current to meet practice standards through self-directed learning. This is a key part of protecting the public and sup-

porting safe care.

Across Saskatchewan, nurses are a trusted part of the community. They are often the first person people turn to for help and are a steady source of support. In hospitals, clinics, and other care settings, nurses help people get the care they need.

Nursing is more than direct care. Nurses work in many roles across the health system, including leadership, education, research, and policy. They work in hospitals, communities, classrooms, boardrooms, and other settings that support how care is delivered. Each role plays a part in safe, high-quality care.

Nurses bring knowledge, compassion, critical thinking, and accountability to everything they do. Whether providing care directly or working behind the scenes, they share a common purpose of protecting the public and improving health outcomes.

Health care continues to evolve, and nurses continue to adapt. They bring sound judgment and work closely with other professionals to support patients and communities, with CRNS guiding their practice along the way.

During National Nursing Week, we recognize and thank all nurses, in all roles, for the expertise, dedication, and leadership they bring every day. Their contributions are essential to the health of our communities and to a health system people can trust.



### Honouring Saskatchewan Nurses

The Government of Saskatchewan is pleased to recognize National Nursing Week, May 11 to 17, 2026. Nurses play a vital role in providing high quality health care and saving lives in communities throughout our province.

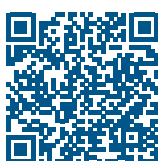
This year's theme - The Power of Nurses to Transform Health - highlights the meaningful difference nurses make every day by putting patients first and helping deliver the right care, at the right time across Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan Patients First Health Care Plan recognizes the role of nurses as part of patient-focused solutions. They strengthen health teams, improve access to care, and help deliver better outcomes.

Much progress has been made to grow and strengthen our nursing workforce through the Health Human Resources Action Plan, with over 2,800 nursing graduates hired since 2023. We continue supporting and growing the nursing workforce through investments in hiring, training and career development, including new career laddering opportunities to help build a strong, sustainable workforce.

Thank you to nurses across Saskatchewan for your care, compassion and dedication to the health and well-being of people in our province.

Learn more about Saskatchewan's Health Human Resources Action Plan and health care opportunities at [saskatchewan.ca/hhr](https://saskatchewan.ca/hhr)



## TIME TO CELEBRATE THE NURSING TEAM!

LPNS : CRITICAL CARE ON THE FRONTLINES



CUPE LPNs are skilled and caring professionals who provide hands-on nursing care to families across the province.

CUPE has long been an advocate for ensuring all LPNs are able to work to full scope, and are a respected part of the nursing team.

## CONTINUING CARE ASSISTANTS: CARING AND COMMITTED

Continuing Care Assistants are an integral part of the health care team, delivering hands-on personal care to patients and residents every single day.



**CUPE HEALTH CARE WORKERS**  
LOCAL 5430  
KN/ytd.cupe491

[www.cupe5430.ca](https://www.cupe5430.ca)

**RN** College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan

## Nurses Transform Health.

Nurses are leaders, innovators and advocates.

They don't just deliver care—they transform it.

Thank you to Saskatchewan nurses for the critical role you play in ensuring the public receives the highest standard of care.

Happy National Nursing Week!

# Mining sector hits record \$12.8B in sales in Sask.

By Ryan Kiedrowski  
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan's mining sector posted one of its strongest years on record in 2025, fuelled by soaring potash and uranium revenues, while government and industry leaders say the province is positioning itself as a global critical minerals powerhouse.

The province announced May 7 that mineral sales reached more than \$12.8 billion in 2025, up 19 per cent from the previous year.

Potash sales climbed more than 18 per cent to \$9.3 billion, while uranium sales jumped 24 per cent to a record \$3.2 billion — exceeding the province's 2030 Saskatchewan Growth Plan target for uranium sales for a second consecutive year.

Energy and Resources Minister Chris Beaudry said Saskatchewan's traditional mining strengths are now being complemented by rapid growth in other critical minerals.

"Potash continues to be a core pillar of our strong economy, while our world-class uranium industry continues to create opportunities for people in the north and all of Saskatchewan," Beaudry said during a news conference at the Saskatchewan Subsurface Geological Laboratory in Regina.

"Along with the continued growth of potash and

uranium, other Saskatchewan mineral projects are advancing including in helium, lithium, gold, copper and zinc."

The province said Saskatchewan led Canada in mineral resource development spending in 2025, accounting for \$6.7 billion in investment — roughly one-quarter of the national total.

Exploration spending is also expected to continue rising, with 2026 expenditures projected to reach \$483 million, a 23 per cent increase over 2025.

Industry leaders said Saskatchewan's combination of geological potential, political stability and established mining infrastructure is helping attract investors during a period of global uncertainty.

"In a time of global uncertainty, mineral producers in Saskatchewan offer a secure and reliable source of critical minerals that provide food and clean energy security to our global trading partners, while creating economic and social benefits here at home," said Pam Schwann, president of the Saskatchewan Mining Association.

The province said Saskatchewan contains occurrences of 27 of Canada's 34 recognized critical minerals.

Officials expect commercial production of cop-

per, zinc and lithium to begin in Saskatchewan by the end of 2026, marking the first time those minerals will be produced commercially in the province.

Eldorado Gold — which acquired the former Foran Mining project at McIlvenna Bay — is expected to begin commercial production of copper and zinc later this year, while Prairie Lithium is targeting lithium production before the end of 2026.

The province is also aiming to increase its share of the global helium market from roughly three per cent today to 10 per cent by 2030.

Beaudry said Saskatchewan's mining sector has become increasingly important as countries seek secure sources of critical minerals outside unstable jurisdictions.

"We have multiple buyers all over the world, over 100 countries we sell to," he said following the announcement.

"One of the main buyers for potash is countries to the south of us — United States, Brazil, India. We have many different countries that we deal with all over the world."

Government and industry representatives repeatedly stressed the importance of maintaining investment momentum through incentives and regulatory certainty.

The province recently extended its Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive program, which provides tax credits for eligible exploration projects.

Since launching in 2018, the program has supported 131 projects and generated an estimated \$245 million in exploration expenditures.

Last year alone, the program supported 34 projects representing about \$70 million in investment.

Schwann said collaboration between industry and government has helped Saskatchewan remain globally competitive, but she warned additional work is needed to improve transportation, permitting and workforce development.

"It means regulatory efficiency, so it doesn't take 10 to 15 years to bring a mine into production," she said. "We want one project and one provincial lead assessment."

She also said labour shortages are emerging as one of the industry's biggest long-term concerns.

"At the moment, we're going to need 15,000 more workers in the next 10 years," Schwann said.

She said the industry is particularly concerned about shortages in skilled trades, engineering and technical occupations as several large projects move toward develop-



RYAN KIEDROWSKI | GRASSLANDS NEWS

## Mining booming

Saskatchewan Mining Association President Pam Schwann examines a core sample containing gold during the May 7 media event.

ment simultaneously.

"We do need to actually increase awareness at a much earlier age, so kids that are in even elementary and high school, get better alignment of what's available for great careers in the resource sector and the labor market training dollars that are available," Schwann told Grasslands News. "Right now, there is a big misalignment between what students are taking for post-secondary and the job market and we need to kind of increase awareness of those opportunities so there's better alignment."

Marnel Jones, Director of Government and public Affairs with The Mosaic Company, was also in attendance at the announcement. She pointed out the value in stability so companies can focus on production.

"We have such a great relationship with the province," she told Grasslands News. "What wasn't said today was just how important it is for us to

have that stable regulatory environment so that we can keep doing what we do best - making a lot of potash to feed the world."

### Golden opportunity

Much of the expected exploration growth is concentrated in northern Saskatchewan, where companies are increasingly targeting gold and copper prospects.

Trident Resources, one of the companies highlighted at Thursday's event, says it now controls more than 145,000 hectares of gold and copper claims in Saskatchewan.

CEO Jon Weisblatt said the company plans to invest between \$25 million and \$30 million in Saskatchewan through the end of 2026, including up to 50,000 metres of drilling in the La Ronge Gold Belt.

"This represents one of the most significant exploration programs in the region since the Cameco exploration campaigns of the '80s and the '90s," Weisblatt said.

The company said it

currently has approximately two million ounces of gold identified across four open-pit deposits and is seeking to expand that resource base.

Weisblatt said rising gold prices and strong investor interest are helping fuel exploration activity.

"Exploration companies like ours want to take advantage of rising and strong bullish gold price environments," he said. "Last year was a record year for gold exploration companies raising capital."

He also said Saskatchewan remains relatively underexplored for gold compared with more established mining regions in Ontario and Quebec. Weisblatt described one recent intercept as potentially among the highest-grade publicly reported gold results in Saskatchewan history.

"My expectations were exceeded," he said. "I was actually floored when we saw the results of those assays."

## First United Church GARAGE SALE

148 - 5th Ave. E. Melville, SK

**Saturday, May 23 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

We will be selling Chili on a Bun.

**Great Deals on Plants, Puzzles  
& Treasures!**

## FORT QU'APPELLE & DISTRICT FARMERS' MARKET

Local source for all things home made,  
hand made, home baked and home grown.



*More than just a place to shop!*

310 BROADWAY STREET - FORT QU'APPELLE  
ACROSS FROM THE CO-OP MARKET PLACE

**EVERY SATURDAY  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

May 16 to September 12, 2026

**JULY 1 - CANADA DAY**  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 1**  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more info see our website [www.fortqfarmersmarket.com](http://www.fortqfarmersmarket.com) or our Facebook page at Fort Qu'Appelle & District Farmers' Market or CONTACT: Colleen at 306-450-2652 or email: [fortfarmersmarket@hotmail.com](mailto:fortfarmersmarket@hotmail.com)

# SUBSCRIBE ONLINE

[www.grasslandsnews.ca/subscriptions](http://www.grasslandsnews.ca/subscriptions)

## Motherwell Homestead Historic Site

# 'The core story must remain': concerns raised over updates

By Sarah Pacio  
Grasslands News

Parks Canada's newest management plan for Motherwell Homestead outlines goals for including Indigenous perspectives at the historic site, along with recommendations to increase accessibility and reduce the carbon footprint.

### Homestead History

The farm is located near Abernathy and originated as the home of William R. Motherwell (1860-1943). The homesteader was a founder of the Territorial Grain Growers' Association. He also served as Saskatchewan's first Minister of Agriculture (1905-1918) and was Canada's Minister of Agriculture for two terms (1921-1926; 1926-1930). In 1966, the 8.5-acre property was designated as a National Historic Site to acknowledge Motherwell's contributions to Canadian agricultural science and history. Motherwell was also designated a person of National Historic Significance that year. The homestead has been managed by Parks Canada since 1969 and opened to the public in 1983.

### Education and Collaboration

As the former home of William Motherwell, displays and activities at the site portray settler life and farming techniques used in the 1800s. The buildings, garden and shelterbelt have been viewed as historically significant aspects for thousands of visitors. From May to September, school groups, families and individuals tour the homestead and interact with guides who conduct farming or cooking demonstrations while wearing time-period costumes.

Programming in recent years has been expanded to include some Indigenous content. Motherwell Homestead partners with Metis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) to host an annual Metis Festival in August. Since 2020, Motherwell Homestead has also worked with MN-S to provide a land-based education program, and an exhibit of Metis rugs was arranged through Gabriel Dumont Institute. Similar collaboration with File Hills Tribal Council resulted in a pumpkin harvest event and winter celebration at the homestead. However, some feel that Indigenous representation should be increased.

### Management Goals

Parks Canada oversees 225 natural or historic sites across the country. The federal entity regularly prepares a management plan for each location. A ten-year plan for Motherwell Homestead was tabled in Parliament this year, with endorsement from executive members of Parks Canada and Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature. It includes strategies to add Indigenous content, improve accessibility and incorporate green technology at the historic site.

### Diversification Proposed

Parks Canada's new management plan proposes to expand the story told at Motherwell Homestead to include not only colonial homesteading practices but also Indigenous experiences from the same period. In its description of the homestead's historical significance, the document notes that William Mother-

well's second wife Catherine (nee Gillespie) was a principal at File Hills Indian Residential School. An entry in the Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan corroborates this information, stating that Catherine held that position before her marriage and worked at two other mission schools. A brochure prepared by Parks Canada in 1993 titled "Visitor Guide to the Stone House" further indicates that beadwork displayed in one room was gifted to Catherine, and her former students often visited her at the homestead.

Parks Canada has now set a goal "to increase the diversity of stories presented" and thereby increase the demographics of visitors to Motherwell Homestead. This may be accomplished through events and activities that feature Indigenous life on the prairies or green technology used in current or historic agricultural settings.

The management plan for Motherwell Homestead acknowledges that there have been recent efforts to "incorporate a broader story of the prairies and western settlement, including Indigenous history." However, it also states, "Expanding partnerships, including with Indigenous communities... will be important to the sustainability of Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site and authenticity of its visitor experience offer."

Some local leaders are concerned that this approach could detract from the original significance of the homestead.

Warren Kaeding, MLA for Melville-Saltcoats, appreciates Parks Canada's efforts to maintain places like Motherwell Homestead but is uneasy about the implications of its new management strategy.

"The Motherwell Homestead represents a specific moment in Saskatchewan's agricultural history – a time when innovation, settlement, and new farming technologies were shaping the province and the country. It tells the story of early prairie agriculture and the people who helped build it. That perspective should remain central," Kaeding told Grasslands News. "While there is value in broadening historical interpretation, I would caution against changes that risk overshadowing or reframing the core story that the site was established to preserve. Many constituents have expressed concern that the proposed direction may move away from an accurate reflection of that era and instead reinterpret it in a way that does not align with the site's original intent."

Kaeding recommended further discussion and involvement from stakeholders.

"Moving forward, I would encourage meaningful consultation with local residents, historians, and agricultural communities to ensure that any updates enhance – rather than diminish – the authenticity of this important historic site," he said.

Representatives for the Abernathy region echoed Kaeding's concerns.

Andrew Scheer is MP for the Regina-Qu'Appelle riding where the homestead is situated and has asked Parks Canada to provide him with a detailed explanation of their proposal for the site.

"I have heard from many residents in the Abernathy area with a deep connection to the site, who are concerned about the apparent lack of meaning-



PARKS CANADA | GRASSLANDS NEWS

### Improvements for historic site

Parks Canada has tabled a new management plan for Motherwell Homestead that would add Indigenous content, improve accessibility and incorporate green technology at the historic site.

ful local consultation in this process," Scheer told Grasslands News. "There are also concerns that proposed changes may alter the historical integrity of the site to reflect a more Liberal politically correct lens, rather than keeping it as an authentic representation of its time. It is essential that the Motherwell site be preserved for what it really was, without reinterpretation that risks diminishing its historical value."

Travis Keisig is the MLA for Last Mountain-Touchwood constituency where Motherwell Homestead is located. After reviewing Parks Canada's management plan for the site, he visited the Legislative Library where he found *Dance on the Bridge: A History of Abernathy and Area*.

"To read that documented history from people that actually lived it, is really incredible," Keisig told Grasslands News. "They did a great story about W.R. Motherwell and his service to the community. It's very important to make sure that we maintain this documented, lived history of Saskatchewan settlers."

Keisig noted that Parks Canada's management plan contains a general outline of goals for a 10-year period, and he hopes stakeholders would be consulted as specific plans are developed.

"It's absolutely critical that we maintain historical integrity in anything that is done moving forward," Keisig commented. "I'm just hoping that the federal government does some stakeholder engagement with the local residents. There's a great volunteer organization, Friends of the Motherwell, that do so much good work there on a volunteer basis. I hope any changes that they're proposing go through that organization as well."

Grasslands News contacted Parks Canada regarding these issues and received a response via email that reiterated the historical site's significance as William Motherwell's home.

"Learning about this history and celebrating early western settlement and scientific agriculture will remain a part of the Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site experience," the statement read. "The intention is to add to the story so that a broader picture is being shared. Parks Canada is committed to ensuring that Canadians have opportunities to learn about the full scope of our shared history. Parks Canada administered places strive to provide a comprehensive and balanced overview of Canada's history which incorporates different per-

spectives."

Parks Canada affirmed that public consultation has been part of its process but did not provide details regarding local discussions.

"Indigenous peoples, stakeholders, partners and the Canadian public were involved in the preparation of the management plan, helping to shape the future direction of the national historic site," the email stated. "As a result, the plan sets clear, strategic direction for the management and operation of Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site by articulating a vision, key strategies and objectives."

### Accessibility Upgrades

According to the plan, improvements would also be made at Motherwell Homestead to support accessibility and social inclusivity for visitors with neurodiverse or other needs. This could include providing gender-neutral facilities or ensuring there is barrier-free accessibility at the site. MLA Keisig acknowledged this could be beneficial.

"Motherwell is a fantastic place documenting the history of early agriculture in Saskatchewan. Many of our senior generation that actually remember doing chores with horses and remember that experience as a youth are getting older, so it's a challenge for them to get around," Keisig said. "To have them have the opportunity to take their grandchildren – or potentially great-grandchildren – and show them what life was like for them on their farm, it's an incredible opportunity."

MP Scheer agreed with this perspective, stating, "Measures that improve accessibility to historic sites are generally positive, as they allow more people to experience and learn about this wonderful part of Saskatchewan's history."

### Carbon Footprint

Goals for enhancing energy efficiency at the homestead are also outlined in the management strategies. Parks Canada's plan identifies ways it can align with "government-wide sustainability goals" in response to climate change concerns.

Assets will be assessed to determine if any are underutilized or redundant and steps will be taken to ensure the shelterbelt at Motherwell Homestead is properly maintained. Alternative methods to provide power and heat at the site and options to reduce emissions from fleet vehicles could also be considered. Local representatives caution that these measures should not be implemented at the expense of other key aspects.

"I have heard concerns about the Liberal government cutting back on programming at the site, while at the same time spending hundreds of thousands of taxpayers' dollars on electric vehicle chargers in the parking lot that never get used," MP Scheer noted.

All projects described in the management plan would be federally funded. Parks Canada intends to report on progress toward achieving its goals and will update the document within ten years.



# OPINION

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

## Compassion must include intervention

A drive through parts of Regina last week left an image that is difficult to forget and even harder to ignore.

At 11 o'clock in the morning, people affected by severe substance abuse and addiction stood frozen on sidewalks, bent forward in unnatural positions as drugs overtook their bodies. Others lay motionless nearby. Some wandered aimlessly, disconnected from the reality around them. It was not hidden in dark alleys or confined to the late-night hours often associated with addiction. It was taking place in broad daylight, in full public view, in the middle of a Saskatchewan city.

For many people, witnessing scenes like this creates a mix of emotions—shock, sadness, frustration, fear, and helplessness. But beyond those emotions lies a difficult truth: many individuals suffering from severe addiction have reached a point where they are no longer fully capable of protecting themselves or making sound decisions about their own care.

That reality is uncomfortable to acknowledge, but pretending otherwise is not compassion.

Society already recognizes situations where intervention becomes necessary. Dogs roaming the streets are picked up and brought to safety. Robbers are apprehended and placed into custody. Individuals suffering severe mental health crises can be taken to facilities where they receive care so they do not harm themselves or others.

Yet when it comes to addiction, many people continue to insist that intervention should only occur if the individual willingly asks for help and consistently agrees to treatment.

In an ideal world, that would be enough. Unfortunately, addiction often destroys the very judgment needed to seek recovery.

That is why Saskatchewan's new involuntary addiction treatment legislation—the Compassionate Intervention Act—deserves support.

The law has sparked debate, as expected. Critics argue involuntary treatment may not work for everyone. Others say recovery must be voluntary to succeed. There are also legitimate concerns about civil liberties and ensuring safeguards are in place to prevent misuse.

Those concerns should not be dismissed. Any law involving involuntary treatment must be carefully monitored, transparent, and focused on medical care rather than punishment.

However, the perfect should not become the enemy of the necessary.

The reality seen on Regina streets, and increasingly in communities across the province and country, demonstrates that some individuals have fallen so deeply into addiction that waiting for them to independently choose recovery may simply mean waiting for them to die.

The Compassionate Intervention Act is not about criminalizing addiction. It is not about punishment or removing human dignity. It is about recognizing that severe addiction can impair a person's ability to make life-saving decisions for themselves.

Families living through addiction know this reality all too well.

Parents have watched children overdose multiple times. Spouses have seen loved ones disappear into cycles of drugs, crime, homelessness, and hospitalization. Many families describe feeling powerless as they watch someone they love slowly destroy themselves while systems insist little can be done unless that individual voluntarily commits to treatment.

Meanwhile, communities continue to see increasing public disorder, emergency room strain, overdose



deaths, and growing safety concerns for both those suffering from addiction and the public around them.

Critics are correct about one thing: involuntary treatment will not succeed in every case.

Some people will relapse. Some may leave treatment and return to addiction. Others may never fully recover despite multiple interventions.

But failure in some cases does not mean intervention itself is wrong.

Medicine does not abandon cancer treatment because not every patient survives. Mental health systems do not stop suicide intervention because not every individual improves. Rehabilitation programs are not cancelled because some offenders reoffend.

Success is never guaranteed in any area involving human struggle and illness.

The question is whether society should still attempt to help people whose lives are clearly in danger.

The answer should be yes.

Even if involuntary treatment helps only some individuals achieve sobriety or stability, that still means lives saved, families reunited, crimes prevented, and futures restored.

It also sends an important message that society refuses to simply normalize human suffering on sidewalks.

Over the past several years, Canadians have become increasingly exposed to public drug use and visible addiction. What once shocked people is gradually becoming accepted as unavoidable. But there is danger in becoming too comfortable witnessing fellow human beings collapse publicly while insisting intervention would somehow be wrong.

True compassion is not always passive.

Sometimes compassion means stepping in during moments when a person cannot make safe decisions for themselves. Sometimes it means protecting someone from the destructive power of addiction until they regain the ability to think clearly again.

There must, of course, be strong medical oversight, legal safeguards, and treatment-focused care attached to any involuntary treatment program. Facilities must provide meaningful rehabilitation opportunities, men-

tal health support, and long-term recovery planning—not merely temporary confinement.

But doing nothing cannot continue to be presented as the more compassionate option.

Walking through Regina and seeing people bent over motionless on sidewalks at midday should disturb society. It should disturb governments. It should disturb anyone who still believes every person deserves dignity, safety, and the opportunity for recovery.

Addiction is a disease, but severe addiction can also rob people of their ability to choose life-saving help on their own.

The Compassionate Intervention Act acknowledges that painful reality.

It may not save everyone. No law or treatment ever will.

But if it gives even some individuals another chance at sobriety, another chance at health, another chance to reconnect with family, or simply another chance to survive, then it is a step worth taking.

- Elaine Ashfield

## 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](mailto:editor@gngnews.ca).



• Fort Qu'Appelle Times  
• Indian Head-Wolseley News  
• Kipling Clipper  
• Melville Advance  
• Whitewood-Grenfell Herald Sun  
• Quad Town Forum  
• Yorkton This Week & Marketplace

Issued Fridays by Grasslands News Group from the office at 218 - 3rd Ave. West, P.O. Box 1420 Melville, SK., S0A 2P0  
Ph: 306-728-5448 • Whitewood: 306-735-2230 • Yorkton: 306-782-2465

Toll Free: 1-844-GNG-NEWS

[www.grasslandsnews.ca](http://www.grasslandsnews.ca) • [contact@gngnews.ca](mailto:contact@gngnews.ca)



### Our Grasslands News staff is happy to assist you:

**Publisher**  
Chris Ashfield

**Associate Publishers**  
Michelle Hollinger  
John Bauman

**Managing Editor**  
Ryan Kiedrowski  
**Associate Editor**  
Calvin Daniels

**Advertising**  
Julianne Thom  
**Production**  
Diane Miller  
Chelsey Surgenor  
Pat Gattinger  
**Commercial Printing**  
Lloyd Schmidt  
**Accounts**  
Tammy Oryschak

**Melville Office**  
218-3rd Ave West  
Ph: 306-728-5448

**Whitewood Office**  
708 South Railway Street  
Ph: 306-735-2230

**Reporters/Writers**  
Alan Hustak  
Sarah Pacio  
Connie Schwalm  
Jacob Miller  
Ashley Scarfe  
Elaine Ashfield  
**Office Staff**  
Melanie Delorme  
Casey Shields-Graf

**Yorkton Office**  
20 Third Ave North  
Ph: 306-782-2465

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Prices shown are based on one full year. Multit-year subscription rates available. Prices include GST.

Make cheques payable to  
Grasslands News Group

Send e-transfers to [accounts@grasslandsnews.ca](mailto:accounts@grasslandsnews.ca)



**Pick-Up:**  
\$45.00 per year  
(Community boxes or in-person)

**Mailed in Saskatchewan:**  
\$55.00 per year

**Mailed in Canada:**  
\$75.00 per year

**Electronic Edition:**  
\$40.00 per year

© Copyright (c) 2026 News and advertising content of this newspaper are protected by copyright. There may be no reproduction of content without permission of the publisher.



### Fire guard

Whitewood firefighter Lisa Istace uses a leaf blower to put out spots of fire as a bulldozer pushes dirt through the bush to create a fire guard to help contain the fire.

CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS



### Coming up with a plan

Kahkewistahaw Fire Chief Stan Bobb and Whitewood Fire Chief Bernard Brûlé look over a map of the area to develop a plan for fighting the bush fire. Other members of the Kahkewistahaw department look on.

CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

# Firefighters contain major grass fire on First Nations

*Fire departments from Kahkewistahaw, Whitewood and Cowessess respond*

By Chris Ashfield  
Grasslands News

Fire departments from three communities spent much of Tuesday battling a fast-moving grass and pasture fire in rugged valley terrain on Kahkewistahaw and Ochapowace First Nations.

According to the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency's Fire Weather Index map issued Wednesday morning, much of the southern half of Saskatchewan — including the Yorkton, Melville and Whitewood regions — was under an "Extreme" fire danger rating, indicating conditions capable of producing intense and fast-spreading fires.

The Kahkewistahaw Fire Department was initially dispatched to the fire at approximately 12:30 p.m. Tuesday after flames broke out in a community pasture area. In an early public update, the department noted low water levels at its treatment plant and said water conservation efforts were being focused on protecting

nearby structures while crews monitored homes closest to the fire line.

Strong winds pushed thick smoke eastward toward parts of Kahkewistahaw and Ochapowace as firefighters worked to contain the blaze. The heavy smoke also created difficult working conditions for crews on the fire line by reducing visibility in some areas. Smoke from the fire could reportedly be seen from as far as 50 km away.

As conditions intensified, the Whitewood Fire Department was called in to assist at approximately 2:20 p.m. Crews from the Cowessess Fire Department also responded, supplying manpower and a 4,000-gallon water tanker to support suppression efforts.

Firefighters faced significant challenges due to the difficult terrain, which limited access for larger apparatus. Crews were forced to use quick response trucks, ATVs and hand tools such as leaf blowers to attack the fire in areas inaccessible

to standard fire engines.

Heavy equipment including a dozer and grader were eventually brought in to cut a fire break along the Ochapowace border and around the perimeter of the fire to contain it and prevent it from spreading further into the valley or threatening buildings.

By 6:40 p.m., officials reported the fire had been contained on the Kahkewistahaw side, with wildland units from Kahkewistahaw and Whitewood continuing efforts to stop the flames from advancing further into Ochapowace.

An update issued at approximately 8:30 p.m. stated that Whitewood and Kahkewistahaw crews were standing down after all major hotspots had been eliminated. Kahkewistahaw firefighters were expected to continue monitoring conditions overnight in case further response was required.

The responding units were back in service by approximately 9:10 p.m.

Officials thanked firefighters from White-

wood, Kahkewistahaw and Cowessess for their efforts during what was described as a long and demanding day on the fire line.

"When emergencies happen, it doesn't matter if it's a town or a First Nation — everybody comes together like family. That mutual aid and support

means everything when you're out there protecting people, homes and land," Fire Chief Stan Bobb told firefighters at the end of the call.

## Goulden seeking a seat at the FCM Board

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

Yorkton Councillor Randy Goulden is seeking election to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board of Directors for the Prairies and Territories region.

As part of that process FCM requires director candidates to submit a certified true copy of a municipal resolution approving the nomination, confirming the duration of support, and confirming responsibility for costs related to attendance at FCM Board and committee meetings, explained Jessica Matsalla, Director of Legislation and Procedures (City Clerk) with the city at the regular meeting of Yorkton Council Monday.

FCM's 2026 Board Director Nominations and Elections Policy provides that all eligible director candidates who submit a completed consent form and a certified true copy of a resolution endorsed by the municipal member will be included on the ballot, detailed material circulated to Council.

Goulden currently serves as President of the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association.

Matsalla said Yorkton would not face costs if Goulden succeeds.

Administration has been advised by Jean-Marc Nadeau, CEO of SUMA, that once the City of Yorkton is able to provide the required resolution, he will bring forward an e-vote to the SUMA Board to seek approval of the nomination, together with SUMA's commitment to cover the associated costs, she explained.

Subject to SUMA Board approval, there would be no direct cost to the City of Yorkton associated with Councillor Goulden's attendance at FCM Board of Directors meetings, as SUMA would cover all associated costs, added Matsalla.

"Supporting Yorkton representation at the national municipal level advances the City's intergovernmental relations interests and helps ensure municipal priorities from Saskatchewan are represented in FCM governance," added Matsalla.



### Fighting fire

Members of the Whitewood Fire Department work to extinguish a fire on Kahkewistahaw First Nation on Tuesday that also began threatening Ochapowace First Nation. Firefighters spent around 8 hours fighting the large blaze.

CHRIS ASHFIELD | GRASSLANDS NEWS

Local trusted expert | Journeyman | Licensed Gas Fitter | 35 years in Business

# Krueger's

## Plumbing & Heating

#### ✓ New Home Mechanical Consultation

Blue print consultation, to ensure mechanical layout is efficient. If there's a way to save money we'll help you find it.

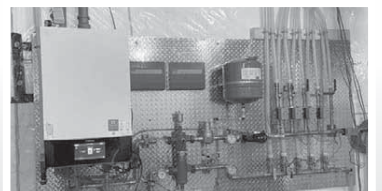
#### ✓ Commercial & Residential New Build Specialist

#### ✓ Furnace, Boiler, Air Conditioner Install & Repair

#### ✓ Rural Mechanical Water Treatment

#### ✓ Sewage & Pump Systems

#### ✓ Residential & Commercial In-Floor Heating Systems



**1-306-697-3504**  
AFTER HOURS: 1-306-697-7219

505 Pacific Street Grenfell, SK  
Email: [Kruegersplumbing@sasktel.net](mailto:Kruegersplumbing@sasktel.net)

# Cat from SE Sask dies from H5N1 bird flu strain

By GNG Staff  
Grasslands News

A domestic cat in south-eastern Saskatchewan has died after contracting highly pathogenic avian influenza, prompting provincial officials to warn pet owners to keep animals away from wild birds during spring migration season.

The provincial government said May 7 that testing confirmed the cat was infected with the H5N1 strain of avian influenza after it became suddenly ill on April 20.

The cat had appeared healthy earlier that day

but later developed “sudden neurological and respiratory signs” before dying.

Testing conducted by Prairie Diagnostic Services and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency confirmed the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza, commonly known as HPAI.

The province said the cat spent time outdoors, increasing the likelihood it came into contact with infected wild birds or contaminated environments.

“HPAI is commonly associated with wild birds and domestic poultry, but infections can occur in mammals, including cats

and dogs,” the province said in a release.

Officials said the risk of exposure rises during spring migration periods, when waterfowl activity increases across the province.

The province said cats appear to be more vulnerable to severe illness from avian influenza than dogs.

“Cats appear to be more susceptible to severe illness, which could range from fever, lethargy and respiratory symptoms to death in some cases,” the release said.

Officials noted severe feline cases in the United States have been linked to

infected poultry or dairy operations, as well as consumption of raw milk or raw food diets.

Pet owners are urged to take precautions by keeping cats indoors, keeping dogs leashed, and preventing pets from hunting or scavenging birds.

“Pet owners should contact their veterinarian if a cat or dog becomes suddenly or severely ill, especially after outdoor access or possible contact with wild birds,” the province said.

Symptoms can include difficulty breathing, coughing, weakness, extreme lethargy, loss of coordination, tremors, seizures, other neurological signs or sudden unexplained death.

Owners should also call veterinary clinics before bringing in potentially exposed animals so they can take protective measures.

While the public health risk remains low, residents are being urged not to handle sick or dead birds.

“The risk to the public remains low when people avoid direct contact with sick or dead birds,” the release said. “A small number of human cases have occurred in the U.S. since the start of the outbreak, primarily through contact with infected cattle or poultry.”

There have been no confirmed cases of person-to-person transmission of H5N1.

Avian influenza viruses circulate globally among wild birds, especially wa-

terfowl and shorebirds. The H5N1 strain currently circulating in North America first appeared in wild birds in early 2022 and has caused widespread mortality in bird populations across Canada and the United States.

“Incidents of sporadic mortality and clinical signs, including neurological symptoms ... have been reported in multiple species across Canada and the U.S., including bald eagles,” the release said.

Infections have also been documented in mammals including red foxes, striped skunks and other carnivores.

HPAI was first confirmed in Saskatchewan four years ago with the virus since detected seasonally in wild birds, with sporadic outbreaks among waterfowl in spring and fall.

“The domestic poultry industry was affected as well, with multiple confirmed infected flocks in Saskatchewan during that time,” the release said.

The province said it continues to monitor wildlife mortality through the National Inter-Agency Wild Bird Influenza Survey in partnership with Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative.

Officials said backyard bird feeders are considered low risk for spreading avian influenza to songbirds, but feeders near poultry operations should be removed to prevent con-

tact between domestic and wild birds.

The province also reminded residents to regularly clean feeders and bird baths using a diluted bleach solution.

Hunters and people handling wild birds are also being advised to take precautions, including wearing gloves, avoiding contact with bird secretions and thoroughly cooking game meat.

“If you become ill while handling birds or shortly thereafter, see your doctor,” the province said. “Inform your doctor that you have been in contact with wild birds.”

Residents who encounter sick or dead birds are being asked to report them to the Ministry of Environment Inquiry Centre or the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative.

The province said people handling dead birds should wear gloves and avoid direct exposure to bodily fluids.

“An N95 mask or equivalent may also be worn for further protection,” the release said.

**Decent and healthy man is seeking a lady in south-eastern Sask. area, between 55-75 years of age for outings and companionship.**  
**Call John 306-853-7056**

## Ochapowace elections on May 16

By Sarah Pacio  
Grasslands News

Ochapowace First Nation, located north of Whitewood and Broadview, will hold elections this Saturday.

Nominations were accepted for chief and council on May 2, with opportunity for nominees to withdraw their name until May 8. The confirmed list of candidates for the 2026 election includes two members seeking the role of chief: incumbent Shelley A. Bear and Tyler George, who served as a councillor during the previous term. Four councillors are seeking reelection: Lynn Bear, Petra Belanger, Albert George and Audrey Isaac. Other individuals on

the ballot include Brent Allary, Emerald Bear, Dustin Bear, Geraldine Bear, Tim B. Bear, Les George, Luke George, Natalie George, Sierra George, Lawrence Elvis Henry Jr., Gerald Kenny, Verna Smoker, Rhonda Still and Shaya Joy Watson.

Band members will vote for one chief and six councillors on May 16. Polls will be open at Chief Denton George Memorial Multiplex from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Voting will take place in-person, as outlined in the Ochapowace Election Act that was ratified in 1999. A law development committee is working to revise this act to allow online voting, but the updated guidelines were not approved in time for the 2026 election.

## Province expands addiction recovery supports closer to home

*Virtual access expanding to Yorkton, Melville, Esterhazy and Kahkewistahaw First Nation*

By GNG Staff  
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan government is expanding access to addiction treatment services in eastern Saskatchewan, with the Virtual Access to Addiction Medicine (VAAM) program now available in communities including Yorkton, Melville, Kahkewistahaw First Nation and Esterhazy.

The expansion was announced Tuesday by the provincial government, which said the program is designed to improve access to addiction medicine and counselling services for people struggling with substance use disorders, particularly in rural and remote communities where specialized treatment options can be limited.

The VAAM program connects patients virtually with physicians, nurses and counsellors specializing in addiction medicine through telephone or video-conferencing appointments. The service works alongside existing local supports, including pharmacies, mental health and addictions outpatient services and laboratories for urine drug screening.

“Mental health and addictions services need to be accessible no matter where someone lives,” Saskatchewan Mental Health and Addictions Minister Lori Carr said in a government release. “This program reduces transportation barriers and improves access to life-saving addiction medicine for individuals with substance use disorder.”

For residents in Yorkton, Melville, Esterhazy and Kahkewistahaw First Nation,

the expansion means individuals seeking help with opioid, alcohol, stimulant or benzodiazepine use may now be able to access addiction treatment closer to home without having to travel long distances for specialized care.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority says the program is intended to provide faster access to treatment while helping connect patients to local supports already operating in their communities.

“By offering timely, virtual access to physicians, nurses and counsellors, we are reducing barriers and meeting people where they are,” said Saskatchewan Health Authority Executive Director of Mental Health and Addictions Services Zoe Teed McKay.

The province said it has committed \$3.6 million toward increasing access to addiction medicine services, including expansion of the VAAM program and support for Opioid Agonist Therapy programs.

The VAAM program was first launched earlier this year in Lloydminster, Nipawin and Cumberland House Cree Nation, as well as detox and treatment centres throughout Saskatchewan.

To qualify for the program, individuals must be 18 years of age or older, live in a participating community or be attending a detox or recovery treatment centre in Saskatchewan, want help with substance use and not currently have a prescriber.

The service is intended to support people seeking treatment and recovery while reducing barriers often faced by residents in smaller Saskatchewan communities.

## Bring Your Ideas to Life



**We Can Help**

**Equipment and Tools For Your Next Project**



**FIREFLY  
RENTALS**

**(306) 695-3535 | WWW.FIREFLY-RENTALS.CA**

# Lucky Lottery takes a break after four-year community run

By Ryan Kiedrowski  
Grasslands News

The committee behind the Rocanville Lucky Lottery says it will not proceed with the fundraiser in 2026, ending a community initiative that helped inject hundreds of thousands of dollars into local recreation projects and organizations.

In a social media post published May 7, the committee announced it had decided “not to proceed with this year’s lottery” after “many conversations regarding the 2026 Rocanville Lucky Lottery.”

Committee chair Kirby Fowler said the decision came after organizers faced declining ticket sales, reduced sponsorship, and growing financial pressures on families and businesses.

“Every year we see less and less tickets sold,” Fowler told Grasslands News. “We’ve seen less sponsorship this year on our prizes, which means that just has to be funded by ourselves, which means you need to sell more tickets.”

The lottery had become a major fundraiser for recreation and com-

munity groups in Rocanville. Over the past four years, organizers say the initiative returned \$237,603 to community projects and distributed nearly \$600,000 in prizes and cash.

Recipients included the Universe Satellite Aquatic Centre, skating rink, recreation centre, golf course, school playground, swim team, day-care, youth programs and sports organizations.

“It is sad to see the Lucky Lottery not moving forward for this year as it was an enjoyable fundraiser,” said Rocanville Town Administrator Tanya Strandlund. “The volunteers were always laughing, the radio stations were buzzing, and Saskatchewan supported their efforts.”

Fowler said organizers also recognized that local businesses were being stretched by multiple fundraising campaigns in the community.

“Every sponsor that we do have is being asked by every other group as well,” he said. “There is some good fundraising going on.”

However, family budgets are tighter these days, and people are watching every dime.

“Cost of living going up, we weren’t sure if the \$100 ticket was going to be doable for many families,” Fowler said. “We thought we would just take a break. People aren’t going to stop buying fuel to keep buying lottery tickets.”

The Rocanville Lucky Lottery itself was a revival of an earlier community fundraising effort dating back nearly 30 years, initially launched to help fund construction of a new skating rink in the community. The idea was later resurrected to support development of a new swimming pool and other recreation projects.

Over the years, the lottery also gained attention online, including a social media shoutout in August 2025 from Saskatchewan internet personality Leroy and Leroy.

Fowler said deciding to suspend the fundraiser was difficult for the volunteer committee.

“It was a very emotional day when we got our committee together and decided that, when you look at the numbers, it just wasn’t adding up,” he said. “We thought it was best to walk away, but it was a very hard decision and a very emo-

tional decision to make.”

Fowler said organizers took some comfort in seeing the impact the fundraiser had on the community during its four-year return.

“We’re about \$237,000 that we gave back to the community in the four years, as well as paid out just shy of \$600,000 in prizes and cash,” he said. “We injected a fair bit into the community.”

In its public statement, the committee thanked volunteers who canvassed, answered phones, processed tickets, and helped organize the fundraiser each year.

Fowler said the volunteer effort was one of the most rewarding aspects

of the lottery.

“That committee was such a good group of people,” he said. “We couldn’t have done it without that whole group. Rocanville’s full of great volunteers and it definitely showed in the Lucky Lottery.”

Strandlund agreed with the sentiment, noting how special local volunteers are in town.

“Volunteers are hard to come by in a lot of communities, and Rocanville is lucky enough to have the commitment of so many passionate people willing to help out,” she said. “The Town itself cannot thank every one of them enough for wanting to give back!”

There is another worthy cause coming to the forefront in Rocanville that people can support.

“The Lucky Lottery was a very large undertaking for the committee and they excelled every year,” Strandlund said. “As one committee takes a break another saw a need and came together for a beloved cause. There is now a large fundraiser being held for Rocanville’s Noble Construction Skating Rink that it does make sense. Blade Across the Prairies has a group of over 10 volunteers that are choosing to put their time and energy into their community just like the Lucky Lottery Committee.”

## Southeast libraries report strong use across region

By GNG Staff  
Grasslands News

Southeast Regional Library officials shared strong usage numbers and growing program demand during the organization’s annual general meeting held April 18.

The regional system serves 43 municipalities across southeast Saskatchewan, representing a population of more than 51,000 residents. Statistics presented at the meeting showed 21,970 active patrons in 2025, meaning about one in five residents regularly uses a library card.

Libraries across the region hosted a record 9,750 programs during the year, attracting more than 91,000 attendees. Officials noted circulation of physical materials declined slightly for the first time since the pandemic, while rising costs and limited provincial funding in-

creases have reduced purchases of new books and popular items.

Demand for digital and community services continues to grow. Free Wi-Fi remains heavily used at branches, and two new 3D printers purchased for rural locations are already booked through late summer 2026.

Southeast Regional Library was also named the province’s newest Family Literacy Hub, focusing on literacy development for children ages zero to six and their caregivers.

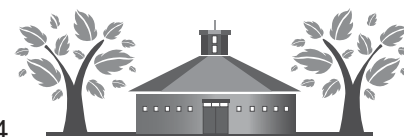
Programs including Indigenous Storytelling Month, free regional park passes, radon monitoring kits and Neighborhood Forest tree giveaways will continue in 2026.

Chair Donna Hartley encouraged trustees to meet with local MLAs to highlight the importance of library services and regional programming.



## Town Page

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



### 2026 Property Assessment Notices

Property assessment notices for the 2026 taxation year have been mailed to property owners in the Town of Indian Head. These notices are based on updated property information following a town-wide reinspection completed in 2025 by the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency. The review ensured that property details such as structures, classifications, and characteristics are accurate and up to date.

The 2026 assessment roll is now open for public inspection at the Town Office from April 24 to May 25, 2026. During this time, residents are encouraged to review their assessment notice carefully to ensure the information reflects their property correctly.

If you believe your property has been assessed incorrectly, you have the right to appeal. Appeals must be submitted to the Board of Revision by filing a notice of appeal at the Town Office no later than May 25, 2026. This is the final deadline to initiate an appeal for the 2026 assessment year. For questions or support, contact the Town Office for guidance on next steps.

### Free Transfer Station Weekend May 30 & 31

There will be no charge at the Waste Transfer Station for local yard waste loads on May 30 & 31, 2026. Examples of this material are leaves and yard waste, branches, trees and pruning. The Town hopes this will aid resident’s efforts to clean up their yards.

Hours will be **Saturday** 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and **Sunday** 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Town’s Waste Transfer Station operates on a punch-card card system. Waste Transfer Station cards are available from the Town Office located at 419 Grand Avenue.

### Register Your Float for Parade Days!

Indian Head Parade Days is coming up quickly on June 27-28! It is time to start thinking about your float for the parade. This year’s theme honours Indian Head’s strong foundation in horticulture, agriculture, and research, while celebrating 100 years of the Indian Head Horticulture Society. You can register by visiting the Town website and filling out the form, or email indianheadcdc@sasktel.net

Enjoy a weekend full of fun, including the parade, family activities, craft market, slo-pitch, live music, and the always-popular Flatland Cruisers car show. Businesses, organizations and residents are welcomed to help us celebrate by entering a float, hosting an event, becoming a sponsor or decorating your home/business to go along with our theme!

### Help Keep Indian Head Blooming this Summer

The Town of Indian Head is seeking volunteers to help keep our beautiful hanging baskets and planters thriving throughout the summer!

Basket & planter watering takes place on weekends, and we’re looking for two volunteers per day. Each shift is approximately 1.5–2 hours, making it a simple and rewarding way to give back to your community. Visit the Town website for the link to sign-up! By volunteering, you’ll play an important role in keeping our downtown vibrant, welcoming, and full of colour for everyone to enjoy.

### Town Wide Garage Sale - May 23

Don’t forget to sign up for the Town-Wide Garage Sale in Indian Head! The sale day is Saturday, May 23rd from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please register by May 15th. Contact Meagan at 306-695-2742 or email indianheadcdc@sasktel.net if you have any questions or to get your house put on the map! Maps will be available at Bigway Foods, Pharmasave and at the Town Office or on our website. Plan to spend the day in Indian Head visiting our downtown shops and restaurants!

### The Tourist Booth Opens May 15

The Indian Head Tourist Booth opens May 15! We’re getting ready to welcome visitors for another great season and we want to help showcase everything our community has to offer.

Local businesses and organizations are invited to drop off promotional materials including menus, flyers, business cards, event information, brochures & more.

Items can be dropped off at the Town Office anytime before opening day, or directly at the Tourist Booth once it opens for the season.

Let’s work together to promote local shopping, dining, services, attractions, and events in Indian Head!

### Upcoming Community Events

**May 23 – Bell Barn Lobster Supper**  
**May 23 – Town Wide Garage Sale**  
**May 28 – Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**  
**June 6 – Davey Miller Broncos Alumni Classic**  
**June 13 – Minor Ball Day**  
**June 23 – Shrine Club Rose Day**

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

www.townofindianhead.com



# Grasslands' papers earn 22 provincial awards

By GNG Staff  
Grasslands News

Community newspapers from across Saskatchewan were recognized for excellence in reporting, photography, design and editorial work during the 2026 Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association Better Newspapers Competition on May 12, with the Grasslands News Group earning some top honours.

The annual awards, announced during an online presentation, celebrated what SWNA president Chris Ashfield described as a growing commitment to local journalism across the province.

"This year's Better Newspapers Competition saw a total of 581 entries — an increase of 132 over last year, and the highest number we have recorded since we began tracking entries in 2019," Ashfield noted. "That growth is not just a statistic; it is a powerful reflection of the strength, pride and commitment that continues to define community journal-

ism across this province."

During the ceremony, SWNA Executive Director Steve Nixon presented the Judy Schau Memorial Award to Linda Hall of the Assiniboia Times for her decades-long commitment to community journalism.

"Linda has been part of the Assiniboia Times since 1981," Nixon said during the presentation. "At the end of the day, Linda is someone you can count on to do it all, every single week, to help keep local journalism strong in her community."

Nixon also announced Meadow Lake Northern Pride reporter and editor Phil Ambrosiak as the recipient of a Silver Quill Award recognizing 25 years in the newspaper industry.

The Better Newspapers Competition itself highlighted work from publications large and small across Saskatchewan, including several strong showings from Grasslands News Group newspapers.

SWNA Premier Awards were earned

in the following categories:

## Salute to Veterans Award

Second place to Indian Head/Wolseley News for story by "Brothers remembered for service in the RCAF" by Sarah Pacio.

## Best Headline Writing Award

First place to Fort Qu'Appelle Times (Brad Brown) for "Fort Knox strikes 'Gold'".

## Best Sports Story

Third place to Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for story "Mexican player says 'hola' to the Steelhawks" by Ryan Kiedrowski.

## Best Saskatchewan Arts or Culture Story

First place to Indian Head/Wolseley News for story "Rockets former pitcher donates to museum" by Sarah Pacio.

## Best Educational Coverage (K-12)

First place to Kipling Clipper for story "Helping kids choose to write themselves a better story" by Connie Schwalm.

Second place to Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for story "Band teacher honoured at final concert" by Sarah Pacio.

Third place to Indian Head/Wolseley News for story "Historical figures return to life at Haunted History" by Sarah Pacio.

## Best Tourism Story

Second place to Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for story "World's largest curling broom greets visits" by Chris Ashfield.

## Best News Story

Second place to Indian Head/Wolseley News for story "Quadruple homicide shocks local First Nation" by Sarah Pacio.

## Best Healthcare Single Story

First place to Quad Town Forum for story "Our love will have a place to go" by Brad Brown.

Second place to Kipling Clipper for story "Kipling mayor concerned over rural ER closures" by Ryan Kiedrowski.

Third place to Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for story "Incident highlights ongoing paramedic staffing crisis" by Elaine Ashfield.

## Best Healthcare Series

Second place to Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for stories about "Sask. On

brink as EMS staffing crisis deepens" by Elaine Ashfield.

## Best Habitat Conservation Writing

Second place to Indian Head/Wolseley News for story "Project restores prairies grasslands near Indian Head" by Sarah Pacio.

## Best Hard News Photo

Second place Melville Advance for 3rd Ave fire photo taken by Jacob Miller.

Grasslands News Group earned General Excellence Awards in the following categories:

Best Front Page (Circulation Under 800)

First place – Fort Qu'Appelle Times, third place – Quad Town Forum.

Best Overall Paper (Circulation Under 800)

Second place – Fort Qu'Appelle Times. Best Editorial Page (Circulation 800-1,199)

First place – Melville Advance, second place – Yorkton this Week.

Best Overall Newspaper (Circulation 800-1,199)

First place – Yorkton this Week, second place – Melville Advance.

"I'm very proud of our talented team," said Kiedrowski, Managing Editor with Grassland News Group. "They give their best efforts each week to create a meaningful and balanced account of what's important to residents of southeast Saskatchewan. Readers count on us to be the unbiased source - this is vitally important work, and our team excels in what they do. The BNC Awards provide a chance to acknowledge and celebrate everyone in our industry."

Throughout the ceremony, presenters emphasized the importance of community newspapers in documenting local stories and maintaining public accountability.

"These awards are about more than recognizing excellence in writing, photography, advertising and design," Chris Ashfield wrote. "They are about recognizing resilience. They are about celebrating an industry that continues to adapt, evolve and push forward, even as the landscape around us changes."

## CONTRACTORS + HOME DIRECTORY

### Mike's Small Engine REPAIR

Lawn Mower  
& Snow Blower  
Tune-ups  
& Repair



Melville, SK

306-607-5460

### J&V ELECTRIC

Jamie Sebastian

Owner/Journeyman

Box 2388, Fort Qu'Appelle, SK S0G 1S0

jsebastian@sasktel.net

306-332-4178 Office

306-331-8827 Cell



Serving Fort Qu'Appelle and area for over 25 years

### Jim's Roofing

Hot Roofing, Shingling &  
Snow Removal from Roofs

FREE Estimates -

Jim Anderson

Cell: 1-306-621-6372

jimsroofing@live.ca

**CARPET ONE**  
FLOOR & HOME

Home - Kitchen - Bath

Everything for your home under one roof.  
• HARDWOOD • CARPET • LAMINATE • LUXURY VINYL  
• TILE • AREA RUGS & MORE

**CARPET ONE** FLOOR & HOME

12 Livingstone St., Yorkton, SK  
306.782.6556 | 1.888.782.6556  
carpet1yorkton.com

117 - 3rd Ave. West,  
Melville, SK  
306-728-5493

With This Ad Receive  
**20% Off**

Any Regular Priced  
Clothing or Accessory.

Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### DIRECTORY ADVERTISING

for only \$10\* / week

\*Must be prepaid, plus GST.

Regular rate is \$480 plus GST per year.

Grasslands News Group

1-844-GNG-NEWS

### Mr T's Plumbing and Heating

Todd Throssell  
Journeyman Plumber  
Licensed Gas Fitter

813 Desmond St.,  
P.O. Box 296,  
Grenfell, SK  
S0G 2B0

Ph.: 1-306-697-2727  
Cell: 1-306-697-7749  
mrtsp@sasktel.net



### FlatLand Plumbing & Heating



Whitewood, SK.

Phone: 306-735-4328

flatlandplumbing@hotmail.ca

By GNG Staff  
Grasslands News

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation is calling on the federal government to abandon its firearm confiscation program after newly released documents showed Public Safety Canada has no internal analysis on whether the initiative will reduce crime or improve public safety.

According to the federation, an access-to-information request filed by the organization asked Public Safety Canada for "all analysis from the department on the efficacy of the assault style firearms compensation program and its effect on crime rates/public safety."

In response, the department reportedly stated

that "no information related to your request exists within Public Safety Canada."

The federal government introduced the firearm ban in 2020, prohibiting the use and sale of a range of firearms it classified as assault-style weapons. Ottawa has maintained the confiscation and compensation program is intended to improve public safety.

However, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation argues the government has not provided evidence showing the program will achieve that goal.

"If the government can't show taxpayers this program will work, then taxpayers shouldn't be paying for it," said Gage Haubrich, Prairie director for the Canadian Taxpayers Federation. "Ottawa needs to listen to police officers who say the gun ban and confiscation won't work."

The federation also pointed to comments from law-enforcement officials who have criticized the program. Clayton Campbell, president of the Toronto Police Association, previously stated the buy-back program would have "essentially zero impact"

on crime in Toronto.

Several police services across Canada have declined to participate in the program, while most provincial governments — with the exception of British Columbia and Quebec — have also opted not to take part, citing concerns about effectiveness and implementation.

The federal government has committed at least \$742 million toward the firearm ban and confiscation program in Budget 2025, although some outside estimates have suggested the total cost could eventually rise much higher.

**BAILEY'S**  
FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE

Your locally owned and  
operated full-service  
funeral home.

Our promise is simple -  
we are committed to  
providing the finest in  
funeral services and  
understanding care to  
the families we serve  
with compassion,  
integrity and  
professional excellence.

306-783-7552  
www.baileysfuneralhome.com

**PLUMBING HEATING**

Whitewood, SK

Laurie's Construction 2007 Inc.  
Collin Istace 306-735-7305

Licensed Plumber & Licensed & Bonded Gas Fitter

● FURNACE/DUCT CLEANING  
● SEWER AUGER

PHONE 306-735-7305

**LC INDOOR  
Golf**

Call  
735-7305

### LANDFILL

FORT QU'APPELLE

SUMMER HOURS

• May 1 to Nov. 30 •

Monday to Saturday

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Closed

Closed Statutory Holidays

WINTER HOURS

• Dec. 1 to May 1 •

Monday to Friday

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday Closed

Closed Statutory Holidays

ACCEPTING: Used oil, filters and containers;  
Used Antifreeze; Batteries; Select household  
chemicals; Grain Bags & Twine; Concrete;  
Asphalt.

Info: northvalleywaste.ca



2025 Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association Awards

# WINNER - Grasslands News

Presented via Zoom on Tuesday, May 12, 2026

## SWNA PREMIER AWARDS

### Salute to Veterans Award

**2ND PLACE** - Indian Head/Wolseley News for story by "Brothers remembered for service in the RCAF" by Sarah Pacio

### Best Headline Writing Award

**1ST PLACE** - Fort Qu'Appelle Times (Brad Brown) for "Fort Knox strikes 'Gold'"

### Best Sports Story

**3RD PLACE** - Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for story "Mexican player says 'hola' to the Steelhawks" by Ryan Kiedrowski

### Best Saskatchewan Arts or Culture Story

**1ST PLACE** - Indian Head Head/Wolseley News for story "Rockets former pitcher donates to museum" by Sarah Pacio.

### Best Educational Coverage (K-12)

**1ST PLACE** - Kipling Clipper for story "Helping kids choose to write themselves a better story" by Connie Schwalm.  
**2ND PLACE** - Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for story "Band teacher honoured at final concert" by Sarah Pacio.  
**3RD PLACE** - Indian Head/Wolseley News for story "Historical figures return to life at Haunted History" by Sarah Pacio.

### Best Tourism Story

**2ND PLACE** - Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for story "World's largest curling broom greets visits" by Chris Ashfield

### Best News Story

**2ND PLACE** - Indian Head/Wolseley News for story "Quadruple homicide shocks local First Nation" by Sarah Pacio

### Best Healthcare Single Story

**1ST PLACE** - Quad Town Forum for story "Our love will have a place to go" by Brad Brown.

### Best Healthcare Single Story

**2ND PLACE** - Kipling Clipper for story "Kipling mayor concerned over rural ER closures" by Ryan Kiedrowski.  
**3RD PLACE** - Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for story "Incident highlights ongoing paramedic staffing crisis" by Elaine Ashfield.

### Best Healthcare Series

**2ND PLACE** - Whitewood/Grenfell Herald Sun for stories about "Sask. On brink as EMS staffing crisis deepens" by Elaine Ashfield.

### Best Habitat Conservation Writing

**2ND PLACE** - Indian Head/Wolseley News for story "Project restores prairies grasslands near Indian Head" by Sarah Pacio

### Best Hard News Photo

**2ND PLACE** - Melville Advance for 3rd Ave fire photo taken by Jacob Miller

## SWNA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

### Best Front Page (Circulation Under 800)

**1ST PLACE** - Fort Qu'Appelle Times  
**3RD PLACE** - Quad Town Forum

### Best Overall Paper (Circulation Under 800)

**2ND PLACE** - Fort Qu'Appelle Times

### Best Editorial Page (Circulation 800-1,199)

**1ST PLACE** - Melville Advance  
**2ND PLACE** - Yorkton this Week

### Best Overall Newspaper (Circulation 800-1,199)

**1ST PLACE** - Yorkton this Week  
**2ND PLACE** - Melville Advance

# GNG NEWS

Grasslands News Group



Melville Advance | Fort Qu'Appelle Times | Whitewood Grenfell Herald Sun | Kipling Clipper  
 Indian Head-Wolseley News | Quad Town Forum | Yorkton This Week | Yorkton Marketplace

# Monitoring Sask. pests in the upcoming growing season

By Ashley Scarfe  
Grasslands News

It's that time of year again. As farmers return to the fields, and crop production begins in Saskatchewan, insects are coming out of their winter hibernation and preparing to migrate into those same fields in search of food.

Agricultural insect pests come in many forms, including herbivores, stored grain pests, livestock pests, and disease spreaders. Their population numbers are impacted yearly by multiple environmental factors such as temperature, moisture, and wind, as well as man-made hindrances like pesticides.

Research Scientist Dr. Meghan Vankosky with Field Crop Entomology, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, says despite the freeze/thaw cycle many Saskatchewan residents have seen in the last few weeks, as temperatures fluctuate wildly between highs and lows, the spring season is progressing normally, and many pest insects are beginning to emerge.

"In general, the majority of the insects that are native to Canada are very well adapted to our weather conditions," Vankosky says. "When it comes to long stretches of very cold weather in the winter, as well as when things are back and forth between warming and cooling, a lot of insects are very well adapted. They have different changes they make in their body to sustain and survive through cold temperatures when the rest of their body might be frozen. They are also very good at finding places that are sheltered and insulated to spend the winter."

Vankosky says warm weather is not always a driving factor for insects breaking their hibernation and moving into the open fields.

"The length of the days is important for insects as well," she explains. "So, when we get a warm spell in February, for example, it's most likely those insects are still really happy buried in the soil, so the days aren't long enough in terms of daylight hours. There are multiple cues that they are using to detect when to leave where they are hibernating and be active again. Because of that, and those adaptations, these periods of freeze and thaw, as long as they are fairly short, aren't going to have a big impact on our native insect populations, or anything that's been here for a while, even if it's invasive. Chances are they are pretty well adapted to winters and spring temperature fluctuations."

Co-chair of the Prairie Pest Monitoring Network, Vankosky and a team

of field crop entomologists, researchers, and industry stakeholders monitor and predict insect pests across Western Canada. Through forecasts, risk maps, and monitoring protocols for crop pest insects, they offer free weekly updates during the growing season and develop predictive models to aid farmers and agronomists in pest control throughout the summer months.

"We will be starting in the next couple of weeks again with the weekly updates," Vankosky says. "In those updates, we actually provide a summary of what the weather has been like the last couple of weeks and compare that to long-term temperature normals to see how this year is maybe different from previous years, and we also start making predictions about what's going to be happening with some of these insect species. Anyone can visit the website and check out those weekly updates to see what might be going on in their area."

Pests that farmers can expect to see in their fields this year include pea leaf weevil, whose population is estimated by plant damage assessments in late May to early June, and cabbage seedpod weevil, whose emergence coincides with soil temperatures warming to around 15°C. Adults typically attack canola fields when the crop is budding, or in the early flowering stages, and feed on pollen, causing the flowers to die. Their populations are determined after flowering has begun and has entered the one-week stage of development.

"Species like pea leaf weevil and cabbage seedpod weevil have both been in Canada for 20 to 30 years now," Vankosky says. "It's possible that weather systems could help to move them around, but it's also that the changes aren't usually very sudden. A lot of these species only have one generation per year, so their populations can really only grow so fast unless there is something causing them to migrate or move around a lot. So, there are a number of factors involved. Grasshoppers,

for example, just thrive when it's hot and dry. So, when we have multiple dry years back-to-back, we start to really see grasshopper populations get very large and very problematic for farmers. But then the opposite is true for other pests; wheat midge is an example. They need a certain amount of precipitation, so we can see their populations build up with multiple wet years in a row."

Vankosky says, like weather in Saskatchewan, insect pest populations are also regional. Around Saskatoon, one of the first pests to emerge from hibernation is the striped flea beetle. While an issue in northern areas of the province, they usually are not as prevalent in southern Saskatchewan, while the more southern crucifer flea beetle

can be an issue in canola crops further south.

"We typically start to see grasshopper nymphs in May, but their development will be slowed down if it's cool," Vankosky says. "In 2023, it was really warm in April and early May, and we had grasshopper nymphs out very early. With the cooler conditions we've had through April, I would expect grasshopper egg development to be delayed, and we probably won't see them for a week or two yet. Other insects could be starting to move around as the days get warmer and it stays above zero more consistently, but we don't start looking for them in the crops until late May and early June. In the meantime, they hang out in the crop edges and feed on weeds in the ditches and eventually move into the crops, where we become a little more concerned about them."

Around eight species are being monitored throughout the summer, which includes bertha armyworms, cabbage seedpod weevil, grasshoppers, pea leaf weevil, wheat midge, and wheat stem sawfly.

"We use a different protocol for each species, and the protocols we are using are very similar to how farmers should sample to know if there is a threat to

their yield because of populations of those insects in their fields," Vankosky says. "It's Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, but in Saskatchewan we partner with people from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and with the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation, as well as some of the plant health agronomists to collect this data. Farmers and agronomists help as well. For bertha armyworms, for example, we monitor the adult flight activity using pheromone traps, so every year we provide the supplies, and the Saskatchewan Ministry employees have a list of volunteers. They send the traps to those farmers, agronomists, and researchers across the province, and then they report back what they are catching in their traps."

She says pests that were found to be a problem last year will likely cause issues in Saskatchewan crops again this year. Despite the cooler start to spring, and lower numbers in recent years, Vankosky says she still expects Grasshoppers to be an issue in some areas. Native to Saskatchewan, grasshoppers are well adapted to the province's temperature swings. Most species pass the cold winter months as eggs, insulated by the snow, and hatch as temperatures begin to warm.

"Cabbage seedpod weevil was a surprise last year," Vankosky adds. "We had really quite high numbers in places we usually don't see. So that's something we've been talking to farmers about throughout the winter, to raise awareness."

As for those pesky maple beetles? Vankosky says they are more of a people pest than an agricultural threat, and they are thriving.

"A colleague of mine is actually asking for samples of boxelder bugs for research because they've just recently invaded Chile in South America," she said. "There is a western species as well, but they are pretty restricted to British Columbia. As far as I know, the species we have here is the eastern boxelder bug, which is not native to the Prairies necessarily, but is from North America. They seem to be fairly well adapted. In Saskatoon, we have had two fairly major snowfalls in the last two weeks, and the boxelder bugs are doing just fine. Part of that, not just for boxelder bugs, is that snow is insulating, so again, if they are close to the ground, or can burrow back in, the ambient temperature doesn't bother them at all."

To sign up for weekly updates, or view risk maps, visit the Prairie Pest Monitoring Network at [prairiepest.ca](http://prairiepest.ca)



**Agricultural pests**  
Pest of all kinds effect the yield of all today's farm crops including grasshoppers.

FILE PHOTO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

## Yorkton MLA pressed over 'hidden' coal plan price tag

By GNG Staff  
Grasslands News

The Saskatchewan NDP is accusing Premier Scott Moe and the provincial government of concealing the true cost of a plan to refurbish and extend the life of Saskatchewan's coal-fired power plants – a plan opposition members say could cost taxpayers billions for generations to come.

During a stop in Yorkton, Opposition Leader Carla Beck and members of her caucus called on Yorkton MLA David Chan to explain why he continues to support the government's coal strategy after leaked SaskPower documents suggested the price tag is far higher than previously disclosed.

"The people of Yorkton and across Saskatchewan deserve transparency about the true cost of Scott Moe's coal plan – and they do not deserve to foot the massive \$26-billion bill that comes with it," Beck said in a statement.

According to documents tabled in the Legislature by Beck during budget estimates, SaskPower's projected costs tied to the coal plan include \$11.4 billion in capital costs, \$13 billion in fuel costs and another \$1.4 billion to rebuild aging

transmission infrastructure.

The NDP says those figures are roughly 10 times higher than what the government has publicly acknowledged.

"This premier and his minister have been hiding the truth from the people of Yorkton and across Saskatchewan the whole time," said Brittney Senger.

The opposition compared the estimated cost of the coal strategy to Saskatchewan's annual provincial budget of \$22.2 billion and the province's total accumulated debt of approximately \$44 billion since 1905.

The NDP also linked the issue to economic concerns in the Yorkton region,

pointing to recent Statistics Canada figures showing employment in the Yorkton-Melville area dropped by 2,400 jobs in April.

The government has previously defended its approach to coal generation, arguing Saskatchewan requires reliable baseload power while transitioning toward other energy sources. The province has also opposed federal clean electricity regulations and has argued a rapid transition away from coal and natural gas could threaten grid reliability and drive up electricity costs.

The NDP says the government blocked a motion calling for all SaskPower documents related to the coal plan to be publicly released.

"Why is it that the people of Saskatchewan have to learn the truths behind this government's plan through leaked documents?" Senger said. "Yorkton deserves an MLA and a government that is honest and focused on making life more affordable."

"It's time for this government to stop hiding billions of dollars in SaskPower debt."



Coal is an integral part of power in Saskatchewan.

FILE PHOTO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

# \$10,000 gift supports Yorkton nurses

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

RBC and the RBC Foundation recently announced a \$10,000 gift to The Health Foundation of East Central Saskatchewan as part of a national campaign to support front-line healthcare providers.

The campaign, which rolled out during National Nursing Week (May 11-17), includes support for several rural hospitals in Saskatchewan.

The RBC gift will assist local nurses with tuition and other costs associated with attending courses including Perioperative — required to work in the operating room — and Critical Care - required to work in an intensive care unit.

“The generous support from RBC is a vital investment in the future of healthcare at Yorkton Regional Hospital,” said Ross Fisher, CEO The Health Foundation of East Central Saskatchewan in a release.

“In a rural setting, the ability to ‘grow our own’ experts are far more effective than recruitment alone. By funding specialized training so a nurse can work in the ER or critical care training for the ICU, or operating room procedures, RBC is directly contributing to our ability to maintain and enhance the essential services our community relies on every day.”

The donation is part of a national commitment that will see RBC and RBC Foundation donate more than \$30 million in single-year and multi-year donations to 93 Canadian hospitals. The funds are part of RBC's national commitment to strengthening healthcare by supporting workforce training, inclusive patient care and sustainable, accessible hospital spaces.

“National Nursing Week reminds us of the vital role nurses play in keeping our communities healthy,” said Kim Ulmer, RBC Regional President in the same release. “We’re honoured to support nursing excellence and the strengthening of healthcare teams. By empowering hospitals to address their most pressing needs,

we’re helping to build a strong, resilient workforce that Canadians depend on every day for skilled and compassionate care.”

Held in honour of nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale, National Nursing Week is designed to increase the awareness of the many contributions nursing makes to the well-being of Canadians.

Nurses are Canada's largest group of healthcare professionals, with 400,000 members.



## Help for nurses

Kelly McNeil, a registered nurse at Yorkton Regional Hospital.

SUBMITTED | GRASSLANDS NEWS

## Gene Hauta It's a Strange World

A gunman in Louisiana killed eight children, ages one to 14, in domestic-related shootings at three different homes. A total of 10 people (one was his estranged wife) were shot by 31-year-old Shamar Elkins, and **seven of the deaths were his own children**. The shooter died during a police chase as he tried to flee in a vehicle he had car-jacked. It was not initially clear whether he died by police gunfire or a self-inflicted wound. Elkins had recently been struggling with mental health issues and had recently said he wanted to end his life. Still, it is hard to believe how this could ever happen.



Heather Delaney Reese (“It’s a Lovely Life”) is an online blogger who posts daily in her attempt to break down politics, expose Red Hat Propaganda, and government failure. She and her followers believe this corner is fighting for America’s Future. After the latest assassination attempt on the President, she wrote, “I’m relieved nobody was injured, but maybe the focus should be on reasonable gun reform to protect our children, instead of building ballrooms that are ‘gun and drone safe’ for just the president.”

A case in point... police in Baton Rouge say a 17-year-old was killed and at least five people were wounded when a **mass shooting at the Mall of Louisiana** sent employees and shoppers fleeing. Two groups of people reportedly opened fire at each other inside the mall’s food court. Three seniors from Ascension Episcopal School in Lafayette were among those shot.

A new medical report says 48 states now host lice populations that don’t respond to over-the-counter drug treatments. “Naturally,” added Argus Hamilton, “this has left doctors scratching their heads.”

A new report revealed that an in-flight photo op spiraled into an **expensive mid-air collision** between two South Korean fighter jets in 2021. Seoul’s Board of Audit and Inspection found that a pair of F-15K pilots maneuvered their aircraft for pictures and video over Daegu, but the aircraft clipped each other, causing damage that cost the air force about 880 million won (\$596,000) to fix. One wingman was initially told to repay the full repair bill, but after he appealed, auditors cut his liability to one-tenth, saying the air force shared blame for failing to regulate personal camera use.

A hospital in Lancaster County called in the Pennsylvania State Police due to the nature of the injuries to a man who arrived for treatment. He was **injured by a bomb**. The man wasn’t seriously injured, but admitted to investigators that he had made a pipe bomb with six ounces of black powder, equipped with a switch to set it off. So why did he make the bomb? Because he had guests coming, and thought blowing something up would be “entertaining” for them. When he found out the guests had canceled, he took the bomb out to his shed to dismantle it, but dropped it, and it exploded. Once a doctor removed a piece of shrapnel from his head, Travis Peachey, 51, was

**arrested, charged with two counts** of endangering the welfare of his own children, risking catastrophe, possession of an explosive, three counts of attempted aggravated assault (his children and his wife), and three counts of recklessly endangering another person. Randy Cassingham titled this “That’s Just Peachey.”

South Korea was gripped by the **nine-day hunt for a wolf** that had escaped from a zoo, but police say the effectiveness of the search was temporarily thwarted by a man’s AI-generated image. That sent search teams to the wrong location. The 40-year-old man said he manufactured the video “for fun.” He’s being probed on suspicion of obstructing government work by deception; if convicted, he faces up to five years in prison or a fine of up to about \$6,700. The real wolf was eventually captured.

In Florence’s Piazza della Signoria, 16th-century marble monument ‘Neptune’, was a victim of “minor but significant” damage, which will cost about \$5,800 to repair, but will leave a ‘scar’. Specialists later found harm to the legs of the horses a female tourist stepped on and to a frieze she’d grabbed for balance. The fountain, created by Bartolomeo Ammannati and commissioned in 1559 by Cosimo I de’ Medici, has increasingly become a prop in tourist “challenges.” Why would she climb the monument? She simply **wanted to touch the statue’s privates**. While the damage is not extensive, she faces a local fine of as much as \$47,000 after being charged with defacing an artistic and architectural asset.

There must be cheaper ways to cop a feel. Keep reading between the lines. Maybe there’s an answer...

# Grenfell to establish rec board following survey

By Sarah Pacio  
Grasslands News

Grenfell town council held a regular meeting on May 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lilac Room.

The council procedure bylaw for Grenfell stipulates that a new Deputy Mayor be appointed every eight months. Councillor Dale Hardy’s term was completed, so the group appointed Councillor Troy Steininger to take his place as Deputy Mayor.

Council reviewed the honorarium amount for the Grenfell Fire Chief. They approved a motion to raise the monthly honorarium from \$300 to \$500 in an effort to better compensate the fire chief for his scope of work. Councillor and Fire Chief Dwayne Stone was absent from the meeting and will be

informed of the change.

Council reviewed quotes to replace an aging furnace in the Lilac Room. They approved a motion for Holloway Plumbing & Heating to install a two-stage Napoleon furnace at a cost of \$4,717.64.

Council discussed options for purchasing an ID card printer. The machine would be used for printing plastic season passes for the swimming pool and golf course. Council hopes this will effectively address the problem of passes being transferred beyond immediate family members, which led to lost revenue last year. They approved the purchase of an ID card printer from Avon Security at a cost of \$1,289.90.

The town recently circulated a survey to gauge community interest in establishing a Recreation

Board. Councillors reviewed the completed surveys and were encouraged by the positive response from ratepayers. Council can now proceed with determining the specific roles and responsibilities for the rec board and will then contact the individuals who expressed interest in volunteering.

Council set June 6 as the date for a town-wide garage sale. Free access to the transfer station will be available for Grenfell residents on June 20.

Community volunteers are organizing a parade and other activities to celebrate Canada Day. Many of these would take place at the Grenfell Recreational Park. Administration recommended that the GRP Arena be available, free of charge, for use in case of bad weather and council agreed.

# FlatLand

## Plumbing & Heating

SaskEnergy  
Network Member

LENNOX



### FULL-SERVICE PLUMBING & HEATING

712 Lalonde St., Whitewood, SK – 306-735-4328  
515 Main Street, Kipling, SK – 306-736-5328  
Moosomin, SK – 306-434-9323

admin@flatlandplumbing.ca

# Tik Tok effort grows to become show for APTN

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

Yorkton's Sherry Whitehawk has become something of a Tik Tok sensation amassing more than 200,000 followers.

Her videos blend traditional knowledge, warmth and recipe creations, all in her effort to share some grandmotherly wisdom, and that attracted the interest of Moniquea Marion.

Marion said she contacted 'Grandma Sherry' regarding the Tik Tok effort with an idea to grow it into something more for APTN. To her surprise she had a response quickly, and from there the idea of a cooking show emerged.

The result is Grandma Sherry's Kitchen - a cooking series on APTN Languages which premiered May 5, and with a launch at Sacred Heart High School in the city. The half hour show features Grandma Sherry sharing recipes and stories, with English subtitles available for the Dakota language dialogue. It airs at 9:30 p.m., and focuses on Dakota language, culture, and traditional recipes based on memories of her grandmother.

It is also available to stream on APTN+.

As for the idea for the show, Marion told those attending the screening in Yorkton last week, it grew from Sherry's online efforts.

"I think about what she did on Tik Tok (it) was really the conduit," said Marion now the show's writer, who

added knowing Sherry was able to do Tik Tok made her confident a TV show could work.

It was a natural to focus on language too, said Marion.

"It really was kind of the catalyst," she said, adding-



CALVIN DANIELS | GRASSLANDS NEWS

### Q&A session

Left to right, are, Sherry Whitehawk (aka Grandma Sherry), Marilyn Hall and Moniquea Marion during a Q&A in Yorkton.

Sherry becomes "the first person to do a Dakota language series."

Grandma Sherry said when asked if she was up for an APTN show, "Of course I was interested."

But the language aspect was concerning. "It was clear they wanted it in the Dakota language," she said, and while it is her people's language she added, "I'm not a fluent speaker."

In stepped her close friend and relative Marilyn Hall to help with the Dakota language.

Sherry said it was not easy. "I'm 71 years old. I started re-learning my language when I was 70. . . One sentence took a whole day to learn," she said, adding it was an education every day of filming to get the language correct.

"It's a beautiful language that is connected to the Earth. It's really interesting and when I connected it to the Earth it became a bit easier."

While not easy Sherry urged those at the screening to speak their languages.

"No matter what language we speak we need to push it," she said. ". . . If I can do it, so can you."

Working with a full camera crew was a learning curve too. Sherry said with her Tik Tok efforts she rarely did a second take or even did edits.

With the TV show she said there was a day spent making meatballs and while the crew ate them and liked them, the next take they did it again because the first ones didn't look just right for the show.



**YFF**  
YORKTON FILM FESTIVAL  
SINCE 1947

## EVENT SCHEDULE

MAY 20 - 24, 2026

## You are invited!

|   | WED 20   | THU 21   | FRI 22  | SAT 23   | SUN 24  |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| <p><b>Be Part of the Yorkton Film Festival</b></p> <p>Join us for the screening of the latest and best Canadian Films!</p> <p><b>FREE</b></p> | <p><b>Community Screening/ 7:00PM</b><br/><i>presented by the City of Yorkton</i><br/>Location: Yorkton Firehall</p> <p><i>Searchers is a powerful documentary series involving search and rescue in Saskatchewan.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>ADMISSION: FREE</b></p>        | <p><b>Opening Night Screening / 7:00PM</b><br/><i>presented by The Painted Hand Casino</i><br/>Location: Parkland Room - Painted Hand Casino</p> <p><i>Meadowlarks - 1h:31m</i><br/>A film inspired by Tasha Hubbard's own acclaimed documentary <i>Birth of a Family.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>FREE</b></p> | <p><b>Lobsterfest / 5:30PM</b><br/>Location: Yorkton Wildlife Federation Clubhouse, York Lake</p> <p>*Tickets are required for meal.<br/>Cash Bar only!</p>   | <p><b>An Afternoon at the Movies! / 2:50PM - 4:45PM</b><br/><i>presented by The Clean Energy Show</i><br/>Location: Painted Hand Casino</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FREE</b></p> <p><b>Golden Sheaf Awards Gala / 6.30pm</b><br/>By Advance tickets only</p> | <p><b>Watch 2026 Winning Films! / 9:00AM - 12:00PM</b><br/><i>presented by Yorkton Film Festival</i><br/>Location: Gallagher Centre</p> <p>Available on YFF-on-Demand</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>FREE</b></p> |
|   | <p><b>Programmed Screening</b><br/><b>Fri / 9: 00AM - 5:00PM &amp; Sat/9:00AM - 2:00PM</b><br/><i>presented by The Clean Energy Show</i><br/>Location: Gallagher Centre</p> <p>Pick up your screening schedule at the Registration desk.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>FREE</b></p> | <p>SCAN</p>  <p>HERE</p>   | <p><b>YFF-on-Demand / Fri &amp; Sat, / 9:00AM - 5:00PM</b><br/><i>presented by The Clean Energy Show</i><br/>Location: Gallagher Centre</p> <p>Enjoy films at your leisure at a semi-private viewing station at the Gallagher Centre.</p> |  |   |

Tickets for Lobsterfest, the awards gala & all YFF26 events and nominated films are available [www.yorktonfilm.com](http://www.yorktonfilm.com)

Scan to register for all FREE screenings Follow us @yorktonfilm

Join us for **Community Screening** on **Wednesday, Opening Night Screening** on **Thursday and programmed screenings** on **Friday, Saturday and Sunday**

**FREE**



## 2026 Screening Schedule

Also.....

YFF on Demand available Friday - Saturday 9am - 5pm. Sunday 10am - 12pm. Watch films at your leisure at a semi-private viewing station at the Gallagher Centre.

Join us for our Community Screening on Wednesday, May 20, 7:00pm at the Yorkton Firehall.

Opening Night Screening on Thursday, May 21, 7:00pm Painted Hand Casino.

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>FRI, MAY 22</b></p> <p><b>RAVINE ROOM</b></p> <p>09:00AM Saturday <b>FREE</b></p> <p>09:30AM Pencere/The Window</p> <p>09:55AM Making Beauty</p> <p>10:25 AM From Jazz to Jackboots</p> <p>11:00 AM Treasure of the Rice Terraces <b>FEATURE</b></p> <p>12:30 PM Game Changers - Bruce Horak</p> <p>01:10 PM Not In My City: The Paul Brandt Story</p> <p>01:40 PM Ni-Naadamaadiz: Red Power Rising <b>FEATURE</b></p> <p>03:30PM Wildfire - Episode 1</p> <p>04:35PM HECKIN' WEENS</p> <p><b>SCREENING ROOM A</b></p> <p>09:30AM Bumbershoot</p> <p>10:00 AM Inuusivut Sapirnaqtuq - Our Life is Very Tough</p> <p>10:40 AM Landscapes of Home</p> <p>11:50 AM Tuesday</p> <p>12:10 PM #vanlife <b>FEATURE</b></p> <p>02:00PM Midlife Mavericks - Sandra</p> <p>02:40PM History in 60 - Wheelchair Rugby</p> <p>03:30PM 807 <b>FEATURE</b></p> | <p><b>SAT, MAY 23</b></p> <p><b>RAVINE ROOM</b></p> <p>09:00AM It Didn't Happen To You</p> <p>09:30AM Stories of the North - Season 4</p> <p>09:45AM What now? <b>FEATURE</b></p> <p>11:40 AM Crip Trip - Episode #3 'Trippin' through the Prairies'</p> <p>12:45PM The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes <b>FEATURE</b></p> <p><b>SCREENING ROOM A</b></p> <p>09:00AM Our Monsters</p> <p>09:30AM The Assembly</p> <p>10:15 AM Sideways <b>FEATURE</b></p> <p>12:00 PM Thahyu:ni akaowa:tsi Ksliye:tánhaks (wolf blood, the threads that bind)</p> <p>12:30 PM The Fifth Estate: Trapped: The Online Terror Network</p> <p>01:30PM The Great Cinnamon Roll Debate</p> <p>02:05PM AtoZed</p> <p><b>PAINTED HAND CASINO</b></p> <p>2:50PM What Do You Do?</p> <p>3:20PM Echoes in Steel</p> <p>3:50PM The Muse</p> <p>4:20PM Paper Trail</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>FREE</b></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"></p> |
|---|---|--|

\*Screening Room A and Ravine Room - Gallagher Centre

Scan to register or visit [www.yorktonfilm.com](http://www.yorktonfilm.com)

# The pain of loss remains - MMIWG Awareness

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

The issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women is all too real for Regina's Maxine Goforth.

"My baby went missing (September 2013), and was murdered," she told those gathered at City Centre Park in Yorkton on May 5 at the end of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls Awareness Walk. "Kelly... She was my baby. She was so beautiful. So strong."

While the anguish of loss was still obvious through the tears, Goforth said she does hang on to one thing.

"My daughter being found in that dumpster, a serial killer was found," she said, adding she found some solace in that. "...There was no way she (Kelly) was going to be born for nothing."

In September 2016, Clayton

Eichler pleaded guilty to second-degree murder. He accepted the responsibility for killing Goforth and another First Nations woman, Richele Bear. He was sentenced to life in prison with no eligibility for parole for 20 years.

At the same time Goforth said her daughters' death left her asking what she may have done wrong?

"I asked Jesus, 'what did I do?'" she said, adding as a mother she was supposed to protect her kids "and I couldn't protect her."

Goforth said everyone plays a role in addressing the issue of missing and murdered women.

"It doesn't stop at our women... It's all over," she said.

Goforth said a gathering like the one in Yorkton shows people care.

"It's an honour to stand here," she said. "I can't believe how much support is here for us today... The care and support really mean a lot."



## Awareness Walk

In solidarity of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls a walk was held in Yorkton recently.

CALVIN DANIELS | GRASSLANDS NEWS

**YFF**  
YORKTON FILM FESTIVAL SINCE 1947  
May 20 - 24, 2026

**JOIN US FOR OUR COMMUNITY SCREENING**

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

7:00PM, YORKTON FIREHALL  
9 SMITH STREET E

**Searchers** is a powerful documentary series involving search and rescue in Saskatchewan. Episodes 3 & 4 feature Yorkton residents who serve with Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association of Volunteers (SARSAV) on Parkland Search and Rescue and were involved in the searches.

Door opens at 6:30 pm with a tour of the Firehall!

ADMISSION:



Register

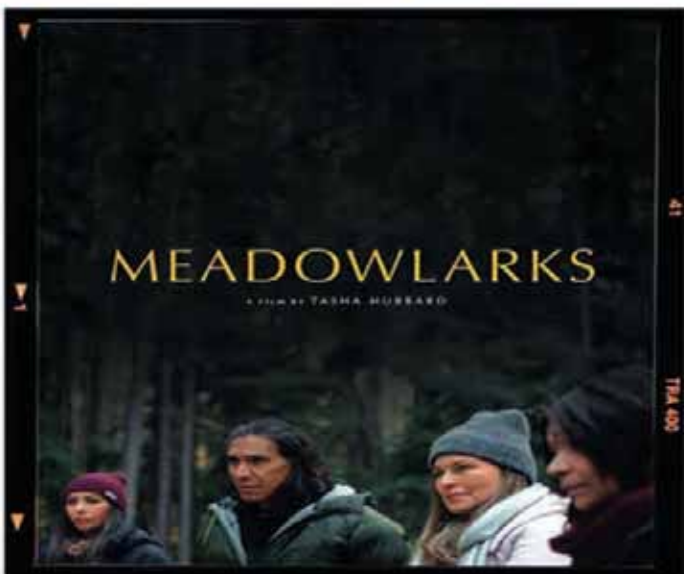


For a complete list of the Festival schedule visit [yorktonfilm.com](http://yorktonfilm.com) Follow us @yorktonfilm or call us 306.782.7077 for more information.

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

**YFF**  
YORKTON FILM FESTIVAL SINCE 1947  
May 20 - 24, 2026

**OPENING NIGHT SCREENING**



## THURSDAY, MAY 21

7:00PM, EVENT CENTRE  
PAINTED HAND CASINO

Inspired by her own acclaimed documentary Birth of a Family, Tasha Hubbard's Meadowlarks tells the story of four Cree siblings, separated since childhood and now in their fifties, who agree to meet for the first time over a holiday weekend in Banff.

Followed by a Q & A session with Dr. Tasha Hubbard and Adam Garnet Jones, APTN

ADMISSION:



Register



For a complete list of the Festival schedule visit [yorktonfilm.com](http://yorktonfilm.com) Follow us @yorktonfilm or call us 306.782.7077 for more information.

Kipling Town Council

# Health-care transparency petition raised at meeting

By **Connie Schwalm**  
Grasslands News

All members of Kipling Town Council took part in the regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 11 in Council Chambers.

During discussion of her report, Mayor Pat Jackson mentioned the recent visit that the Grade 2/3 class had made to the Town. She talked about how readily the young students had been able to grasp ideas such as “wants versus needs” when learning about how Council establishes plans and priorities for the Town, and how eager they were to learn how Council reaches its decisions.

Mayor Jackson also stated that a petition launched by Saskatoon MLA Keith Jorgenson had been brought to various businesses over the past few days and had been made available for individuals

to sign in Kipling as well. She explained that the purpose of the petition was to demand that the Saskatchewan

Health Authority post up to the minute information regarding ER closures on a website for the public. She observed that “The SHA has this information, but it seems that they might be hesitant to publish it promptly because it is embarrassing to let people in the province know how often closures are occurring”.

Also, Mayor Jackson talked about how successful last weekend’s celebration for Gilbert Dash had been, and several Council members said that Recreation and Culture Manager Tara Carter deserved credit for having done an excellent job of organizing it.

Council noted that the KidSport BBQ



## Town of Kipling

will take place on Friday, May 22 at 11 a.m. in front of the Community Center and that the SMILE Cookie campaign

had been a tremendous success with 2,400 cookies sold in the community, an effort that will result in a sizable donation to KidSport.

A request from Kipling Minor Ball to use the kitchen at the ball diamonds free of charge during Minor Ball Day on June 6 was discussed and Council decided to grant this request.

### New business

Under New Business, Council reviewed and approved Committee Appointments, which will remain the same with Councilor Dean Harcourt taking on the appointments previously held by Tara Carter. It was decided, however, that Committee Appointments will be reviewed in December, to make allowances for change if any Council members wish.

A request that was received from the Kipling Royals Alumni for a discount or free rental of the Arena foyer and kitchen for the upcoming Royals Reunion on June 6 was discussed and a Motion passed to grant the request. Councillor James Gallagher was absent from the discussion and vote on this matter.

Both KidCare (which is currently raising funds to replace their fire suppression system at Site Two) and the Wilson Local STARS Fundraiser requested that the Town donate a Pool Pass to their fundraising efforts. The request was discussed and a Motion passed to donate a \$100 Pool Pass (14 Daily Passes) to both fundraisers. Councillor Colby Sproat was absent from the discussion and vote

on this matter.

Funding to the Vet Clinic was then discussed. It was noted that the Town’s portion of funding for the facility is somewhat less than the amount paid by the neighbouring RMs since more of their residents are likely to utilize the service. Mayor Jackson observed that the Vet Clinic should provide an updated financial report to the municipalities. She also commented that the Vet Clinic is in need of receptionists and technicians, and encouraged Council Members to pass the word along to anyone they thought might be interested in these positions. A Motion was passed to pay the Town of Kipling’s portion of funding for the Vet Clinic.

Council noted that the Community Clean-Up event will be hosted by Windthorst this year and that the event would be held in July, since the area is currently experiencing a cool, dry spring. A date for this will be announced soon so that the residents in the four communities can do some clean-up work ahead of time.

A list of properties in Kipling that are currently in Tax Arrears which will be published in the Kipling Clipper was reviewed and approved by Council.

The Mill Rate Factor, and Base Tax Bylaw passed First, Second and Third Reading and so was approved by Council.

### Old business

Under Old Business, a proposal to amend the Council Procedural Bylaw for Motions to Be Seconded was discussed. It was decided that the current procedure which requires Motions to be seconded would continue, as Council Members observed that this tends to prompt more fruitful discussion of the matter at hand.

**Daryl Harrison**  
Member of the Legislative Assembly for **Cannington Constituency**  
**1-306-443-4400**  
CanningtonConstituency@sasktel.net  
#220 Centre St. / P.O. Box 130 / Alida, SK. / S0C 0B0



**CRIME STOPPERS**  
Have information?  
**LEAVE A TIP!**  
**1-800-222-TIPS**  
saskcrimestoppers.com  
*You can choose to remain anonymous while helping to solve and stop crimes*

**HOME | AUTO | FARM | BUSINESS | LIFE & HEALTH**



**Trustmark.**  
INSURANCE BROKERS  
Trust us with what matters most.  
215 - 3rd Ave. W., Melville, SK 306.728.2165  
www.trustmarkinsurance.ca



**CRIME STOPPERS**  
Have information?  
**LEAVE A TIP!**  
**1-800-222-TIPS**  
saskcrimestoppers.com

Send us your **CONFIDENTIAL NEWS TIPS**  
editor@grasslandsnews.ca



**grasslands**  
NEWS | PRINTING

Town of **Kipling** 

**Hot Dog Sale**



**Friday, May 22**  
**11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
**Community Centre**  
**Parking lot**

**Hot dog & Drink**  
**\$5**

Artsfest 2026

# Young performers share their talent and creativity

By **Connie Schwalm**  
Grasslands News

Last Thursday, May 7, Kipling School Gym became the venue for Artsfest, an annual celebration of the arts that featured over 20 performances by students.

Dawson Shoemaker and Nigella Logrono were the enthusiastic emcees for the event, encouraging the audience to laugh at their jokes and prompting numerous rounds of applause for the performers. The evening began with a group dance performance by the Soda Boys. Chloe Draper and Tennessee Kish both gave beautiful dance performances and Hope Collado entertained the audience with her whimsical Tap Dance performance. Just before intermission there was a "special performance" by "The Best Dance of All Time?" which featured a group of performers who bore a striking resemblance to several teachers. Then during intermission, audience members had the chance to take in the visual arts displays in the rotunda and have their photo taken with their favorite 'star' at the photo booth.

There were piano selections from Hans Collado, Hope Collado, Ayzan Cacho and Abay Caswell. Ron Szilagyi demonstrated his talents on the guitar and the Grade Five Percussion Group kept the rhythm going with their performance. Several talented vocalists also took center stage including Raquel Warren, Audrey Cinco, William Palmer, Lorenzo Cacho, Nigella Logrono, Aubrey Caswell, Dawson Shoemaker, Eiden Cacho and Rein Morson.

Vanessa Kish was one of the teachers helping with the event. However, she points out that the evening was organized and led by students.

"The Student Leadership Council puts this on every year, and they do a great job of giving fellow students a chance to be in the spotlight. Teacher advisors like me just help where needed, but this really is a student initiative."

Kish says that the annual event has provided an important opportunity for students to showcase their talents and adds that even very young performers are stepping up to become part of the show.

"We just put up a sign-up sheet each year and the students who would like to be part of Artsfest just add themselves to the line-up," she explains. "But this year, we had younger kids signing up for Artsfest - for the first time, our youngest performer was a kindergarten student. Hopefully, those performers will be excited about taking part in Artsfest again and will inspire others to follow their lead. Also, we didn't have twenty different performers, there were several students who performed more than one selection. That is a really great thing to see."

"This had been a way for us to bring more attention to the arts," she goes on to say, "which is important since much of the time the focus is on athletics. And I think that it's becoming more popular. The more kids see others performing at Artsfest, the more comfortable they are becoming with showcasing their own talent. It's contagious."

At the same time, Kish says that the young performers are receiving support from family, friends and residents of the community who come out to the show.

"We didn't keep track of the number of people who were there unfortunately. But it was a full audience; we had great support from the community. I think that there are more people coming out for Artsfest because they see the talent that our students have and they want to encourage them and help them to grow that talent."



**Chloe Draper**  
Dance routines like this were beautiful elements of the evening show at Artsfest 2026 last week.



**Hans Collado**  
There were a number of piano selections featured during Artsfest, each of which displayed the performer's amazing talent.

PHOTOS BY CONNIE SCHWALM | GRASSLANDS NEWS



**Eiden Cacho and Nigella Logrono**  
Several students performed vocal selections as solos or duets and many accompanied themselves or had other students accompany them on piano or guitar.



**Hope Collado**  
What would an evening at Artsfest be without a Tap Dance performance? This one, as usual, was a joy to watch.

*We have*  
**Your answer to RISING FUEL COSTS!**

**CELEBRATION**  
- FORD SALES -

**2017 KIA FORTE**  
LOW KMS • MOONROOF  
**\$105** SALE \$17,900 6S058B WEEKLY | OAC

**2016 TOYOTA COROLLA**  
AUTO • BACK UP CAMERA  
**\$129** SALE \$18,900 6S008A WEEKLY | OAC

**2022 FORD ESCAPE**  
HYBRID • AWD  
**\$119** SALE \$29,900 6S024A WEEKLY | OAC

**ASK US ABOUT 4.99% FINANCING**

CALL: 306-435-3313 | TOLL FREE: 1-800-880-4533 Moosomin, SK

**www.celebrationford.com**

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INVENTORY

# PARTY program shows sobering consequences

By Ryan Kiedrowski  
Grasslands News

A collision took place on the streets of Melville Thursday, May 14, and while nobody was actually injured, local high school student leaned valuable information about impaired and distracted driving. The collision itself was organized to be staged through the Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth program.

"The PARTY Program is an immersive educational experience designed to show students the real-life consequences of impaired and distracted driving," explained Shelby Hahn, Safety Officer with the City of Melville. "The program follows a realistic mock collision scenario involving serious injuries and a fatality, allowing students to witness firsthand the impact these incidents have on victims, families, first responders, healthcare workers, and the community."

Hahn told Grasslands News that throughout the day, students participate in simulations at multiple locations including the collision scene, hospital emergency room, RCMP detachment, and funeral home, followed by a keynote presentation from Cody Demerais sharing his personal story and message of prevention.

"The goal of the program is to encourage youth to make safe and responsible decisions before getting behind the wheel, especially heading into the May long weekend," she said. "By creating a realistic and emotional learning experience, organizers hope students leave with a stronger understanding of the lifelong consequences that can result from impaired or distracted driving."

The mock collision scenario created by the PARTY Program involved a two-vehicle collision with three injured individuals and one fatality. The focus of the exercise is "on the devastating effects of drinking and driving, and the ripple effects that one poor decision can have on individuals, families, first responders, and the community," Hahn noted. "Following the collision scene, students rotate through several real-life simulations including an emergency room

simulation at the hospital, arrest and booking at the RCMP detachment, and a funeral service at the funeral home. We will also have keynote speaker Cody Demerais share his personal story and message with students."

Hahn says this year the program is being expanded and enhanced in several ways.

"We are incorporating adult actors into the scenario, working with a film producer to help capture and present the event professionally, providing nutritional snacks and water for students throughout the day, and opening the keynote presentation to the entire high school," she explained. "We are also inviting prominent leaders from the industries and agencies participating in the event."

Feedback from students who took part last year was overwhelmingly positive.

"Many students shared that the realism of the program made a strong impression and encouraged them to think differently about impaired and distracted driving," Hahn said. "The program itself is designed primarily for Grade 10 students, as this is often the age when students are beginning to gain more independence and think about driving."

Despite those contemplations, Hahn believes attitudes toward driving impaired are changing.

"Adolescents today are generally much more knowledgeable about the risks of impaired and distracted driving than previous generations were," she said. "Our goal with hosting the program before the May long weekend is to reinforce those messages at a critical time and encourage students to think twice before making a decision that could affect the rest of their lives."

Hahn even recalls the PARTY Program running in Melville when she was in school, calling it, "something that left a

lasting impact on many students, myself included. Mackenzie Bruce (PARTY Program co-director) and I both felt that our community needed this program brought back, so we got to work rebuilding it with the support of many local partners and organizations," she said. "We do our best to make the community aware of the event beforehand to minimize traffic concerns or alarm when the mock collision is taking place."

According to statistics obtained by Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services, 33 people died on provincial roads due to drug or alcohol-related collisions. Through the course of 2025, Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan also took 1,932 drivers off the road who had consumed alcohol and/

or drugs before getting behind the wheel. Overall, impairment from substances was a contributing factor in 33 per cent of all fatal collisions last year.

"Believe us when we say consuming drugs or alcohol before driving has the very real potential of killing people. We saw it 33 times last year," said Inspector Lee Knelsen, Operations Officer with Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services. "Driving sober is one of the most important things you can do to keep yourself, and those you love, safe on the road."

RCMP Traffic Services and CTSS units continue to organize check stops and patrol roads to remove impaired drivers. Police advise the public to report impaired drivers to 911.



**Mock accident**  
Students learned the consequences of impaired driving during the 2025 PARTY Program in Melville.

COURTESY SHELBY HAHN | GRASSLANDS NEWS

## Buffalo Hill Gas & Convenience Store



At Buffalo Hill, we proudly serve as your one-stop destination for all your gas and convenience needs. We offer competitive pricing, high-quality fuel and so much more!

Located on the  
**Peepeekisis First Nation**  
4km North off highway #10  
turn at the File Hills sign.  
Hours of Operation:  
**Monday - Wednesday 7AM - 11PM**  
**Thursday 7AM - 10PM**  
**Friday & Saturday 7AM - 11PM**  
**Sunday 8AM - 10PM**

Phone: 306-334-4472

### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

If you have a story idea or see worthwhile news happening, give us a call.

Toll free:  
**1-844-GNG-NEWS**



**REMAX**  
REMAX Crown Real Estate

**Kristy Farnden**

Specializing in Residential and Farm Real Estate

Cell: (306) 736-7153

kristy@remaxregina.ca

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



*Experience the Premier Care Difference!*



**Coralee Schoenrock**  
Audiologist/  
Owner

**Lindsay Boyko**

Call 306-782-1881 to book your appointment today!

- Over 25 years of experience
- Locally owned and operated

- Servicing all hearing aid manufacturers
- Hearing solutions for all budgets & lifestyles

# SPORTS

## MCS Sr. Girls Basketball Team given the SHSAA Sportsmanship Award at Hoopla 2026

Submitted  
Grasslands News

In a season defined not only by a Hoopla appearance that resulted in a bronze medal, the Melville Comprehensive School senior girls' basketball team has been recognized with the SHSAA Sportsmanship Award, following their conduct throughout the year and at Hoopla 2026. The Saskmilk sponsored award is a provincial recognition awarded to school programs that demonstrate the values of the SHSAA and a high level of sportsmanship.

This is the fourth time in the history of MCS that a Sportsmanship Award has been presented to a school team since the inception of the award in 1996. It is the second time that Coach Alspach has been involved with a team that has been recognized, with the previous one being the 2015 senior boys' volleyball team.

"This is really about the athletes," said Coach Alspach. "They made the choice, game after game, to compete the right way — supporting each other, respecting officials, and showing genuine respect for their opponents. Our leadership group of grade twelves deserve the credit of fostering an approach

to competition that focuses on what high school sport is all about."

Throughout the season, the

team earned praise from opposing coaches and officials for their positive attitude and composure, even in high-pres-

sure moments. That reputation was on display at Hoopla, where their sportsmanship stood out among the province's top teams.

Equally important to the team's experience was the strong support from Melville fans, who were great supporters during regionals at MCS and Hoopla as they brought positive energy to both the semi-final loss and the Bronze medal win. Their presence created an atmosphere of encouragement and pride, one that the team said made a meaningful difference.

"Our fans at Hoopla were fantastic," Coach Alspach shared. "They brought energy, but also respect for the game, even when we were trailing or maybe had a tough call go the other way. That support helped us stay grounded and reminded us of who we were representing."

Rather than focusing on wins and losses, the recognition highlights something more — a shared commitment to values that extend beyond basketball. In a competitive environment where emotions can run high, the senior girls demonstrated that success can also be measured by how the game is played. The award serves as a reflection of a team culture built on mutual respect, community support, and pride in representing the school— one that leaves a lasting impression beyond the final buzzer.



### Team receives award

The MCS Sr. Girls Basketball team was recognized by the SHSAA with the Sportsmanship Award at Hoopla 2026. Front row, from left, are, Malia Pettinger, Mary Mikolas, Brynn Alspach, and Ahmelia Brown. Back row, from left, are, Michaella Sojila, Jorryn Kreklewich, Delaney Alspach, Sara Powell, Ariel Buzash, Amelia Gayle, Jahm Ciano, Simone Maybanting and Coach Dan Alspach. Missing are, Lucy Almasi and Kendra Jenkin.

Submitted | Grasslands News



## Tammy Wandy LOCAL AGENT

Serving Melville and Area!

tammylwandy@gmail.com 1-306-501-9828



|   |   |  |  |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p><b>\$14,800</b></p> <p>102 Montreal ST, Melville<br/>MLS# SK009819<br/>Vacant Land</p>                           | <p><b>\$14,900</b></p> <p>318 Alberta ST, Melville<br/>MLS# SK009254<br/>Vacant Land</p>                                | <p><b>\$49,900</b></p> <p>251 Agri-Park Rd, Melville<br/>MLS# SK025479<br/>Vacant Lot</p>  | <p><b>\$49,900</b></p> <p>249 Agri-Park Rd, Melville<br/>MLS# SK025481<br/>Vacant Lot</p>          | <p><b>\$49,900</b></p> <p>105 Piller Rd, Melville<br/>MLS# SK025480<br/>Vacant Lot</p>               | <p><b>\$95,000</b></p> <p>311 5th Ave E, Melville<br/>MLS# SK031654<br/>House   2 bds, 1 bth</p> | <p><b>\$120,000</b></p> <p>225 - 680 7th Ave. E, Melville<br/>MLS# SK033711<br/>Condo   1 bd, 1 bth</p> |
| <p><b>SOLD</b> <b>\$120,000</b></p> <p>208 - 680 7th Ave. E, Melville<br/>MLS# SK033392<br/>Condo   1 bd, 1 bth</p> | <p><b>SOLD</b> <b>\$125,000</b></p> <p>555 Dielschneider RD #8, Melville<br/>MLS# SK025736<br/>House   3 bds, 2 bth</p> | <p><b>LOOKING TO SELL?</b></p> <p>Inventory is very low — if you're thinking about selling now is the time!<br/>I'm committed to guiding you every step of the way. Let's work together!<br/>Contact me today, Tammy at 1-306-501-9828</p> | <p><b>\$299,000</b></p> <p>820 Scotia St, Melville<br/>MLS# SK034321<br/>House   3 bds, 2 bths</p> | <p><b>\$869,000</b></p> <p>456-Abel Dr., Crooked Lake<br/>MLS# SK008969<br/>House   3 bds, 4 bth</p> |  |   |

Sports column – Darcy Gross

## Gross Misconduct

RIP Linus Westberg.

For those old enough to remember when the Parkland survived on one or two television channels – and when adjusting the rabbit ears was considered a form of technical expertise – the name Linus Westberg will forever be tied to local sports.

Back then, there was no internet, no sports apps, and no scrolling ticker reminding you that your favourite team had blown another third-period lead. If you wanted sports, you waited for Linus.

Linus was the sports anchor at CKOS-TV when I was a youngster, and even then it was obvious he was operating on a different level than the rest of local television.

He covered everything – from the Toronto Maple Leafs disappointing their fans for yet another season, to the Melville Millionaires, to small-town match-ups involving the Arcola-Kisbey Combines or the Carnduff Red Devils, that probably drew more players than spectators on particularly cold nights, and somehow, Linus made every story sound important.

To this day, I'm still not sure whether he memorized his entire sportscast or was simply blessed with nerves of steel. I distinctly remember the stack of papers he kept in front of him, shuffling them now and then as though he was consulting highly classified information.

But I honestly can't remember him ever looking down at them. For all I know, those pages may have been blank the entire time.

Linus covered what was then known as the Shamrock area, becoming one of the most recognizable voices in Parkland sports. My father used to tell me stories about knowing him as a youngster growing up in Melville's east end.

They probably would have been tighter as friends, too, if not for one fatal flaw in the relationship – Linus loved the Dodgers, while my father worshipped the New York Yankees. Some rivalries simply can't be overcome, especially by stubborn baseball fans.

Years later, after my father had passed away, I had the chance to play a round of golf with Linus during a tournament. Like many golfers of his generation, he was optimistic on the first tee and considerably more realistic by the ninth hole.

Because he knew my father, he took an interest in the work I was doing for The Advance. Every so often, the phone would ring and it would be Linus offering a compliment on something I had written or passing along a story tip from somewhere around the area.

Those calls always meant something because they came from a man who genuinely cared about local sports and the people connected to them.

What made Linus special wasn't just his broadcasting talent – though he had plenty of that. It was the fact he never acted like a big-shot television personality.

He was humble, quick with a joke, and had the kind of sense of humour that could put people at ease immediately. He was the sort of broadcaster who could talk about a provincial championship game with complete professionalism, but leave you wondering what went on when the cameras were off.

His passing feels like the loss of a piece of Parkland history. Linus belonged to a generation of broadcasters who didn't just report on the community – they were part of it.

He informed, entertained, and connected towns across the region long before “community engagement” became a popular phrase.

I'm sure folks remember when he left Yorkton television to take on the role of general manager of Dauphin's CKDM radio station.

He left a void that was eventually filled, but sports on CKOS were never quite the same without him.

He will be deeply missed by family, friends, former colleagues, and the countless viewers who remember welcoming him into their living rooms in those bygone years.

As far as sports in the Parkland are concerned, Linus Westberg was more than a broadcaster, more than a little guy with a booming voice, he was one of us.

He was a guy who loved the sports he reported on and who never shied away from the big moments.

Around here, he was a legend.

## Kipling Royals Reunion

# A chance to share and make memories of “our team”

Saturday, June 6

By **Connie Schwalm**  
Grasslands News

There were no phones out to record the action.

None of it was ever shared on social media.

But for those in Kipling who were there to witness Jeff Balogh's overtime goal and celebrate the pivotal win over Whitewood, their memory of that moment remains vivid and real.

The fact that it took place 30 years ago hardly matters.

Such is the enduring affection for the Kipling Royals that remains in those who considered them “our team”.

The Kipling Royals senior men's hockey team ruled the ice at the Kipling Arena from the early 1930s until 2003-04. They won five Triangle Hockey League championships between 1982 and 1999 and star players such as forward Dale Jones, defenceman Rick Metzler and their goalie Bob Balogh became local legends.

For Perry Hubbard, the Royals were and are “our team” and he notes that they have been an important part of his own story.

“I've been associated with the team since 1970,” says Hubbard. “I was a player, manager, linesman, public event announcer, whatever they needed I would do.”

During some of the hardest parts of his family's history, Hubbard says that being able simply go down to the Kipling Arena and watch the Royals play has been a luxury that others living in larger centres have envied.

“I remember at my father-in-law's funeral, we had a game against Wapella and it was a league final” he says. “I went with my brother-in-law and a few of the guys who had come for the funeral down to the rink to watch the hockey team, because we didn't want to spend any more time sitting around and crying. He was from Saskatoon and was blown away because the people who were there to see the game were just rocking it. He said that he would go and watch the Blades or Huskies play in Saskatoon and there would be 2000 people in a 15,000-person arena. He said you could hear the hockey players breathing at those games. But this was a completely different atmosphere.”

Hubbard goes on to point out that to some who grew up watching the Royals during the latter part of their reign, the team became a foundational part of their love for hockey and for sport.

“Brendan McGuire grew up in Kipling and he's writing a book about the history of the Kipling Royals,” Hubbard explains.

“Brendan did an interview with SaskToday in 2020 and talked about how important the Royals were to him growing up. He talks about how the Royals were like an NHL team for him and how much that team influenced him and sparked his love for sport. He is the same age as my daughter Meghan and when I read what he said about the team, I got emotional. Did we really have that much influence? We were just a bunch of hockey players!”

But time is relentless in its demands.

The living memory of the Kipling Royals triumphs during their glory days will someday fade. So, Hubbard says that now is the time for those who claim the Kipling Royals as “our team” to come together again.

“It's been 45 years since we won the Triangle Hockey League championships in 1981-82,” he observes. “That was the first time the Royals had won the championship since 1938-39 (and it's not confirmed that we won in 1938-39).”

“We haven't had a Royals team since 2004, and a lot of the guys like Bob Balogh and Lorne Sproat are getting to be in their mid-80's. So, a group of us decided we'd bring some people together for a reunion. It's been 20 years since the last full reunion in 2006 so it's time.”

He adds that the Kipling Royals Reunion will also provide an opportunity to ensure that the team continues to have an impact going forward.

“We sponsor a \$500 Pipestone Beavers – Kipling Royals Scholarship for an Agriculture Student, since a lot of the guys were involved with that community team and then came and played with the Royals. So, we'll be raising some money for that at this reunion through a ‘collect at the door’ effort, to shore up that scholarship fund.”

He says that the reunion will be more of a “get together” than an event.

“The plan is to keep things simple. We will all meet at the Arena at 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 6 and there will be memorabilia there along with a slide show and presentations reviewing team history and recognition of members who have passed.”

“So, the organizing committee would appreciate anyone sharing any memorabilia they have, whether it's photos, clothing, jackets, hats, whatever, bring them to the reunion or share however they can, so we can work on some displays. A social will likely follow with food and refreshments at a location that is still to be determined. Further details and an itinerary will be posted closer to the time.”

He adds that those at the reunion will be able to help ensure the history of the Kipling Royals is known.

“Brendan will be attending the reunion in June and will be looking for as much Royals history as he can get his hands on. Although he has had to put the project on the back burner for the last few years, he is ready to pick up the pen again and is determined to get the book about the Royals finished soon. So, we're hoping a lot of people will be able to help him out.”

But ultimately, Hubbard says that the Royals Reunion will be about sharing those stories in the way that matters most.

“This is really just about getting a bunch of old hockey players and people that supported the team together at the rink to look at old photos, have some pizza and swap old stories for the rest of the night.”

It is hard to imagine a more fitting tribute to “our team” than that.

## Pickleball Yorkton makes final contribution on new courts

By **Calvin Daniels**  
Grasslands News

Pickleball Yorkton and the City of Yorkton had entered a partnership to build new dedicated, outdoor courts at Heritage Heights Park.

The club had agreed to contribute \$50,000 – to be paid within five years – toward the total cost of more than \$300,000.

On Monday, Gina Resler, president of Pickleball Yorkton, appeared at the regular meeting of Yorkton Council to make the final payment – \$20,000 – on the contribution well ahead of the five-year requirement.

Resler said the ability to complete the contribution early was a reflection on the effort of club members, volunteers and sponsors.

When asked how the money was raised so successfully Resler said it came in large part from the proceeds of tournaments, adding Yorkton now hosts the largest tournament outside of provincials in Saskatchewan.

The project, initiated in 2023/2024, included tearing out old asphalt, and resurfacing existing tennis courts to create four dedicated pickleball courts and two multi-use courts.

Resler said the expanded courts have been a huge step forward for the sport in the city allowing people of all ages to stay active.



# BIG

## or small

### WE PRINT IT ALL!

From business cards to banners we're here for all your print needs.

218 - 3rd Ave. W. • Melville, SK.  
Email: [production@grasslandsnews.ca](mailto:production@grasslandsnews.ca)  
Toll Free: 1-844-GNG-NEWS

## CONTACT US

[news@grasslandsnews.ca](mailto:news@grasslandsnews.ca)

1-844-GNG-NEWS

1-844- 464-6397

[www.grasslandsnews.ca](http://www.grasslandsnews.ca)

# Golf clinic registration open for Montmartre and Windthorst

By Ashley Scarfe  
Grasslands News

Golfers in Windthorst, Montmartre, and surrounding areas are getting a chance to get a leg up on the competition this summer. On May 23 in Windthorst and May 24 in Montmartre, professional golfer Mike Flegel will be offering clinics for those looking to improve their swings this year.

The Moose Jaw-based golf instructor and PGA pro, in collaboration with Centre 48, is offering instruction to men's, ladies', youth, and mixed-team golfers, with 1.5-hour lessons for the adults and 50-minute lessons for youth players.

It's not the first time Flegel has made the trek out to the area. Last year, the golf pro taught a similar class in Windthorst, where around 24 golfers participated.

According to program coordinator Natasha Romanow, rave reviews from those in attendance last year were one of the main reasons the course is being offered again this year and its expansion into Montmartre.

"It was a huge success, and everybody felt they learned a lot from him," Romanow says. "I personally took it and he completely changed my game. There were players of all levels at the clinic, and everybody found they took some-

thing from it. We had people that were in it last year ask that we bring him back again this year, and I was able to work with Montmartre Golf Course as well. They were great and offered a reduced rate for us to be there."

Adult courses are open to individuals aged 13 and up, while youth classes are strictly for players eight to 12.

"He definitely breaks it down to a different level for the kids," Romanow explains. "The kids are focused on simpler techniques and different things they can do to start in the game. He keeps it light and fun for them, and there was a lot of great feedback from parents last year. Their kids really enjoyed it and definitely got something out of it as well."

Flegel specializes in junior golf development and adult instruction. He holds a golf management diploma from Camosun College and a degree in human services, which he incorporates into his coaching for children and young adults.

"A lot of people were amazed by how a simple change in how you hold the golf club can change the way you swing," Roma-

now says. "A lot of people were holding the golf club wrong and didn't realize it. He also broke down how to use the different clubs for different distances and explained it plainly so you could understand. If you use this club, you are going to get a greater height and shorter distance, and if you use this club, you're going to get a lower height and longer distance. You do a little driving, a little putting, and a little short game, so he covers all bases."

According to Romanow, the clinic offers a compact lesson, broken down in a way that is informative but not rushed. Participants are required to bring their own clubs, while balls and other equipment are supplied by Flegel for the lessons.

"I had a group of friends who went and took the lesson with me. We joked that because our husbands didn't take it, we were going to show them up now that we learned from a professional," Romanow says. "We had a group of older gentlemen that have golfed for years, and they said they learned so much and were some of the

ones who asked me to bring him back again. It didn't matter what age you were—if you were a beginner golfer like myself or more advanced - everybody felt like they learned a lot and definitely would take it again."

Programming for the clinic, along with other similar programming offered by Centre 48, is made possible due to fundraising initiatives like the annual perogy run.

"That happens in Montmartre, and people can sign up for a 5K or 10K run, and we also have a kids' run that is a 1 km fun race," Romanow says. "So, we do the perogy run and then we serve perogies and a pulled pork lunch to everybody that participates. That is our main fundraiser for the year. With that, we've been able to pay pretty much all the classes' rent for the facility, which then in turn cuts down the cost of what we have to charge in class fees. So that is the main fundraiser that we do every year to keep us going. People can sign up for that. We are also looking for sponsorships as well."

The registration deadline for the golf clinics closes on May 20, while registration for the perogy run closes on May 22 at 6 p.m. Anyone interested in either event can text 306-424-7048 or email centre48.southsask@gmail.com.



## SHOP LOCAL. SAVE LOCAL

Support the local businesses that keep your community and its newspapers thriving.

Bringing communities together  
**grasslands**  
NEWS GROUP 

**ADVERTISE LOCAL**  **Canada** 

### PROFESSIONALS DIRECTORY

## Baran & Company

CPA Professional Corporation (Accountants)

1850 McArA Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4N 6C4

Tel: 306-352-2522  
Fax: 306-352-2886  
Email: baran@lbaran.com

## HUB

Phone 306-332-4666 1-800-563-4608  
122 Company Ave. S., Fort Qu'Appelle, SK

For all your Insurance needs!

Representing: • SGI Canada  
• Wawanesa • SMI • Wynward Insurance Company  
• Germania Mutual • Aviva • Oasis • Intact  
• HUB Life and Financial Services  
• Portage Mutual • Group Medical Services  
• Red River Mutual and Many More.  
• Saskatchewan Blue Cross  
• SGI Motor License Issuer

## Balcarres Agencies Ltd.

Offering a wide selection of products and expertise

• Personal Insurance • Commercial Insurance  
• Specialty Products • Agri-Business

216 Main St. Balcarres, SK  
Phone: 306-334-2401 Fax: 306-334-2705  
Email: balcarresagencies@sasktel.net  
www.balcarresagencies.saskbrokers.com

## BOCK & COMPANY LAW OFFICE

LYNNETTE BOCK, B.A., J.D.  
ALANNA DECORBY, B.A., J.D.

500 Maple Street, P.O. Box 220  
Esterhazy, SK S0A 0X0  
PH: 306-745-3952 FAX: 306-745-6119  
E-mail: bocklaw@sasktel.net  
Branch Office:  
Rocanville, Fridays  
Phone: (306) 645-4552

## HALFORD LAW OFFICE PROF. CORP.

Barrister and Solicitor

Nicholas Smiatek, B.Sc., J.D.

181-B Broadway Street East  
P.O. Box 817  
Fort Qu'Appelle, SK S0G 1S0  
Phone 306-332-5661  
Fax 306-332-4293

## Fisher Law Office

128 - 4th Ave. East, Melville, SK

\* Garnet Fisher B.A., (Hons.) LL.B  
Collaborative Lawyer

306-728-4581  
Melville and Esterhazy  
fisherlaw@sasktel.net

## IG WEALTH MANAGEMENT



**BRODIE FLIS** QAFP  
Consultant  
Investors Group Financial Services Inc.  
Tel: (306) 502-6821  
Brodie.Flis@ig.ca

™Trademarks owned by IGM Financial Inc. and licensed to its subsidiary corporations.



## PRAIRIE STRONG

Chartered Professional Accountants

|                           |                             |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Melville<br>306-728-4525  | Esterhazy<br>306-745-6611   | Grenfell<br>306-697-3558        | Whitewood<br>306-735-2385 |
| Balcarres<br>306-334-2923 | Indian Head<br>306-695-2303 | Fort Qu'Appelle<br>306-332-6651 | Ituna<br>306-795-3190     |

www.prairiestrong.ca

## Directory Advertising

Starting at \$10\*/week \*Must be prepaid, plus GST,  
based on 12 months advertising. \$480 plus GST

Call 1-844-464-6397 ext. 2  
or email to michelle@gngnews.ca

## Sports Column

## End of the road for LIV Golf?

By Bruce Penton  
Sports Columnist

The four-year effort to create a rival golf league to the PGA Tour appears to be on its deathbed. The Saudi Arabia-based LIV golf league, bankrolled by the country's trillion-dollar Public Investment Fund, will be kept alive until the end of the 2026 season and after that, all bets are off.

Formed in 2022, LIV golf turned the professional game on its ear, enticing some of the world's best players to leave the PGA Tour in exchange for multi millions of dollars.

The LIV Tour featured tournaments lasting 54 holes and its players formed four-man teams that competed for additional prize money in addition to individual play. Efforts to attract television viewers, however, failed miserably and most golf fans basically tuned out the LIV experiment.

After four years and a reported \$5 billion bleed, operators of the Saudis' PIF Fund are apparently saying 'no more,' citing changing economic and investment goals. One of its tournaments, scheduled for June in Louisiana, is being postponed and rescheduled for the fall. That announcement was the first real sign of a major crack in the LIV setup, but indications of crumbling have been seen for months.

Exhibit A was Brooks Koepka, leaving LIV with one year to go on his contract and asking for reinstatement on the PGA Tour. A special arrangement was made in January to allow any former major champion on the LIV circuit since 2022 to seek a return to the PGA Tour, with some financial penalties, but Koepka was the only one to jump. Others eligible in that 'major champion' category were Jon Rahm, Cam Smith and Bryson DeChambeau, but they all declined. Patrick Reed, meanwhile, is returning to the PGA Tour via a different path; he has been competing on the DP World Tour and its bylaws say the top 10 at the end

of each season earn PGA Tour cards. Reed has won twice in Europe this season and will easily snag one of those 10 cards for the 2027 season.

LIV's 54-hole tournaments and team golf concept didn't resonate with golf fans. When the likes of Rahm, Johnson and DeChambeau fled to LIV and banked huge cheques from the Saudis (as much as a reported \$400 million for Rahm), it was almost as if those stars had retired to a life of exhibition golf in a vacuum. Their positions in the Official World Golf Ranking slid as OWGR points were not available for LIV competition (negotiations have since changed that) and their world rankings were often used as qualifiers for major events.

LIV officials say independent financing is being sought and hopefully be in place in time for the 2027 season. PGA Tour officials, meanwhile, are having discussions about setting up paths for LIV players' return to the world's No. 1 tour.

How this PGA Tour-LIV Golf kerfuffle ends up, it appears that golf fans will once again have ALL of the world's best players regularly competing against each other. It's almost certain LIV will die and become a memory, soon to be forgotten.

• **Headline at the onion.com:** "Racehorse Receives Carrot Every Time He Wins \$2 Million For Owner"

• **Sean McIndoe of The Athletic,** referencing Columbus coach Rick Bowness's rant after the Jackets' final NHL game this season: "A dose of reality is a good thing, especially when it's delivered by a cranky grandpa who's had enough of you punk kids."

• **Comedy guy Steve**

Burgess of Vancouver, on the NHL draft lottery: "The Canucks could pick no lower than No. 3. Aaaaand No. 3 it is. Why did they bother with the draw? Just have a machine full of ping pong balls that all say 'Screw you, Vancouver.'"

• **Globe and Mail columnist Cathal Kelly:** "The Leafs just got creative by tapping John Chayka, a guy who couldn't get a job in hockey, to run their hockey ops."

• **Another one from Kelly,** assuming the Leafs will pick Gavin McKenna with the No. 1 pick in the draft: "McKenna's arrival makes it easier to sell the Leafs' other No. 1 pick, Auston Matthews, on the idea that he isn't a passenger on a hot-air balloon whose pilot light has gone out."

• **Golfer Michelle Wie,** after shooting 82 in her first competitive round in three years: "I was like, wow, the hole all of a sudden looks so small. Got to a two-footer and I'm like, I'm not going to hit the hole. No way."

• **Headline at the onion.com:** "Carlos Alcaraz Withdraws From French Open Over Career-Threatening Haircut."

• **Headline at fark.com:** "That whooshing sound is either the loose bodies in Tarik Skubal's elbow or possibly the sound of the Tigers' odds of making the playoffs vanishing into a vacuum."

• **Cathal Kelly again,** on the Leafs' Auston Matthews: "Most nights, he looks like he does this job as part of his bail conditions."

• **Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun:** "I told someone where Gavin McKenna was from: They thought I said UConn."

*Care to comment?*  
Email [brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca)

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Rural Municipality of Lipton No. 217

## Public Notice – Discretionary Use Application

Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Lipton No. 217 has received an application for a discretionary use under the Zoning Bylaw 2002-02.

**Proposal:** Gravel Pit

**Location:** NE-15-23-13-W2M

Council will consider this application at a Public Hearing to be held:

**Date:** Tuesday, May 19, 2026

**Time:** 9:15 a.m.

**Location:** RM of Lipton No. 217 Office, 226 Main Street, Lipton, SK.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any person to make representation regarding this application.

Written submissions may be submitted to the RM office prior to the hearing. Verbal submissions may be made at the hearing.

Any person wishing to comment on the proposed discretionary use is encouraged to attend.

This notice is given pursuant to the requirements of the Zoning Bylaw 2002-02 and The Planning and Development Act, 2007.

Dated this 8th day of May, 2026

Charmain Wowk,  
Administrator

## AUTOMOTIVE DIRECTORY

TnT

Autobody &amp; Customizing

- Indian Head -

- SGI Accredited
  - Minor Dents & Scratches to Complete Restorations
  - Courtesy Car
  - Glass Replacement & Complete Frame Repair
  - Free Estimates & Workmanship Warranty
- 306-695-3575**

Stop In and See Us at

Neudorf



- Full Service Gas Pumps
- Diesel Dye Pumps
- Tire Repair & Tires • Full Line of Hardware & Automotive Supplies
- Minor Automotive Repairs • Feed
- Bulk Petroleum
- Liquor and Cold Beer • Tobacco Products

Open Monday - Saturday (Closed Sunday)  
Phone 306-748-2474

## Wholesale Transmission &amp; Differential

Wholesale Prices

Imports &amp; Domestic, Overhauls, Free Road Tests

All Makes &amp; Models Rebuilt in Our Own Shop

★ Differential ★ CVA Joints ★ Clutches ★  
★ Universal Joints ★ Drive Shafts ★ 4X4 Transfer Cases ★

"The Price We Quote" is the Price You Pay

Hwy. 10 E., Melville, SK  
Phone 306-728-2730

## CARE AND WELLNESS + DIRECTORY

Curtis Taylor, RMT

- ECLIPS REMEDIAL MASSAGE -

160 Broadway St. - Fort Qu'Appelle

**OPEN:**  
Monday, Wednesday & Saturday  
By appointment only

Phone: 306-737-0463

Rachelle Schill

Registered Nurse - Foot Care Nurse

Relief and maintenance of callusing, corns, ingrown, thickened toenails and hard to reach feet.

Member of NHPC  
and Now Offer Reflexology

Assessment and maintenance of diabetic feet.

307 Main St., Balcarres, SK  
Call/Text 306-331-9946

Michael J. Litschko, RMT

## MASSAGE THERAPIST

R.M. Office - Indian Head

SATURDAYS:

8:00 A.M. TO NOON

APPOINTMENTS:

Phone: 306-537-9454 (office)

Online: [www.flexmt.ca](http://www.flexmt.ca)

## DIRECTORY ADVERTISING for only \$10\* / week

\*Must be prepaid, plus GST.  
Regular rate is \$480 plus GST per year.

Grasslands News Group  
1-844-464-6397



Outshine the Rest!

Tammy Oryschak

306-720-0789

[perSUNalizedbyTammy@gmail.com](mailto:perSUNalizedbyTammy@gmail.com)



- Deli Meats
- Jerky
- Barbecue Needs
- Liquor Vendor
- Spirits & Wines

Grayson, SK

Phone: 306 794-2113

Business Hours

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Open Over Lunch



## Housing Available Melville, Yorkton, and Canora

[goodspirit.ha@gov.sk.ca](mailto:goodspirit.ha@gov.sk.ca) or  
1-833-583-HOME for more info



## ABERNETHY CO-OP &amp; CAFE

Groceries • Eatery • Hardware • Giftware

Party Trays • Gas • Diesel

GREAT SELECTION &amp; PRICES! DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS!

Monday to Friday 7:30 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am – 6:00 pm

Sunday &amp; Holidays Closed

306.333.2122

Follow us on [f](https://www.facebook.com/abernethycoop) [Abernethy Co-op Store & Café](https://www.facebook.com/abernethycoop)

For all your denture needs:

## Tru-Fit Denture Clinic

2130B Broad Street, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 1Y5

306-352-2552

CALL COLLECT

"Doing a smiling business for over a decade and a half"

GET IT WEEKLY

Join the more

than 12,000 readers

who enjoy and

support the local

newspaper.

Subscribe by calling

1-844-GNG-NEWS

[contact@grasslandsnews.ca](mailto:contact@grasslandsnews.ca)

# Yorkton's pickleball community aces \$50,000 loan repayment in record time

By Andrea Moss  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

In a major win for local recreation, Pickleball Yorkton (PBY) has officially cleared its debt with the City of Yorkton. On May 11, the association presented a final \$20,000 payment for the Heritage Heights court expansion — completing a five-year commitment in just a year and a half.

While the city had originally provided a no-interest loan of \$50,000 with a five-year repayment term, the association demonstrated remarkable community support by paying back the full amount years early.

## A model for community investment

Mayor Aaron Kienle, an avid player himself who enjoys hitting the courts with friends, praised the partnership as a blueprint for local development. "What a fantastic organization we have here locally," Kienle said. "It was a great collaborative effort between Pickleball Yorkton and the city. When the courts at

Heritage Heights were being redone, the club wanted a dedicated space."

The project took advantage of a specialized funding initiative where the city partners with local organizations by offering interest-free loans to help finance new infrastructure developments. Mayor Kienle explained that this model allows groups to directly invest in the facilities the city is building for the community.

The city asked Pickleball Yorkton to contribute \$50,000 toward capital costs. While they were given five years to repay at \$10,000 per year, they finished years ahead of schedule. "This was supposed to take another couple of years," the Mayor noted, calling the club "very good stewards" of the city.

## Modernized facilities and growth

The revitalized Heritage Heights site now features:

- Four dedicated standalone pickleball courts.
- Two tennis courts with integrated lines for pickleball conversion.
- Professional sport surfacing and



The new Heritage Heights pickleball court.

brand-new nets.

Growing the Game PBY President Gina Resler attributes this financial milestone to a massive community effort. From the "Little Picklers" youth program to hosting the largest sanctioned tournament in Saskatchewan outside of provincials, the club's growth has been explosive.

Despite the high-end upgrades, the sport remains a low-cost, accessible activity; 2026 annual memberships are held at just \$10 per person.

With the debt settled, the city and PBY are looking at a bright future. Mayor Kienle says, "There is lots more opportunity for collaboration."

# Boaters must renew boat licence number every 5 years

New federal boating licence rules take effect for Saskatchewan boat owners

By GNG Staff  
Grasslands News

Recreational boat owners across Saskatchewan are being reminded of important new federal regulations that change how Pleasure Craft Licences are issued, renewed, and maintained in Canada.

As of December 31, 2025, Transport Canada has officially ended lifetime Pleasure Craft Licences (PCLs), replacing them with licences that must now be renewed every five years. The updated rules apply to all pleasure craft equipped with motors of 10 horsepower (7.5 kW) or greater.

The changes are intended to improve safety, strengthen vessel identification systems, and help authorities maintain accurate ownership information for abandoned or unsafe vessels.

Transport Canada says the move will ensure contact information remains current while improving enforcement and environmental response efforts.

A Pleasure Craft Licence is the identification number displayed on the bow of a boat, similar to a licence plate for a vehicle. It is separate from the Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC), commonly referred to as a boating licence or boating test card. The PCOC remains valid for life and is still required to legally operate a motorized recreational boat in Canada.

Under the new regulations, boat owners will

now pay a service fee of approximately \$24 to \$25 for issuing, renewing, transferring, or replacing a licence. The fee may increase over time due to inflation adjustments.

Boat owners are also facing stricter reporting timelines. Any changes to an owner's name, address, or vessel information must now be updated with Transport Canada within 30 days, reduced from the previous 90-day requirement.

Failure to maintain a valid licence or comply with licensing requirements could result in fines of up to \$250.

Transport Canada has also announced that beginning December 31, 2027, wind-powered vessels longer than six metres, including many sailboats, will also require licensing.

Officials stress that existing licences remain valid during the transition period. Boaters who currently hold older "lifetime" licences will not lose them immediately, but those licences have now been assigned expiry dates based on when they were originally issued. Once the assigned expiry date arrives, owners must renew under the new five-year system.

The federal government says the phased approach is designed to reduce confusion while allowing boat owners time to adapt to the new process.

To remain compliant, Transport Canada recommends that recreational

boat owners follow several key steps before heading onto the water this season.

Boat owners should first confirm whether their vessel requires licensing. Any recreational boat with one or more engines totaling at least 10 horsepower requires a valid Pleasure Craft Licence.

Owners should then ensure their licence information is accurate and current, including ownership details and contact information. If a boat is sold or ownership changes, those updates must be submitted promptly.

The licence number must continue to be clearly displayed on both sides of the bow in the proper size and format required by federal regulations.

Boaters are also reminded to always carry proof of licensing on-board while operating their vessel.

For boat dealers, the new regulations introduce ongoing responsibilities for registering vessels, transferring ownership, and issuing temporary licences according to updated federal procedures.

Renewing a Pleasure Craft Licence can now be completed online through Transport Canada's licensing system. Officials encourage boat owners to renew early before expiry dates arrive to avoid interruptions during boating season.

During renewal, own-

| Old vs. New PCL Rules                      |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  | Old Rule   | New Rule<br>(as of December 31, 2025)   |
| <b>Licence Validity</b>                    | Licences could be valid for 10 years or a lifetime   | All new and renewed licences are now <b>valid for only 5 years</b> .  |
| <b>Renewal Requirements</b>                | No renewal needed for Lifetime licences. 10-year licenses renewed after 10 years from the date issued. | All PCLs must be renewed every 5 years.   |
| <b>Service Fee</b>                         | No fees  | Boat owners must now pay a \$24 fee for new, renewed, transferred, or replacement licences.                   |
| <b>Owner Information Updates</b>           | Update contact information within 90 days of changes   | Update contact information within 30 days of changes.   |
| <b>New Owner Transfer</b>                  | Complete transfers as soon as possible (loosely enforced within 90 days)                               | New owners must apply to transfer within 30 days. Operating under a temporary licence is allowed for 30 days. |
| <b>Licence Display Requirements</b>        | Meet the requirements set by Transport Canada  | No change   |
| <b>Requirements for Wind-Powered Craft</b> | No licence required if not motorized   | Wind-powered craft more than 6m in length need a PCL starting December 31, 2027.                              |

ers should carefully review all vessel and owner information to ensure accuracy. If a licence number changes during renewal, updated markings must be applied to the boat before it is used again.

The new rules come as boating activity continues to grow across Saskatchewan lakes and

waterways, especially during peak summer months. Safety advocates say keeping registration information up to date will help emergency responders and enforcement officers identify vessels more efficiently when incidents occur.

Transport Canada emphasizes that while the process is changing,

the goal is to improve accountability and safety while reducing abandoned and improperly documented vessels on Canadian waterways.

Boaters seeking additional information on renewals, compliance requirements, or licensing updates are encouraged to visit Transport Canada.



## Send us your CONFIDENTIAL NEWS TIPS

[editor@grasslandsnews.ca](mailto:editor@grasslandsnews.ca)



NEWS | PRINTING

# YFF

YORKTON  
FILM FESTIVAL SINCE 1947

## Sideways a YFF Best of Sask finalist

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

*SIDEWAYS* is a documentary that tells a deeply personal story, said film spokesperson Lori Kuffner of the Yorkton Film Festival nomi-

nee.

“At 17, Bob Wilkie is predicted to become a star in the NHL, but a traumatic bus accident, killing four teammates, sends him into a downward spiral where the only way he can escape the nightmares that follow is to suppress them with drugs and alcohol,” she told Grasslands News. “Although the team rallies to win the Memorial Cup three years later and many drafted into the NHL, the survivors, with no professional support offered, continued to struggle.”

In this character-driven feature documentary, *SIDEWAYS* follows the grief journey of Bob Wilkie, who, for nearly 20-years after the accident, tried to suppress the nightmares that consumed him, that stole his career and nearly took his own life.

“Eventually Bob fights back to a productive and fulfilling life by sharing his story with others. *SIDEWAYS*, is a testament to how life can change on a dime,

but how love and support can turn it around,” said Kuffner.

As for entering YFF – a first entry for Trilight Entertainment – Kuffner said the long-running event has a certain cachet.

“Yorkton is a great festival with a great reputation,” she told Grasslands News. “To be nominated in this festival is a considerable honour as Yorkton is a national competition with entries coming in from across Canada.”

Kuffner added the festival is sort of foundational to the film sector in Saskatchewan.

“The festival is great for the Saskatchewan industry as it offers workshops and invites broadcasters from across Canada so delegates can meet one on one which is always a bonus,” she said.

As for being a Best of Sask finalist, Kuffner said it is of course gratifying.

“It is a good feeling to be a finalist in Best of Saskatchewan as we

know the talent that comes from this province and the volume of work produced, so to be recognized amongst our peers is great and a feather in our cap,” she said.

Such a nomination is also a promotional asset.

“The Yorkton nomination is a huge feather in our cap as this helps promote our documentary as credible and worthy,” she said, adding a win would of course add to the moment. “It is always great to be recognized by your peers, because it gives validation to your work.”

“For *SIDEWAYS* to take home the honour, would help in the promotion and credibility of the work and the message it is sending. Although this film is the story of the aftermath of the Swift Current Broncos’ bus crash, it is about mental health and the need to deal with trauma up front with healthy supports.”

As of now [www.sidewaysdocumentary.ca](http://www.sidewaysdocumentary.ca) will be released on most platforms sometime this fall.



Bob Wilkie at the Swift Current memorial.

PHOTO COURTESY LORI KUFFNER | GRASSLANDS NEWS

## Cue the 2026 Yorkton Film Festival - 300 films, 110 nominations

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

The 79th edition of the Yorkton Film Festival runs May 20-24 and YFF co-chair Ron Irvine went before Yorkton Council Monday to share some details regarding the event.

“Thank you for the City of Yorkton for your continued support of the longest running film festival in North America,” he said, adding it would be the longest in the world, except for Cannes, France – two weeks older.

Irvine also noted this is the second year of the festival being a five-day affair.

In general terms, “The Yorkton Film Festival honours distinctive, world-class Saskatchewan and Canadian short media productions and those who make them,” said Irvine.

The effort includes;

- Taking film to grassroots audiences
- Reflect the diversity of the creative film industry in Saskatchewan and Canada through the inclusion of Indigenous and Métis, culturally diverse, and underrep-

resented peoples

- Maximizing networking opportunities
- Recognizing emerging content producers
- Being a forum to celebrate screen-based media through recognition, presenta-

tion, and education

- Growing the economic and tourism revenues of Yorkton and Saskatchewan

This year there were 300 films entered, with 110 nominations in 27 categories.

The event kicks off Wednesday with a screening of the ‘Searchers’ series at the Yorkton Fire Hall.

The official opening night screening will be of the film ‘Meadowlark’ at the Painted Hand Casino.

Screenings – 37 overall – will take place at the Gallagher Centre Thursday and Friday.

The City of Yorkton Luncheon is Friday at the Gallagher Centre, with Lobsterfest in partnership with the Yorkton Lions Club at York Lake that evening.

The Golden Sheaf Awards are Saturday, and the festival winds up Sunday with On-demand winner’s screenings.



# We Have News for YOU

From local shopping and community developments to provincial and national headlines, we deliver the news you need and the information you want.



## We Also Do Printing

Forms, Envelopes,  
Business Cards, Posters,  
Raffle Tickets and  
SO MUCH MORE!  
Free Quotes

grasslands  
NEWS

1-844-GNG-NEWS

# Short documentary among Best of Sask. nominees at YFF

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

"I was genuinely excited and really flattered. Being named a Best of Saskatchewan finalist feels like such a meaningful recognition, especially amongst so much talent in the province. It's incredibly rewarding to see the film resonate in that way," offered Kaitlyn Van De Woestyne with the nominated film *Inuusivut Sapirnaqtuq - Our Life is Very Tough*.

Van De Woestyne said the long-running Yorkton Film Festival is such a film institution in the province, being involved was an obvious choice to make.

"Being from Saskatchewan, the Yorkton Film Festival has always felt legendary," she told Grasslands News. "I submitted my film because I have so much respect for the festival and for the people in the industry who've built it into what it is today."

"There's something really special about putting your work forward to a festival that carries that kind of legacy and

credibility. Being included alongside other filmmakers, many of whom I admire or have worked with feels really exciting."

The festival is an annual event Van De Woestyne said is one of importance to the provincial film industry.

"I see the Yorkton Film Festival as a cornerstone of the Saskatchewan film industry," she offered. "It creates a space where local stories are showcased alongside national work. It's become a yearly event for me where I enjoy catching up with colleagues, connecting with other filmmakers and learning from industry experts. It's also super fun and the lobster is delicious."

It is also a repeat effort having entered the festival with a student film, 'Officer 332' in 2015. It was nominated for Best Student Film.

Asked about the film Van De Woestyne explained, "the film *Inuusivut Sapirnaqtuq* is a short documentary that tells the story of coastal erosion in Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories, and the very real impact

it's having on the community. Through the perspectives of Deva-Lynn Pokiak, a local Inuk mother, and researcher Dustin Whalin, the film explores what it means to watch your home and culture quite literally disappear into the ocean.

"At its core, it's a story about resilience and collaboration, bringing together Indigenous knowledge and western science as the community works to understand and adapt to the erosion. It highlights both the urgency of climate change in the Arctic and the deep personal connection people have to the land, asking what it means to protect a place that holds history, identity, and future generations."

So, what does a Best of Saskatchewan nomination mean for a documentary such as *Inuusivut Sapirnaqtuq*?

"A nomination from the Yorkton Film Festival is incredibly valuable from a promotion and marketing standpoint," said Van De Woestyne. "It brings a level of credibility and recognition that helps the film stand out, both within the in-

dustry and with broader audiences.

In an era of endless content, it signals to audiences that this is a film worth paying attention to."

A win of course would be sweeter still.

"A win would be incredibly meaningful," said Van De Woestyne. "On a personal level, it would feel like a real

# YFFF

YORKTON  
FILM FESTIVAL  
SINCE 1947

honour to have the film recognized in that way, especially among such strong Saskatchewan storytellers.

"For the film, it would help amplify its reach even further. Recognition like that can bring more attention to the story, the community, and the issues the

film explores, especially around coastal erosion and climate change in the North."

The film can be seen at the Yorkton Film Festival, and Van De Woestyne noted they are still submitting to other festivals, so it isn't available publicly yet.



PHOTO COURTESY VAN DE WOESTYNE | GRASSLANDS NEWS

On the scene for the filming of '*Inuusivut Sapirnaqtuq - Our Life is Very Tough*.'

## Experimental 'doc' among Best of Sask finalists

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

When the finalists for this year's Best of Saskatchewan are introduced at the Yorkton Film Festival *La Colle Falls* will be among the five films up for the award.

"My film, *La Colle Falls*, is a short experimental documentary that examines the unfinished construction of the La Colle Falls Hydroelectric Dam, located 40 km east of Prince Albert, Sask.," explained Mike Rollo with the production. "Rather than following a conventional documentary approach, the film unfolds as a poetic audiovisual portrait of place."

The nomination was naturally most welcome.

"I was honoured," said Rollo. "It came as a bit of a surprise. My film is a small, independent, artist-driven project, so I didn't expect to be in the company of such outstanding nominated films."

Rollo said in terms of promoting/marketing the film, a YFF nomination can be very helpful.

"A nomination always brings added visibility, so I'm honoured that the festival recognized the film and grateful for the opportunity to reach more audiences," he said.

A win would be even better.

"A win is always appreciated, though I don't place much weight on awards or seek the spotlight," offered Rollo. "If it brings more attention to the film, that's what matters most."

That said, Rollo said it was an easy decision to enter the film at YFF, especially having entered in the past and being awarded the Golden Sheaf for Best

Experimental Film twice, first in 2021 for *Eidolon*, and again in 2023 for *PLUME*.

"It's an incredibly welcoming festival," he said. "Each time I attend, I'm struck by the dedication of the volunteers, who work hard to ensure everyone has the best possible experience."

"It's also an excellent space for networking, bringing together creative

makers and industry professionals.

"I especially appreciate its community-driven atmosphere. The festival feels intimate and grounded, without the overwhelming scale that larger festivals can sometimes have."

Rollo said the atmosphere of the festival is about more than the possibility of taking home a Golden Sheaf.

"It's an excellent festival for making connections, especially during Lobster Fest, when the atmosphere is more relaxed," he noted. "Being outside, shoulder to shoulder, sharing a meal creates a relaxed setting for discussing films and upcoming projects."

"It's an ideal setting for networking and building meaningful relationships. While Saskatchewan's film industry is small, it's remarkably supportive and collaborative."

You can watch the film in the festival's viewing room.

It was also recently screened at the Cinémathèque québécoise as part of a special program highlighting work distributed by the Winnipeg Film Group.

Alternatively, viewers can visit Rollo's website (mrollo.com) to request a screening link.



PHOTO COURTESY MIKE ROLLO | GRASSLANDS NEWS

A scene from *La Colle Falls*, a short experimental documentary.

## Need something printed? We are your local owned print shop!

# DIGITAL AND WIDE FORMAT PRINTING

• Business Cards • Envelopes • Letterhead • Invoices • Flyers • Raffle Tickets • Posters • Coroplast & ACM Signs • Banners and MORE!



FREE  
QUOTES!

grasslands

NEWS | PRINTING

1-844-GNG-NEWS

printing@gngnews.ca

218 - 3rd Avenue West, Melville, SK



CALL  
TODAY!

Sunny Side Up

# There's no love like old love

By Kathleen Gibson  
Grasslands News

Considering marriage, Samuel Clemens wrote, "Love seems the swiftest, but it is the slowest of all growths. No one really knows what perfect love is until they have been married a quarter of a century." Having been married just shy of a half century, I understand his comment even better than I did at 25.

"Thanks for taking care of me, Hon," the Preacher said, as I finished his nightly foot care.

His words and the sweet spirit in which he said them touched me. "That's what I promised to do almost 50 years ago, right? For better, for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do us part."

But then guilt nudged me. "Except I complain a lot, right?" I added, thinking how I'd ignited earlier on spying another wheel-

chair scrape on the wall. No answer from the man on the bed. I cleared my throat. "Now would be a good time for you to tell me I don't."

He chuckled. "I've learned that a wise husband keeps his mouth shut when his wife asks a leading question."

"The problem," I retorted, "is you keep your mouth shut too often." These days, the Preacher uses far fewer words than I. Spoken or written, words are my fuel. But he uses most of his in the pulpit on the rare occasions he still preaches. And when he prays.

Again, not a peep from the guy on the bed. My turn. "Anyway, I still love you. And I'm so glad you're still with me." He reciprocated, thanking me again.

When we first married, an older Christian woman gave me solid marriage advice. "Don't expect your husband to meet all your needs," she said. "De-

velop good friendships and other interests. Your marriage will be stronger." How right she was. Today, Rick is my closest friend. My often silent, beloved partner. My best listener. So much a part of me I often forget, while apart, that he's not with me. Here's an example:

A few columns ago, I mentioned, "The Preacher and I attended our grandson's college graduation." After publication, a friend, who knew he hadn't joined me for health reasons, asked why I'd written that. "I lied," I responded, horrified, "but not intentionally." Texting to him throughout the day made it seem, while writing that column, that my often-silent partner had been exactly where he has been so often in the last 50 years. Right beside me.

My mistake reminds me of the promises we made on our wedding day. Promises to remain together. Promises that only God could have enabled us to keep. Our love, though it takes a different shape than it did as newlyweds, has held steady through life's bumps and bruises. A perfect kind of love for this time and stage of life.

Are you married? Keep faith, stay true, thank God for each happy moment and work hard on the rest. Because there's no love like old growth love. Even when illness plagues and words fade.

## History matters!

Help keep your community's history alive.

SUBSCRIBE TO YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER!

Call Toll Free:  
**1-844-GNG-NEWS**  
contact@grasslandsnews.ca

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### Melville Churches Welcome You

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
238 - 3rd Ave. E.  
Office Ph. 306-728-2551  
Office Hours: Mondays  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Clergy: Deacon Kevin Prouten  
www.stpaulsmelville.ca

**Sunday, May 17:**  
9 a.m. Worship at St. Paul's with Holy Communion

**Tuesday, May 19:**  
3:30 pm. MACC Meeting at St. Paul's

**Thursday, May 21:**  
5 .m. MACC Supper at First United hosted by Melville Baptist

-- at Neudorf/Lemberg --

**Sunday, May 17:**  
\*9 a.m. Lay Service at Christ Neud

\*11 a.m. Worship at Trinity Lemb with Holy Communion

**ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.  
306-720-0589

\*Services Every Second Sunday  
May 17: Nothing Scheduled

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

**Sunday, May 17:**  
11 a.m. Worship with Ray Yost

**Saturday, May 23:**  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Garage Sale

**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 a.m. Coffee and Welcome  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

www.melvilleriverchurch.org  
Facebook @melvilleriverchurch  
Recorded messages posted online

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
258 - 10th Ave. W.  
Ph. 306-728-3971  
Pastor Ronald Shumba  
facebook.com/gslcmelville

**May 14:** 7 p.m. Bible Study  
**May 15:** 7 p.m. Ignite Youth  
**May 16:** 10 a.m. M&M  
**May 17:** 9:15 a.m. Choir  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
**May 19:** 9:30 a.m. Ladies Day

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

**Sunday, May 17:**  
11:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
**Wednesday, May 20:**  
10:00 a.m. at St. Paul Home

**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

**ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
Sunday, May 17:  
No Worship Service

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA**  
Sunday, May 17:  
10:00 a.m. Communion Service

**WHITEWOOD UNITED CHURCH**  
Sunday, May 17:  
No Worship Service

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**Indian Head Church Welcomes You**

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**Growing in Faith Together**

### Melville Churches Welcome You

**BETHANY EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH**  
5th Ave. W. & Queen St.  
Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001  
May 17: 10:30 a.m. Worship

**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 p.m.  
**Sunday Mass:** 10 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, May 17:**  
11 a.m. Worship Service

*Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9 a.m. on 940 C/JGX 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, May 17:  
9 a.m. Mass

**ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
Sunday, May 17:  
No Worship Service

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA**  
Sunday, May 17:  
10:00 a.m. Communion Service

**WHITEWOOD UNITED CHURCH**  
Sunday, May 17:  
No Worship Service

**Indian Head Church Welcomes You**

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
801 Buxton St. - Indian Head, SK  
306-695-3838  
\*Sunday Services 11 a.m.\*  
Service Leaders  
Don Jewitt  
Jani Francis

### Kipling Churches Welcome You

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

**KIPLING UNITED CHURCH**  
102 Nelson Ave. - 306-736-2237  
email: kwpc@sasktel.net  
Services Held: 1st Sunday with Jennifer Yasinowski and 3rd Sunday with Monica Dayman at 9:30 a.m.

**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, May 16:**  
6:30 p.m. Mass

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

**BEKEVAR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
102 Nelson Ave.  
(in Kipling United Church)  
Sunday Worship  
in person 11:30 a.m.  
Rev. Devon Pattemore  
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**

**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 a.m.  
Hear the Gospel, sing the faith, feel the family fellowship. Facebook Live.

**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



## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

If you have a story idea or see worthwhile news happening, give us a call

**1-844-GNG-NEWS**

## A PERSEVERANT SEASON

"See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come."

- Song of Songs 2:11-12 NIV

## Church of God in Christ Mennonite

Saltcoats, SK

**SUNDAY SCHOOL EVERY SUNDAY: 10:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE: 11:00 AM**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

Pastor Laurel Wiebe - 306-898-2099  
Pastor Tim Warkentin - 306-217-8222



## PRAIRIE HARVEST CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTRE

72 Melrose Ave., Yorkton, SK • PH: 306-786-6840  
Senior Pastors Des & Cheryl Klingspon  
Employment Program 306-786-1840

Online Sunday Worship Service 10:30AM  
will be on our Facebook page

Contemporary Worship • Children's Ministry • Youth Ministry  
phclc.org

"Changing our world with the love of God."



## St. Mark The Evangelist Orthodox Church

160 Betts Ave, Yorkton, Sask

"Services In English"  
www.stmarkyorkton.ca

**Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> - Vespers 6:00 PM**  
**Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup> Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**  
*Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!*

**Holy Ascension Thursday May 21<sup>st</sup> 6:00 PM**  
Priest: Rodion Luciuk Phone: 306-786-6216 Cell: 306-621-5341



## St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church

155 Catherine St., Yorkton, SK  
306-783-4594

Pastor - Fr. Basil Malowany  
Phone: 306-783-4594 or 306-783-7778  
Saturday - 5 PM (English)  
Sunday - 9 AM (English & Ukrainian)

SICK CALLS ANYTIME—BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE BY APPOINTMENT

## Holy Transfiguration Ukrainian Orthodox Church

89 Bradbrooke Drive, Yorkton, SK S3N 2Y2  
306-782-2998

**Father Michael Faryna • 306-601-9043**

Thurs. May 14: Moleben - 10:00AM - Yorkton Nursing Home  
Sun. May 17: Divine Liturgy - 10:00AM - Yorkton  
Wed. May 20: Moleben - 10:30AM - Foam Lake Nursing Home  
Thurs. May 21: Divine Liturgy - 10:00AM - Yorkton  
Thurs. May 21: Moleben - 2:00PM - Theodore Nursing Home

# CLASSIFIEDS



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

## Obituary Natalie Marie Remanda

April 1, 1934 - May 1, 2026

It is with great sadness that the family of the late Natalie Remanda announces her passing on Friday, May 1, 2026 at the Yorkton & District Nursing Home - Melody Manor.



Natalie Marie Remanda was born on Sunday, April 1, 1934 to Bill and Anne Pilot of the Melville District of Saskatchewan. They were a close knit family and Natalie adored her two older sisters, a closeness that stayed with them throughout their lives. After finishing school Natalie found jobs working at the Beanery CN Station, Wings Café, and the Cameo Restaurant. While still living at home her friends would stop in after school to see her at the restaurant where she worked.

She had an active social life, her niece recounting the hours they would sit on the front porch, with Natalie playing her guitar and singing, with her favorite cats playing at their feet. On one of the dances she was introduced to a tall handsome man named Joe. They were united in Holy Matrimony on Nov. 14, 1957 and made their home in Yorkton. They were blessed with one son, Wayne.

Home life revolved around her family enjoying the farm life and being in town for the winters. Growing up she had learned to be a great cook which she shared with everyone who stopped by. Natalie had a strong faith in the Lord, one of her favorite verses was John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." She had a great love for people, a willingness to help, pray and feed those around her, both young and old providing treats and a beautiful smile along the way. Every goodbye spoken was always finished with I love you and I will miss you.

Natalie was predeceased by her parents; her beloved husband, Joe; her beloved son, Wayne; her sisters, Olga and Marie; and many other family members. She leaves to cherish her memory, her daughter-in-law, Lorette; grandchildren Seth, and Jared and family; niece, Sandy and family; and by other cousins and friends.

A memorial service took place on Monday, May 11, 2026 at the First Baptist Church in Yorkton, with Pastor Steve Rosluk officiating. The interment of cremated remains followed in the Yorkton City Cemetery with her grandson Seth serving as the urn bearer. Those friends wishing to make a charitable contribution in memory of the late Natalie Remanda may do so with a gift to the "Recreation Department" of the Yorkton & District Nursing Home, #200 Bradbrooke Drive Yorkton, SK S3N 2K5.

Kopan's Funeral Service is honoured to have been entrusted with funeral arrangements.

## Obituary Judith Lynn Rogers

Dec. 27, 1943 - May 7, 2026

It is with sadness and love that we announce the peaceful passing of Judith Lynn Rogers (nee Thomas) of Regina, SK, on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at the age of 82 years.

Born in Niagara Falls, New York on Dec. 27, 1943, her family moved to Ontario when she was 11. She met Jim Rogers while working as a receptionist at Kimberly-Clark. They married after just three months and built a remarkable life together over 63 years. Judy took great pride in her life with Jim, welcoming a daughter in each of the three provinces they called home. From 1974 to 2006, Jim and Judy became the third generation to own and operate Belterre Farms, a pedigreed seed business, near Edgeley, SK. It was in Edgeley that Judy proudly became a Canadian citizen. Judy and Jim retired and moved to Chelsey Estates in Regina.

Judy lived a life defined by bold moves, deep commitments, and an unwavering devotion to family, friends and community. She was never afraid to stand up for her convictions or engage in a good political debate. Beyond her devotion to her own family, she supported her community by teaching Sunday school, caring for local children and providing tireless support to many aging relatives by navigating countless doctors' appointments and offering compassionate presence during their final palliative care. Her warm smile and open door welcomed everyone - often over conversation and a home-cooked meal.

She was predeceased by her parents Isabel and Jack Thomas; siblings Dick, Kit, Bill and Bonnie; and in-laws Leo Perras and Rose Rogers. Judy is lovingly remembered by her husband and best friend, Jim; daughters Jacquie Herman (Doug), Kelley Smith (Greg) and Megan Rogers (Rodney Al); seven grandchildren Jake (Amanda), Luc (Leah), Adam (Hannah), Jackson, Kaitlyn, Beatrice and Ansel; two great-grandchildren Maddy and Mason; in-laws Judy Lenz (Craig), Barry Rogers (Kate), Tom Rogers, Betty Thomas; and her extended family.

The family is forever grateful for Judy's love, guidance and support and would like to extend this appreciation to the EMTs, doctors, nurses and staff of the Regina General Hospital for their care and compassion over the last year.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Regina Funeral Home and Cemetery, 4001 East Victoria Avenue, Regina, SK on Sunday, June 28, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Hospitals of Regina Foundation, 1874 Scarth Street, Regina, SK S4P 4B3. Family and friends are invited to leave tributes at [www.reginafuneralhome.ca](http://www.reginafuneralhome.ca)

Arrangements entrusted to Regina Funeral Home and Cemetery (306) 789-8850.



## Memoriam



KOLYBABA - In loving memory of Carol who passed away May 13, 2021.

Five years ago God called you to be his angel in heaven.

We miss your beautiful, cheerful smile that are missed every day.

Miss you so much -

Such an unbearable feeling, my heart weeps every day for you.

You were such a supporter for our family as a teacher and mentor.

But beneath it lies a broken heart.

Until we meet again.

-Wilmer, Tanya, James, Taylor and Jayda

## Memoriam



SANDY TROFANANKO

In loving memory of my wife, Sandy Trofananko who passed away May 16, 2002.

God called your name so softly

That only you could hear,

And no one heard the footsteps

Of angels drawing near.

The golden gates stood open

God saw you needed rest,

His garden must be beautiful

He only takes the best.

-Your loving husband, Don

## Memoriam

YOUNG - Lena. In loving memory of a dear Mom and Grandma who passed away May 21, 1999.

Those we love don't go away

they walk beside us every day.

Unseen, unheard but always near,

still loved,

still missed,

and held so dear.

Mothers hold their children's hands

for a while,

but their hearts forever.

-Love forever, Laura, Denis, Julie, Leanne and Janlyn.

## Memoriam

Parents:

Eli Zacharuk who passed away

May 13, 1998

Patricia Zacharuk who passed away

June 21, 1994

Watching over us from above.

-Rodger and Faithe Prodanuk

## Card of Thanks

The Family of Wayde Morley

The family of the late Wayde Morley, who passed away on April 26, 2026, wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all who offered support during this difficult time. We are deeply grateful to everyone who attended the service, sent messages of sympathy, made phone calls, brought food, and stopped by to share a hug or kind words. Your compassion and thoughtfulness have meant more to us than we can truly express.

A special thank you to the honorary Miller urn bearers and Bailey's Funeral Home.

Wayde will be dearly missed by his loving wife, Shirley Morley; his sons, Jamie (Chris) and Chase (Cassidy); and his cherished grandson, Mack Morley. Thank you for keeping our family in your thoughts and for helping us honour Wayde's life.

## 2018 Chev Malibu

2018 CHEVROLET Malibu LT, 164,000 kms, 2 sets of tires, 2 fobs. Very good condition. \$11,750 OBO. Cal 306-541-4216.

## RV Trailer for Sale



RV TRAILER FOR SALE - 2020 Kodiak Cub RV, like new condition. 23 ft. 8 in long, AC, 35 amp voltage converter, aluminum frame, 120V exterior outlet, 30 amp power cord. Prepped for backup camera. All lighting is LED, 2 deep cycle dual batteries, black tank flush, heated and enclosed underbelly, off-road aluminum wheel and tire pkg, power stabilizer jacks with LED lights, power awning. Asking \$23,000. Call 306-960-4457.

## Snowplow for Sale

DK SNOWPLOW FOR SALE, with mounting bracket, used one winter, like new, remote and extra winch strap included. \$1,200. Call 306-620-5063.

## For Rent

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.

## Home Painting

PAINTER JOE - Interior home painting. Call 306-316-6054, Yorkton area.

## Open for Business

CONCRETE LAWN & GARDEN Open for Business at 121 Montreal Street, Melville from May 7 until end of October, 2026. Ornaments, blocks, edges, etc. Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and maybe Tuesdays.

## Classifieds cont'd

on Pg 28

You remain anonymous.

# CRIMINALS DON'T!

## SASKATCHEWAN CRIMESTOPPERS

Working to make our communities safer for over 25 years.

TALK, TYPE or TEXT your TIP:

call 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

online at [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com)

text "TIP206" to Crimes (27637)

OSOYOOS LAKE-SHORE VILLA VACATION RENTAL

EXECUTIVE VILLA in Osoyoos, BC, with breathtaking lake views and just 3 minutes from town.

EXPERIENCE THE ULTIMATE GETAWAY!

Or wanting warmer weather? Two luxurious 5-star resort units in Phoenix, Arizona.

Doug 306-716-2671 [osoyooslakevilla.com](http://osoyooslakevilla.com)

Cash 4 Coin Collections!



Also BUYING Old Jewelry, Nuggets, Bullion, Gold, Silver, Platinum, Sterling Silverware, Franklin Mint sets, Royal Canadian Mint Coins, pre 1937 Paper Money, old coins, numismatists, Rare Coins, Silver Coins, Gold coins, etc.

Covering Regina, Saskatoon & Rural SASK. I drive to you! CALL ME NOW!! TODD: 1-306-774-2420

# CLASSIFIED RATES

(based on 25 words or less)

Obituary Deadline Tuesdays 12 Noon



1 week: \$15.00 • 2 weeks: \$20.00 • 3 weeks: \$25.00 • 4 weeks: \$30.00  
Additional weeks: \$7.50 • Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 noon

# 1-844-GNG-NEWS

### \$ 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

### Services

#### Indian Head Library NEW HOURS

effective Feb. 17, 2026

#### TUESDAY

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - 1 - 5 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 1 - 5 p.m.  
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAY

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 1 - 5 p.m.

#### FRIDAY CLOSED

#### SATURDAY

9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

CLOSED Sunday and Monday

Phone: 306-695-3922

tfc

### Province Wide

**FORAGE SEED FOR SALE:** Organic and conventional: Sweet Clover, Alfalfa, Red Clover, Smooth Brome, Meadow Brome, Crested Wheatgrass, Timothy, etc. Star City, SK. Birch Rose Acres Ltd. 306-921-9942.

**PRIVATE MORTGAGE LENDER.** All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. (403) 543-0927 www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca

**WANTED:** Collector paying top prices: old advertising signs, gas pumps, Red Indian, White Rose, Buffalo, Ford Dodge, GM. 1968-70 Chargers, 1970-71 Barracuda's. Running or not. 306-221-5908

Find **QUALIFIED, LOCAL EMPLOYEES**, using the strength of community newspapers! Visit [www.swna.com](http://www.swna.com) or call 306-649-1405 to find out how!

### Province Wide

**ADVERTISEMENTS** and statements contained herein are the sole responsibility of the persons or entities that post the advertisement, and the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspaper Association and membership do not make any warranty as to the accuracy, completeness, truthfulness or reliability of such advertisements. For greater information on advertising conditions, please consult the Association's Blanket Advertising Conditions on our website at [www.swna.com](http://www.swna.com)

**PROVINCE-WIDE CLASSIFIEDS.** 51 local community newspapers, distributing to over 450 communities, including 14 cities. Reach over 550,000 readers weekly. Call 306-649-1405 or visit [www.swna.com](http://www.swna.com) for details.

Subscribe by calling  
**1-844-GNG-NEWS**  
contact@  
grasslandsnews.ca

### Truck Tender

#### Tender Reference

Langbank Co-op Truck 9

Closing date: June 1, 2026

Location for inspection:

Palik Contracting  
NW 23-13-4 W2 RM of Kingsley  
306-736-2850

#### Vehicle specifications

Make/Model: Freightliner Coronado 122SD

Year: 2015  
Vin: 3ALHGND66DFZ6247  
Chassis: Day cab, tandem axle  
Odometer: 485,565 km  
Engine (non-functional): DD15  
Transmission: Allison 6 speed auto  
*The engine has suffered a catastrophic failure. Full engine replacement or major overhaul is required.*

#### Component Status:

Transmission and differentials were operational prior to engine failure. DEF delete. "This vehicle is sold 'AS IS, WHERE IS' and is not represented as being in roadworthy condition or mechanically sound. The vehicle is not fit for use as a means of transportation in its current state and requires substantial repairs at the buyer's expense. No warranties, express or implied are provided."

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids as the interests of the Owner may require, without stating reasons therefore, and the highest or any bid will not necessarily be accepted.

*Bidders should submit the following in their offer:*

**Bid Price:** Total offer in CAD  
Only the winning bidder will be contacted

Please send bid to:

cooplb@sasktel.net

Pictures available upon request

# Wanted Ituna man going to trial for multiple offences

By GNG Staff  
Grasslands News

An Ituna man who had been on the RCMP's wanted list will be going to trial in early fall for multiple sexual offences.

Christopher Russell Tallmadge, 40, was arrested by Melville RCMP

in Ituna on April 27, adding a count of failure to comply with a condition to the list of charges that included sexual assault, sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation of a young person, and administering a noxious substance.

One day prior to his arrest, a list of nine Most Wanted individuals was

released, with five people on that list having since been arrested. RCMP suspected Tallmadge may have been in Ituna, Melville, Lipton, Muskowekwan First Nation, Lanigan or Meadow Lake.

Tallmadge most recently appeared in Melville Provincial Court on May 11, where a trial date was set for his matters, being Sept. 4 in Melville.

Join the more than 12,000 readers who enjoy and support the local newspaper

Subscribe by calling  
**1-844-GNG-NEWS**  
contact@  
grasslandsnews.ca

### Auctions

#### 2S Auctioneers



"Online Timed Auctions Closing Weekly!"

Come in have a look! All items are on Display. Located at 506 Dewdney St, Indian Head, SK.

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

[www.2sauctioneers.hibid.com](http://www.2sauctioneers.hibid.com)  
PL #333133

**Royal Canadian Legion**  
Indian Head Branch No. 114  
**General Meeting 2nd Thursday at 2 p.m.**  
at the Indian Head Memorial Hall  
President - Lorne Scott  
Contact Ken Turpin 250-661-8812 and Myrna Scott 306-727-3733

## WALK-IN-TUBS SASKATCHEWAN

Quality Canadian Made Walk-In Bathbubs for Less!

Low step-up for easy access.  
Stay Independent and safe, in your home.  
Experienced installers & locally owned.  
Lifetime Warranty

Act now and save up to \$1000

Call today! 1-306-536-7660  
[www.walkintubssask.ca](http://www.walkintubssask.ca)



Buying/Selling  
**FEED GRAINS**  
heated / damaged  
**CANOLA/FLAX**  
Top price paid  
FOB FARM  
**Western Commodities**  
**877-695-6461**  
Visit our website @  
[www.westerncommodities.ca](http://www.westerncommodities.ca)



#### BARLEY

**\*NEW - AB STANDSWELL\***

SMOOTH AWN, HIGH YIELDING,  
GRAIN AND FORAGE

GREAT LODGING RESISTANCE

**1st NITROGEN USE**

**EFFICIENT CEREAL IN CANADA**

CERVEZA,  
CDC AUSTENSON,  
CDC DURANGO, CDC  
MAVERICK, ESMA, SUNDRE.

#### WHEAT

PINTAIL, FORAGE OR GRAIN

#### OATS

AC JUNIPER, AC MORGAN,  
AC MUSTANG, DERBY,  
CDC SO1 SUPER OAT.

#### PEAS

VERY EARLY YELLOW PEA  
FORAGE PEAS,

**ALSO AVAILABLE**  
POLISH CANOLA &  
SPRING TRITICALE

**SPECIAL PRICING ON**  
**TRUCK LOADS**  
[mastinseeds.com](http://mastinseeds.com)  
**403-556-2609**

**CRIME STOPPERS**

Toll Free  
**1-800-222-TIPS**

**WHITE SPRUCE TREES FOR SALE**

- 5' average \$50
- Installation ONLY \$19
- Includes: Hole Augered, Wurzel Dip enzyme injection, bark mulch application and staking
- One-time fuel charge is between \$200-300
- Minimum order 30

**Quality guaranteed!**

**CRYSTAL SPRINGS**  
Phone: 403-820-0961  
[albertasprucetrees.com](http://albertasprucetrees.com)

**Integrity Post Frame Buildings**  
SINCE 2008

Built with  
**Concrete Posts**  
Barns, Shops,  
Riding Arenas,  
Machine Sheds  
and More

sales@  
[integritybuilt.com](http://integritybuilt.com)  
**1-866-974-7678**  
**INTEGRITYBUILT.COM**

## FUNERAL + MONUMENT DIRECTORY

**TYMIK'S MONUMENTS & GRAVE SURFACING CO.**

Granite, Bronze, Marble Monuments, Vases, Cemetery Inscriptions and Cremation Urns.

FULLY GUARANTEED - LICENSED AND BONDED

See Our Large Display

529 Main St. South,  
Box 476, Ituna, Sask. S0A 1N0  
Ph. (306) 795-2428  
Serving Surrounding Areas Since 1960

**VALLEY VIEW MONUMENTS**

GRANITE, MARBLE, BRONZE MONUMENTS  
Second Inscriptions  
Vases, Cremation Urns  
Licensed and Bonded

Dennis Temple 306-332-1335  
or 306-728-8197

**REMCO MEMORIALS**

- Monument Sales
- Lettering on Monuments & Markers

**CAROLE ARMSTRONG**  
**306-735-7148**

**BAILEY'S FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE**

Your Full-Service, Family Owned and Operated Funeral Home and Crematorium Serving

Yorkton 306-783-7552  
Melville 306-728-5488  
Ituna 306-795-2481

Pre-arrangements, Traditional Funerals, Celebrant Services, Grief Support, Notary Public, Monument Design and Installation.

[baileysfuneralhome.com](http://baileysfuneralhome.com)

**REMCO MEMORIALS**

Cemetery Memorials • In Cemetery Lettering  
Memorial Levelling • Memorial Restoration

Keith Hawken 306-695-2479  
Michael Rey 306-901-7440  
Laurie Rey 306-901-7000  
mrey@sasktel.net

**DIRECTORY ADVERTISING for only \$10\* / week**

\*Must be prepaid, plus GST.  
Regular rate is \$480 plus GST per year.

**Grasslands News Group**  
**1-844-464-6397**

**CONLEY FUNERAL HOME**

Check our pricing - You will be glad you did!  
**Family Owned and Operated**

**Did You Know? If you have a prearranged funeral plan with another funeral home you have the right, by law, to transfer that plan to any other funeral home in the province, often at no charge to you.**

**Call us for details!**

Authorized agent for Canada Purple Shield / Familyside.

**FORT QU'APPELLE - 306-332-0555**  
266 Boundary Ave. N.

**WOLSELEY - 306-698-5000**  
900 Front Street

**RAYMORE - 306-746-1000**  
116 Main Street

[www.conleyfuneralhome.ca](http://www.conleyfuneralhome.ca)

Like and follow us on facebook for the latest obituary updates.

**Matthews Funeral Home**

Melville's only locally-owned funeral home.  
Branch office in Whitewood.

Burial and cremation services, grief support, cemetery memorials, notary public.

Melville, 306-728-4221 — Whitewood, 306-735-2335

Mark and Gaylene Matthews and staff

[matthewsfuneralhome.ca](http://matthewsfuneralhome.ca)

# Whitewood machinist headed to national Skills Canada competition

By Ryan Kiedrowski  
Grasslands News

A Whitewood-born machinist is preparing to represent Saskatchewan on the national stage later this month at the Skills Canada National Competition 2026 in Toronto.

Chance Hoehne, who will compete in CNC machining, earned his place at nationals after advancing through provincial competition. The annual event, hosted this year at Toronto's Enercare Centre from May 27 to 30, will bring together more than 550 competitors from across Canada in more than 45 skilled trade and technology contests.

"It's very cool," Hoehne said about representing Saskatchewan. "It feels like a real honour to get to put on a shirt that says Team Saskatchewan and go and represent our prairie province."

The national competition is considered the top level of Skills Canada competition in the country, with participants qualifying through provincial and territorial events before moving on to nationals.

"Well, you head out and you go to school and you take your training and then a lot of times the instructors there will give you the opportunity to go and compete," he said. "And if you're any good, you can go and compete. And if you win and you win a provincial competition, then you get the chance to go on to nationals."

Nationals rotate to a different host city each year. This year's event in Toronto will feature competitions in construction, manufacturing and engineering, transportation, information technology and other sectors.

For Hoehne, the opportunity is about more than competition results.

"I would say getting to go and visit a new city," he said when asked what he is looking forward to most. "See what Toronto's like and see how my skills match up and compare to other people from other provinces."

Competitors from every province and some territories are expected to take part.

Hoehne said he already has some experience with the competition environment after previously competing at the national level.

"Last year I competed and there was 12 of us," he said.

CNC machining uses computerized tools and equipment to manufacture precision parts and components. The trade has become increasingly important in industries ranging from agriculture and manufacturing to aerospace and heavy equipment.

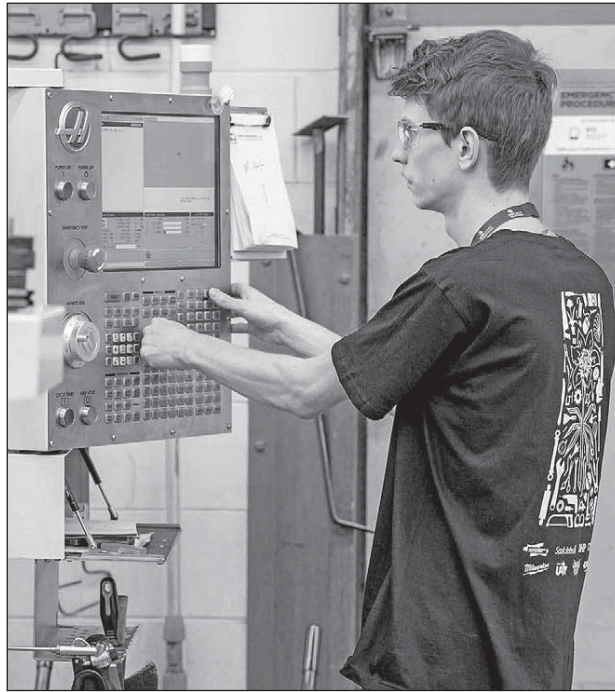
Hoehne said his interest in the field began shortly after high school.

"Right out of school, I wanted to take a course and do something with my hands," he said. "I like making things out on the farm."

That interest eventually led him to an Innovative Manufacturing program in Regina.

"Through that course, we did a little bit of CNC machining and some other CAD and stuff like that," he said. "And I just fell in love with it, and I've continued on with it and have since made a career out of it."

He said the trade fits naturally with life on the Prairies, especially for those raised in farming communities where repairing or fabricating



Chance Hoehne

equipment is often a necessity.

"You got old tractors that parts are obsolete for," he said. "You got to make them yourself."

The event also aims to highlight the growing need for skilled trades workers across Canada.

Canada is expected to see hundreds of thousands of new trades jobs created in the coming years while many current tradespeople approach retirement age.

The competition also includes Try-A-Trade and technology activities for students and visitors, along with exhibitor demonstrations from industry organizations and employers.

Skills/Compétences Canada president Ray Massey said in the event program that the competition is intended to showcase the importance of skilled trades and technologies to the country's future workforce.

"A strong, skilled workforce is essential to

Canada's economic prosperity," Massey said in the program.

For Hoehne, however, the experience remains personal as much as professional.

"It's a very humbling experience to get to go and do that," he said.

The competition days are scheduled for May 28 and 29, with closing ceremonies taking place May 30 in Toronto.

When asked about celebration plans if he brings home gold, Hoehne noted they would include a stop at the famous Milky Way ice cream vendor in Regina.

"When they have their Nanaimo blizzards or milkshakes, it's pretty much an immediate - we're going to Milky Way!" he said.



## Assessment Roll Notice RM of North Qu'Appelle No. 187

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of North Qu'Appelle No. 187 for the year 2026 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment to the Board of Revision is required to file a notice of appeal in writing, accompanied by a \$75.00 appeal fee by June 8, 2026, to:

The Secretary of the Board of Revision  
Aileen Swenson  
c/o P.O. Box 99  
Fort Qu'Appelle, SK. S0G 1S0

Dated this 15th day of May 2026.

Charmain Wowk, Assessor

## TOWN OF MOOSOMIN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Town of Moosomin is now accepting applications/resumes for an employee for the position of:

### "Water Treatment Plant Operator (In-Charge)"

Applicants are to be fully certified, however, if not already fully certified the position will require the applicant to take the required training/certification (which will be provided at Town expense) for the Town of Moosomin utilities classifications established by the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency, and per Saskatchewan Operator Certification Board, as follows:

- Water Treatment 2 • Water Distribution 2
- Wastewater Collection 2 • Wastewater Treatment 1

The successful applicant will report to the Public Works Foreman, and be responsible for the overall operation of the water and sewer utility. (Note that there is also a Water Treatment Plant - Assistant Operator assigned for the operation of the water/sewer utility in Moosomin).

Resumes/applications complete with proof of qualifications, will now be received until June 5th, 2026, at 4:00 p.m., however, this date may be extended and resumes/applications accepted until a suitable applicant is chosen. Applicants who advance to an interview stage, will be required to provide an R.C.M.P. Criminal Record acceptable to the Town.

The Town wishes to thank all persons who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be notified.

Applications may be e-mailed, faxed, delivered, or mailed to the Town of Moosomin at the following addresses:

TOWN OF MOOSOMIN  
701 MAIN STREET, BOX 730  
MOOSOMIN, SASKATCHEWAN, S0G 3N0

Phone: (306) 435-2988  
Fax: (306) 435-3343

e-mail: twn.moosomin@sasktel.net

## Beta Sigma Phi (Yorkton) awards

Submitted  
Grasslands News

The Founders Day Brunch for Beta Sigma Phi (Yorkton) was held Saturday, April 18, at The Crossing. Wilma Wilkinson was recognized for being a charter member for Yorkton starting Beta Sigma Phi in 1948 as well as turning 101 years old on April 21. Diane Greschuk received her highest degree possible called the Torch Bearer's Ritual and Adele Kopp received her Silver Circle Award for years of attendance. Snacks and fellowship were enjoyed afterwards.



Beta Adelle Kopp



Beta Diane Greschuk



Beta Wilma Wilkinson

## TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

### Town of Whitewood Province of Saskatchewan

Notice is hereby given under the *Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before July 15, 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 Number | Total Arrears | Advertising Cost | Total Arrears & Costs |
|---|--------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| LOT 4-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN 75 EXT 0          | 154369547    | \$2,715.24    | \$454.00         | \$3,169.24            |
| LOT 5-BLK/PAR 12-PLAN 75 EXT 0          | 154369569    |               |                  |                       |
| LOT 1-BLK/PAR 13-PLAN 75 EXT 0          | 135347227    | \$1,664.80    | \$454.00         | \$2,118.80            |
| LOT 2-BLK/PAR 13-PLAN 75 EXT 0          | 135347283    |               |                  |                       |
| LOT 5-BLK/PAR 14-PLAN 75 EXT 0          | 151130449    | \$2,036.80    | \$454.00         | \$2,490.80            |
| LOT 7-BLK/PAR 14-PLAN 75 EXT 0          | 158322999    | \$944.46      | \$19.00          | \$963.46              |
| BLK/PAR D-PLAN 60M04589 EXT 0           | 132313946    | \$10,500.00   | \$454.00         | \$10,954.00           |
| BLK/PAR E-PLAN 60M04589 EXT 0           | 132313968    |               |                  |                       |
| BLK/PAR F-PLAN 60M04589 EXT 0           | 132313979    |               |                  |                       |
| LOT 13-BLK/PAR 51B-PLAN N232 EXT 0      | 150971711    | \$24,627.03   | \$454.00         | \$25,081.03           |
| LOT 12-BLK/PAR 51B-PLAN N232 EXT 95     | 150971700    |               |                  |                       |
| LOT 14-BLK/PAR 26-PLAN 75 EXT 29        | 153843486    | \$1,106.23    | \$19.00          | \$1,125.23            |
| LOT 15-BLK/PAR 26-PLAN 75 EXT 30        | 153843622    |               |                  |                       |
| LOT 16-BLK/PAR 26-PLAN 75 EXT 31        | 153843677    |               |                  |                       |
| LOT 14-BLK/PAR 30-PLAN 75 EXT 0         | 158698962    | \$1,452.77    | \$454.00         | \$1,906.77            |
| LOT 18-BLK/PAR 32-PLAN 75 EXT 0         | 153386477    | \$904.73      | \$254.00         | \$1,158.73            |
| LOT 19-BLK/PAR 32-PLAN 75 EXT 0         | 153966437    | \$2,477.40    | \$454.00         | \$2,931.40            |
| LOT 21-BLK/PAR 35-PLAN 101366412 EXT 20 | 154787035    | \$1,675.08    | \$454.00         | \$2,129.08            |
| LOT 22-BLK/PAR 35-PLAN 101366412 EXT 21 | 154787091    |               |                  |                       |
| LOT 3D-BLK/PAR 42-PLAN 67R04246 EXT 0   | 157531596    | \$1,458.33    | \$454.00         | \$1,912.33            |

\*Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable. Dated this 11th day of May, 2026. Lisa Istace, CAO

# Ham radio hobbyist still active in parkland area

By Calvin Daniels  
Grasslands News

Before the idea of a Zoom meeting, before the Internet, before CB radios, people still sought to communicate without telephones.

That is where amateur radio – also known as ham radio – came about to fill the void.

Amateur radio is the use of the radio spectrum for non-commercial communication, technical experimentation, self-training, recreation, radio sport, contesting, and emergency communications, details Wikipedia.

The origins of amateur radio can be traced to the late 19th century, but amateur radio as practised today began in the early 20th century, and while the Internet may fill the communication need of most, there are still avid ham operators. Those include the regionally based

Parkland Amateur Radio Club, Inc. The group held a meeting in Yorkton recently at Melrose Place where *Grasslands News* caught up with Colin Plante of Binscarth, Man., as meeting chair. Plante is a relative newcomer, albeit an avid one, to the 'ham radio' hobby. "I've only been involved since February 2025, when I joined the club," he said. While the club exists

in large part of creating a sense of community within the region's ham operators – those gathered ranged from Binscarth to Norquay to Fort Qu'Appelle. Plante said they also hold a mandate to raise awareness of the hobby.

So, what is the draw? "The ability to be able to communicate," said Plante. While today we tend to think a cellphone connects us to the world in all situations, Plante said ham radios have been doing that for decades, adding in some way it was 'the Internet' in terms of connecting people years before the internet existed.

And the ability to connect with other ham operators not just in the local region, but around the world creates what Plante termed "a social environment" for those involved.

Plante said as an interest one can get involved rather easily, a simple receiver letting one listen in to see if ham chatter interests, but from there the gear can pile up, too.

"It does become a lifelong hobby," he said, adding once you begin connecting "with like-minded people, you can end up going down a rabbit hole . . . It's a whole new world you never knew existed."

While a single radio has limited range (maybe 50 miles), one can connect to repeater locations – the local group looks after a baker's dozen – which takes a message even farther afield.

And there is a security offered within ham radio in the sense should infrastructure fail – power outages sending telephones and computers into useless gadgets. Plante said ham radios can work off a battery with a length of wire hung in a tree as an antenna.

"Ham radios will always have connectivity," he said.

The Parkland Amateur Radio Club Inc. can be found on Facebook.

RM OF EDENWOLD No. 158

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Notice of Discretionary Use Application**

Pursuant to Section 55 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, the Council of the RM of Edenwold No.158 gives notice that a discretionary use application has been received and the details are as follows:

**Discretionary Use Application: Garage Suite** - 210 Hanley Cres, Stone Pointe Estates | Lot 21, Blk/Par 1, Plan 101958699.

**Intended Discretionary Use:** To allow for the development of a garage suite as per Section 5.5 of Zoning Bylaw 2019-20.

**Public Hearing:** Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions, written or verbal, on the discretionary use at **10 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday, May 26, 2026**, in the Council Chambers of the RM of Edenwold No. 158, 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan. Written submissions will be presented to Council and can be sent by mail, email or dropped off at the RM Office. For further information or to submit written comments, please contact Sydney Buzash, Planner I/Development Officer at 306-347-2965 or at [planning@edenwold-sk.ca](mailto:planning@edenwold-sk.ca).

Dated this 1st day of May, 2026, at Emerald Park, in the Province of Sask.  
Shauna Bzdel, Chief Administrative Officer

**Classified and Obituary Deadline**  
**Tuesdays at 12 noon**  
[production2@grasslandsnews.ca](mailto:production2@grasslandsnews.ca)

**HYUNDAI ADVANTAGE SALES EVENT**

**2026 TUCSON**  
Lease<sup>a</sup> the Preferred AWD from:  
**\$0** down | **\$99** weekly | **4.49%** for 60 months

Includes 1% Loyalty rate reduction for qualifying customers<sup>c</sup>

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p><b>\$500</b> in rebates<sup>b</sup></p> <p><b>2026 VENUE</b><br/>Lease<sup>a</sup> the Essential from:<br/><b>\$0</b> down<br/><b>\$69</b> weekly   <b>5.99%</b> for 60 months</p> <p>Includes 1% Loyalty rate reduction for qualifying customers<sup>c</sup><br/>Includes \$500 Spring Drive Bonus<sup>d</sup></p> | <p><b>2026 KONA</b><br/>Lease<sup>a</sup> the Essential FWD from:<br/><b>\$0</b> down<br/><b>\$77</b> weekly   <b>5.09%</b> for 60 months</p> <p>Includes 1% Loyalty rate reduction for qualifying customers<sup>c</sup></p> | <p><b>\$1,000</b> in rebates<sup>b</sup></p> <p><b>2026 ELANTRA</b><br/>Lease<sup>a</sup> the Essential from:<br/><b>\$0</b> down<br/><b>\$72</b> weekly   <b>4.99%</b> for 60 months</p> <p>Includes 1% Loyalty rate reduction for qualifying customers<sup>c</sup><br/>Includes \$1,000 Spring Drive Bonus<sup>d</sup></p> |
|--|--|--|

**5 YEAR 100,000 km New Vehicle Limited Warranty** | **5 Year New Vehicle Limited Warranty** | **Peace of mind comes standard**

**YORKTON HYUNDAI** | PH: 306-783-8080 | TF: 1-800-565-0002 | 115 Palliser Way, Yorkton, SK | [www.yorktonhyundai.com](http://www.yorktonhyundai.com) | Dealer License # 323917

**CO-OP Borderland**  
Moosomin | Rocanville | Maryfield | Whitewood | Broadview | Grenfell | Kipling

**NOW HIRING**

**FULL-TIME, PART-TIME & CASUAL POSITIONS AT ANY OF OUR LOCATIONS**

**We offer scheduling that works for everyone from students to seniors!**

**SCAN THIS CODE TO SEE OUR JOB LISTINGS**

**For more information contact Human Resources at 306-435-4669 or email [careers@borderland.crs](mailto:careers@borderland.crs)**

**MOOSOMIN | ROCANVILLE | WHITEWOOD**  
**BROADVIEW | GRENFELL | KIPLING**

# HOUSE FOR SALE Yorkton



**89 Pheasant Cove**  
**\$725,000**

Quiet Cove. Backs onto a field. Approx. 1600 sq. ft. Fully developed. 3 + 2 bedrooms. 3 full bathrooms. Hardwood on main floor. Heated and finished garage. Yard landscaped with underground sprinklers.

See listing on Kijiji  
[kijiji.ca/v-house-for-sale/1737162992](https://kijiji.ca/v-house-for-sale/1737162992)

**306-621-7585**



# AGM

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

THIS IS YOUR CO-OP. Every Legacy Co-op member is an owner, and as an owner, you can and should have a say in your business

**LEGACY CO-OP  
ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

**Tuesday,  
June 2, 2026**

7:00 pm. Call to Order

Bylaw 6.02 Amendment  
Process to be followed

Draft of Policy 6.02 Election of  
Directors

In the event a tie must be broken  
after the initial ballot, the mem-  
bers present at the meeting will  
take part in an additional secret  
ballot that includes only the  
candidates involved in the tie

**National Bank Room,  
Gallagher Centre, Yorkton Sk**

Those who submitted membership  
applications prior to May 1, 2026  
are eligible to vote.

**AGENDA:**

All business to come before an  
Annual General Meeting including:

- Call to Order
- Board of Director's Report
- General Manager's Report
- Auditor's Report and Financial Statement
- Appointment of Auditors
- New Business
- Adjournment

[www.legacyco-op.crs](http://www.legacyco-op.crs)

# Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools

## Celebrating Catholic Education Week

May 10 – May 17

World Catholic Education Day

ASCENSION THURSDAY, MAY 14

Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools celebrate the outstanding contributions to Catholic education provided by our students, staff, families, parishes, and the CTTCS Board of Education.

### Catholic Education Week 2026 Prayer

God of grace and love, strengthen and sustain us as we continue to journey as pilgrims of hope.

Guide us on the path to holiness with the light of your love.

Inspire us to serve joyfully in the love of Christ through the beautiful examples of the saints.

As we journey together in faith, may we experience the peace of Christ through the presence of one another.

We pray that all young people in our Catholic schools may believe, and become empowered by, these three important Gospel messages:

“God loves you!”

“Christ saves you!”

“The Holy Spirit lives in you!”

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

### Local Catholic Schools Serving God's Children



- Dreambuilders High School
- École Saint Henry Junior School
- École Saint Henry Senior School
- École Saint Michael School
- Sacred Heart High School
- Saint Alphonsus School
- Saint Mary School
- Saint Paul School
- Saint Theodore School



“As God who called you is holy,  
be holy yourselves.” (1 Peter 1:15-16)

Throughout the week, students and staff will participate in prayers and activities to acknowledge Catholic Education Week and the daily themes. Special prayers and celebrations will also be shared on Thursday, May 14 in recognition of World Catholic Education Day.

#CEWSK2026 #CatholicEdSk

Believe... Belong... Become

Bringing communities together  
**grasslands** NEWS

# The Clipper



## Why **SUBSCRIBE!**

- »» We are a small local business
- »» We employ local people
- »» We contribute to the local economy
- »» We pay local taxes
- »» We tell local stories
- »» We support local communities and groups
- »» We promote business and growth with our communities
- »» We feature your friends, family & Businesses
- »» We keep community public record
- »» We keep governments accountable!

**GET EXCLUSIVE ACCESS!**

**\$55**

For 1 year mailed  
Subscription

**SUBSCRIBE ONLINE**

[www.grasslandsnews.ca/subscribe](http://www.grasslandsnews.ca/subscribe)

Questions contact us here

**1-844-GNG-NEWS**



**SCAN ME**