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

Vibank family recognized by baseball hall of fame

By Ashley Scarfe
Grasslands News

In August, the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame welcomed its 2026 class of inductees in Battleford, recognizing individuals, teams and families whose contributions have left a lasting impression on the game.

Among them was a family whose baseball story began more than six decades ago on the diamonds of Vibank.

Long before the provincial championships, Western Canadian appearances and generations of players that would eventually earn the Flaman family a place in the Hall of Fame, there was Chris Flaman, a dairy farmer with a love for baseball and a group of small-town kids who needed someone to coach them.

"I guess he didn't have enough to do - milking cows and farming - so he had to coach baseball too," his son Terry Flaman jokes.

Around 1959 or 1960, as rural schools were being centralized and children from the surrounding countryside began attending school in Vibank, organized minor baseball was beginning to take shape in the community. Chris was among those who helped get it off the ground.

He coached his sons, helped organize minor ball and gave young players an opportunity to develop their skills. Many of those players would continue playing together for years, eventually forming part of the core of the successful Vibank senior teams that followed.

For the Flaman children, however, there was nothing particularly extraordinary about it at the time. There were cows to milk, chores to finish and, whenever they could manage it, baseball to play.

"We had baseball gloves when we were pretty young, and a ball and bat, going and hustling around the yard when we were young guys," Keith Flaman recalls. "There was no television. We were outside running around."

Keith believes the centralization of rural schools around the same time played a role in the development of organized baseball in Vibank. As one-room country schools closed and students began travelling into town, there were finally enough children of similar ages to build teams.

For Terry, baseball began around nine or 10 years old.

"I think that was the first organized baseball for that age group in Vibank," he says. "There was probably a senior team around at that time because I know people who played, but I don't think there was any organization for our age group, which was 12 and under."

Chris coached the boys for several years and took teams to provincial competitions. At home, he had his own history with the game, playing mostly fastball.

"He was a catcher a lot of the time," Terry says. "He had a bunch of crooked fingers from balls bouncing off them."

DEREK FLAMAN | GRASSLANDS NEWS

A call to the hall

In August, a Vibank family was inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame. Six decades ago, the Flamans, led by patriarch Chris, helped pioneer minor ball in the village. Now, they are being recognized for generations of contributions to baseball and their community.

Throughout the summer, communities across southeast Saskatchewan held sports days, drawing teams and spectators from throughout the region. As the Flaman children grew, the game grew with them.

Keith, Terry, Brian and Rick all played minor baseball before moving into junior or senior competition. Although the four brothers did not often share the same baseball roster, their careers overlapped across decades.

Terry played junior ball with the Regina Maroons before joining the senior ranks, where he eventually found himself doing more than playing. In 1974, he became a coach. That season ended with Vibank facing Lockwood for a provincial championship.

Lockwood had a habit of losing the first game of a series before coming back to win. When the first Lockwood batter hit a home run against Vibank, Terry said the other team likely thought another comeback was on its way.

"They and a lot of other people never expected us to beat them," Terry recalls. "But we fooled them. We beat them. We didn't give them a chance to get to the third game."

In 1978, Vibank was slated to host the Western Canadian Intermediate Baseball Championship. Terry was among the volunteers who built the senior ball diamond, still used today by Quad Town players. The Vibank Lions Club funded the project, and businesses advertised along the fences.

"We had some people who worked on the pipeline, and one guy was a welder," he says. "He was very instrumental. He did all the welding and got welding trucks from the pipeline."

Brian started minor ball as a young boy and moved into senior baseball at 16. He played in the Producers League and later the Molson Senior League, competed with the Regina Maroons at the junior level and was part of multiple provincial championship teams with the Vibank A's.

- SEE HALL OF FAME, 17

The RM of Edenwold shares in honouring the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and the painful legacy of Residential Schools for Survivors, lost children and families.
RM of EDENWOLD 158

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Business centre marks new era for Kahkewistahâw FN

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

What began as raw land near Saskatoon's airport is steadily becoming a major economic foothold for Kahkewistahâw First Nation.

The First Nation recently celebrated the grand opening of its Chief Amanda Louison Business Centre, a development that Chief Evan Taypotat and Kahkewistahâw Economic Management Corp. CEO Candace Wasacase say is part of a long-term strategy to build businesses, employment and economic opportunities for the nation and its members.

"We've been at that build for about 18 months now," Taypotat said.

The building was originally going to be called the Mâmawi Business Centre - "mâmawi" translating to "bringing people together." But Taypotat said he and the KEMC board decided to instead honour Louison, who served as chief in the 1990s and remains an elder on the board.

"I asked our council and our board, 'why do we wait till they die to tell them how important they are to us?'" Taypotat said. "We don't have to be status quo; we can do our own thing."

During a recent KEMC board meeting, Louison was asked to leave the room temporarily without explanation of the proposed conversation during her absence. A little confused, Louison exited the meeting temporarily while the board explored the idea to name the business centre in Saskatoon after the cherished elder.

"She came back in, we told her what we did as a group and she started crying," Taypotat recalled, adding that Louison confided with the group that one of her fears was that people would forget about her.

> **"We've probably invested $30 million into Saskatoon infrastructure."**
> - Candace Wasacase
> Kahk Economic Development Corp.

"And she said, 'Now I know people will never forget who I am and what I did for my beautiful First Nation,'" Taypotat said.

A sign of how much the people of her Nation revere Louison was the doubling of attendees who turned out for the ceremony on Sept. 17. Initially, organizers were counting on around 100 people in attendance, but 200 showed up.

The event also brought together people who had worked with Louison during a period of significant change for Kahkewistahaw.

"She's a real trailblazer for First Nations women coming after her," Wasacase said.

Economic growth for KFN

Taypotat said Louison and longtime accountant Louis Tapper can remember a very different Kahkewistahaw.

"They both talk about when we were the poorest of the poor in the 70s and 80s; when we had no money and there was nothing going on for the First Nation," he said.

All that has changed with several large projects bolstering Kahkewistahâw.

"We've probably invested $30 million into Saskatoon infrastructure, storm ponds, sewage, drainage, a lift station," Wasacase said of the 60-acre Kahkewistahâw Landing development.

Rather than looking for a single large tenant to occupy the new business centre, plans shifted toward smaller offices designed for entrepreneurs and professionals.

"I knew that there was a demand for smaller sized offices that were affordable and in the range for your average First Nation entrepreneur," Wasacase said.

The business centre is located on status land, which provides tax advantages for First Nation professionals and entrepreneurs. By the time of the grand opening, about 80 per cent of the building had been sold.

The strategy is part of a much larger economic vision for the land.

"So, 20 years from now, we have this sort of vibrant economic engine going," Wasacase said, noting revenue from existing businesses is being reinvested into properties and future development. "It takes time to develop, and I think it takes vision, and it certainly takes some strength and fortitude on behalf of leadership of the long-term vision."

PHOTO COURTESY EVAN TAYPOTAT

Business center opens

A ribbon cutting officially opened the Chief Amanda Louison Business Centre in Saskatoon on Sept. 17. Seen here are Kahkewistahâw Economic Management Corporation Director (and KFN Councillor) Cory Alexson, KEMC Co-chair Chief Evan Taypotat, Elder Senator (and former Chief) Amanda Louison, Councillor Iris Taypotat-Scribe, and Director (plus KFN Councillor) Michael Bob.

Back in early 2025, KFN received a total of $133.6 million in their portion of the Cows and Plows settlement with $10 million of that going to the KEMC – not enough to fund the entire strategy, but certainly a decent foundation. The First Nation has also built an investment portfolio that Taypotat said now stands at about $200 million.

The economic development corporation's various entities employ 116 people, with a significant portion of them being Kahkewistahaw members as well as people from surrounding First Nations.

Future resources

Beyond lucrative real estate, KFN's next century-plus of economic opportunity might be underneath their feet. A potash project has been in development for the past three years, with investors from around the world courting Kahkewistahâw – including interest from Brazil, India, Pakistan, and China.

"We've chosen a good investor," Taypotat said, as KFN signed an agreement with PointWest in early September. "They're going to drill the three holes and see what happens. If the potash checks out, we're going to go down that route of having a community information session, a community vote and ultimately – hopefully - build a solution mine on our First Nation."

Any potential project would be expected to provide royalties, equity ownership, procurement opportunities for First Nation businesses, and local jobs. environmental protection would be a central consideration, and current projections indicate a mine life of 125 years with between 1,200 to 1,500 full-time jobs.

"The economic spin-offs, not only for our people, but for the surrounding communities, - Broadview, Grenfell, Whitewood, Yorkton, Melville - millions and millions of dollars in economic windfall for all the communities," Taypotat told Grasslands News.

Economic opportunity must be balanced against stewardship of the land, part of reason for the lengthy process thus far.

"Obviously we're water protectors; we're land people," Taypotat said. "For us, the biggest thing is ensuring that we can protect it to the best possible way where we can so that when the site reclamation happens in 125 years, our people still have good land to live on and grass that grows and rivers that flows and sun that shines."

All this potential revenue means funding even more projects that benefit the people who live on Kahkewistahâw land.

"We want our own tribal police. We want our own senior citizens home where people can come and live their golden years out. We want our own hospital, our own dentists, we own our own hockey rinks," Taypotat listed. "If we can get the potash thing right, there's no reason why we can't be one of the richest First Nations in Canada."

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NDP calls for emergency farm relief as costs are driven up

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Saskatchewan farmers are racing against the weather to get this year's crop into the bin, but the provincial NDP says the harvest is turning into a financial squeeze that requires immediate government intervention.

NDP finance critic Trent Wotherspoon unveiled a five-point plan Sept. 22 calling for rebates on diesel and grain-drying costs, larger AgriStability interim payments and expanded interest-free cash advances as producers contend with a harvest that is well behind normal and crops that are increasingly vulnerable to quality losses.

"Saskatchewan producers are facing a very serious cash crunch," Wotherspoon said.

The latest provincial crop report had 32 per cent of the crop harvested, compared with a five-year average of 71 per cent at the same point in the season, Wotherspoon said.

Wet conditions have delayed harvest operations across much of the province, while increased moisture is creating concerns about crop quality and adding the cost of drying grain.

Wotherspoon said farmers are being squeezed from both directions: production costs were already high when the crop was planted, while the delayed harvest is now adding another layer of expenses.

"Farmers can't control the weather," he said. "And they're also being asked to absorb sky-high diesel and production costs."

The NDP's first proposal is a temporary 12-cent-per-litre rebate on diesel for producers, combined with eliminating the existing three-cent-per-litre tax on marked farm fuel.

Wotherspoon said that would provide a combined 15 cents per litre in relief during the 2026 harvest.

The party is also proposing a 15 per cent rebate on propane, natural gas and electricity used for grain drying between Aug. 1 and Dec. 31, subject to a reasonable cap.

The remaining proposals call for Saskatchewan to request that AgriStability interim payments be increased from 75 per cent to 90 per cent of the estimated final benefit; a targeted AgriStability advance for producers experiencing significant production and crop-quality losses; and an expansion of the federal $500,000 interest-free advance program, currently limited to canola, to all commodities in 2026.

"This is about recognizing the extraordinary costs that farmers are facing in face of this wet and delayed harvest and these extraordinary cost hits that they're taking, diesel, fertilizer, and now grain drying as well," Wotherspoon said.

Agriculture Minister David Marit, however, said the government is not considering additional measures such as the proposed diesel rebate.

"The farmers are only paying three cents in excise tax now on fuel," Marit said. "I mean, yeah, we've seen a drastic increase in the price of diesel fuel, and it's unfortunate that that's where it's at. But we're not looking at anything in that scope at all."

Marit said the province already has a broad collection of programs available to farmers, including crop insurance and AgriStability.

"I think our suite of programs are actually pretty good," he said.

Marit also disputed Wotherspoon's characterization of the federal interest-free cash advance program as being limited to canola.

"The cash advance is there; it's up to half a million dollars. And by the way, it's on all commodities, it's not just on canola," he said. "You don't have to be growing just canola."

The agriculture minister said the government has also increased the AgriStability interim payment level to 75 per cent and has crop insurance coverage available for grade degradation.

The difference between the two sides centres in part on how quickly assistance should reach producers. Wotherspoon stressed that producers in the ag sector need cash flow during harvest rather than waiting for programs to compensate them after the financial damage has occurred.

"Farmers need cash flow now, not months down the road," he said.

Marit said the province has already taken steps to make AgriStability payments more accessible but does not support increasing the interim payment beyond 75 per cent, one concern being producers could receive money before their final eligibility is determined and later be required to repay it.

"The concerns I would have is that a farmer could trigger payout and then through the whole process, which obviously it is cumbersome to some degree, they'd have to pay back," he said.

RYAN KIEDROWSKI I GRASSLANDS NEWS

NDP on the farm

NDP Finance critic Trent Wotherspoon and Regina Rochdale MLA Joan Pratchler inspect some of the durum wheat on land owned by Pratchler just outside the city. Portions of the field had been laid flat from a recent downpour, an experience many producers across the province can relate to.

The harvest itself remains the immediate concern, highlighted with unusual strong and heavy rainfalls.

"I've talked to a couple of farmers even on my way in (to Regina) yesterday and they're going, the bushels are good, they're happy with that side, the quality is isn't bad, isn't as bad as what they thought it would be," he said, adding the province is still behind schedule, with some producers only recently beginning harvest. "I think farmers are all doing the right thing and in some areas they're done. Some areas they've got a significant amount done. Farmers are resilient, they'll go hard at it and get it done."

Grasslands News had previously bantered on the issue of fuel prices with Wotherspoon and wondered if the NDP's proposed break on diesel would actually amount to much of a savings for producers.

Wotherspoon estimated the cost of diesel being at $2.63 per litre and claimed the cost of fuel for operating a combine has increased by about $18,000. He admitted a 15-cent-per-litre rebate would not eliminate the problem but would provide meaningful cash-flow relief.

The drying of grain could become another significant expense if wet conditions continue. Marit said some farmers he has spoken with have already been able to harvest grain at higher moisture levels and dry it quickly.

"I talked to two farmers in the Northeast just in the last couple of days," he said. "They started taking it off dry at 18 and within 48 hours, it was going to dry."

Favourable weather over the next several days could allow the harvest to accelerate substantially.

"If we don't see any rain, if we get two weeks, we're going to see probably a significant amount of the crop in the bin," Marit said. "I venture to say probably by this week we're going to be well in excess of 50 per cent of the crop off, just with everybody rolling the way they are right now."

Both sides also addressed the potential effect of U.S. President Donald Trump's recent comments about potash and the possibility of increased imports from Belarus.

Wotherspoon said uncertainty surrounding international trade is adding pressure to producers already facing high input costs.

"We see this reckless behavior from Trump on so many fronts," he said.

Marit said he has spoken with agricultural officials in the United States who want Saskatchewan potash to continue supplying American farmers.

"I've talked to my counterparts in the United States, to the state commissioners, a lot of the ag commissioners, they want to see the continuation of the Saskatchewan potash going to them," he said. "I've talked to probably 15, 20, 25 ag commissioners all through the Midwest and the eastern part of the United States. They want Sask potash. That's what they want."

Marit said he is concerned about the prospect of a shift toward Belarusian potash but said purchasing decisions will ultimately be made by American companies.

"The companies in the United States are going to make the decision where they're going to want to buy their potash from and hopefully, they continue to buy it from here," he said.

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U of R students put AI data centres, tuition and more to elected officials

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

University of Regina students put questions about artificial intelligence, water use, international tuition, and political participation to a cross-section of elected officials during a panel on campus.

The "Meet Your Reps" event brought together representatives from the Saskatchewan government, Saskatchewan NDP, City of Regina, and Piapot First Nation for a discussion organized by the University of Regina's Politics and International Studies Student Association.

The most pointed exchange came when a student asked about the proposed Bell AI data centre and its potential impact on Regina's water supply, air quality and employment in fields such as politics.

Regina Councillor Sarah Turnbull said she had introduced a notice of motion seeking more information about the project and environmental assessment information.

"I have put out a notice of motion that's coming out today (Sept. 18) on City Council's agenda to actually ask for more information about this AI center," Turnbull said.

She said the project had increased in size and raised questions about how it would be powered.

"Before, earlier, it was a smaller data center. And then this week, the announcement was made to quadruple in size," Turnbull said, adding there are two potential approaches to powering the facility which could create different environmental concerns, according to the information she had received.

"One is a simple cycle gas turbines with no water," she said. "So, the AI itself has that cooling system, but the simple cycle gas turbines with no water has very large nitrogen oxides emissions."

Turnbull also raised concerns about a potential water-intensive system.

"If you change that and it actually becomes a water combined cycle gas natural power plant, you don't have the problems of the air pollution, you have the water," she said, noting more information is needed before conclusions can be drawn about the project's effects.

Saskatchewan Party MLA Barret Kropf offered a different assessment of the water issue.

"On the water usage front, the first stage of the Bell Data Center is a 300MW facility," he said, explaining the facility's water system would operate on a closed loop.

RYAN KIEDROWSKI I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Panel assembled

Local politicians from various levels of government met with University of Regina students Sept. 18 during the annual Meet your Representatives event. Organized by UR POLIS and the Regina Public Interest Research Group, the panel assembled tackled issues brought forward by students. From left are White City-Qu'Appelle MLA Brad Crassweller, Dakota-Arm River MLA Barret Kropf, Community Safety Minister Michael Weger, Rural and Remote Health critic Jared Clarke, Energy and Resources critic Sally Housser, Regina City Councillors Sarah Turnbull and Victoria Flores, Piapot First nation Councillor Jayleen Francis, and moderator UR POLIS president Kai Poulin.

"This closed loop system uses about as much water as a hockey rink or a golf course."

Kropf also said an environmental impact assessment would be conducted for the newly announced expansion.

"On the new announcement that's come forward, an environmental impact assessment will be done, they've committed to that, that will be part of the process," he said.

Saskatchewan NDP MLA Jared Clarke - the opposition's environment critic - said his party has been seeking additional information from the government.

"We've sent a letter to the environment minister asking for details on the initial environmental assessment," Clarke said. "We haven't received a response back to that letter. We sent it back in April."

Clarke said questions remained about water use, environmental effects, emissions and potential impacts on SaskPower ratepayers.

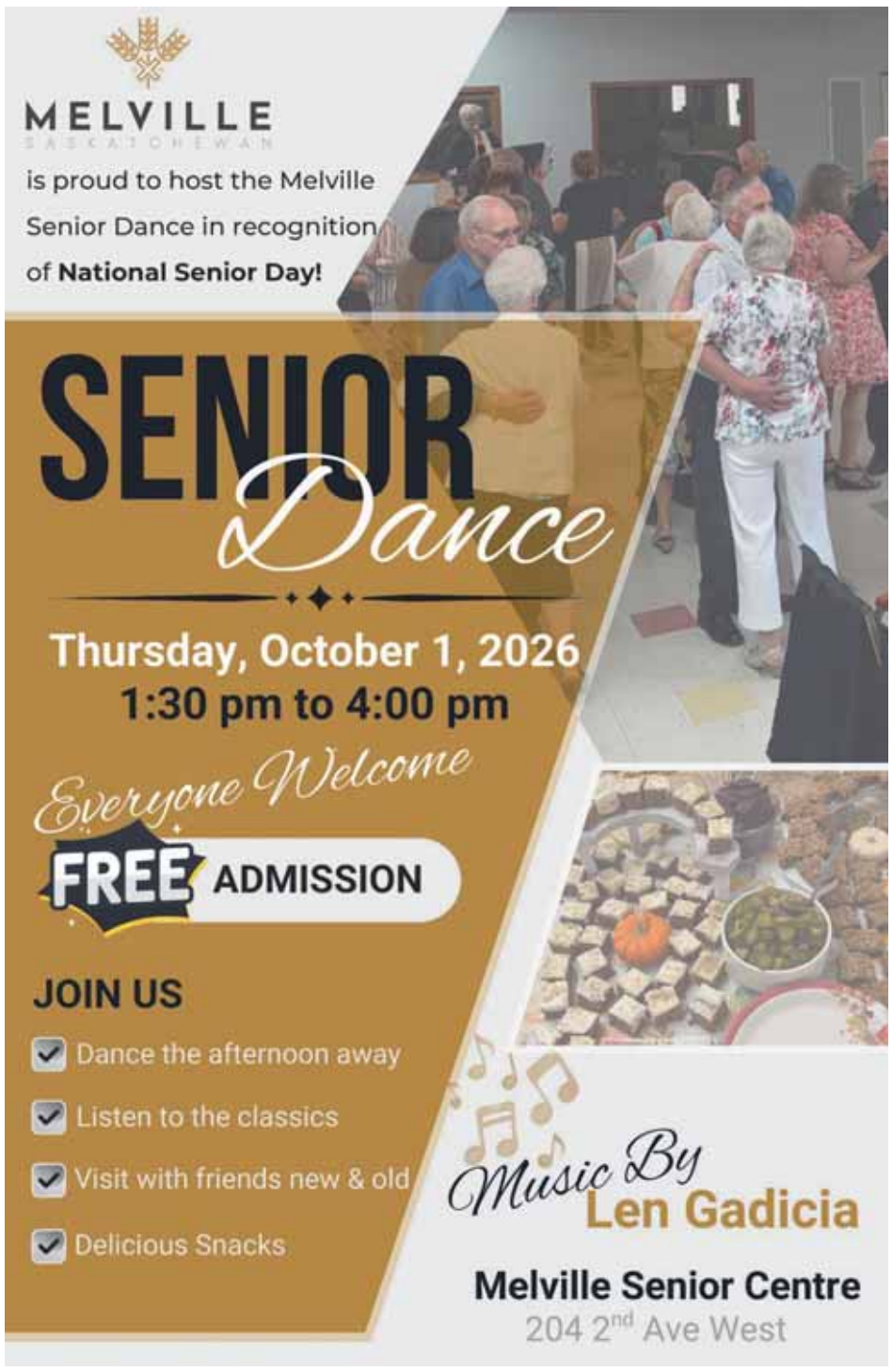
The NDP had called for a moratorium on AI data-centre construction until more information was available about how such projects would be assessed.

"We called for a moratorium on AI data center construction in the province until we have a better understanding of the process of approving these mega projects and what implications they have for communities," he said.

The AI discussion was one of several issues raised by students during the event.

One international student asked about the cost of tuition for students arriving from countries where the exchange rate can make Saskatchewan tuition particularly difficult to afford.

-SEE U OF R STUDENTS, 10



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Jess Moskaluke gets Grand Ole Opry invitation

Presented at CCMA Awards

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

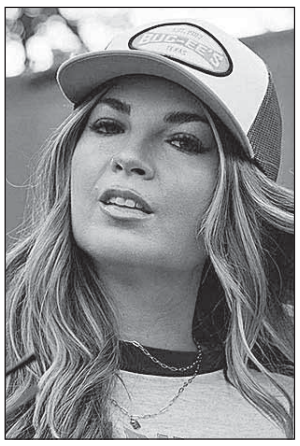
For Saskatchewan country music star Jess Moskaluke, the 2026 Canadian Country Music Association Awards brought a surprise that may prove more memorable than taking home another trophy.

The Langenburg-born singer, who is closely associated with the Rocanville area and has remained proud of her rural Saskatchewan roots throughout her career, learned during the CCMA Awards in Saskatoon on Saturday, Sept. 19 that she has been invited to make her debut on one of country music's most famous stages — the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee.

Moskaluke is scheduled to perform at the Grand Ole Opry on Thursday, Oct. 29. Her own official performance schedule now lists the Oct. 29 Nashville appearance.

The announcement came as a complete surprise to Moskaluke during the nationally televised CCMA Awards at SaskTel Centre. Saskatchewan country artist Kalsey Kulyk helped deliver the news, bringing an emotional Moskaluke to her knees as the audience erupted in applause.

"I had no idea," Moskaluke told reporters following the announcement, explaining that her team and family had managed to keep the news from her throughout the day. She said her parents unexpectedly arriving at the awards had given her some indication that something unusual might be happening.



JESS MOSKALUKE

The invitation represents another major milestone for a singer whose career began far from the bright lights of Nashville.

Moskaluke was born in Langenburg and grew up in rural southeastern Saskatchewan. Despite building a national career that has taken her to major stages across Canada, she continues to make Saskatchewan home and regularly speaks about her pride in representing the province.

That made receiving the Grand Ole Opry invitation in Saskatchewan, surrounded by family and members of Canada's country music industry, particularly meaningful.

Moskaluke told reporters that as a small-town Saskatchewan girl, performing on the Opry stage is the type of opportunity she dreamed about but never knew whether she would experience. She said she hopes to take in every moment when she walks onto the stage Oct. 29.

The Grand Ole Opry has been at the centre of country music for generations. Its radio broadcast dates back to 1925, and appearing on the Opry has long represented a significant career milestone for country performers.

Moskaluke's debut will also come on a night with a particularly strong Canadian flavour. The Grand Ole Opry's official schedule describes the Oct. 29 performance as a celebration putting Canada "center stage" and recognizing Canadian artists and their contribution to country music. The announced lineup includes Canadian performers such as Terri Clark, Brett Kissel, Tenille Arts, Gord Bamford, Carolyn Dawn Johnson and Paul Brandt, with additional artists expected to be announced.

The Opry invitation capped an emotional CCMA weekend for Moskaluke in her home province.

She was among the Saskatchewan performers featured during the Sept. 19 awards broadcast, joining the Hunter Brothers, Kalsey Kulyk and Tenille Arts during the opening performance. Moskaluke was also nominated for Female Artist of the Year, an award ultimately won by Meghan Patrick.

While she did not leave SaskTel Centre with a CCMA trophy this year, the invitation to Nashville quickly became one of the most talked-about moments of the evening. Billboard Canada described the surprise as one of the highlights of the 2026 awards show.

It was also a fitting moment for an artist who has spent much of her career demonstrating that a singer does not have to leave rural Saskatchewan behind to build a successful career in Canadian country music.

Speaking during the CCMA broadcast about young girls who might want to follow in her footsteps, Moskaluke encouraged them not to try to become another version of her, but instead to discover who they are and be themselves unapologetically.

Now another chapter in that small-town Saskatchewan success story will unfold in Nashville.

On Oct. 29, Jess Moskaluke will walk onto the Grand Ole Opry stage for the first time — carrying with her not only an accomplished Canadian country music career, but the rural Saskatchewan roots she has continued to proudly represent along the way.

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OPINION

"For the cause that needs assistance;
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the good that we can do."

Recent potash threat shows danger of resource politics

Trade negotiations between Canada and the United States have become increasingly heated, but there are some lines both countries would be wise not to cross.

U.S. President Donald Trump came close to one this week when he announced his administration was working on a deal to purchase potash from Belarus at prices substantially lower than what American buyers currently pay Canada.

That immediately raised concerns in Saskatchewan, which produces all of Canada's potash and supplies much of what American farmers use.

Premier Scott Moe strongly criticized the proposal, describing Belarusian supply as "blood potash" because of the country's support for Russia and its invasion of Ukraine.

Trump later softened his position, saying the United States would continue purchasing Canadian potash, although he maintained that he wants a cheaper price.

There is nothing wrong with American farmers wanting affordable fertilizer or the U.S. government looking for ways to reduce their costs. Likewise, Canada and Saskatchewan have every right to defend an industry that provides thousands of jobs and generates billions of dollars in exports.

The problem is when critical resources become weapons in a political dispute.

And Canada cannot pretend it has been innocent of doing the same thing.

During an earlier round of Canada-U.S. tariff tensions, Ontario Premier Doug Ford threatened to cut off electricity exports to several American states in retaliation for U.S. tariffs.

Others have suggested Canada should use oil, uranium, potash or other resources as leverage against Washington.

That might make for good political rhetoric, but it is a dangerous road for both countries to travel.

Canada and the United States have spent generations building one of the most integrated trading relationships in the world. American farmers rely heavily on Saskatchewan potash. Some American states rely on Canadian electricity. Refineries depend on Canadian oil, while Canadian businesses and consumers depend on countless American products.

That interdependence should be viewed as a strength, not as an arsenal of economic weapons waiting to be deployed whenever negotiations become difficult.

Once governments begin threatening to withhold essential resources, the other side naturally starts looking for alternatives. Customers who are told their supply might be cut off eventually find another supplier.

That ultimately hurts the very industries and workers governments claim they are trying to protect.

Canada and the United States will disagree over tariffs, prices and trade policy. Both countries should negotiate aggressively for their interests, and neither should be expected to simply accept an unfair deal.

But there is a difference between bargaining hard and threatening each other's economic security.

Potash should be sold because Saskatchewan is a reliable and competitive supplier. Canadian electricity and energy should flow south because both countries benefit from that trade.

Good neighbours can have tough disagreements.

They should not have to threaten to turn off the tap to settle them.

- Chris Ashfield, GNG News

Letter to Editor: COVID vaccine inquiry deserves attention

Dear Editor,

From Sept. 8 to 11, Dean Allison, Conservative MP, held a Parliamentary Inquiry about Covid experimental MRNA vaccine injuries. It was live streamed for all to see and held from Parliament Hill. The inquiry received over 1,400 applications from across Canada and 50 gave testimony under oath.

The four days of hearings started with U.S. Senator Ron Johnson, who provided context on Covid 19 injuries and shared findings on his own investigations of how Covid 19 vaccine makers and Biden-era public health officials ignored and minimized the shots risk.

Less than 10 of the 343 MPs showed up for the inquiry. Conservative MP Mike Dawson reveals why he showed up at the inquiry. It was to share his own experience with a vax adverse event and also how he lost his first grandson to the vax and his son and daughter-in-law had to go through it alone due to the harsh restrictions in the hospitals at the time.

None of the Party leaders have acknowledged the Allison Inquiry at the time of this writing. That speaks volumes about their character. It also proclaims loudly that none of them are in it for the health and wellbeing of the people they are supposed to represent.

The Mainstream Media has been completely silent on reporting it. Their silence is deafening. Many alternative media was there.

Canadians came forward to share deeply personal experiences of injury, loss, and the lasting impact of these experiences have had in their lives and families. These were difficult stories to hear. "My life is effectively destroyed," "We lost everything," "I sold everything for brain surgery," were some of the heart wrenching comments from the victims. Behind every testimony is a person, family and a life that's been forever changed. Unfortunately, the ones that died of the experimental shot do not have a voice.

The witnesses of the inquiry are unanimous in saying that the vax injuries are being ignored or even denied by the medical, administrative, government, and MSM. Doctors and MPs are forbidden from discussing these adverse effects from the MRNA shots and most who speak out openly at the inquiry could face financial ruin.

We are thankful for the inquiry, and it is essential to bring these stories out to the public for awareness of what took place during the PLANdemic. Remember, though, that the National Citizens Inquiry in 2023 did an excellent job with documented testimony from people speaking under oath of Covid vax injuries, lockdowns, lost jobs, isolation, discrimination, and the breakdown of families and communities. The NCI collected thousands of hours of video, thousands of pages of transcripts and exhibits, and produced reports containing recommendations. Again, Government and MSM was silent. Go to National Citizens Archive for all the evidence. Other NCI hearings held across the country: "Are Children Safe in Canada!" (Answer is no) and "Are Farmers Safe in Canada?" (Again no). No farmers, no food. Learn of the tyranny and hear testimony of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency from producers making them destroy farm animals for no good reason. You'll be shocked at what you hear.

- Alvin Nixon
Wapella, SK

Your opinions are welcomed!

Grasslands News encourages and accepts opinion pieces from our readers in the form of Letters to the Editor. To submit a letter, email it to: **editor@gngnews.ca.**

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NDP MLA meets with town over ambulance concerns

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

Whitewood's continuing struggle to maintain adequate ambulance coverage has drawn the attention of Saskatchewan's Opposition Shadow Minister for Health, who requested a meeting with town council after learning about the community's paramedic staffing problems.

Keith Jorgenson, NDP MLA for Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood and Shadow Minister for Health, first heard about the situation during the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association convention. He subsequently contacted the town and requested a meeting to learn more about the problems facing the local ambulance service.

Jorgenson met with council Sept. 15, with Whitewood Fire Chief Bernie Brûlé also attending to provide the perspective of firefighters dealing with the effects of ambulance shortages at emergency scenes.

Whitewood currently has only two of its four paramedic positions filled, and figures provided to the town by the Saskatchewan Health Authority show how frequently that has left the community without a fully staffed ambulance.

Between April 1 and July 31, Whitewood EMS was completely out of service for 10 days and operated with only one paramedic for another 14 days. With a single paramedic on duty, that individual can respond and provide care but cannot transport a patient.

That meant Whitewood went 24 days during the four-month period without a fully staffed local ambulance.

There were 177 emergency scene calls within Whitewood's response area during the same period. Whitewood EMS handled 106, while ambulances from outside the community responded to 71.

"Forty per cent of our emergency calls were handled by outside ambulances," Mayor Chris Ashfield told Jorgenson.

Depending on availability, those ambulances can come from Moosomin, Grenfell or Indian Head, creating potentially lengthy waits for patients.

Ashfield said there have been cardiac arrests in the area during the past couple of years where an ambulance had to respond from another community. He stressed there is no way of knowing whether a quicker response would have changed the outcome.

"I didn't see the autopsies. I don't know if they would have lived," Ashfield said. "But it's not good for family and people standing there waiting for half an hour for an ambulance to show up as people are doing CPR."

The shortage is also placing additional pressure on the Whitewood Fire Department.

Brûlé said firefighters already attend motor vehicle collisions and can find themselves caring for injured people while waiting for an ambulance.

"If there's someone injured, if there's no ambulance here, we're waiting for, you know, minimum 35 minutes before ambulance gets there," Brûlé said.

Some WFD members are trained as medical first responders, but Brûlé said the department is made up of volunteers whose availability varies.

"A lot of our guys work shift work. They're out of town, so any given day, I don't know if I'm going to have three MFRs or zero."

SHA has approached members of the department about becoming first responders on call for the health authority, but Brûlé is cautious about municipal volunteers assuming an expanded medical role.

The fire department has been responding to approximately 70 to 80 calls annually, and he said adding medical responses could substantially increase that workload. He is also concerned having firefighters fill gaps could reduce pressure to restore ambulance staffing.

"If we say, 'Okay, yeah, we'll start driving,' then that's going to, 'Okay. Well, they don't need those positions,' and now us as volunteers are going to be doing that much more," Brûlé said.

Recruitment has added to the town's frustration.

Ashfield told Jorgenson he knows of paramedics working for other ambulance services in the area who have applied to work in Whitewood without being contacted.

"We're in a situation where, okay, we have 50 per cent capacity on our staffing," Ashfield said. "I know paramedics that work other ambulances in the area that have applied here and they haven't got a call back. Their references haven't been checked, nothing."

Some have offered to work in Whitewood on a casual basis, he added.

Jorgenson said his office could pursue information through freedom-of-information requests, including attempting to determine how many applications have been received for the vacant positions.

Councillor Danielle Jones said another part of the staffing problem is what happens when rural Primary Care Paramedics obtain more advanced training.

Whitewood had three paramedics until the end of August, when one returned to Regina to take Advanced Care Paramedic training.

"We're losing our PCPs because they're bettering themselves," Jones said, explaining that after obtaining ACP training, "the only positions that an ACP can go hold is usually in urban."

Jones questioned why the existing vacancies could not be used to restructure the local service.

"They want two temporary EMR positions created to offset the two PCP vacancies you have," Jones said. "But why couldn't they take those two PCP vacancies, make an ACP position, and have that ACP float between the two PCPs, and then an EMR to backfill that?"

The funding for the two vacant positions already exists, she added.

Jones said advanced-care capabilities could be particularly valuable in rural areas where patients are farther from hospitals, hospitals can be on bypass and STARS Air Ambulance cannot always fly because of weather.

Jorgenson said Whitewood's situation fits with concerns he has heard during the NDP's health-care consultations, particularly about communities having little ability to adapt services to local circumstances.

"We've gotten all of the negatives out of amalgamation and none of the positives," Jorgenson said.

He said simply dismantling SHA and returning to the former health-region structure may not be the answer, but some mechanism is needed to give communities greater input into decisions affecting local health services.

Ashfield said emergency medical services need to be part of the broader discussion about access to rural health care.

"What's the point of having the hospitals if you can't get people to the hospitals?" he said.

The town has previously raised its concerns with SHA and is scheduled to meet with EMS officials again next month. This time, Ashfield said council wants the discussion to produce action.

"We want solutions," he said.

Among the questions the town wants answered are why qualified applicants are apparently not being contacted and why rural ambulance services do not have greater access to ACP positions.

Whitewood's figures also prompted Jorgenson to look beyond the local service. After seeing the statistics supplied to the town, he said his office intends to seek comparable information for other SHA-operated ambulance bases to determine how frequently similar gaps in coverage are occurring elsewhere.

Council raised a related concern about privately operated ambulance services. While they form part of the rural ambulance network and receive government funding, the town said it is difficult to obtain the same information about calls, staffing and periods when those services are unavailable.

Without those numbers, council said it is difficult to get a complete picture of ambulance coverage across rural Saskatchewan.

Jorgenson also offered to help bring Whitewood's concerns directly to the provincial legislature.

He invited town representatives to attend during the fall sitting, where the opposition could raise Whitewood's ambulance situation during question period and seek a meeting between town representatives and the health minister.

Ashfield indicated he would be willing to pursue the opportunity.

Jorgenson said he would remain in contact with the town ahead of the fall sitting and discuss possible approaches to bringing further attention to the situation.

For Ashfield, the objective is ultimately ensuring Whitewood has a reliable ambulance service when someone needs it.

"We just want our community to not lose the service," he said.

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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Town of Whitewood Council meets at the town office.
Upcoming Council Meeting Date: Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.
Meetings are held via Zoom.

Council Meeting Update - Zoom Attendance Protocol

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

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

We appreciate your cooperation -Town of Whitewood Council

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- **Whitewood Figure Skating – contact skating club for more information on registration**
- **Minor Hockey Registration is open – please contact Minor Hockey with any questions.**
- **Sept. 26 – Ringette Eastman MB vs Regina 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
- **Sept. 30 – Hockey Officials Clinic –register at hockeysask.ca**
- **Oct. 3 – Whitewood Craft/Trade Show – Whitewood Curling Rink**
- **Oct. 17 – NHL Hat Auction Fundraiser**
- **Oct. 18 – Minor Hockey Bottle Drive Fundraiser**

UPCOMING GOLF TOURNAMENTS

- Oct. 3 – Iron Man Golf Tournament – Call clubhouse to register at 306-853-8040.

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Contact Town office for full information on this tender.

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Upcoming **Garbage** Date: Wednesday, Oct. 7 and Oct. 21.

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ARENA KITCHEN HIRES

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TOWN OFFICE INFO

We welcome your comments, questions and feedback. The Town office is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

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Yorkton Council told of importance of Railway Safety Week

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

It is important to pay extra attention to safety around railway tracks.

That was the core message Sergeant Hank Neumiller of the CN Police Mountain Division, shared with Yorkton Council Monday as he made a presentation on Railway Safety Week.

Rail Safety Week runs across Canada to raise awareness about the dangers of trains and tracks with the goal of reducing crossing collisions and trespassing incidents.

Neumiller noted last year there were 300 collisions with trains across Canada, with 50 per cent of those resulting "in serious injury or death."

And most of the collisions should have been avoided.

"Ninety-nine per cent are driver error. They're preventable," said Neumiller, adding trains are dangerous in an accident. "… If you're fighting with a train, you are going to lose."

And, when an accident happens, a train is stalled on the track as an investigation takes place. If that happens in a city like Yorkton, the impact is felt more broadly.

"A stopped train impacts every one of us in the community," said Neumiller.

Nationally, Operation Lifesaver Canada leads Rail Safety Week to raise awareness, inspire action, and help prevent railway crossing and trespassing incidents across Canada.

From Sept. 21 to 27, this year's Rail Safety Week campaign, 'There's No Undo Button,' reminds Canadians that around tracks and trains, the choices we make matter.

The Honourable Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, recently issued the following statement to recognize Rail Safety Week 2026 in Canada:

"Railways have been an essential part of Canadian history, and they continue to be a critical part of our country's economy and supply chains.

"Canada's rail network is one of the safest in the world, thanks to strong oversight and collaboration among governments, railways, and others, but there is no denying that train tracks are inherently dangerous places. Tracks are for trains, not for people.

"Every year, too many communities experience heartbreak and sadness when we learn about another tragedy at a railway crossing or along a rail corridor.

"Every one of these tragedies is a reminder of why rail safety must remain a priority.

"Rail Safety Week is an opportunity to raise awareness of these risks and reinforce a simple message: rail safety is a shared responsibility, and we all have a role to play.

"Through initiatives like the Rail Safety Improvement Program, the Government of Canada works with communities and railways across the country to make crossings and rail corridors safer. This includes investments in new technology and infrastructure, as well as education and awareness initiatives that help prevent deaths and injuries involving trains.

"During Rail Safety Week, and every day, let's remember three important things we can all do to stay safe. Keep a safe distance away from tracks, only use designated crossings, and always stay alert and cautious at those crossings.

"Taking a few simple precautions can save a life. Please stay safe around Canada's railways."

"Railways are an important part of Saskatchewan's transportation network, connecting our communities and helping move the products our province produces to markets across Canada and around the world," said Highways Minister Kim Gartner in a recent release.

The Ministry of Highways plays an ongoing role educating children about rail safety by funding the printing and distribution of railway safety activity books to Grade 4 students in communities served by Saskatchewan short lines, noted the release. This is through a partnership with Canadian Safety Train Express Inc. The books can be downloaded in English and French at canadiansafetytrain.ca.

"Rail safety is a shared responsibility, and every safe choice matters," Canadian Safety Train Express Operations and Programs Director Amy Lintick said in the release. "One decision can change many lives, and the impact of one unsafe choice can reach far beyond the tracks. A railway incident can have a lasting ripple effect on families, railway employees, first responders and entire communities. Rail Safety Week reminds us that staying alert, respecting signs and signals, and staying off railway property can prevent tragedies before they happen."

The ministry's key safety reminders are:

- Stop at a safe distance from tracks and crossings, as trains are wider than the tracks.
- Look both ways to ensure trains are not approaching.
- Listen for approaching trains.
- Never stop your vehicle on the tracks or try to outrun a train.
- When walking, always cross at designated railway crossings and don't walk on or close to tracks.

Citizens with questions or concerns regarding railway safety, and more can contact Highways Customer Service Centre at 1-844-SK-HIWAY (1-844-754-4929) or submit an online inquiry at saskatchewan.ca/highways.

2026 54th Annual – Melville and District 2026

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ARTHRITIS SOCIETY SASKATCHEWAN DIVISION
About 700 people in Melville suffer from some form of arthritis. The Arthritis Society Saskatchewan Division has a fivefold plan of action against arthritis.
—supporting the Saskatoon and Regina Rheumatic Disease Units where referred patients are seen by arthritis specialists.
—supporting clinical and basic research to improve the care of arthritis patients, discover the cause of arthritis and develop a preventative and cure.
—providing factual information for arthritis sufferers, their families and friends, so they may know when and how to seek medical help.
—conducting seminars for physicians and health care workers, and providing them with educational material to increase and improve medical knowledge in the treatment of arthritis.
—granting physical therapy undergraduate and graduate scholarships and awards.

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY
Distribution of undesignated funds raised in Saskatchewan: 43% towards Cancer Research; 4% allocated towards National Office; remaining funds to support services supplied in public and professional education and services to patients.
Cancer patients lodges opened in Saskatoon in April 1983; Regina in July 1985 — cost 3.5 million dollars. Services supplied free of charge to out-of-town cancer patients undergoing treatment. All referrals to stay at the lodge are made by the attending physician. Cancer patient services include: post operative dressings; drugs and transportation. This form of assistance available only to indigent patients. CanSurmount Visitation Groups have been established in various areas. These are trained volunteers who help cancer patients and their families cope with the disease.
Sponsors adult education on early detection and treatment of cancer. Sponsors youth programs dealing with hazards of smoking.

CROHN'S AND COLITIS CANADA
Crohn's and Colitis Canada is a national not-for-profit voluntary medical research Foundation founded in 1974 by a group of parents whose children were diagnosed with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis. Our Promise is to cure Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis and improve the lives of children and adults affected by these chronic diseases. We are committed, first and foremost, to raising funds for research into Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. We believe that multiple research approaches are required in the search for Cohn's and colitis cures.
We also believe it is important to raise awareness by educating those with Crohn's and colitis, their families, health professionals and the general public about these diseases. There are many challenges for people living with these chronic diseases, such as lack of awareness, social stigma and a lack of equity in access to expensive medications.

CREATIVE KIDS SASKATCHEWAN
Saskatchewan has one of the highest provincial child poverty rates in Canada. More than 55,000 children have limited access to essential daily needs and opportunities for positive growth and self-esteem. For a child or youth facing financial or social barriers to feel accepted and included, the longed-for chance to make music, paint, act, or dance can be life changing. That's where we come in. Creative Kids Saskatchewan connects children and youth to unique, life-changing artistic and cultural experiences in Melville and the surrounding area. We provide financial support to families so all kids have an opportunity to Shine, Grow, and Belong.

KIDNEY FOUNDATION OF CANADA (Saskatchewan)
Funds donated go towards medical research, public and professional education, patient services (mobile homes with dialysis machines), summer camps, libraries and also to promote the Organ Donor Program regarding donation and transplantation.

Melville & District Food Bank - Building Healthy Families in Our Community
The Melville & District Food Bank re-opened the doors in November 2014,under the direction of a new board,and president. We believe that no child should go hungry and also support schools in providing an adopt a child program, which provides milk to students. Our mission is to build healthy families in our community. We look forward in gaining support through our community by helping feed the less fortunate.

Melville Rail Station Heritage Association
Dedicated to the restoration of the city's old CN Station. The Station is the centerpiece of Melville's history and symbolizes the importance the railway has had in the development of our community. MRSHA intends to return the Station built in 1908 to its original condition and is currently restoring the exterior walls.

RAIL CITY INDUSTRIES – Our mission is to provide individualized support services to persons with disabilities to live as inclusive, valued and contributing members of the community. We are a non-profit organization that offers residential and vocational services maintaining four group homes, an activity center and a supported living program. Rail City supports vocational opportunity through its commercial kitchen and restaurant and through SARCAN, paper & oil recycling services. RCI also makes available to students entering into the caregiving field the RCI Memorial Scholarship set up in memory of past employees.

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A charity under the *Non-profit Corporation Act of Sask.* to promote, finance and provide care and comfort to the aged, the ill and the infirm.
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The principal purpose of the Foundation is to advance the welfare and good of St. Peter's Hospital by:
- Maintaining a strong feeling of goodwill towards St. Peter's Hospital,
- Raising funds primarily for the purposes of St. Peter's Hospital,
- Recognizing that health care partnerships, cooperation and integration of services are an increasing reality and will enhance the mission of St. Peter's Hospital.

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS – Yorkton
Your donation will be used to operate the only animal shelter in the Parkland area, located in Yorkton, and to assist to perform other animal related services. The shelter houses stray, unwanted and injured animals, returns lost pets to owners and provides pets for adoption. Other services include pet therapy visits to local nursing homes, educational programs at local area schools, in house tours, and access to investigators for cases of animal abuse.
The Society is a non-profit charitable organization, funded by donations. We ask your support and thank you "On Behalf of the Voiceless".

Thank You for your generous donation!

Threads and Treads thrills Vibank

By Ashley Scarfe
Grasslands News

It was a busy weekend in Vibank, as Threads and Treads took over the village. For the first time, the quilt show opened its doors for two days, kicking things off Friday with visitors lined up outside the Cooperative Community Centre.

On Saturday, festivities continued around the community with a pancake breakfast at the Seniors' Centre and a car show along Blenkhorn Street. Kids' activities began in the afternoon with a bike parade from Vibank Regional School to the Community Centre. There were barrel train rides, a sand dig and a petting zoo, while a vehicle extrication demonstration by the Vibank first responders thrilled spectators young and old.

The weekend came to an end with the Blaze & Badge Benefit Supper, hosted by the Vibank Fire Department and Medical First Responders.

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Gene Hauta

It's a Strange World

A Florida deputy observed a car weaving through traffic at 117 mph in a 70 mph zone, and pulled it over. Driver Omar Soliman, 30, told the deputy he was ***desperate to use a toilet***, and was headed to Buc-ee's. "The bathrooms at Buc-ee's are exceptionally clean," agreed Sheriff Wayne Ivey, but "hold onto your beaver nuggets" because "you should probably be a little closer than 60 miles from your restroom destination when using it as an excuse for speeding." Soliman was arrested, charged with reckless driving, and operating a vehicle at 100 mph or more. "When the judge hands down the fine," noted Randy Cassingham, "Soliman is going to urgently need a restroom again."

A bus driver at Germany's Leipzig/Halle airport saw something ***suspicious: a drone, flying low in the restricted area***. He acted fast: he kicked it, causing it to crash. Officials say the drone was equipped with professional-grade explosives and a detonator, and was flying near several Ukrainian Antonov An-124 cargo planes, part of NATO's Strategic Airlift International Solution. "It is possible that his intervention prevented the intended attack," said Armin Schuster the state of Saxony Minister of the Interior. "But it's not a model to be emulated. Letting us know would be enough." Mike Straw noted, "Sometimes instincts are heroic. Other times your leg could be blown off."

Brittany Barry, the Saskatchewan woman responsible for an alcohol-related 2024 crash that killed a mother and daughter from Alberta, has been pre-approved for day parole. The Parole Board of Canada approved of Barry moving into a community-based residential facility or halfway-house for a six-month period when she soon becomes eligible for day parole. Barry pleaded guilty to one count of driving over the legal limit causing death and one count of driving over the legal limit causing bodily harm. The rest of the ***16 charges she initially faced were stayed***. She has completed around 18 months of her six-year sentence so far, which was imposed on March 14, 2025. Federal inmates are allowed to apply for full parole a third of the way through their sentence, while day parole can be requested six months prior to that. Most people don't really care how well she passed on accountability, motivation level, and reintegration potential. Despite the numerous conditions she will have to abide by, many people believe that is not fair to the innocent people who were killed.

A San Francisco man survived being compacted in a garbage truck after a ***passerby heard his screams*** before the next load was crushed. The driver had already compressed the trash once on his route just after 4am when someone walking by alerted him to the shouting inside the Recology truck. Roughly two dozen firefighters spent more than two hours digging through the truck rather than dumping its contents, which was deemed too risky. As soon as paramedics reached the man's arm, an IV was started to guard against crush syndrome, a dangerous complication of prolonged compression. The man is believed to have originally been in a dumpster. The man stayed conscious and talking throughout the rescue and was taken to hospital after being freed.

In the midst of a time of sexual freedom and especially the threat of STDs, including AIDS, Dolly Parton humorously advised teenagers in 1988 by saying, "I would say, ***act like it's raining every day and wear your rubbers***." This line was delivered during a Q&A segment on a variety show, showcasing her playful and down-to-earth personality. She followed up with more serious advice, encouraging them to "stick to your dreams and have faith in yourself." This moment highlights her ability to deliver witty one-liners while also providing valuable life advice. While this anecdote is perhaps a little risqué for this corner, it is a good indication of the appeal Dolly had to a variety of audiences.

A Miami-Dade (Fla.) Sheriff's Office deputy drove through an avocado grove to check things out and noticed an out-of-place pickup truck. He eventually ***found several stashes of the fruit***, and waited until the owner of an abandoned truck showed up. Duniel Areces-Gonzalez, 37., was arrested and charged with trespassing, plus grand theft for stealing "approximately" $852 worth of avocados — $6 each. Randy Cassingham labelled this story as "In Deep Guacamole."

Keep reading between the lines…

Yorkton Legion banner project now in year seven

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

Sixteen new veterans are being honoured with banners in Yorkton.

For the past seven years the Royal Canadian Legion General Alexander Ross Branch No. 77 - Yorkton has been offering families and friends an opportunity to honour veterans with banners which are installed on light standards in the city from late September through to after Remembrance Day.

With the addition of the eight new double-sided banners, there will be 132 banners mounted in Yorkton honouring some 255 veterans – some banners honour multiple family members.

Legion president Brittany Johnson, at a ceremony announcing this year's new banners, reminded that the idea for the project initially came from Tami Hall.

Hall was in Vancouver visiting her father, a proud Korean War veteran, when she saw banners that celebrated veterans hanging from light standards in the city. She believed that Yorkton should do the same.

Johnson said Hall saw it as "a great way to honour our veterans and an idea was born."

It is an idea which has been picked up by other communities, added Johnson, adding "many have reached out to us." She said the idea is now so popular the national office of the Legion has developed a template that groups can access.

Johnson said the banners, which include a photo of the veteran when available, provide a new element in terms of honouring veterans as it literally puts a face of those who served.

Crews install banners in Yorkton last Saturday.

U of R students ask elected officials number of questions during panel

-continued from 4

Saskatchewan NDP MLA Sally Housser said the issue extends beyond Saskatchewan.

"One of the problems we've seen, not just in Saskatchewan, but across the country, is post-secondary institutions not being adequately funded at the provincial or federal level," Housser said. "Institutions have really relied and frankly become too dependent on those much, much higher international student fees, which have been jacked up to kind of compensate for that."

The panel also focused heavily on how students can become involved in politics, with several speakers encouraging them to volunteer, build relationships and pursue issues they care about.

Brad Crassweller - MLA for White City-Qu'Appelle - emphasized relationships and community involvement.

"Life's a relationship," Crassweller said. "And so, you're out there, you're building a relationship. Get out there, serve."

He encouraged students to take their work and volunteer commitments seriously.

"I want to encourage you, whatever you do, do it with all your heart," Crassweller said.

Weger said his own path into politics was influenced by years of volunteer work, including with Kin Canada, as a volunteer firefighter, and sports coach.

"You need to build life experience," Weger said.

Clarke told students to identify their values and find organizations where they can contribute.

"Ask questions, be curious," he said. "I think as young people, you have a very important role to play in Saskatchewan's future and Regina's future."

Housser encouraged students to become involved in organizations on campus and in their communities.

"There are so many different ways, both on campus, whether that's kind of environmental groups, restorative justice, social justice organizations, but across the city, province, and country," she said.

Regina Councillor Victoria Flores also addressed barriers faced by newcomers who want to enter Canadian political or professional life.

"I have met so many people that have incredible ideas and incredible insights about how to improve our communities," she said. "I would say in getting involved, reach out to the elected officials that you want to maybe give them some advice or some information."

Flores said newcomers can face significant barriers when trying to work in fields related to their education and previous experience.

"What it came down to was Canadian work experience and credential recognition," she said, describing credential recognition as "a lengthy, expensive, convoluted process."

Flores said she had seen internationally trained professionals with significant experience struggle to enter regulated professions because they did not have the required Canadian recognition.

She said improvements have been made but added, "it's not at the speed or scale that is necessary to make sure those people are in the workforce."

First Nations representation was also part of the panel, with Piapot First Nation Councillor Jayleen Francis discussing the responsibilities of First Nations governments toward students and their communities. She said funding, housing, transportation, and community supports can all affect students, while First Nations governments also have a role in advocating for students within broader systems.

"Sometimes those systems don't seem so very fair to Indigenous people, therefore the Indigenous student body," Francis said. "So, we need to be a voice there at the level of government."

Francis also emphasized the importance of the relationship between First Nations and the federal government, particularly around education and funding.

"The relationship with the federal government is very, very important," she said. "We have treaty rights as Indigenous people, as First Nations. And within those treaty rights, we have a right to education."

The panel ultimately returned to the role students can play in shaping government decisions.

Crassweller told students they do not have to wait until they are older to make their voices heard.

"You don't have to be 18 or 19 years old to ask us a question or to send us a letter or any of those kind of things," he said.

Flores said students can also participate directly in municipal decision-making by staying involved when issues they care about reach council.

"I would ask them, please be a delegate when this comes to council," she said.

"And oftentimes, I will ask them, if I'm writing a letter or if I'm connected with other orders of government, please support that or do your version of that."

The panel was organized with the stated goal of encouraging students to engage with elected representatives and participate in civic life, giving students an opportunity to raise issues directly with representatives from different levels of government.

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Unique banjo show to kick off concert series in Yorkton

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

Keith Alessi and his '*Tomatoes Tried to Kill Me, But Banjos Saved My Life'* show will kick off a new Yorkton Arts Council series.

Alessi told Grasslands News the show is more than a music concert.

"It's not a banjo show," he said. "It's storytelling. The banjos are merely soundtrack.

"It's about the importance of pursuing one's passions and overcoming obstacles. Don't wait for a death sentence to pursue your interests. And you don't have to become an expert! Engaging in the passion is enough."

The story is a personal one for Alessi too.

"It's an inspirational true story that has been performed almost 500 times in six countries on three continents," he said. "Audiences can expect to laugh, cry and leave inspired!

"Most importantly, I've always donated 100 per cent of ticket sales to local charities. We've left over $1,500,000 in the communities in which we've performed so audiences can know that all their ticket purchases will stay locally."

In Yorkton, it will be donated to Brayden Ottenbreit Close Cuts for Cancer.

In that respect, the show seems highly autobiographical as Alessi came to music later in life himself.

"Indeed. I was an accountant by training," he said. "I ultimately rose to the rank of CEO of a number of large public companies, including one with large operations in Saskatchewan.

"All the time I had an obsession with the banjo and built quite a collection. But I couldn't play them. Life kept getting in the way.

"After getting a difficult cancer diagnosis I threw myself into trying to learn to play. That ultimately led me to the stage."

It was a long trek to the stage from a childhood interest in music that never manifested itself as a musical skill for years.

"Growing up I was drawn to all styles of music, but I was not particularly musically inclined," explained Alessi. "I never really mastered an instrument. It didn't come easy for me."

So why the banjo?

" *'The Ballad of Jed Clampett'* grabbed my attention as a kid and I was hooked," offered Alessi. "… I prefer old time banjo music versus bluegrass but play and enjoy both."

In terms of banjos, Alessi rarely finds one he doesn't like.

"Each has a story and I'm basically a collector at heart," he said. "I have six instruments on stage during the show. They are all characters in my journey and I tell their stories."

The Yorkton show is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 6.

SUBMITTED I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Banjo pickin'
***'Tomatoes Tried to Kill Me but Banjos Saved My Life'* show set for Tuesday, Oct. 6 in Yorkton.**

Ganesh Chaturthi – A Hindu festival marked in Yorkton

SUBMITTED I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Bajo pickin'
A representation of Lord Ganesha was installed for a three-day event in Yorkton recently.

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

Ganapati is traditionally a 10-day Hindu festival celebrating the birth of Lord Ganesha, the familiar elephant-headed deity.

The festival was marked in Yorkton, albeit over just three days Sept. 13-15, locally organized by the Gujarati Community Association of Yorkton.

Bhavya Patel, with the local association, explained to Grasslands News Lord Ganesha – who is generally seen as a large elephant – is the deity of wisdom, prosperity, and new beginnings, widely revered as the remover of obstacles. "His large elephant head signifies wisdom, his large ears denote listening to petitions, and his vehicle is a mouse (mushak), symbolizing the ability to overcome any obstacle," detailed Wikipedia.

Ganesha, or Ganesh, also known as Ganapati, Vinayaka and Pillaiyar, is one of the best-known and most revered and worshipped deities in the Hindu pantheon.

During Ganapati, families and local communities place beautifully painted clay statues of Ganesha in homes and temporary public stages called pandals – in the case of Yorkton at the old Land Titles Building on Smith Street.

Since Ganesha is known for the remover of obstacles, many people pray to him before starting new projects, taking exams, or opening a business to ask for a smooth path and good luck, explained Patel, adding when one has "difficulty" in life they often turn to Ganesha.

Patel said over the three days, people were able to visit the shrine to pray and leave offerings to Ganesha - typically flowers, lights, fruits and sweets. Modak, a sweet dumpling filled with coconut and jaggery (cane sugar), is known as Ganesha's favorite offering.

Patel estimated 500 to 700 people with roots in India live in Yorkton and region. He said holding events such as Ganapati are important to the community in terms of the Hindu faith but is also "a way to get to know what's happening in the community."

Ganesha is the son of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati in the Hindu faith.

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Online resource launched for Nakoda language lessons

By Sarah Pacio and Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Five years ago, Nakoda curriculum was introduced for schools in Saskatchewan; however, some teachers found it difficult to implement because they are unfamiliar with the language. A new online resource developed by teachers for teachers was launched this week to help bridge that gap.

Teacher and filmmaker Wahbi Zarry is the driving force behind the free Nakoda lesson material, and he has worked closely with Theresa O'Watch of Carry the Kettle First Nation to ensure the content is accurate.

Nakoda is the traditional language of several First Nations across Treaties 2, 4 and 6. The language has been available in the provincial curriculum at the 10, 20 and 30 levels since September 2021.

"Nakoda is on the provincial curriculum, and teachers want to teach it," explained Zarry, a French immersion teacher with a Bachelor of Education from the University of Regina.

"But almost none of us speak Nakoda, and there is very little material to work from, so the course exists on paper and is hard to bring into a classroom."

The Ministry of Education provides an overview of curriculum for all subjects taught in Saskatchewan schools. The documentation for Nakoda 10, 20 and 30 outlines the basic structure of the language and suggests teaching strategies, but additional resources are limited.

For example, there are student textbooks for subjects such as math, science and French, but Zarry found that a practical, concise means of presenting Nakoda to students was lacking.

His solution was to develop Nakoda lesson materials teachers could use in the classroom.

Zarry is from Casablanca but spent many years in France. He developed an interest in Indigenous languages while he was an international student earning his teaching degree at the University of Regina.

"It was at the University of Regina that I discovered Indigenous languages, through conversations with professors, with students, and by attending conferences," he said. "That's how I started to understand what was really happening around these languages, what was being done, and what still needed doing."

He maintained his enthusiasm for language education while working as a French immersion teacher at schools in Estevan and North Battleford. He gained further intercultural experience teaching abroad in Thailand, Ukraine, Colombia and currently Myanmar, but looks forward to returning to Saskatchewan at the end of this year.

A few years ago, Zarry produced a YouTube docuseries in which he sought to learn as much Nakoda as possible over the span of 10 days. He had already created a similar "10 Days of Cree" documentary.

"I learned some of it while making a documentary in 2022, and I know perfectly well that's a different thing from speaking the language," he said.

"That's precisely why I'm never in front of the camera and I don't teach anything. The lessons are taught by a speaker from the nation. I'm the producer."

That speaker is Theresa O'Watch.

Zarry became acquainted with O'Watch while creating the Nakoda docuseries.

"We had exactly the same ideas about the language, about what needed to be done to revitalize it, about how to approach young people," Zarry said. "That kind of meeting can't be arranged. Either you understand each other or you don't, and we understood each other immediately."

O'Watch was raised in a Nakoda-speaking home but lost much of the language over time. Her older sister Frieda was passionate about reviving the language in their community and worked diligently to draw the Nakoda language to a common dialect and orthography that could be shared with the next generation.

SUBMITTED I GRASSLANDS NEWS

And - Action!
Teacher and filmmaker Wahbi Zarry is developing a free, online platform for learning the Nakoda language.

"She helped me find passion in the language and revitalizing it," O'Watch explained. "It was a dream that she was very, very passionate about and when she passed away, I was asked to step into her shoes. Those shoes would have been pretty big, so I didn't think that I could ever do that, but I would do the best job that I could with it."

O'Watch worked to recall her first language and now teaches at Nakoda Oyade Education Centre on Carry the Kettle, sharing her language with students in kindergarten to Grade 4 and Nakoda 10, 20 and 30 classes.

She has also offered Nakoda lessons to a broader audience through videos on YouTube and a new series that will air on APTN in December. Her dynamic presentations often feature a puppet named Kunsi that only speaks in Nakoda, with O'Watch acting as translator. This keeps students engaged because they must learn Nakoda if they want to interact with the puppet.

Nakoda is considered an endangered language with few fluent speakers.

Zarry said exact figures are difficult to determine but estimates roughly 200 people could say they speak the language. Statistics Canada counts slightly more than 300 people in Canada who report knowing Assiniboine, the name under which Nakoda appears in official statistics.

But Zarry said the numbers do not tell the entire story.

"When I filmed my documentary in 2022, I was struck by how interested the young people were," he said. "There is real enthusiasm, and it's growing. Young people want to know this language."

O'Watch follows the Accelerated Second Language Acquisition method developed by Dr. S. Neyooxet Greymorning. She also consults acquaintances and elders and often learns alongside her students.

"It's helping me actually be more fluent," O'Watch commented. "I learn every day with my kids so it's an amazing opportunity to grow the language."

O'Watch was one of the individuals consulted when the Nakoda curriculum overview was developed for Saskatchewan, and she agreed to work with Zarry to create resources to accompany the Ministry's document.

The first lesson created by O'Watch and Zarry was officially released Sept. 21 and can be accessed online at canadianlanguages.org.

The user-friendly site includes a roughly 10-minute video of O'Watch providing instruction for seven basic greetings and introductions.

"And honestly, the first lesson is the kind of lesson that exists in every language in the world: how to say hello, how to introduce yourself, how to name the people close to you," Zarry said. "That's the starting point whether you're learning Nakoda, French or Japanese."

The video is accompanied by printable resources designed around Saskatchewan curriculum outcomes, including a teacher guide, student worksheets, a quiz, poster and flashcards. The video is presented in English, while printable resources are offered in English or French.

Zarry's familiarity with Saskatchewan curriculum formats enabled him to integrate applicable outcomes within the teacher guide. The quiz format resembles platforms such as Kahoot that are popular in Saskatchewan classrooms.

The video itself is deliberately kept short. Used in coordination with the practice sheets and other activities, the lesson requires about 30 minutes of class time.

"A thirty-minute video would be television. This is a lesson," Zarry said.

All materials can be accessed at no cost without an account, are suitable for any grade level, and teachers can facilitate the lessons even without previous knowledge of the language.

"You go directly to the website, you print the sheets, you press play, and you let Theresa teach," Zarry stated. "It's going to be easier for everyone. This is a resource for teachers; the idea is to make it easier for the teacher to include Indigenous languages in the classroom."

Zarry said the project is also intended to present the language to students in an engaging way.

"What I wanted was for it to be of real quality. And also, I care about this, and want for it to be beautiful. Properly designed. With a short quiz at the end. Speaking the language young people speak. Because if it looks good and it's clear, the students follow, and so does the teacher."

Only the first Nakoda lesson is currently available, but additional material will be prepared. Zarry noted it is a time-consuming process because Nakoda is an oral tradition and has a uniquely styled calligraphy.

He is currently absorbing the costs of production and would welcome sponsorship but says he will continue regardless because he believes Indigenous languages should be included in classrooms.

The longer-term goal is to expand the concept well beyond Nakoda.

"We're starting with Nakoda because this is my region, Treaty 4. It's a region I'm attached to, I have many Nakoda friends here, and it's the language I'm closest to," Zarry said.

"But the ambition is to bring in as many languages as possible, so that any teacher in Canada can introduce their students to an Indigenous language without too much trouble."

The initial goal is to add the other Indigenous languages included in Saskatchewan's curriculum, followed eventually by languages from across Canada.

Zarry stressed that the project builds on language revitalization work already being undertaken by Indigenous communities.

"I'm not inventing anything here. I'm adding a stone to a building that others built," he said.

"Language is the mirror of a culture, and Nakoda culture is a rich one. If these small lessons can help a teacher pass a piece of it on to their students, then they will have been worth making."

O'Watch agrees, noting language is an integral part of First Nations culture.

"Our language embeds everything; it embeds who we are, embeds our culture, our respect – it's who we are as people," she said. "It's very important that we as a Nakoda people embed this language into our children. Giving these kids a good solid foundation of who they are, giving them their language to use daily, is a really good start in promoting a healthy lifestyle and knowing who you are."

Trial begins for Ituna man accused of sexual assault involving youth

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

The trial of an Ituna man facing sexual assault charges involving a youth began in Melville Provincial Court on Sept. 14, but proceedings were adjourned before the first witness completed cross-examination.

Christopher Russell Tallmadge, 40, has been charged with single counts each of sexual assault, sexual interference, and invitation to sexual touching with a person under the age of 16. Two further counts were withdrawn.

According to court documents, the alleged incident Tallmadge stands accused of occurred on June 28, 2025, in Ituna, where he was subsequently taken into custody by Melville RCMP.

A publication ban is in place on information that might reveal the identity of the complainant.

After a lengthy list of regular docket matters, the trial began at about 3 p.m., with a young witness testifying from a separate location.

As the afternoon progressed, Justice Roger De Corby raised concerns about continuing the proceedings into the evening. The judge said the issue also involved fairness to the young witness, plus everyone involved in the proceeding, and the court ultimately adjourned the trial before the witness completed her testimony.

DeCorby told the witness she would have to return to court on Sept. 28 and reminded her that she remained under oath and could not discuss her evidence with anyone before returning.

A second witness - present for the Sept. 14 court date - was also ordered to return for the trial continuation, scheduled for Sept. 28 in Melville.

National Day for TRUTH and RECONCILIATION

September 30, 2026

SHARING • LEARNING • HEALING

Truth and Reconciliation: amplifying Indigenous voices

September 30 marks National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. This event was established in 2021 by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission following its work from 2008 to 2015. It aims to honour First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, whose rights were violated by the government. This event also encourages all Canadians to take a greater interest in the diverse Indigenous cultures.

Historical injustices

For over a century, the federal government operated a total of 140 residential schools where countless Indigenous children were forcibly sent to be assimilated into the dominant culture. From 1867 to 1996, families were torn apart and children were abused; many died in these institutions. Unmarked graves were concealed to erase the traces of these horrors.

One aim of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is to give survivors a voice to share their stories, breaking the cycle of silence and shedding light on their trauma. Many communities remain underrepresented in the media or continue to experience injustices. In 2026, for example, some isolated communities still lack access to clean drinking water.

Concrete action

In addition to wearing an orange shirt to show your support for residential school survivors, you can visit the Canadian government's website at rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca and begin your journey of learning about First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples in Canada. It's an excellent way to raise your awareness of the cause and culture of these peoples.

In addition, you can contact your local municipality to learn more about the activities organized in your region as part of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Every action counts, so get involved now!

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

GSSD Message

Good Spirit SCHOOL DIVISION

As we approach September 30, National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, it is important that we recognize and honor the contributions and sacrifices of the Indigenous peoples who have called this land home for thousands of years. We also acknowledge the ongoing effects of colonization and the residential school system that have left lasting impacts on Indigenous communities. This day commemorates the survivors of the residential school system in Canada and is an opportunity to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations to come.

Good Spirit School Division is committed to deepening understanding of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action throughout the year. Reconciliation is not limited to one day of recognition; it is an ongoing responsibility that requires learning, reflection, relationship-building, and meaningful action. As part of this commitment, we encourage everyone to wear orange shirts on September 30 to show solidarity with survivors and their families, while also continuing to raise awareness of the history and lasting legacy of residential schools in Canada throughout the school year.

Let us remember the importance of learning from the past, working together for a better future, and honoring the strength and resilience of Indigenous peoples. We are all Treaty people, and it is our collective responsibility to work towards reconciliation and healing.

National Day for *Truth and Reconciliation*

This day honours Residential School Survivors, the children who did not return home, and their families and communities. Truth and Reconciliation Day calls on us to learn, reflect and take meaningful steps together toward reconciliation.

September 30 is also Orange Shirt Day, an Indigenous-led initiative that raises awareness of the lasting impacts of the residential school system while affirming that every child matters.

Let's take this opportunity to wear orange, listen, learn, participate in community events, and support our province's healing journey together.

Hon. Warren Kaeding
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Travis Keisig
MLA for Last Mountain-Touchwood
(306) 334-3444

Kevin Weedmark
MLA for Moosomin-Montmartre
(306) 435-4005

Brad Crassweller
MLA for White City-Qu'Appelle
(306) 520-5018

David Chan
MLA for Yorkton
(306) 783-7275

Daryl Harrison
MLA for Cannington
(306) 443-4402

National Day for TRUTH and RECONCILIATION

September 30, 2026

SHARING • LEARNING • HEALING

National Day for Truth and Reconcilliation

Honouring truth, remembering, reconciling

GNG NEWS
Grasslands News Group

Acknowledging
National Day For Truth And Reconciliation

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National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

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Acknowledging National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The Yorkton Chamber acknowledges the traditional, ancestral Indigenous territory on which we live, work, and learn.

Yorkton Chamber of Commerce
306-783-4368
info@yorktonchamber.com

National Day
for Truth and Reconciliation
September 30

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On September 30th, we acknowledge the history, diversity and achievements of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples in Canada.

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Observing
NATIONAL DAY
For Truth and Reconciliation

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The Society for the Involvement of Good Neighbours (SIGN)

National Day for TRUTH and RECONCILIATION

September 30, 2026

SHARING • LEARNING • HEALING

Cultural

Appropriation or appreciation: know the difference!

Is it considered cultural appropriation for a non-Indigenous person to buy a piece of Indigenous art or wear Indigenous clothing? National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is an excellent time to consider that it's entirely possible — even desirable — to express your appreciation for these cultures. The catch? Knowing what distinguishes cultural appropriation from cultural appreciation.

Appropriation: a lack of Indigenous participation

Sometimes, a person or a company uses the images, symbols, names or language of First Nations, Inuit or Métis peoples without regard for their meaning. They may earn money from these cultural elements without consulting the people who are directly affected. This practice is called cultural appropriation.

For example, imagine a store selling generic, foreign-made dreamcatchers for the sole purpose of making a profit. Wearing a garment that originates from a sacred or traditional practice without understanding its meaning also constitutes appropriation. Appreciation for the esthetics of Indigenous cultures requires respect for and awareness of these cultures.

Appreciation: a gesture that supports Indigenous initiatives

One might mistakenly believe that wearing moccasins is an example of cultural appropriation. However, if you purchased a pair from an Indigenous person who made them in accordance with their traditions, it's an excellent way for you to showcase their culture.

The same goes for works of art. When you hang a painting by an Inuit artist on your office wall or place a sculpture crafted by a Wendat artist in your living room, you are promoting Indigenous artistry. Also, your economic support in purchasing their goods benefits their communities.

Want to support Indigenous cultures in Canada? Look for First Nations, Métis and Inuit businesses and artisans in your area.

September 30 NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

"Reflecting on the past. Commitment to the future. St. Peter's Hospital in Melville stands in solidarity with residential school survivors, their families, and communities. We are dedicated to providing culturally safe, respectful care for all. Every Child Matters."

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New audio drama releases 18 years after story began

By Ashley Scarfe
Grasslands News

It started 18 years ago when Andrew Nagy was suffering from severe insomnia. One morning, around 3 a.m., the University of Regina student found himself pulling out his 20-year-old laptop, sitting down and typing a story that would begin an 18-year-long journey.

"I just started writing out of the blue," Nagy remembers. "I wasn't thinking in advance. I just typed, and as the words showed up, I learned the story."

The sleepy writer finished seven-and-a-half pages that night.

"At the end of it, I thought, 'I don't know. We'll call it Long Night,'" he says. "It wasn't a refined script. It wasn't really written as a script. It was basically me hitting Enter and writing a book, but with the idea of script formatting."

The story revolved around a guy working a long night in a warehouse where he had to battle strange and fantastical creatures. That night, the story was set aside. In 2011, Nagy revisited it, and now, 18 years later, Project: Long Night releases on Oct. 3 as an audio drama. Nagy's insomnia vision - and dream for almost two decades - will be available to audiences across the world for the first time.

While the dream may finally be coming to fruition, for Nagy, there would be many sleepless nights between 2008 and now.

In 2011, while visiting with friends, Nagy's mind was once again turned back to Project: Long Night when one of his friends broached the subject of projects Nagy had been working on. Nagy, who had been an actor for around 15 years by that point, was asked by his friends if he was creating any projects he could act in.

"I was almost irate at how nonchalantly they said, 'We could just do this. It's fine. I know people,'" Nagy says. "I thought, 'You don't know people. You're nuts.' In my mind, I was thinking, 'You need a warehouse with a mezzanine. Where the hell are we going to find that? You need 20 actors for this small script. You need to refine and rewrite this with somebody who knows what writing is, not somebody who is sleep deprived and going nuts. You need a director, grip, lighting and cameras.'"

Despite his initial reservations, Nagy wrote another script.

"Toward the end of that script, I realized one of the characters was the sister of a character in the first script," he says. "I thought, 'Damn. Here we are. I guess we're doing this.'"

From there, the project snowballed. Three people became eight or nine over the course of the summer, and soon they started auditioning actors for some of the roles.

"Suddenly we were at three episodes and asking, 'What are we doing? Are we making a show?'" Nagy says. "And it just kept going."

What began as the original project eventually became season zero. Over three years, the series bible was created, encompassing multiple seasons, while filming on the series began on Oct. 3, 2011.

"Because the show was being written while we were filming, it wasn't a matter of writing an episode and then filming it," Nagy says. "We would write scenes and then figure out where they fit. We'd say, 'Okay, this fits in this episode. But how did we get from this scene to this one?' Then we'd write another scene to bridge them."

While writing a series already in production may seem daunting to some, for Nagy and his team, the process made sense in a chaotic sort of way.

"Once we knew the characters, we knew there were pieces of their stories that needed to be told," he says. "We just didn't necessarily know how to write them yet."

"There's an old idea about writers saying, 'The muses took me,'" he continues. "To some extent, there were pieces of the writing that came to me that way, and to the other people who helped. So rather than chaos, it felt like something was being unveiled to you."

Filming wrapped in July 2014. From then on, the chaos that had been a boon to story production became a hindrance to post-production, with the first major hurdle being the theft of the hard drive containing the footage. While it was eventually returned, some of the video was corrupted and lost.

From there, life got in the way. Years passed and suddenly, the project began to feel like a burden.

"We were five, six, seven, eight years down the road and every time somebody asked me about Project: Long Night, I would say, 'Don't talk to me about it. I'm working on it,'" Nagy says. "Everybody knew I was working on it, but it was weighing on me. The more I opened the project, the angrier I became because I couldn't push it across the finish line."

Then, in 2021, while Nagy was showing someone the project, he had an epiphany.

"She said, 'I can't believe how proud and how angry you are at Project: Long Night,'" he says. "I asked her what she meant. She said, 'You clearly have high hopes for it. You love this production, and you have fond memories of the people involved. But when you look at it and show it to me, you're angry. I assume it's because of the guilt you feel.'"

That guilt, it seems, stems back to 2012. After a 12-hour filming day and an emotionally charged scene at a gun range, one of the actors on set had a breakdown. During the scene, she had to shoot at photos of Nagy, a friend she had known since high school.

"She said, 'I don't want to shoot you. You're my best friend,'" Nagy recalls. "It was hard for her. I can't express enough how difficult it is to let your emotions free to do the job of acting and not have any filters on. It permeates you."

While he gave her the option to stop, she continued with her scene after a break to compose herself. When they had wrapped and she had made it through, Nagy asked her why she had returned.

"She looked at me and said, 'Because of you. Because you have done all of this work for us, and I didn't want to let you down,'" he says. "The part of the story that really hits me is something I hadn't told her. I was leaving. I had quit."

Nagy had called his family and asked them to come get him and bring him back to Saskatchewan the next day.

"When she said she couldn't do the scene and I told her we could film it another day, I didn't actually think we were going to film another day," Nagy says. "I thought it was over."

That night, he realized the project had moved beyond him and taken on a life of its own.

"That night, I realized it wasn't about me anymore," he says.

While the video version never materialized beyond the editing suite, Nagy's passion and drive were reignited. In 2022, the idea was broached to turn Project: Long Night into an audio drama.

Scripts were adapted and redeveloped, legacy cast and crew returned, some in different roles, and recording on the audio drama began in late January.

"One of the things we did was put the characters' names into the dialogue more often," Nagy says. "It's easy to remember who Kale is when you can see him. It might not be as easy when you're only hearing a voice until you get used to it."

Recording the audio meant a lot of travel for Nagy, who bounced between Regina, Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, and Calgary. Recording concluded by the end of June 2023.

Dayna Keam was brought on to edit the soundscapes, with foley recorded specifically for each character. Overall, Nagy estimates each episode has around 30 to 50 layers of sound.

While creating a story without visuals may seem challenging, Nagy says it's not without its advantages.

"In a visual medium, you're also restricted because you can see it," he says. "There were limitations because we were clearly an independent production. Audio fulfills something I believe is essential to storytelling, which is a connection with the audience."

"The story exists somewhere between what I wrote and what the audience hears," he continues. "I think that's very powerful because the monsters can become whatever the listener imagines them to be."

On Oct. 3 - 15 years after the first day of filming - listeners will be able to imagine those monsters for themselves.

Project: Long Night will be available on streaming platforms such as Spotify, Amazon Music, and YouTube. More information on where to listen can be found on the Noble Story Productions' social media pages.

"Project: Long Night is a technoir audio drama that follows two young men, Kale and HR, who are fired from a company named Armistice Technologies, which may or may not be hiding secrets that could change the course of humanity," Nagy says. "They make a choice that attacks the company in a way by breaking in and stealing some stuff, which gets them in the sights of the Canadian military."

While he started the project on an ancient laptop, alone at 3 a.m., Nagy says he no longer feels alone. Around 165 people have touched this project, making their own imprints on the story and the community surrounding it.

"The story really comes down to one line," Nagy says, remembering back to the original production. "Our friend Tom Smith plays Aiden Morgan in both versions. Tom had these really bushy eyebrows."

Nagy says the hairstylist wanted to fix those eyebrows. After she got everything styled, she told Smith she needed to fix one last hair.

"She put her hand underneath his hairline and said, 'Now close your eyes and believe,'" Nagy says. "Then she dropped her hand over his eyes and buzzed across both eyebrows in one swift move."

While Smith's eyebrows remained, minus some bushiness, Nagy took away more from that moment than the importance of good grooming.

"'Close your eyes and believe' is what has allowed this show to come to fruition."

RCMP investigate reported threat involving Vibank Regional School

By Ashley Scarfe
Grasslands News

RCMP attended Vibank Regional School on Monday following reports of a potential firearm threat.

In a letter sent to families, principal Shaun Horsman said police were called to follow up on a serious matter that occurred outside of the school setting.

The letter states that a potential firearm threat toward the school was reported to RCMP and police are continuing to investigate.

While acknowledging the concern the situation may cause for students and families, RCMP said information gathered so far does not indicate an imminent risk to the safety of students, staff or the public.

Police continue to monitor the situation as their investigation moves forward.

No additional details have been released, with the school citing the privacy of those involved.

Vibank family, baseball hall of fame

- continued from front

"I liked the camaraderie that we had on the teams," he says. "In my earlier years, I was a young guy playing with the older guys. Afterward, I tried to give something back by helping teach the young guys something as well."

Then there was Rick, another longtime member of Vibank's baseball scene who followed his older brothers into the sport. Rick went on to a lengthy career with the Vibank A's, as well as umpiring both minor baseball and senior fastball, even participating in the World Masters in Edmonton.

Their sister Elaine Lang also found her place on the diamond, although opportunities for girls looked considerably different when she was growing up.

"I started probably around eight because we played on the playground all the time, every recess and noon that we could get together," she says. "Boys and girls mixed. There wasn't really organized ball for us girls when we were younger."

She joined the Vibank Comets and played with the team into her late teens. The Comets competed provincially and, for a time, travelled into Regina to play in the Regina Ladies Fastball League. Lang continued to play until she was 45.

Eventually, another generation of Flamans was beginning to find its way onto the diamond. Sons and daughters played minor baseball and fastball. Parents became coaches. Some continued into senior competition, college ball and higher levels of fastball, while grandchildren eventually picked up gloves of their own. In recent years, baseball has once again taken hold in the Quad Town area, bringing together young players from Vibank and surrounding communities.

"The problem with small towns is that the whole group gets older and moves away," Lang says. "Then there's a span where there's nobody coming up. They're all babies growing up. Ten years later, it can start over again."

The Hall of Fame nomination came after Ray Beck, president of the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, reached out to the family and encouraged them to submit their history. With only a short time to prepare the nomination package, Keith began gathering information from his siblings.

"My mouth dropped," he says. "When you put it all together on paper and chronologically go through the history, it becomes somewhat impressive, but you just don't think too much of it at the time."

The nomination was successful. In August, roughly two dozen members of the extended Flaman family travelled to Battleford for the induction. Before the ceremony, they toured the Saskatchewan Baseball Museum. That evening, the family joined the other 2026 inductees for the Hall of Fame ceremony.

"It was very humbling and quite gratifying," Terry says.

Lang called it "a pretty special deal," while Brian said the induction was surprising because recognition was never the reason they stayed involved.

"You do these things and you don't do them for the awards at the end of the year," he says. "Or you shouldn't. You should do them for yourself, your community and hopefully the next generation."

Back in Vibank, word of the induction travelled quickly. People stopped members of the family to congratulate them. Messages appeared on social media. Decades after the first Flaman children took to the field, the family's name has become part of Saskatchewan's recorded baseball history.

For Rick, the recognition also gives the children playing on those same small-town diamonds today something tangible to look toward.

"There's a possibility for you in a small town," he says. "It doesn't matter. You don't have to be in the big city."

Chris and Adeline Flaman had provided the earliest opportunities for their children to play, whether that meant coaching a team or leaving a game to milk the cows so their children could remain on the field.

"Our father passed away about 25 years ago," Keith says. "He was part of the puzzle, one piece of it. If they hadn't developed that minor league baseball team at that time, the question would be, would it have happened? I don't know. Maybe not. Probably not."

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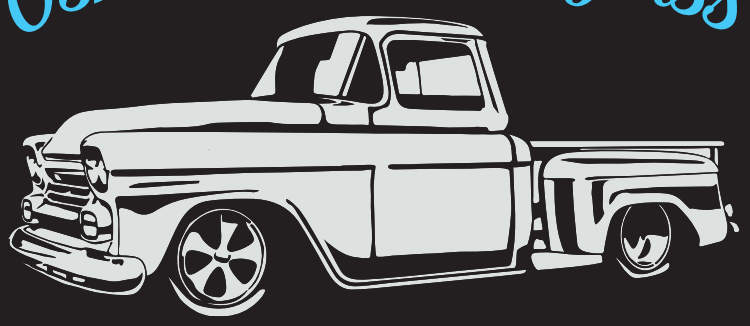

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City News

Sept. 25 - Oct. 1, 2026
Next Council Meeting:
Monday, October 19, 2026 at 5:00 p.m

SILVER CIRCLE COMMUNITY EXPO

Discover. Connect. Thrive.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2026 | 4 PM - 7 PM

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THERE'S MORE TO DISCOVER.

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Meet friendly local organizations, gather great information, and discover opportunities to stay active, connected, and involved.

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A come & go celebration & exploration.

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Cemetery Entrance - HWY 9 S & King St E

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September 18 to October 4, 2026

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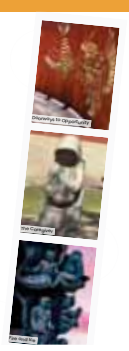
FREE

Monday, September 28, 2026
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm
Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre 49 Smith St E

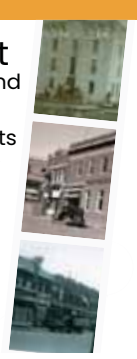


Discover Yorkton: Stories on the Street

Join us for a guided heritage tour through Yorkton's stories and landmarks. History will come alive as plaques, monuments, and interpretive displays reveal the people, places, and events that helped shape our community. Meet at the teepee in City Centre Park and wear comfortable walking shoes.

FREE

Friday, September 25, 2026
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm
City Centre Park 34 Broadway St E



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SPORTS

SJHL Millionaires, Red Wings split home openers

By Darcy Gross
Grasslands News

The Melville Millionaires kicked off another Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League season on a high note, but the elation from Game 1 was short-lived.

Weyburn Red Wings 4 at Melville Millionaires 1 (Sept. 19)

The Red Wings took a lead 14 seconds into the game when a rolling puck eluded Melville netminder Noah Kraus and then did just enough to even the two-game set, with each team winning in the opposition's rink.

Both teams looked sluggish and out of sync in this contest, with the Millionaires unable to find the back of the net after Kale Margolis scored his first goal of the season on the power play.

Preston Baerwald and Rylan Oatman earned assists on the marker.

That left the teams knotted at 1-1 after the first period, with the Wings going up 2-1 after 40 minutes before adding a power-play marker in the third and an empty-netter to clinch the victory.

Other than the gaffe on the first goal, Kraus was solid throughout, making 23 saves on 26 Red Wings shots, while Melville tested the Weyburn goalie 29 times.

The Wings were assessed nine of the contest's 17 minor penalties.

Melville Millionaires 4 at Weyburn Red Wings 2 (Sept. 18)

Despite the closer score, the Millionaires dominated this game for the most part, with the Red Wings scoring both of their goals late in the game with the man advantage.

DARCY GROSS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Shot on net

Melville Millionaires' forward Kale Margolis bears down on Weyburn Red Wings' goalie Ethan Berard in SJHL action at the CNCC on Saturday, Sept. 19. Despite having a number of scoring chances, the Millionaires were only able to dent the twine once, dropping a 4-1 decision to the Wings.

Newcomer Hudson Closson and last season's often-injured Leo Jewitt led the way for the visiting Millionaires, scoring once each and also picking up an assist.

Grady Carmichael and Oatman rounded out Melville's scoring, with Deegan Petruska, Parker Salisbury, Wesley Olson, Baerwald and Cole Brown garnering assists.

The Red Wings outshot the Millionaires 37-25, with Kraus earning the road victory in his first SJHL game.

The Millionaires led 1-0 after the opening stanza and increased their advantage to 2-0 in the second period before adding the first two goals of the third, putting the Wings behind the eight-ball.

The referees seemed to be watching the visitors a little more closely, as Melville was on the hook for six of the game's eight minor infractions.

The Millionaires are back in action on Sept. 25 when they'll head to Melfort to tangle with the Mustangs in a 7:30 p.m. start.

The next night, on Sept. 26, at 7 p.m. they'll do it all over again on Millionaire home ice at the CN Community Centre in Melville.

On Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. the Millionaires will host the always tough Flin Flon Bombers in another home tilt.

Yorkton Terriers victorious over Estevan Bruins in home opener

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Net scramble

Yorkton Terriers' Jake Briltz jostles for position in front of Estevan Bruins' netminder Dylan Adams. The Terriers take the home-opener 6-2 at the Westland Insurance Arena in Yorkton on Saturday, Sept. 19.

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The Yorkton Terriers raised a division championship banner to the rafters of the Westland Insurance Arena Saturday, recognizing the team's Bunge Division crown last season.

The Terriers would advance to the Canterra Seeds Cup final last season finally being ousted from the playoffs in four straight games by Flin Flon.

Now the Terriers will focus on a new season as they opened the 2026-27 regular Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League season hosting Estevan.

The season starts with a solid backend ready for the Terriers led by reigning SJHL Defenceman of the Year Thomas Ries, while Callum Creig returns for his third season in net.

Creig also enters the year with a chance to make Terriers' history. The Calgary, Alberta netminder begins the season 27 victories shy of setting the franchise's all-time wins record.

Up front, the Terriers do have a lot of goals that need to be replaced by new faces as last season offensive stalwarts Gabriel Courchesne and William Léonard have moved on to the BCHL, while Jye Zawatsky graduated from Junior.

But, in the opener the goals came often.

Tyson Medernach opened the season ledger for the Terriers, scoring the lone first period goal of the contest at 13:05.

Two quick second period markers – Brett Buckley at 1:35 and Austin Horbachewsky short-handed at 4:21 – and Yorkton was up 3-0.

SEE TERRIERS EDGE, 22

Senior Raider Gridders win big under 'Friday Night Lights'

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The first 'Friday Night Lights' football game of the season was certainly to the liking of the fans in attendance at Century Field in Yorkton on Sept. 18.

The local faithful watched the Yorkton Regional High School Raider Gridders roll offensively, while the team's defence was a stingy bunch.

The combination was too much for the visiting Weyburn Eagles as the home side rolled to a 32-0 win.

Yorkton took control in the opening half scoring 21 unanswered points, then added 11 more, again unanswered in the second half.

Offensively it was a pretty balanced attack, as the Raider Gridders rushed 29 times for 305 yards, while mixing in 11 completed passes for 216 yards, which combined for a total offence of 521 yards.

Weyburn did manage 261 yards of combined offence led by 166 yards rushing.

This Friday, Sept. 25 the Raider Gridders are back on the Century Field grass hosting Swift Current.

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Sprinting up-field
The YRHS Raider Gridders would rush for more than 300 yards against Weyburn Eagles. The Raider's stomped the visitors 32-0 on home field in Yorkton on Friday, Sept. 18.

Jessica Campbell takes new job with the NHL New Jersey Devils

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

Folks in Rocanville will be trading in their Kraken jerseys for Devils' ones after hometown hero Jessica Campbell has taken on the Manager of Player Development role with the NHL team. An official announcement came from New Jersey Devils' General Manager Sunny Mehta on Sept. 16 that Campbell has now joined their development staff.

After two seasons with the Seattle Kraken as their assistant coach - the first woman to hold the role in the league - Campbell's contract had expired effective April 30, freeing her to explore other options. Prior to the NHL side of the Kraken organization, Campbell spent two seasons as assistant coach for their AHL affiliate Coachella Valley Firebirds – helping them reach the Calder Cup Final in 2023 and 2024.

"For me going first or for anyone, that's not the focus," she said on the topic of being the first female assistant coach in the NHL. "That's never been my focus. I've always been reminded throughout my journey there are others watching you go and there are others that have the same goals.

"It starts with one. It takes more than that, and you'll start to see that shift and that wave. The women's game is growing tremendously. Youth hockey numbers have skyrocketed with young girls registering to play, but I think that women are going to continue to look at themselves as now coaches in the game, and it's only going to better our game on both sides, the women's side and the men's side."

JESSICA CAMPBELL

Growing up in Rocanville, Campbell got her minor hockey start in Melville playing two seasons with the Melville Prairie Fire in the Saskatchewan Female AAA Hockey League starting in 2006.

She represented Canada in international competition in several tournaments including the International Ice Hockey Federation's U-18 World Junior Championship in 2009 and 2010; and the IIHF World Championship in 2015. She won silver in 2009 and 2015, and in 2010, she led Canada to a gold medal, leading all skaters in scoring and earning MVP honours.

Campbell further illustrated her skill and on-ice prowess through four seasons at Cornell University (NCAA) starting in the 2010-11 season, serving as captain in her senior year. Campbell went on to play professionally with the Calgary Inferno (CWHL) from the 2014-15 through 2016-17 seasons. She also spent one season with the Malmo Redhawks of the Swedish Women's Division 1 league in 2019-20. Also in 2019, Campbell opened the Kelowna-based skills and development school JC Power Skating, working to develop many NHL players.

Before joining the Kraken organization, Campbell worked as an assistant coach and skills coach for the Nürnberg Ice Tigers DEL (Germany's top men's professional league) during the 2021-22 season. She also served as an assistant coach for Germany at the 2022 IIHF World Championship.

Sports Column: Q and A on eve of NHL's new season

By Bruce Penton
Sports Columnist

As the National Hockey League 2026-27 season embarks on its earliest ever start, now would be an appropriate time to dial up the annual NHL Questionnaire. All those with perfect scores can reward themselves by watching old Rock 'Em, Sock 'Em videos.

1. Connor Hellebuyck stunned the Winnipeg fan base over the summer by going public with his request for a trade out of the Manitoba capital. He did this because:
a) The Jets' blue sweaters clash with his dark hair.
b) Upset with the Jets' accounting office continually misspelling his name on his paycheques.
c) As a proud American, not thrilled with Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew's cheap shots at Trump.

2. NHL teams will each play 84 games this year, up from 82, because:
a) Owners felt the regular season just wasn't long enough.
b) If playing in June is okay, finishing the season in July will probably be better.
c) More money, baby!

3. All eyes will be on the Maple Leafs' No. 1 draft pick Gavin McKenna as he starts his NHL career because:
a) The Leafs' first Stanley Cup since 1967 is imminent.
b) Leafs' faithful looking forward to his 60- or 70-goal season.
c) He doesn't need the Air Canada Centre playing surface to be frozen for him to perform his puck miracles.

4. Cale Makar's $20 million per season contract with Colorado is:
a) Trend-setting for the NHL
b) Table-setting for future NHL contracts
c) Upsetting for Connor McDavid, who's pulling down only $12.5 million per annum.

5. Oilers' fans expect their team to contend this year because:
a) The hockey players get motivated when the Elks threaten to become the No. 1 sports draw in Edmonton
b) They have a coach with a Stanley Cup on his resumé.
c) Defensive misplays will be reduced now that Darnell Nurse has departed.

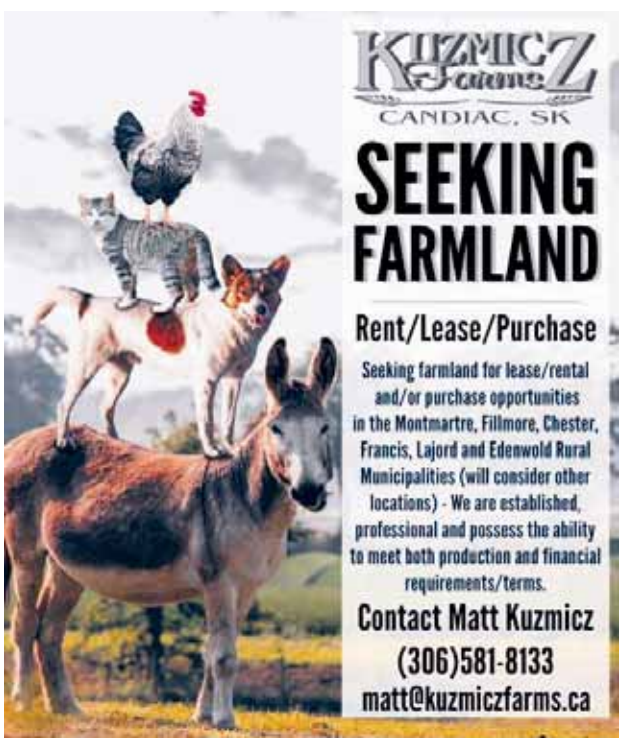
6. The Brady Tkachuk trade to Florida Panthers means that:
a) Mr. and Mrs. Tkachuk will no longer have to split their allegiances between Ottawa and Miami
b) Just for fun, the first Ottawa-Florida game this year will be a brawlfest.
c) The Panthers' 'goofball' meter will spin out of control.

7. The first Canadian team to win the Stanley Cup since 1993 will be:
a) Montreal Canadiens, because of their youthful, talented roster
b) Toronto Maple Leafs, because of the Matthews-Nylander-McKenna chemistry.
c) Vancouver Canucks, because the apocalypse is nigh.

8. The historic 'Hockey Night in Canada' has been mothballed, because the CBC won't be involved in NHL broadcasts any more, meaning that:
a) The HNIC theme music will only be heard on TSN's nightly SportsCentre wrap-ups.
b) Production can stop on those iconic white Hockey Night in Canada towels.
c) Upon hearing the news, Foster Hewitt and Danny Gallivan both rolled over in their graves.

9. In all likelihood, the biggest gains in the NHL this season will be:
a) By the San Jose Sharks, in the Western Conference standings
b) Attendance numbers in Buffalo, where the Sabres are on the rise.
c) Waistlines on fans at Rogers Centre in Edmonton, which offers at their concessions, among other treats, the three Ps — pasta, perogies, and poutine.

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca



Sports column – Darcy Gross

Gross Misconduct

There's no getting around it – autumn in Saskatchewan is simply a prelude to winter.

But for sports fans, autumn has always brought something to look forward to.

It's the beginning of another hockey season, of course, but it's also that time of year when major league baseball gets really interesting. The pennant races tighten up, the playoff picture begins to take shape and every game seems to carry a little more weight.

For those of us who have been following baseball for a few years – or perhaps decades – it's also a good time to think back to how much the game has changed.

One thing that seems to have disappeared, at least to some degree, is the nickname.

There was a time when practically every player had one. And it wasn't just the players. Entire teams were known by nicknames that became part of baseball's identity.

I can remember Willie "Pops" Stargell and Roberto Clemente and the rest of the Pittsburgh Pirates being known as "The Lumber Company." It was a great nickname for a team that could really swing the bats.

Stargell was a particular favourite. With that flick of his wrists, he could send a line drive screaming toward the outfield wall. And then there was that famous windmill motion with the bat as he waited for the pitch. You could almost sense something was about to happen.

Then there was Cincinnati's "Big Red Machine."

With "Charlie Hustle," Pete Rose, leading the way, the Reds had a lineup that seemed to have everything. Up and down the batting order, they could hit, run and put pressure on an opposing team. Some might argue that the Big Red Machine had one of the greatest one-through-eight lineups baseball has ever seen.

And baseball had plenty of other memorable team nicknames.

There were the Swingin' A's, the Bosox, the Bronx Bombers and the Amazin' Mets. You could hear one of those names mentioned on the radio or television and immediately know who was being talked about.

For those of us who can still recall Reggie Jackson was "Mr. October" and he was also known as "The Straw that Stirs the Drink". Jim Hunter was "Catfish" and Don Stanhouse had probably my favourite moniker, "Stan the Man, Unusual", a take-off on Stan "The Man" Musical. And who could forget Mark "The Bird" Fidrych.

That was part of the fun.

And the best nicknames seemed to stick because they were easy to remember and fun to say. They became part of the conversation between fans, broadcasters and print media types. You didn't need a lineup card or a box score to know who someone meant. A couple of familiar words could bring an entire team, season or favourite player to mind.

Maybe nicknames simply aren't as important in today's game. Perhaps we've become too accustomed to players being identified by statistics -- batting averages, home runs, RBIs, OPS and a seemingly endless list of other numbers with initials I can't begin to remember.

And there's nothing wrong with that. Numbers have always been part of baseball.

But back in the days of black-and-white television, when the family gathered around the set to watch the ballgame, the players and teams seemed to have a little more personality.

A nickname could tell you something. It could describe a player's style, a team's personality or simply capture a moment in time.

"The Lumber Company."

"The Big Red Machine."

"The Bronx Bombers."

"The Amazin' Mets."

Those names had a certain ring to them.

Maybe that's why, as another autumn arrives in Saskatchewan and another baseball season winds toward its conclusion, I find myself thinking about those old names and those old players.

The game has changed, just as everything else has changed. The uniforms are different, the ballparks are different, the way the game is played is different and the way we watch it is certainly different.

But every once in a while, it's nice to look back.

Because back in those days, when baseball was played under the glow of the stadium lights and watched on a little black-and-white television at home, the game seemed to have a little more colour.

And maybe, after all these years, that's what we remember most.

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Soccer action

The Sacred Heart Saints battle Yorkton Regional High School during girls' soccer action in Yorkton. The two city rivals met Sept. 15, with YRHS earning a 3-1 victory. Sacred Heart's lone goal was scored by Natalie St. Mars.

Sacred Heart girls host three home soccer games

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The Sacred Heart girls' soccer team had a busy week, hosting three home field games.

The first of the trio saw the team play its first game in Yorkton against their in-city rivals from Yorkton Regional High School.

The Sept. 15 game result was not in favour of host Sacred Heart – YRHS won 3-1.

But coach Samantha Jonassen saw positives too.

"The girls played really well as a new team," she told Grasslands News. "There are some returning players this year, but there are also many new players, both to the team and to soccer in general. At half time, one of the players commented, 'Wow, we are playing so good!'."

The Sacred Heart goal scorer was striker, Natalie St. Mars.

"We look forward to the rest of season to see how the team grows and progresses in skill," said Jonassen after the contest.

Saturday Sacred Heart hosted a pair of games.

They lost to Prince Albert in their first game in a back-and-forth match and won against Humboldt in their second game 10-1.

Goal scorers were Natalie St. Mars, Maria Yaremovich, Madelin Berge, Christina Chernoff, Alicia Mapayi and Ally Wiome.

The Saints play again on Saturday, Sept. 26, against Moose Jaw teams.

Melville Millionaires Jr. A Hockey Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
All Games 7 p.m.
unless otherwise stated
Regular Season
SEPTEMBER:
25– Melville at Melfort 7:30
26– Melfort at Melville
29– Flin Flon at Melville
OCTOBER:
02– Melville at Humboldt 7:30
03– Humboldt at Melville
09– Melville at Yorkton
10– Yorkton at Melville

Yorkton Terriers Jr. A Hockey Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
All Games 7 p.m.
unless otherwise stated
Regular Season
SEPTEMBER:
25– Yorkton at Kindersley 7:30
26– Yorkton at Kindersley 7:30
OCTOBER:
03– Flin Flon at Yorkton
04– Yorkton at Weyburn 6:00
09– Melville at Yorkton
10– Yorkton at Melville

Fort Knox Hockey Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
Regular season
SEPTEMBER:
26– Fort Knox at Pilot Butte 7:45
OCTOBER:
03– S'toon Westleys at Fort Knox 7:00
09– S'toon Royals at Fort Knox 7:30

Pilot Butte Storm Game Schedule

Home/Away Games
Regular Season
SEPTEMBER:
26– Fort Knox at Pilot Butte 7:45
30– Regina Caps at Pilot Butte 8:00
OCTOBER:
03– RPS Rebels at Pilot Butte 7:45
04– S'toon Westleys at Pilot Butte 3:45
07– Reg Silver Foxes at Pilot Butte 8:00

Bowling Scores, Standings - Yorkton Bowling

MONDAY GA

Men's High Single and Triple, Nolan Bucsis, 217, 490.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Annettta Westehaug, 174, 473.

TUESDAY YBC

Men's High Single and Triple, Liam Hutchings, 177, 483.

Ladies' High Single and Triple Rylee Krochak, 107, 239.

STS

Men's High Single and Triple, Cam Louttit, 248, 632.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Diane Maloney, 156, 414.

WEDNESDAY GA

Men's High Single and Triple, Cam Louttit,216, 560.

Ladies' High Single, Debbie Hanchuk, 167. Ladies' High Triple, D Hanchuk/K Mehling, 438

TUESDAY NIGHT

Men's High Single and Triple, Cam Louttit, 303, 771.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Sharla Schrader, 241, 586.

LEGION

Men's High Single, Nolan Bucsis, 203. Men's High Triple, Brad Woycheski, 534.

Ladies' High Single, Marcia Gruneruds, 177. Ladies' High Triple, Brenda Blommaert, 414.

HANCOCK PLUMBING

Men's High Single and Triple, Todd Vogan, 294, 785.

Ladies' High Single and Triple, Theresa McKenzie, 222, 622.

SATURDAY YBC

Men's High Single and Triple, Kayde Haas, 172, 494.

Ladies' High Single, Gayl Romyn, 176. Ladies' High Triple, Elyssa Thompson, 503.

Bowling Scores, Standings - Melville Bowl Arena

MONDAY P.M.
Sept. 14

Ladies' High Single, Angela Dobson, 176. Ladies' High Triple and Average, Mary Lou Janiskewich, 159, 478.

Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Gordon Ostlund 234, 551, 183.

Team High Single and Tripl, Ostund, 825, 2254.

Team	Pts.
Ostlund	3
Bender	1

MONDAY COMMERCIAL
Sept. 14

Ladies' High Single, Triple and Average, Brandy Lechner, 274, 740, 246.

Men's High Single, Triple and Average,Lucas Litzenberger, 283, 725, 241.

Team High Single, Professional Amateurs, 1404. Team High Triple, Split Happpens, 3608.

Team	Pts.
Pinheads	2
Split Happens	3
Professional Amateurs	1
That Was Close	2

ST. HENRY'S
Sept. 15

Ladies' High Single, Triple and Average, Pat Brown, 197, 546, 182.

Men's High Single, Triple and Average, Joe Wu, 191, 524, 174.

Team High Single and Triple, CKJ, 1241, 3603.

Team	Pts.
Just 4 Fun	2.5
CCJ	1.5
A Team	4

THURSDAY YBC
Sept. 17

Girls High Single and Triple, Amzlee Patterson, 152, 382.

Boys High Single, Alex Kohlenberg, 205. Boys High Triple, Braxton Hollinger, 517.

Team High Single and Triple, Hollinger, 935 2579.

Team	Pts.
Curylo	6
Kohlenberg	5.5
Hollinger	4
Patterson	3.5
Rydzik	2.5
Nelson	0.5

SATURDAY YBC
Sept. 19

Girls High Single and Triple, Laura Smidt, 156, 365.

Boys High Single, Rowan Morgan, 171, 449.

Team High Single and Triple, Herbert, 831, 2376.

Team	Pts.
Faye	7
Herbert	5
Davise	2
Smidt	2

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Exhibition games wrap in PJHL – season begins Sept. 23

Fort Knox take two losses, Pilot Butte Storm 1-1

By Ryan Kiedrowski
Grasslands News

The Prairie Co-op Rexentre was one busy place for pre-season PJHL hockey with four games over Sept. 19 and 20.

The party kicked off with a Pilot Butte Storm vs Regina Silver Foxes Saturday afternoon match up, which saw the Storm claim a 5-3 win over the Foxes.

The Storm jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the opening frame with Jaxon Skiftun and Carter Hirsch tickling the twine just 25 seconds apart. Regina answered with a goal from Corson Rathwell, but Pilot Butte carried a 2-1 lead into the first intermission.

The middle frame saw pilot Butte double up on that lead thanks to a second lamplighter from Hirsch seconds into the new period, and a goal from Tavyn Boychuk. Silver Fox Ryden Amberson would narrow the lead to 4-2 with his goal, but the Storm had the extra man advantage in the final minute of the frame, capped with a power play goal from Luke Hanrieder.

An almost silent third period – save a Regina goal from Brady Gronnerud – assured the W for Pilot Butte.

As for Saturday night, the hometown Knox hit the ice to entertain the Regina Capitals. The entire game was neck-and-neck excitement, matching points as time on the scoreboard ticked away.

Fort Knox initiated the race, thanks to a goal from Tanner Wiens halfway through the frame, answered by Regina's Brady Ruhr before the stanza concluded.

Middle frame action would see the Caps take the lead with a Turner Knockaert goal at 14:28, but Wiens returned with a brace to tie the match two-all with two minutes left on the clock.

As the third period wound down, it looked as though this game might flow into OT territory, but Regina's Ethan Boehm managed a shorthanded goal with 2:21 in the game for the lead. Try as they might, the Fort Knox just couldn't muster an answer, with the 3-2 score becoming a final in the Caps' favour.

The following afternoon would see the Fort Knox take a crack at those Silver Foxes of the Queen City. However, the cards just were not in the hometown's favour as Regina piled on three goals before Fort Knox could break the goose egg. Halfway through the second period, Maddox Temple found his stride with a beauty of a power play goal, followed by a Chase Yakimoski lamplighter to bring Fort Knox close to the tie. However, Easton Waldner would nab the game winner for the Silver Foxes late in the final frame, doubling the lead for a 4-2 final.

The Storm faced a similar fate that same evening facing the Capitals, down three goals before Carter Hirsch could get Pilot Butte on the board a few minutes into the middle frame. Regina would go on to add some distance with goals from Brayson Agopsowicz and Cruz Klapak for a 5-1 lead.

Third period action saw the Storm mount a comeback, ultimately falling short despite a deuce from Tristan Brownridge, his second twine tingler on the power play with 16 seconds in the game. Alas, the Caps would take another W out of Fort Qu'Appelle with their 5-3 victory over the Storm.

Now that the exhibition games are through, both teams can brush off their experiences and focus on the matchups that matter. The two local teams will face each other in the Storm's home opener on Sept. 26 at the Pilot Butte Recreation Centre. Puck drops at 7:45 p.m.

RYAN KIEDROWSKI I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Puck control

Fort Knox's Holden Wasacase tries to shake a Regina Silver Fox defender as he takes control of the puck during an afternoon exhibition game at the Prairie Co-op Rexentre on Sunday, Sept. 20. Regina would take a 4-2 win over Fort Knox.

Terriers edge Bruins

continued from page 19

At 11:53 Gunner Moore finally put the Bruins on the score sheet.

In the third Estevan looked like they might threaten a comeback when Lochlan Tetarenko scored 58-seconds in to make it 3-2.

But it was all Terriers the rest of the way.

Mathys Morrissette at 3:13, Horbachewsky with his second of the contest at 9:44, and Jake Briltz at 14:10 scored to round out a 6-2 season opening Terriers' victory.

Creig recorded the win in the Terriers' net facing 27-shots, while Dylan Adams was tagged with the loss facing 29 shots.

The next scheduled home game for the Terrier's is Satuday, Oct. 3 against the Flin Flon Bombers at 7 p.m.

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Vibank Judo athletes receive recognition

By Ashley Scarfe
Grasslands News

It was an exciting evening in Pense on Sept. 12 as Judo Saskatchewan gathered to recognize outstanding athletes and volunteers at its annual awards banquet.

Two Vibank-area judoka were among those honoured, with Vibank resident Eva Kanasevich of the U of R Varsity Judo Club recognized for her achievements on the mat, while Sensei Kate Schneider of the Vibank Judo Club was honoured for her years of dedication to the organization.

Kanasevich - formerly of the Vibank Judo Club - took home the U14 Female Athlete of the Year award, capping off a successful competition season. She was also named runner-up in the U16 category.

Chris Dornstauder, U of R Judo coach, says he has watched Kanasevich's performance transform and grow over the past year and is excited to see what her future in the sport holds.

"At the fall camp this past weekend, we spent some time watching her train, and if she does what I think she can, then this year will be even more exciting as her technique, her Judo IQ and her physical abilities reach new levels," he says. "She's a true competitor, and many of her best performances are still to come."

While Kanasevich's judo career is beginning to take off, Schneider was recognized for a legacy in the sport that has continued to grow over the decades.

Schneider received the Recognition of Service Award, honouring her 16 years of dedication to Judo Saskatchewan as its registrar.

During the banquet, Shala Kanasevich, treasurer of Judo Saskatchewan and Eva's mother, praised Schneider for her work within the organization and her commitment to ensuring judo continues to have a home in the Vibank community.

"Through periods of growth, change, challenges, and success, she has been a dependable and trusted presence," Kanasevich said. "Her dedication behind the scenes has helped keep our organization running smoothly, and her attention to detail, professionalism, and commitment have been truly invaluable."

In addition to teaching the next generation of judoka at Vibank Judo Club, Schneider holds a fifth-degree black belt, or Godan, and continues to compete in kata at tournaments.

"Her years in the sport reflect a deep commitment to the principles of judo, continuous learning, and personal excellence," Kanasevich said. "Through her leadership, experience, and example, she has earned the respect and admiration of those around her."

For the Vibank judo community, the evening recognized two athletes at very different points in their journeys: one building a name for herself on the competition circuit and another whose decades of dedication have helped make that journey possible for the generations following her.

SUBMITTED I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Recognition given

Two members of the Vibank judo community were recognized for their achievements and dedication to the sport at the Judo Saskatchewan annual awards banquet on Sept. 12. Vibank resident Eva Kanasevich, right, was named U14 Female Athlete of the Year and runner-up in the U16 category, recognizing a successful season on the mat. Sensei Kate Schneider, centre, of the Vibank Judo Club was honoured with the Recognition of Service Award for her 16 years of dedication to Judo Saskatchewan as its registrar.

SUBMITTED I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Senior Champions

The Echo Ridge Senior Men's Club wrapped up their 2026 season on Thursday, Sept. 17 with a Championship Tournament and dinner at Echo Ridge Golf Course. This year's winner for the Seniors Championship Low Gross was Kevin Benson, left, while Walter Duncan, right, received the trophy for Low Net.

Published Fridays

grasslandsnews.ca

TOWN OF QU'APPELLE COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 123(2) The Municipalities Act

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF QU'APPELLE WILL AT THEIR REGULAR MEETING BE DISCUSSING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Rezoning Parcel C, Plan 102019586

TO BE HELD ON Thursday, October 8th, 2026, at 5:45pm in COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Dated this 18th day of September 2026.

Michelle Williamson,
Chief Administrative Officer

Notice of Nominations for Members of Area Authority

The Lorlie West Conservation and Development Area. No. 26

Public Notice

is hereby given that for a period of fourteen days after the date stated hereunder, I will accept duly completed written nominations of owners or occupants of land in the area for membership of the area authority. The number of vacancies to be filled is 3 and forms of nomination papers may be obtained from the undersigned.

Completed nomination papers may be mailed or delivered to me at NE 36-21-10 W2 or P.O. Box 760, Balcarres, SK S0G 0C0.

Date of commencement of the fourteen day period: 25th day of September, 2026.

Dated at Balcarres, Sask. this 21st day of September, 2026.

Lionel Stilborn, Returning Officer

RM of Elcapo No. 154

Notice of Call for Nominations

(General Election)

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

Reeve: Rural Municipality of Elcapo No.154
Councillor: Division No. 2
Rural Municipality of Elcapo No.154
Councillor: Division No. 4
Rural Municipality of Elcapo No.154
Councillor: Division No. 6
Rural Municipality of Elcapo No.154

will be received by the undersigned on the 5th day of October, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. est at the Municipal Administration Office 609 Main Street Broadview, Saskatchewan, and During regular business hours on the 13th day of September to the 5th day of October, 2026, at the Municipal Administration Office, 609 Main Street, Broadview, Saskatchewan.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location: Municipal Administration Office, 609 Main Street, Broadview, Saskatchewan

Dated this 18th day of September, 2026.

Chantelle Outhwaith,
Returning Officer

RM of Silverwood No. 123
Invites Applications for the Position of

EXPERIENCED HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

The R.M. of Silverwood No. 123 is now accepting applications for an experienced full-time heavy equipment operator.

Eligible applicants should have knowledge of road maintenance and construction, equipment operation, and have a basic mechanical aptitude. Additional duties may include culvert installation, equipment repairs, signage and shop work as well as others. The holding of a Class 1A license would be an asset. Salary will be negotiated based on experience and qualifications.

Please forward resumes stating experience, qualifications and references by October 6th to:

RM of Silverwood No. 123
P.O. Box 700
Whitewood, SK S0G 5C0
Phone: 306-735-2500
Email: rm123@sasktel.net

The RM wishes to thank all applicants for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Village of Edenwold

NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

(Municipal By-Election)

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

Village of Edenwold:
Number to be elected: Councillor, (1)

Will be received by the undersigned on Wednesday, 14th day of October, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Village office,

And

During regular business hours September 23rd to October 13th, 2026 at the Village office. (Regular business hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.)

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location:

Village of Edenwold Office,
128 Chamberlain Street,
Edenwold, SK

Dated this 21st day of September, 2026.

Christine L. Galbraith
Returning Officer

CONNIE SCHWALM I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Bump-up

Last Friday and Saturday (Sept. 18 & 19) the Kipling School Senior Girls (Red) Volleyball team hosted their first home tournament. Throughout both days the Magyars displayed their skill, spirit and determination on the volleyball court and placed fourth in the standings at the end of the event.

SUBMITTED I GRASSLANDS NEWS

2026 Senior Volleyball Team

The Kipling Senior Grils Volleyball team finished fourth in the two-day tournament. Front row, from left, are, Avery Daku, Nigella Logrono, Brianna Labawig, Nora Rygh, Lia Pretorius and Halle Balon. Back row, from left, are, Mr. Shoemaker, Mrs. Olson, Kaleena Strnad, Paisley Trail, Shayla Byrnell, Olivia Byrnell, Dawson Shoemaker, Tennessee Kish and Mr. Luff.

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

Rural Municipality of Cana #214
Province of Saskatchewan

Notice is hereby given under the *Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before the 25th day of November, 2026, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

NOTE: A sum for advertising 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

Part of Lot / Part of Section	Lot / Sec.	Blk. / Tp.	Plan / Range	Mer.	Title Number	Total Arrears	Advertising Costs	Total Arrears & Costs
SW	24	22	4	2	141484541	$1,059.11	$9.20	$1,068.31
		B	84Y10470		152853420	$2,758.81	$9.20	$2,768.01
		C	89Y08856		142428821	$4,692.47	$9.20	$4,701.67
		A	101752051		143705831	$2,090.81	$9.20	$2,100.01
		A	101684178		139030949	$515.70	$9.20	$524.90
		A	102163160		146157521	$321.38	$9.20	$330.58
		A	101670870		151277575	$185.38	$9.20	$194.58
		A	69Y01324		139365670	$38.26	$9.20	$47.46
		A	69Y02128		153252974	$935.41	$9.20	$944.61
NE	28	24	5	2	112065746	$706.89	$9.20	$716.09
NW	28	24	5	2	112065724	$724.14	$9.20	$733.34
SE	28	24	5	2	112065689	$464.43	$9.20	$473.63
	5	2	W2614		145352796	$1,218.58	$18.40	$1,236.98
	6	2	W2614		145352819			
	13	2	W2614		124156391	$468.97	$36.80	$505.77
	14	2	W2614		124156403			
	15	2	W2614		124156414			
	16	2	W2614		124156425			
	27	2	W2614		156116785	$539.26	$27.60	$566.86
	28	2	W2614		156116796			
	29	2	W2614		156116808			

Dated this 25th day of September, 2026. Kali Apps, Administrator

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

Rural Municipality of Wolseley No. 155

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

Notice is hereby given under *The Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before the 25th day of November, 2025, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

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

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Part of Lot / Part of Section	Lot / Sec.	Blk. / Twp.	/ Rge.	Plan / Meridian	Title No.	Total Arrears	Costs Advertising	Total Arrears & Costs
NE	16	16	10	2	149045025	$1,205.35	$14.75	$1,220.10
SE	21	16	10	2	127196321	$2,286.47	$14.75	$2,301.22
NE	22	16	10	2	142231766	$1,539.22	$14.75	$1,553.97
SE	22	16	10	2	135531356	$1,253.19	$14.75	$1,267.94
SW	22	16	10	2	135531378	$1,855.96	$14.75	$1,870.71
NE	27	16	10	2	149052269	$1,963.58	$14.75	$1,978.33
SE	27	16	10	2	149044888	$1,847.05	$14.75	$1,876.55
SE	27	16	10	2	149044934		$14.75	
SW	27	16	10	2	149052326	$2,150.40	$14.75	$2,165.15
NW	31	16	10	2	107360344	$1,601.31	$14.75	$1,616.06
SW	31	16	10	2	146826333	$1,697.58	$14.75	$1,712.33
SE	34	16	10	2	149052270	$976.93	$14.75	$991.68
SW	34	16	10	2	149052304	$2,029.84	$14.75	$2,044.59
		A		101224369	113595486	$27.77	$14.75	$42.52
		A		101232931	148602797	$603.18	$14.75	$617.93
SE	10	17	10	2	149044990	$1,680.51	$14.75	$1,695.26
NW	21	17	10	2	135557646	$1,647.64	$14.75	$1,662.39
NE	30	17	10	2	158076636	$1,579.21	$14.75	$1,593.96
SE	30	17	10	2	158076647	$1,301.38	$14.75	$1,316.13
		A		101221063	140440272	$426.67	$14.75	$441.42
SE	15	18	10	2	157406171	$321.15	$14.75	$350.65
SE	15	18	10	2	157406160		$14.75	
		A		101864606	145236337	$3,296.48	$14.75	$3,311.23

Dated this 25th day of September, 2026 at Wolseley, SK. Dawn Oehler, Administrator

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

RM OF NORTH QU'APPELLE NO. 187

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 November 25, 2026, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.

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

Description of Property	Title No.	Total Arrears*	Costs	Total Arrears and Costs
BLK/PAR A-PLAN 101314527 EXT 8	155357758	$2,495.18	$462.00	$2,957.18
NW 26-21-14-2 EXT 0	137045808	$1,586.62	$398.00	$1,984.62
SE 35-21-14-2 EXT 64	137045752	$2,833.13	$398.00	$3,231.13
SW 35-21-14-2 EXT 0	137045796	$2,030.19	$398.00	$2,428.19
LOT 20-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 65R30330 EXT 0	135262986	$802.88	$462.00	$1,264.88

*Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.

Dated this 22nd day of September, 2026. Charmain Wowk, Administrator

PUBLIC NOTICE

Rural Municipality of Kingsley No. 124

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the R.M. of Kingsley No. 124 intends to adopt **Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1-2026** (OCP) and **Zoning Bylaw No. 2-2026** under The Planning and Development Act, 2007. Once adopted, the new OCP and Zoning Bylaw will replace the existing Bylaw No. 1-1998 and Bylaw No. 2-1998, respectively.

Intent

The proposed OCP and Zoning Bylaw will establish a policy and regulatory framework for guiding land use, economic, environmental, social and cultural development as well as the delivery of infrastructure, services, and utilities in the RM. The purpose of the new bylaws is to comply with Provincial legislation, the Statements of Provincial Interest and to ensure future development aligns with RM priorities. The Zoning Bylaw will include the following zoning districts that provide standards for development within specific areas within the municipality. They are summarized as follows:

AR – Agricultural Resource District: which is intended to provide for agricultural land uses and for low density residential development and other compatible developments.

RR- Rural Residential District: which is to provide opportunities for the subdivision and development of smaller non-farm residential sites in appropriate locations within the RM.

M1 – Commercial- Industrial District: which is intended to provide for commercial and industrial land uses and other compatible developments.

EC – Environmental Conservation District: which is to protect environmentally sensitive and ecologically valuable lands. The EC Zoning District may also be applied to hazardous lands, such as those prone to instability, flooding, or nearby to hazardous uses.

Affected Land

All land within the RM boundaries. The OCP also includes inter-municipal policies for collaborating with neighbouring municipalities and other partners in the region.

Public Inspection

Any person may inspect the bylaws at the RM office during regular office hours Monday to Thursday from 8:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

Public Hearing

Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 10th, 2026 at 10:00 am in the Council Chambers at 603 Main Street, Kipling, SK, to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaws. Council will also consider any comments that are received in writing at the office or emailed to rm124@sasktel.net by 2:00 pm the day prior to the hearing.

Issued in the Town of Kipling this 18th day of September, 2026.

Holly Heikkila, Administrator

Sunny Side Up

I never did enjoy dental appointments

By Kathleen Gibson
Grasslands News

"I'd like dentures, please." I would have gotten on my knees, but I had a lead weight on my chest.

"Nah," the dentist responded, after the technician removed the grey bib and he'd inspected my x-rays. "You're nowhere needing those. It would be like buying a house with a few bad windows, so you decided to tear it down and build a new one instead."

Well. When you put it that way. But I didn't like the alternatives either. Bridges. Implants. Lots of metal wires. Removals. Torture all along, I felt.

I've disliked dental appointments ever since childhood traumas involving a brutal dentist who had no clue how to treat children. As the years passed, each appointment, especially with a new dentist, brought panic. (Though in truth, I've traumatized a few dentists themselves with my reactions to their treatments.)

Reluctantly, I've visited several dentists since Dr. Jack died. Gentle Jack, a teddy bear of a man I came to trust. A man I considered a friend after almost three decades of his treatments.

So last week, in a different practice for a necessary extraction, I settled in the chair, plugged in my earbuds and tapped my classical music app. Trying to fully relax, understand, while knowing my blood pressure was already high. And that in a few minutes, heavy machinery operated by a tiny person less than half my age would have its way inside my mouth.

Calming music filled my senses. Just before the machines started up, I looked down to see the name and composer of the piece. Horrified, I held the screen up to show the dentist and technician.

'Come, Sweet Death,' by J.S. Bach. Our mutual chuckle, slightly uneasy, helped me. I think.

It took over an hour, and help from a second dentist, to yank that molar out. It exited in pieces. I don't blame it. After most of a century, we were pretty attached to each other. Almost a week later, I'm still hurting. Still dreaming of dentures. And grateful that the scheduled bridge construction won't start for several months.

In Jesus' day, it seems there were no dedicated dentists in his culture. Just physicians who used herbs and primitive tools. I wonder if he ever had a toothache. If he got cavities or had any teeth knocked out. I don't know. Perhaps. He was fully human as well as fully God, after all. But I'm pretty sure of this. When J.S. Bach composed 'Come, Sweet Death', he was surely sitting in a dentist chair.

Whitewood Craft and Trade Show returns Saturday, October 3

By Elaine Ashfield
Grasslands News

Fall will bring a day of shopping, visiting and discovering local talent to Whitewood when the community hosts its annual Craft and Trade Show on Saturday, Oct. 3.

The show will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Whitewood Community Center Curling Rink, bringing together a variety of vendors, crafters, home-based businesses and local creators under one roof.

Organizers are expecting a wide variety of booths this year, giving visitors an opportunity to browse everything from handmade and unique items to products and services, such as the photo booth being advertised that is new this year amongst the many booths offered by area businesses and vendors. Whether shoppers are looking for something special for themselves, getting an early start on Christmas shopping or simply interested in seeing what local creators have to offer, the show promises plenty to explore.

The annual event also provides an opportunity to support small businesses, entrepreneurs and craftspeople from Whitewood and the surrounding area. Fall craft and trade shows have traditionally been a popular way for local vendors to introduce their products to new customers while giving residents a chance to shop closer to home.

There is still an opportunity for vendors interested in taking part. Table rentals are $40, and anyone wishing to reserve a space can contact Whitewood Recreation at recreation@townofwhitewood.ca or 306-735-4415.

With a variety of booths, unique finds, local creators and the addition of a photo booth, organizers are encouraging residents from Whitewood and surrounding communities to mark Saturday, Oct. 3 on their calendars and spend some time enjoying the community's fall Craft and Trade Show.

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, Sept. 27:
11 a.m. Worship at St. Paul's and Sunday School

–– at Neudorf/Lemberg --

Saturday, Sept. 26:
*7 p.m.Worship at Trinity Lemb
Sunday, Sept. 27:
*9 a.m. Worship at Christ Neud

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH
Corner 6th Ave. E. & Main St.
306-720-0589
**Services Every Second Sunday*
Sept. 27: Eucharist Worship

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
5th Ave. E. & King St.
Rev. Brian Mee, 306-335-7611
website: firstunitedmelville.org
Sunday, Sept. 27:
11:00 a.m. Worship Service with Warren Crossman

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
Sept. 24: 7 p.m. Bible Study
Sept. 25: 7 p.m. Ignite Youth
Sept. 26: 10 a.m. Men's Coffee
Sept. 27: 10:30 a.m. Worship
Sept. 29: 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, Sept. 27:
4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy
Saturday, Oct. 3:
7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy

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

Melville Churches Welcome You

BETHANY EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH
5th Ave. W. & Queen St.
Church Office Ph. 306-728-5001
Sunday, Sept. 27:
Worship 10:30 a.m.

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: zlcpastor@myaccess.ca
www.zionlutheranmelville.com
Sunday, Sept. 27:
11:00 a.m. Divine Service

Church of the Lutheran Hour heard Sundays at 9 a.m. on 940 CJGX Radio, Yorkton

Whitewood & Area Churches Welcome You

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

EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY
Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Service – 10:30 a.m.
Friday Youth Group – 7 p.m.
Wednesday ALPHA with Supper 6 p.m., Video/Discussion
Thursday Prayer Meeting - 7 p.m.
Rev. Dr. James R. Graham

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Nimorious Kwabena Domanzing
Sunday, Sept. 27:
11:00 a.m. Mass

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Sunday, Sept. 27: Holy Eucharist w/The Rev. Cheryl Toth 10:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WAPELLA
Sunday, Sept. 27:
No Worship Service

WHITEWOOD UNITED CHURCH
Sunday, Sept. 27:
2:30 p.m Comm. Service w/Rev. Roy Bortolotto

Growing in Faith Together

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
306-510-9793
Sunday, Sept. 27:
9:00 a.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

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

Fort Qu'Appelle Churches Welcome You

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

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

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

AN INSIDE JOB

"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, createdto be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

-Ephesians 4:22-24 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, SK
"Services in English"
www.stmarkyorkton.ca
Come and experience the faith of the apostles
IC XC NI KA
Saturday, Sept. 26th - Vespers 6:00 PM
Sunday, Sept. 27th - Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Priest: Rodion Luciuk Phone: 306-786-6216 Cell: 306-621-5341
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Holy Transfiguration Ukrainian Orthodox Church
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306-782-2998
Father Roman Kocur • (226) 347-8226
Friday, Sept. 25: Perogy Supper - 5:00PM - Yorkton
Sunday, Sept. 27: Divine Lithurgy - 9:30AM - Sheho

Services

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TUESDAY
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. – 1 - 5:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 1 - 5 p.m.
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
THURSDAY
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 1 - 5:30 p.m.
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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

Marlene Beutler

Oct. 26, 1944 – Sept. 11, 2026

Marlene passed away peacefully on Friday, Sept. 11, 2026, at the Southeast Integrated Care Centre in Moosomin, SK. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Marlene was born on Oct. 26, 1944, to James and Aily Abel in Wapella, SK. She grew up on a farm outside of Wapella and attended Wapella School. Growing up she enjoyed spending time with her grandparents, Severus and Amanda Kangas, who lived in New Finland north of Wapella. In 1959 Marlene's father passed away, and she moved into Wapella with her mother and sister Elaine. After high school, she moved to Moosomin to work at the bank.

Marlene met her husband, Edward Beutler, when her roommate, Shirley Ikert, who was Ed's first cousin, introduced them. He knew right away that she was the one for him, and they were married on June 15, 1963. They settled on a farm outside of Whitewood where they spent many years in the business of farming. In 1964 they welcomed their daughter, Diana, into their family, and in 1968 another daughter, Janice, and in 1972 a son, Jason.

Marlene spent most of her life on the farm participating in the operation of the farm and raising her children. She loved to read and would make weekly trips to the library, coming home with a bag full of books. In the summer, Marlene tended to her large garden and kept brightly coloured flowerbeds. She enjoyed all the orange cats on the farm and went to the barn to feed and pet them each day.

Marlene was a member of the Whitewood Evangelical Church, and her church family was an important part of her life. She was a devoted Christian, and her faith sustained her throughout her life.

In 2016 Jason and his wife, Tammy, and their sons, Alex and Nathan, moved to the farm and began working alongside them. Marlene and Ed began to travel more. They enjoyed travelling to British Columbia, Alabama, California, Arizona, Florida and Texas. One highlight was a trip she took to Finland with her daughter, Janice. Marlene and Ed also travelled to Jamaica with Diana and her girls a few years later. To celebrate their 50th Anniversary, they invited their children and their families to spend Christmas together in Cancun.

Marlene was extremely healthy all her life. She was not on any medications until after she was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2022. She required extensive spinal surgery at that time but recovered very quickly and was soon pain free. Marlene later had a fall and broke her hip but recovered very quickly and did not even use a walker afterwards. She then moved to the Cobblestone House, where she spent the last year and a half in her own one-bedroom apartment and made many wonderful friends.

Marlene was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer that had metastasized only a week before she passed away. She never had any pain and passed very peacefully. She epitomized the Finnish concept of sisu great determination in the face of adversity as she showed strength and dignity in the face of serious illnesses at the end of her life.

Marlene was predeceased by her parents and her husband, Edward. She is survived by her sister, Elaine Hamilton; her daughter, Diana (Darcy); her daughter, Janice (Robert); and her son, Jason (Tammy). She will be missed by her grandchildren, Xanthe, Chantara, Madeline, Eric, Alex and Nathan, and great-grandchildren, Will, Mira and Nora.

Funeral service was held on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026, at the Whitewood Evengelical Missionary Church, with Rev. John Houtman and Rev. James Graham officiating. Pianist Linda Houtman led the congregation in the hymns, the eulogist was Chantara Lerner, and Xanthe Lerner delivered the readings. Interment took place in the Whitewood Cemetery with Alex Beutler, Nathan Beutler, Dale Beutler, Brent Murray, James Murray, Reid Basnicki and Will Basnicki acting as pallbearers.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home Melville and Whitewood.

MATTHEWS Funeral Home

Obituary

Darryl "Butch" Hudy

Feb. 8, 1954 – Aug. 31, 2026

Darryl "Butch" Hudy passed away Monday, Aug. 31, 2026, at the age of 72 years.

Butch was born Feb. 8, 1954, in Melville, SK, where he was raised. He kept busy with hockey, football, the militia, cruising around and listening to 8-tracks, and collecting LPs. Butch was a proud militia cadet, but getting home from basic summer training in Wainwright (and later Vernon) was an issue. But Butch was pretty resourceful and soon realized that hitchhiking wearing his uniform guaranteed a ride. There was not a single parent who would not stop for these young men. He always arrived home safe and well fed.

Butch also worked various jobs, including driving school bus and working at Townsend Funeral Home. He eventually hired on to the railroad and worked for CN Rail for 35 years until his retirement in 2009.

It was in high school that Butch met the love of his life, Gwen Schindel. One day, her beautiful yellow dress caught his eye, and he always said it was love at first sight. She was immediately swept off her feet, and they were never apart again. They were married in 1975 and spent more than five decades together, celebrating their 51st wedding anniversary on Aug. 16, 2026. Together, they built a life filled with family, hard work, laughter, friendship, and countless memories.

In 1988, with the help of his father, and many good friends, Butch built a cabin at Crooked Lake. It was his pride and joy, and every inch reflected his hard work and handiwork. Butch, Gwen, Sara and Steven enjoyed many amazing summers at the cabin until Butch and Gwen made the lake their permanent home in 2001.

Butch always said Crooked Lake was the most beautiful place on earth and wondered why anyone would want to go anywhere else. He rarely did. He loved every season there fishing, boating, golfing, working on endless projects, and enjoying a good happy hour. One of his greatest joys was sharing the lake with his four grandchildren, whom he loved dearly. He taught each of them to fish and proudly mounted their first catches on the wall.

Butch was also incredibly fortunate to have a remarkable group of close, lifelong friends. That kind of friendship is rare, and it meant so much to him. To all his friends, we hope you know how special you were to Butch. The stories, laughs, adventures, and good times you shared with him were some of the greatest gifts of his life.

Butch was predeceased by his parents, Joy and Steve Hudy, and brother-in-law Gerald "Chuck" Newmeyer. He leaves to mourn: his beloved wife, Gwen; daughter Sara (Kevin) McLeod and granddaughters Fiona and Carys; son Steven (Melissa) Hudy and grandsons Jack and Blake; sister Marsha (Darryl) McCallum; and many brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, cousins, nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Butch will be remembered for his strength, hardworking hands, loyalty to his friends, love of Crooked Lake, and, most of all, his love and devotion to his family. His legacy is the life he built with Gwen, the family they raised, the home he created, the friendships he cherished, and the memories he leaves behind.

While he will be deeply missed, we can picture Butch where he was happiest at Crooked Lake, surrounded by family and good friends.

Butch's life was celebrated on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Melville, with interment taking place at a later date.

Arrangements were entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home, Melville.

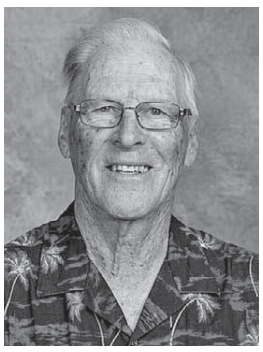
MATTHEWS Funeral Home

Classified and Obituary Deadline
Tuesdays at 12 noon
email: production2@grasslandsnews.ca

Obituary

Robert Eugene 'Gene' Griffith

July 18, 1935 – Aug. 26, 2026



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Gene on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2026 at the age of 91. A celebration of life will be held at the hall in Atwater, SK on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

Special thank you's go out to April Antic (Granny's Girl) for her care, support and companionship to Dad and our family over the past two years. We are also appreciative to the doctors and staff on Unit 4A at the Pasqua Hospital in Regina; Unit 3 Med-Surg at the Cypress Regional Hospital in Swift Current and the Cypress House Care Home in Swift Current for their care of Dad in his last two months.

Flowers gratefully declined and in lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Gene can be made to the Morris Lodge Personal Care Home at Bangor SK: P.O. Box 54 Bangor SK S0A 0E0 or a charity or organization of your choice.

Funeral arrangements are in care of Parkside Memorial Funeral Home – Ryan Cappelle, Hayden Cappelle, Bob Cappelle.

Obituary

Barbara Gayle Koroluk

Oct. 18, 1958 – Sept. 12, 2026

The family of Barbara Gayle Koroluk sadly announce her passing on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2026 at the age of 67. Barb was born in Yorkton on Oct. 18, 1958. She was the oldest of three children to Mike and Isabelle Lys.

Her early years were lived in Sturgis before the family moved to Yorkton. As a child and teenager, Barb was involved in Youth Bowling where twice she was on Team Saskatchewan competing at nationals. She played both fastball and ice hockey and she was a lifeguard and swim instructor. Barb graduated from Sacred Heart High School in Yorkton and completed a diploma in Renewable Resources from Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon. It was at Kelsey that Barb met Bob Koroluk and they were wed in 1981. Barb and Bob lived their entire marriage in Regina, where they raised their three children, Laura born in 1985, Steven in 1987, and Jeffrey in 1991.

Barb's "happy place" was always Crystal Lake where she has spent most of her summers since 1965. Barb was fiercely loyal to her close friends, staying in contact with them for life. Barb was devoted to her family, being the pillar upon whom family events were organized. Barb was dedicated to her children, being Guide leader, Band chaperone, school field trip chaperone, and sports team manager for her children's activities. Barb loved planning holidays. Everyone trusted that she would find the best travel destinations, routes, and activities. Barb was also an artist, a nature enthusiast, a landscaper, and many other wonderful things that added joy to her life and to the lives of those around her.

Barb was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2022. Her treatment, often debilitating, never slowed her down. She always said she was "living with cancer, not dying from cancer." Barb leaves behind her husband of 45 years, Bob Koroluk, her children and grandchildren – Laura (Kris Gendall), Anna and Jacob Gendall; Steven (Michelle Gagnon), Eva and Eleanor Koroluk; Jeffrey Koroluk. She also leaves behind: parents, Mike and Isabelle Lys; sister Cheryl (George) Thompson; brother Colin (Leslie) Lys; mother-in-law Nellie Koroluk; sisters-in-law Sandra Hunchuk, Cynthia (Paul) Beaubien, Brenda Grazier; brother-in-law Nick Koroluk. Barb also leaves many very special nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Barb was predeceased by her father-in-law, Gust Koroluk and brother-in-law Cliff Grazier.

The Memorial Service was held on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026 from the Yorkton Memorial Gardens Family Centre, Yorkton, SK with Rev. Luanne Hrywkiw officiating. The eulogy was delivered by Carole Morsky and Carol Erickson. Cheryl Thompson read scripture. The urn bearer was Colin Lys. Memorial donations may be made to the Crystal Lake Legacy Fund (Yorkton & District Community Fund c/o Cheryl Denesowych Box 1604 Yorkton, SK S3N 3L2) as gifts of remembrance. Condolences may be left for the family at www.baileysfuneralhome.com

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

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Obituary

Muriel Margaret Schultz

Dec. 19, 1937 – Sept. 11, 2026

Muriel Margaret Schultz (née Armbruster), beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend, passed away surrounded by the love of her family on Friday, Sept. 11, 2026. Born on Dec. 19, 1937, in the Neudorf community, Muriel was the eldest child of John and Lena Armbruster.

Muriel grew up in the Neudorf area alongside her siblings, Duane, Clarence, and Sandra. A gifted student, she attended Ulmer School in Neudorf and was known for completing 12 years of learning in just eight years. Her inquisitive nature and attention to detail even earned her the nickname "teacher's pet".

At a dance in Killaly, Muriel met the love of her life, Wilfred Schultz. After seven years of courtship, they were married on July 22, 1963. Together they built a life rooted in love, faith, hard work, and family. Wilfred often joked that he had taken "the best part of Neudorf" and moved it to Grayson, where they established their home and raised their family on the original Schultz homestead southwest of Grayson.

Muriel was truly a woman of many talents. As a devoted homemaker, she managed the daily tasks of farm and family life with skill and dedication. She became known for her cream, exceptional cottage cheese, and caring attention to the chicken, cattle and dairy operation. A master seamstress, knitter, quilt maker and craft maker, Muriel poured creativity and love into everything she made. Her family fondly remembers the prize-winning Halloween costumes she crafted year after year or baby blankets that she dedicated to several of her grandchildren (as long as she was still able to do so).

Resourceful, determined, and extraordinarily hardworking, Muriel was the person who could solve any problem she set her mind to. She approached life's challenges with perseverance and practicality, qualities that inspired everyone who knew her. Coffee was always on for her friends both east and west of the family farm.

Faith, community, and service were important parts of Muriel's life. She served as a council board member at Neudorf Christ Lutheran Church and as a leader in St. Mary's Parish Women's Group in Grayson. She also enjoyed fellowship and friendship through the Melville quilting and crocheting club and the women's bowling league.

Muriel found joy in quilting, crocheting while watching her favorite game shows, sewing for her family, crafting and listening to Charlie Pride while quietly playing solitaire in her bedroom and besting Wilfred at cribbage. Another big source of pride for Muriel was sharing her talents through the delicious soups she prepared for Nellie's Bakery.

Left to cherish her memory are her loving husband, Wilfred Schultz; her sister, Sandra Schlamp; her children, Timothy (Brenda) Schultz, Cathy (Bernard) Gerhardt, Bradley (Heidi) Schultz, and Murray (Jerri) Schultz; 14 incredible grandchildren and step-grandchildren, and 13 treasured great-grandchildren.

Muriel was predeceased by her parents, John and Lena Armbruster; her brothers, Duane and Clarence Armbruster; and her brother-in-law, Mervin Schlamp.

Muriel's legacy lives on in the family she cherished, the quilts and creations she lovingly made, the values she instilled, and the countless lives she touched through her generosity, strength, and unwavering love. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

"A life well lived leaves a lasting legacy of love."

A memorial service was held on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. from Christ Lutheran Church in Neudorf, Sask. with Pastor Ronald Shumba Officiating. The music for the service was provided by St. Mary's Church Choir from Grayson.

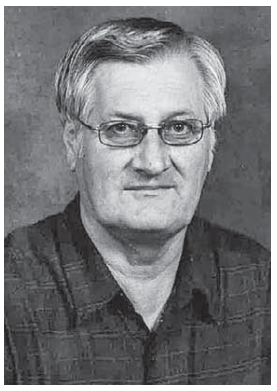
Arrangements were by Bailey's Funeral and Cremation Care, Melville.

BAILEY'S FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE
www.baileysfuneralhome.com

Obituary

Robert Edgar Talbot

Oct. 17, 1946 – Sept. 10, 2026



Robert Edgar Talbot unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, Sept. 10, 2026 at age 79.

He will be missed by many, including his wife, Denise Talbot; daughters Tara Talbot (Dustin Cross) and Leah Talbot; son Mitch Talbot (Selena Talbot); grandchildren Harlyn Talbot, Kiera Kew, Zac Kew, Davin Cross, Carys Cross, Rylan Talbot and Declan Talbot; his sisters Donna McNaughton and Mary Lou Ackerman; and numerous "relations" as he would describe them with some (usually dry) humour, on both sides of the family.

He was predeceased by his parents Lloyd and Mary Talbot, and more recently by his sisters' husbands Dwight McNaughton and Ed Ackerman, whose untimely deaths affected him deeply.

He spent his entire life in Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask. where he worked and played hard. He both curled and played broomball when he was younger and always partook with enthusiasm in any festivities that followed games and tournaments. He spent most of his career operating Fort Septic, as partner and later sole proprietor, which allowed him to travel throughout the Qu'Appelle Valley and surrounding areas where he enjoyed interacting with all those he met. Nobody knew or loved the Valley like he did. He liked to visit with his friends and neighbours and many of them became like family over the years. He seemed to know everybody, which was incredibly handy when someone he cared about needed something fixed, purchased, or completed, as they always knew they were dealing with the good, honest people who had crossed his path time and again. He enjoyed the outdoors: caring for his yard, feeding the birds, and sitting by many campfires. He was proud of his community, his family, and the hard-working life he enjoyed with vigour.

Robert's family wishes to send a special thank you to the nurses on Unit 6A at the Regina General Hospital for their kindness during his short hospital stay.

Friends and family are asked to join the Talbots for a Celebration of a Life Well Lived at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026 at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall in Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask. and bring an appetite, fond memories, and a safe ride home. Personal messages of condolence may be sent to the family at: www.AlmassyMetzfuneral.com

Obituary

Jean Elinor Virag

Sept. 1, 1945 – Sept. 17, 2026

We are saddened to announce the passing of Jean Elinor Virag on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026.

Jean was a contradiction in the very best way. She will be remembered for her quick wit, stubbornness, and exemplary grasp of profanity, but equally for her kindness, integrity, humility, and resilience.

She valued the solitude the farm offered, yet thrived in the company of family and neighbors. She loved dogs, not cats. She made cookies that were all exactly the same size, although her garden rows weren't always quite as straight. She loved peaches, but not nectarines.

Jean relished facts and hated obituaries.

At the end of her life, Jean showed tremendous strength. She made the rules and we all followed them, except for this obituary.

Jean was predeceased by her parents, Phyllis and Ed Kienas; son Michael Virag; mother-in-law Barbara Virag; father-in-law Louis Virag; sister-in-law Brenda Kienas; brother-in-law George Thomson and lifelong friend, Louise Dyke.

Jean is survived by her loving family: her husband of 60 years, Frank Virag; daughter Ronda Virag; son-in-law Craig Getz; grandson Jordan Getz (Denielle); brother Robert Kienas; sisters-in-law Margaret Galbraith, June Crofford, and Rose Virag; brother-in-law Loyd Virag; and her nieces and nephews and their families.

The family would like to thank the nurses and staff at the Broadview Union Hospital for their care and support.

A private family graveside service will be held for Jean at a later date.

Online condolences may be made at www.tubmanfh.com

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Memoriam

Edith Halyk
Sept. 27, 1991

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But to your family you were the world.

–Always missed by
Bryan, Jane and family
Brenda and family

Mary Lash (1923 - 2005)
Your memory is our keepsake
With which we'll never part,
God has you in his keeping
We have you in our hearts.
–Loved and remembered by her family

In Loving Memory of

REINOLD J. WAGNER

AUG. 31, 1933 - SEPT. 26, 2018

We think of you in silence
We often speak your name
But all we have are memories
And your picture in a frame
Your resting place we visit
And put flowers there with care
But no one knows the heartache
When we turn and leave you there.

Forever Remembered by your Loving Family.

Joyce, Corinne & Dave
Holly & Randy
Ryan & Christine
& grandchildren.

Huge Garage Sale

HUGE MULTI-FAMILY Garage Sale at 350 - 5th Ave. North, Yorkton (Richard's Auto Detail Shop) on Saturday, Sept. 26, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 27, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (rain or shine). Household items, furniture, tools, kids clothes and toys, women/men's clothing, snowsuits, hitches, water toys, plus a lot more.

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Coming Event

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH in Esterhazy will be holding its annual Rummage Sale, Wednesday, Oct. 14 to Friday, Oct. 16, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 17, 9 a.m. till 12 noon. Pie and coffee will be available Wednesday to Friday.

Personal

SENIOR WOMAN looking for friendly companionship with sincere single male 65+ for friendship and fun outings. Movies, dinner, and Sunday drives. Please mail to Box LL c/o Yorkton This Week, Box 1300, Yorkton, SK S3N 2X3.

Province Wide

THE KAMSACK TIMES is hiring a Local Journalism Initiative (LJI) Reporter to produce original civic journalism for Kamsack; Cote, Keeseekoose and The Key First Nations; and surrounding towns. Job is a term position until March 31, 2027. Apply with cover letter and three writing samples to Devan Tasa at dtasa@tasamedia.ca

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Gardener's Corner

Not all plants suit every space, namely the comfrey plant

By Debbie Hayward
Grasslands News

Another Fall Plant Sale completed, and doesn't that seem like the end of the garden season?

The Yorkton and District Horticultural Society would like to thank everyone who came to our Fall Sale, we hope you found some exciting additions for your garden. Appreciation to our members who brought plants and worked at the sale, it wouldn't happen without you. Thank you also to our friends at the Parkland Mall for all their kind assistance, and to Grasslands News for their fine work.

This year was a time of change in our garden, and a time to make changes that might have been drifting for a few seasons. We have perennial beds with a nice variety of plants, but does it seem to you that sometimes things happen in our gardens, with not much planning involved?

We start off with good intentions, carefully planning where things will go, then we get new additions and kind of plunk them in wherever there is room.

Such was the case with parts of our garden, and all of a sudden, when we had time to really look at it, there were certain plants that just were not right for the space, or not right at all.

One such plant was the comfrey plant. It's an interesting plant, a member of the borage family. It's a perennial that grows about five feet tall, all in one season, and has large leaves and hollow stems that smell like cucumber when cut.

The Greeks and Romans used this for all kinds of medicinal needs as far back as 400 BC. It was said to help heals wounds and broken bones, stop heavy bleeding, and even help to cure bronchial problems. Because we currently have no centurions needing such a plant, the plant was just a novelty for us, but one where the novelty has now worn off.

In our gardens, I have read that the comfrey has deep tap roots that take up all kinds of wonderful minerals in the soil, and so when we cut it down, we can chop it to make a mulch, and these minerals will be beneficial to other plants nearby.

The plant does have flowers, small bell-shaped flowers which are not that eye-catching, but are good for pollinators in the garden.

It is an interesting plant because it grows quickly from the ground in spring, and does a good job of filling in a corner. So it does have it's 'pluses', but we will likely be getting rid of the plant.

Why? Because it does take up a lot of room, and also, when a strong wind comes along, those lush and tall stems can snap, and the plant area looks messy.

When finding out the best way to get rid of the plant, I was surprised to read that because of the tap-root, it is difficult to eradicate. To begin with, we have to say that we have not had an issue with the plant being invasive, it is just too bulky in our garden.

So from what I read, we will dig out the root, or as much as we can get, and then see what happens next spring. If it comes up again, we might have to try 'solarizing' it. Okay, a new term for me!

'Solarizing' means to put a cover of either a flattened cardboard box or piece of heavy plastic over an area where we want to kill the vegetation, and let the sun heat up that area so that the problem plants kind of 'bake' out. It is one of those methods that requires patience but it sounds like it would work well. I'll keep you posted next spring!

The Yorkton and District Horticultural Society has their next meeting in October but this is a 'members only' meeting. Visit our website at www.yorktonhort.ca to see current information of upcoming activities.

Have a good week.

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R.M. of Garry No. 245
Notice of Assessment Roll Notice

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll of the Rural Municipality of Garry No. 245 for the year of 2026 has been prepared and is open to inspection at the office of the Assessor of the municipality from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 17 to May 18, 2026.

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 is required to file his or her notice of appeal with: The Secretary of the Board of Revision, Nor-Sask Board Services, 642 Agnew Street, Prince Albert, SK. S6V 2P1, by the 18th of May, 2026.

Dated at Jedburgh, Saskatchewan, April 17th, 2026.

Marj Beatty
Assessor

JACK & MILDRED POPOFF
ACREAGE MOVING
ONLINE AUCTION

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CLOSE: MON., OCTOBER 5TH 9AM
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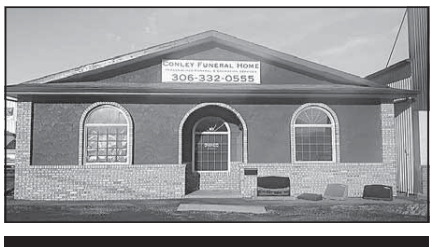

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just for

SENIORS

Our Monthly Feature

...For Seniors and about Seniors

Silver Circle Community Expo set for Yorkton Oct. 1

By Calvin Daniels
Grasslands News

The City of Yorkton, in partnership with the Saskatchewan Health Authority is hosting a Silver Circle Community Expo on Thursday, Oct.1, at the Gallagher Centre Upstairs Convention Centre.

The expo in its inaugural year will bring together local organizations, service providers, community groups, and businesses offering information and resources for adults aged 55-plus, seniors, caregivers, and families.

Guided by the theme "Connect. Discover. Thrive.", the event provides an opportunity for residents to explore supports and activities that contribute to healthy aging, independence, safety, recreation, lifelong learning, and community connection.

"The idea has been percolating for a while," explained Lisa Washington, Manager of Community, Culture and Heritage Recreation and Community Services with the City of Yorkton. "In 2023, a group of citizens had approached our department, concerned that there were not many activities for active Yorkton residents over age 55.

"In response to that, in October, CJ Denysek Consulting was contracted to do a comprehensive environmental scan and community engagement session."

The report showed that there any many, many activities throughout the City, hosted by a wide variety of groups and organizations.

"The big issue, not surprisingly, is how can people find out what's going on," said Washington.

Fast forward to late 2024, when Saskatchewan Senior Mechanism hosted some information sessions about a provincial pilot project for Social Prescribing.

"A Steering Committee coalesced from those meetings, and the City of Yorkton agreed to be the Anchor Agency for the Community Connector position," said Washington. "We hired Jan Cochrane in early 2025. Incorporating the report from 2023, Jan compiled a Resource List for her clients, continually updating and adding to her list. Through our regular Steering Committee meetings, Jan brought forward the possibility of hosting an event to connect Seniors directly to the resources – similar to the Activity Expos for youth. A smaller planning committee formed - Lisa Washington, Jan Cochrane and Tracy Bielinski, Population Health Promotion Practitioner with the Saskatchewan Health Authority. And, that brings us to the Silver Circle Community Expo on Oct. 1 – National Seniors Day which happens to coincide with the United Nations International Day of Older Persons."

Visitors will have the opportunity to speak directly with local organizations and service providers about a wide range of topics, including:

- Health, wellness, and caregiver supports
- Recreation, social connection, and volunteer opportunities
- Housing, mobility, and transportation
- Safety, emergency preparedness, and fraud prevention
- Financial, legal, cultural, educational, and lifelong-learning resources

The event is expecting approximately 30 vendor tables, depending on the final venue layout and the various programs that partners, Saskatchewan Health Authority, and the city want to highlight.

All the participants offer something for seniors.

"Supporting older adults to age well in the community is an important local need," said Washington. "As residents navigate changes in health, mobility, housing, transportation, care giving, social connection, and access to information, it can be difficult to know where to start or which services are available.

"The Silver Circle Community Expo is intended to make that information easier to access in one place. It will bring together individuals, groups and organizations offering various services to support those changes."

The event is being planned as an inaugural Expo, said Washington.

"During and following the event, the City will seek feedback from attendees, participating vendors, and community partners to assess attendance, community value, and opportunities for improvement," she said.

"If the response is positive and there is continued community interest, the City will consider making the Silver Circle Community Expo an annual event."

The Expo will be open to the public from 4 to 7 p.m.

Admission is free and open to the public. Residents are encouraged to stop by, meet local service providers, ask questions, and discover the opportunities available in Yorkton.

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OUR NEXT FEATURE - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2026

September 2026

just for SENIORS

National Seniors Day, a day to acknowledge older adults

October 1 is National Senior Day.

Why celebrate seniors?

Older people have made—and continue to make—a profound contribution to Canada: at home, in communities and as part of the workforce. They represent a large and growing proportion of our population.

We can all think of an older person who has made a difference in our lives. They are our mentors, teachers, grandparents and loved ones. They are volunteers and role models. They have contributed generously, building our families, communities, workplaces and country.

Did you know?

• On Dec. 14, 1990, the United Nations General Assembly designated Oct. 1 as the International Day of Older Persons.

• In Canada, the first National Seniors Day was celebrated on Oct. 1, 2011.

• Canadians born before 1945 contribute greatly to their communities through volunteering. In fact, they contribute the most volunteer hours on average, at 222 hours per year.

• Oct. 1 is the day Canadians come together as a country to celebrate older persons. Some provinces, territories and municipalities also have their own celebrations and occasions to honour them.

Yorkton celebrates

Closer to home, Yorkton will mark the occasion with an Expo at the Gallagher Centre. The event will feature booths offering resources and information geared toward older adults. The gathering will run from 4 to 7 p.m., and admission will be free.

What you can do

National Seniors Day is your chance to do something special for the older people in your family, workplace or community. How you celebrate is up to you.

However, if you choose to celebrate National Seniors Day, make sure your first consideration is the older people themselves.

For more information, contact Jan Cochrane Social Prescribing Community Connector at (306) 621-1050 yorktonsocialprescribing@gmail.com

CALVIN DANIELS I GRASSLANDS NEWS

Vintage car event

The cars were all shined and the sun was shining as Aspira Yorkton Crossing in Yorkton held a car show and barbecue for residents, family and friends Sept. 13. The event attracted a number of vintage and classic vehicles to be enjoyed by the retirement community.

Just for Seniors

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
NEXT FEATURE
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2026

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RM OF EDENWOLD No. 158

PUBLIC NOTICES

RM of EDENWOLD 158

Notice of Intent to Amend the Zoning Bylaw

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

Bylaw 2026-11: Text Change
Intent and Purpose: To amend several sections of Bylaw 2019-20 known as the Zoning Bylaw following a comprehensive (5-year) bylaw review.

Proposed amendments include, but are not limited to:

- Updates to definitions to improve clarity and bylaw interpretation
- Various grammatical, spelling, and formatting corrections and changes
- Updated references to Provincial legislation
- Updates to policies related to development in the flood plain
- Updates to sections related to secondary plans and Comprehensive Development Proposals (CDPs)
- Updates to sign, shipping container, boarding kennel, hobby beekeeping, cannabis retail, and ILO regulations
- Changes to agricultural and country residential site size regulations
- Updates to permitted and discretionary uses in various Zoning Districts
- Changes to apartment building regulations
- Revised acecssory building setbacks in various Zoning Districts

A full list of proposed amendments can be found at:
tinyurl.com/ocp-zb-review

Public Inspection: Any person may inspect the bylaw online at rmedenwold.ca, or at the R.M. of Edenwold No.158's office located at 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, SK between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

Public Hearing
Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions, written or verbal,on the proposed bylaw at 10:00 a.m. (local time) on **Tuesday, October 13, 2026**, in the Council Chambers of the R.M. of Edenwold No.158, 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, SK.
Written submissions will be presented to Council and can be sent by mail or email.

For further information, or to submit written comments, please contact Paige Boha, Manager of Planning and Development at (306) 347-2967 or planning@edenwold-sk.ca.

Notice of Intent to Amend the Official Community Plan

Pursuant to Section 207 of the Planning and Development Act, 2007, the Council of the RM of Edenwold No. 158 gives notice to amend the Official Community Plan Bylaw 2019-19 as follows:

Bylaw 2026-12: Text Change
Intent and Purpose: To amend several sections of Bylaw 2019-19 known as the Official Community Plan (OCP) following a comprehensive (5-year)

Proposed amendments include, but are not limited to:

- Various gramattical, spelling, and formatting corrections
- Updates to Community Priorites and Goals based on public feedback
- Updates to include First Nations as stakeholders in regional planning and service provision
- Updates to policies related to development in the flood plain, transit, mineral extraction, aggregate resources, recration and leisure facilities, general agricultural lands, multi-parcel country residential subdivision, and emergency response and protective services
- Updates to sections related to secondary plans and Comprehensive Development Proposals (CDPs)
- Adding evaluation criteria for annexation proposals
- Amendments to the Urban Residential Lands (Emerald Park) section based on public feedback
- Adopting a new set of OCP maps, including an amended Future Land Use Map with the following areas redesignated:
  - Any Country Residential 1 (CR1) zoned properties currently designated as residential
  - Parcel H Plan 101208349 Ext. 40
  - Parcels C & F Plan 64R28836
  - SE 9-18-18-W2 & N ½ of NE 4-18-18-W2
  - S ½ SW 33-17-18-W2, S ½ SE 33-17-18-W2, SE Portion of SW 32-17-18-W2 & E ½ NW 29-17-18-W2
  - SW Portion of SW 32-17-18-W2M, W ½ NW 29-17-18-W2M & Parcel B Plan 88R70420 Ext 0
  - Parcel A Plan 101520829 Parcels B, C & D,, Plan 10185330, & Parcels P & Q Plan 102008472

A full list of proposed amendments, including maps, can be found at:
tinyurl.com/ocp-zb-review

Public Inspection: Any person may inspect the bylaw online at rmedenwold.ca, or at the R.M. of Edenwold No.158's office located at 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, SK between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

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For further information, or to submit written comments, please contact Paige Boha, Manager of Planning and Development at (306) 347-2967 or planning@edenwold-sk.ca.

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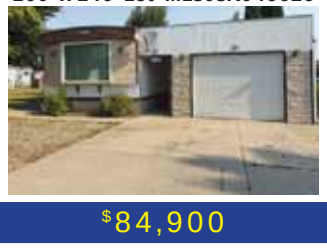

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2-BDM, 1-BATH, 770 SQ.FT.
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326 - 5th Ave. W.
2-BDM, 1-BATH, 1,164 SQ.FT.
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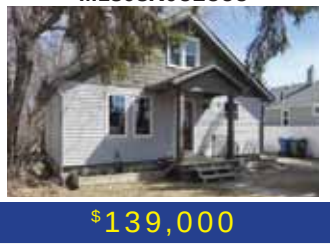

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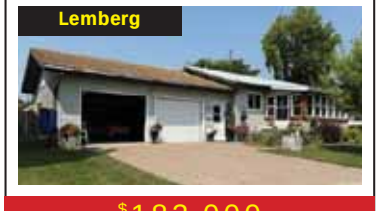

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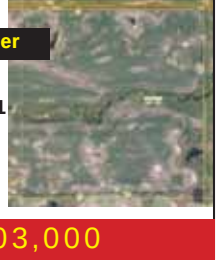

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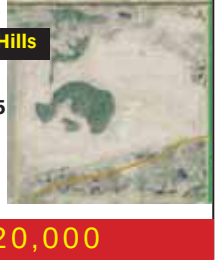

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