

## Emergency Social Services Meet & Greet



By Brandie Majeau

On January 31, Thorhild County FCSS organized a Meet & Greet session for Emergency Social Services (ESS). ESS is a short-term service that provides basic care and resources to individuals displaced during an emergency situation. Resource centers register evacuees and offer necessities such as food, clothing, medical care, and support. The purpose of this meeting was

Continued on **page 4**

Premier Smith calls new policy on gender identity “preserving of choice” for Alberta’s youth



Premier Smith said the policy changes are about not letting children make adult choices.

## Caregivers Alberta offers support seminar in Redwater



Caregiver Seminar attendants listen and share personal stories of caregiver roles.

By Brandie Majeau

Caregivers Alberta is a not-for-profit organization established over twenty years ago by an intimate group of caregivers, feeling the overwhelming

impact of fatigue and isolation common in many caregivers. Caregivers Alberta is a support system providing a variety of education and resources, dedicated to supporting the needs

of unpaid caregivers. The Town of Redwater/Redwater FCSS hosted a Caregiver Alberta seminar on February 6, volunteer coordinator, Carole Alves-Cornell, conveyed the need for community

engagement and the necessity to reach people, especially in the rural areas. The workshop was to provide information and an expansion on

Continued on **page 5**

By Serena Lapointe

Alberta Premier Danielle Smith kick-started February by announcing policy changes and guidelines on gender identity. The guidelines focused heavily on children, the ages they can access specific medical procedures or treatments, and changes that affect the school setting. In a video address on February 1 and a press conference the next day, Smith said she deeply cares about Albertans who identify as transgender and said she will see that their rights are protected.

Smith said one of the greatest responsibilities parents, teachers, and community leaders have is preserving the rights of children

to grow and develop into mature adults. She said being a youth is a complicated time, noting that children are “constantly learning about themselves, trying new things, dealing with biological changes,” and working through new thoughts and feelings.

“Decisions like choosing a career, a partner, raising children, their interaction with legal drugs like alcohol and cannabis, their sexual activities and preferences and many other adult choices,” said Smith, are for adults only. She noted that it was her view that the list of adult choices included deciding whether to alter one’s biological sex.

“Making permanent

Continued on **page 2**

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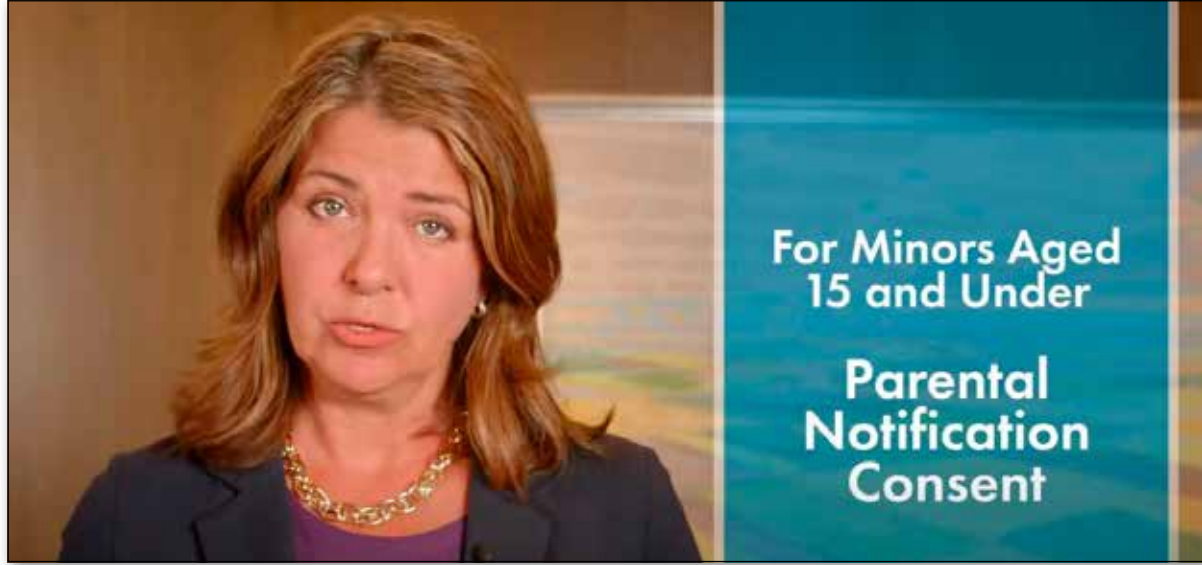
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Continued from page 1

and irreversible decisions regarding one's biological sex while still a youth can severely limit that child's choices in the future," said Premier Smith. She explained that prematurely encouraging or enabling children to "alter their very biology or natural growth no matter how well-intentioned or sincere" posed a risk to a child's future.

"I certainly do not want children to be making decisions before maybe they've even had sex about whether they want to stop that aspect of their life or before they've even contemplated whether they want to have kids, to cut off that aspect of their life. I think as adults, we have an obligation to ensure for kids that they preserve all of those important choices until they're adults, until they're able to make those decisions with the maturity that goes along with that. When you're talking



Premier Danielle Smith recently announced changes involving medical procedures and therapies relating to gender identity, specifically concerning youth and their access to it under certain ages. The announcement also impacts sexual education and increases parent awareness of what their children are doing at school. Minors aged 15 and under would need parental consent to change their name or pronouns.

about irreversible decisions, that falls into the category of adult choices, so we want to make sure that they're making those choices as adults," she explained.

In the policy, children fifteen and under will not be permitted to use puberty blockers or hormone therapies for gender reassignment or affirmation. Minors aged 16 and 17 can, provided they are "deemed mature enough" and

have parental, physician, and psychologist approval. Minors already undergoing puberty blockers or hormone therapies will not be affected by policy changes. Top and bottom surgeries will not be permitted for minors 17 and under.

In the school setting, teachers will be required to give parental notification and opt-in requirements every time they intend to give

formal instruction on gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality. Third-party materials or presentations on the above-mentioned topics will require pre-approval from the Ministry of Education. "It shouldn't be onerous. It should be fairly straightforward to (keep) parents in the loop on these issues."

Youths wishing to alter their name or pronouns in school, aged 15 and under, will

need parental notification and consent. Minors aged 16 or 17 who want to change theirs will not need parental approval, but the government will require that parents be notified. "We know that nearly all parents, even those who may disagree with the decision of their children, will love and care for their children no matter what choices they make." She added that parents who reject or

become abusive to a child identifying as transgender are protected under the existing child protection laws, adding that they would be "strictly enforced."

Premier Smith said, given the controversy around discussing sexuality and gender, especially when children are involved, that Alberta's adult population needs to "depoliticize the discussion" and focus on the well-being of the children involved. "They all need our unconditional love and support." She also called on everyone, teachers, students, and the community to report bullying of any kind so that it can be stopped in its tracks.

Policy changes also touched on sports. Smith said she strongly believed that those born male who had transitioned to or identified as female are "owed the opportunity to meaningfully participate in sport." But, she said "obvious

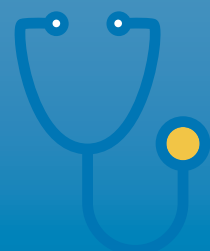
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## Government supports for evacuees

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## Betty Friebe

December 12, 1930 – January 21, 2024

It is with great sadness that the family of Betty Friebe announce her passing at the age of 93. Betty is survived by her children Beverley Klein, Ken Friebe, Henry Friebe and Shirleyann (Dave) Olchow.



sisters Ester, Anne and Sonia as well as many in-laws.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, February 3, 2024 at the Abee Community Hall with interment at the Abee Community

Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations are gratefully accepted to the Thorhild Legion Branch No. 234, c/o Box 699, Thorhild, AB T0A 3J0. The family would like to thank all those who attended or assisted with the service; Reverend Peter Yeung, Melvin Svendsen, Audrey Bazian, and the pallbearers. Thank you to everyone who made donations in Betty's memory, sent cards, flowers and phone calls. Many thanks to the staff and homecare at Newthorad Lodge during her short stay. We are most grateful.

Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations are gratefully accepted to the Thorhild Legion Branch No. 234, c/o Box 699, Thorhild, AB T0A 3J0.

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biological realities" gave them a "massive competitive advantage" over women and girls, which she called unfair.

She said her government would be working with active sporting organizations in the province to ensure that women and girls can compete in women's only divisions in athletic competitions and not be forced to compete against biologically stronger transgender female athletes. She said they would also work to ensure the expansion of co-ed or other gender-neutral divisions for transgender

Albertans to compete in.

Support for transgender youth and adults is also included in the policy and guidelines. She said her government is hoping to attract one or more medical professionals to Alberta who specialize in transgender surgery. Currently, Canadians seeking gender reassignment travel to Montreal to visit one of the world's busiest gender surgery clinics, which performs more than 650 surgeries per year. It is the only clinic of its kind in Canada.

Premier Smith said having specialized medical professionals in the province

would enable transgender Albertans to receive care for their "extremely unique and complex medical needs" closer to home and not travel for surgeries. Smith also provided a few details on a new pilot project in the works that will provide appropriate counselling services to support parents and youth identifying as transgender.

When asked at the press conference if she felt she spoke for most Albertans, Premier Smith said she was confident that most Albertans didn't want roadblocks between parents and their children. "I am confident that Albertans do

not want children to make irreversible decisions that impact their reproductive health. I am confident that they do not think that those are child decisions to make, that those are adult decisions to make."

Further details on the policy will be forthcoming. Premier Smith said her government hopes to have a package ready for September that outlines the changes made. She said they will be seeking consultation on how to implement it. She credited consultations with members of the transgender community for helping develop their approach.

## Alberta RCMP reminds motorists of the dangers of distracted driving

The Alberta RCMP reminds motorists of the importance of distraction-free driving. Driving requires a motorist's complete attention in order for them to be fully aware of their surroundings and other road users. When a motorist's focus is removed from the road, there is an increased risk of driver error, collision, and serious injury.

Despite the dangers of distracted driving being common knowledge, Alberta RCMP charged over 5,000 motorists in 2023 for the offence.

Remember the following points to make sure your commute is free of distractions.

- If it impairs your driving - it's a distraction. Distracted driving is not limited to texting or talking on a handheld device while operating a vehicle—it also includes personal grooming, reading, writing, adjusting GPS or audio devices, attending to passengers or pets, and any other activity that might impair your ability to operate a vehicle safely.
- Plan ahead. Before putting your vehicle in drive, prepare

by pre-setting your hands-free device, GPS, radio or music. Do not make adjustments unless the vehicle is stopped.

- Pull over and put it in park. If you need to text, make a call, or engage in any distracting activity, pull over where it is safe to do so and park your vehicle. Simply coming to a stop at a red light is not safe and is still considered distracted driving.

"That quick text or GPS adjustment can have big costs. A distracted driving fine is \$300, but even worse than

that, it can cost you your life, or someone else's" says Sergeant Darrin Turnbull, Alberta RCMP Traffic. "Distractions behind the wheel can have significant and lasting impacts, no matter how quick or harmless they may seem, or how experienced of a driver you may be. Distracted driving is dangerous and never worth the risk."

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# Alberta Community Justice Grant announced

By Brandie Majeau

In a rural media round table meeting held by Minister of Justice Mickey Amery, Minister Amery announced the investment of 1.2 million dollars from the Alberta government for the Alberta Community Justice Grant. The approved applicants of this grant will receive a one-time, single installment grant of \$5000 - \$25000 to (as stated on the Alberta government website) “build a framework to resolve legal issues within a community setting, improve coordination

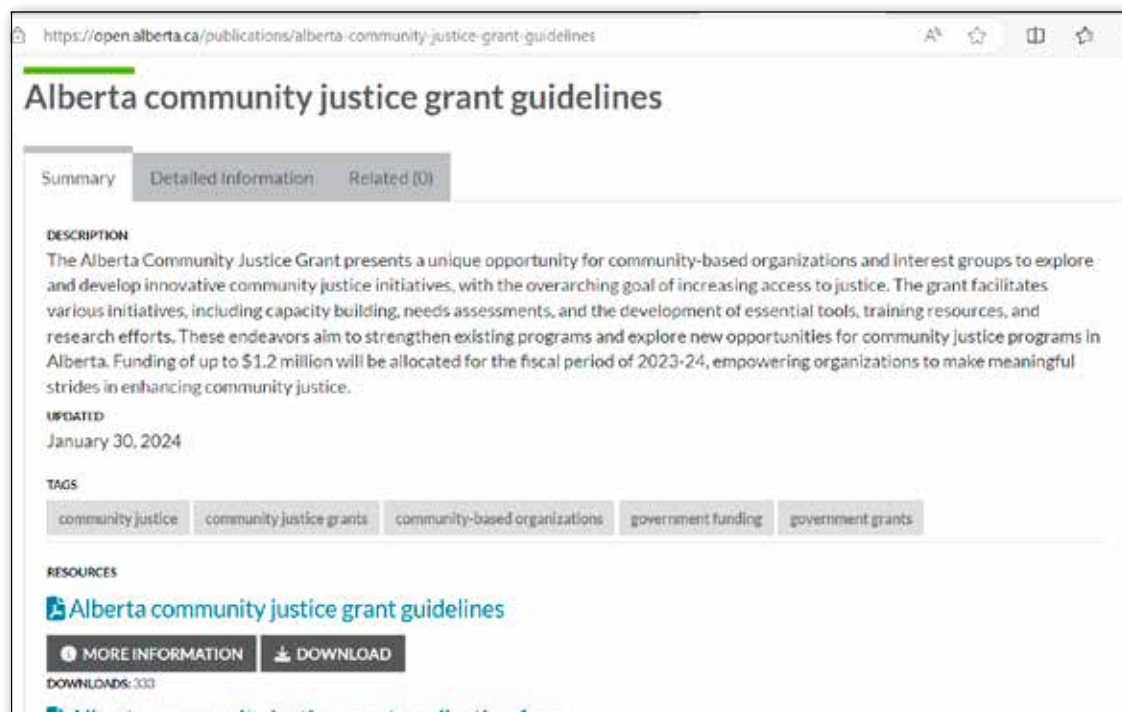
and enhance the capacity of community-based programs working with criminal, family, and civil matters, and support the development of community-driven alternatives to the formal legal system.” During the media roundtable, the discussion ensued around the challenges and concerns facing Albertans and the Justice system within the province. Simply speaking, the Alberta Community Justice Grant is an opportunity for communities to address the nuances, individuality, and cultural

backgrounds specific to their municipalities in an effort to bring justice to an individual as opposed to an individual required to attend legal matters, often in a court setting that may be difficult to get to. Minister Amery discussed the challenges faced by the court system. One of the primary issues is related to individuals not showing up for court hearings, while minor offences and family disputes also contribute to the backlog of cases. The minister suggested that these types of cases could potentially be

more effectively addressed through private community initiatives, rather than in the courtroom. The development of such programs is aimed at making community justice more accessible and easier for individuals, as well as saving money and reducing the burden on the court systems. This will be especially beneficial for rural communities. The philosophy also expresses a focus on restorative justice within the communities. This is not a “one size fits all solution.” The Minister of Justice took the time to

fully engage the topic effectively with an informative discussion with the rural media representatives. Many concerns and questions were brought up that Minister Amery answered to the full extent, including addressing topics within the justice system and upcoming developments within the department. Justice Minister Mickey Amery continually regarded the eligibility of The Alberta Community

Justice Grant as an opportunity for communities to develop case studies, business plans, and initiatives. The guidelines for the application of the grant have been left intentionally vague to allow for creativity and oppose limitations. The Alberta government is looking at all ideas and unique opportunities to ensure this project is a success. The deadline for applications is February 29, 2024.



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## The Town of Smoky Lake

Notice is hereby given that, under the provisions of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Town of Smoky Lake will offer for sale, by public auction, at the Smoky Lake Town Council Chambers in Smoky Lake, Alberta, located at 56 Wheatland Avenue, on Monday, February 26, 2024, at 1:30 p.m., the following lands:

Lot	Block	Plan	C. of T.	Reserve Bid
P1, P2	4	803 CL	142 232 443	\$96,700.00
20	12	4117 TR	012 051 285	\$15,800.00

The parcels will be offered for sale, subject to the reserve bids and to the reservations and conditions contained in the existing certificate of title.

The land is being offered for sale on an “as is, where is” basis, and the Town of Smoky Lake makes no representation and gives no warranty whatsoever as to the adequacy of services, soil conditions, land use districting, building and development conditions, absence or presence of environmental contamination, or the developability of the subject land for any intended use by the Purchaser. No bid will be accepted where the bidder attempts to attach conditions precedent to the sale of any parcel. No terms and conditions of sale will be considered other than those specified by the Town of Smoky Lake. No further information is available at the auction regarding the land to be sold.

The Town of Smoky Lake may, after the public auction, become the owner of any parcel of land not sold at the public auction.

Terms: 10% cash down, balance in 30 days with Cash, Money Order or Certified Cheque

Redemption may be effected by payment of all arrears of taxes and costs at any time prior to the sale.

Dated at Smoky Lake, Alberta, February 5, 2024.

Dawn Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer

Continued from **page 1**

to encourage residents to join a team of volunteers in emergency situations. Existing volunteers were also welcomed to refresh their skills and readiness as well as create a community of experienced individuals. Some volunteers at the event had experience going back fifteen years, reminiscing about handing out sandwiches and assisting with previous emergency social services.

The Emergency Social Services meet and greet was an initiative that started years ago but was put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The rewriting of plans is now underway. Additionally, the Emergency Social Services is looking for new volunteers. Given the drought conditions experienced this winter, there is a high likelihood of a need for ESS this spring. Although Thorhild is not a provincial resource for evacuation centers due to the lack of extended resources, there is a possibility that municipalities may require additional resources in the event

of a need for a resource center due to extenuating circumstances.

Thorhild County Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) has established a framework for training and orienting the volunteers who are currently enrolled. The county is responsible for ensuring the well-being of both volunteers and recipients, in the event that it is necessary to create and implement Emergency Social Services (ESS). To prepare for this, training for ESS is being organized for the volunteers. Upcoming training sessions will include Basic Emergency Management and registration and inquiry sessions for the Reception and Referral Centre Program (RRCP) and Municipal Affairs Emergency Management Alberta Emergency Response (MAER). As the province remains cautious and prepares for an uncertain spring, Thorhild County is also hoping that there will be no need to activate ESS. However, they understand the importance of being prepared in case of an emergency.



Continued from page 1  
 their services, Alves-Cornell stating, "No one seems to know who we are."

The seminar was well received with over a dozen participants registering and attending. As guests were welcomed and settled in with warm cups of coffee, conversations could be heard discussing the toll it takes on an individual as a caregiver, the hard work and commitment that is required, especially for those who are solely responsible for their care recipients. The role of Caregivers Alberta expresses an understanding of this fundamental resource. Information was provided stating that Alberta has over one million caregivers, in turn providing 647 million hours of unpaid care per year. The Alberta government is recognizing the importance of these roles including the cost savings to the economy in addition to the reduced impact

on hospitals and care facilities.

Caregivers Alberta is a place for these caregivers to turn, not to make better caregivers but to ensure their own physical and mental well-being. Carole Alves-Cornell provided an extensive list of available resources and free programs for caregivers and led the group through a gentle discussion about the true costs of being a caregiver, including self-awareness of stress and the impact it has on an individual. She affectionately referred to the caregiver roles as "you are the keeper" creating a context that many caregivers are responsible for personal care, scheduling, medications, and a myriad of details that others are not around to address. These caregivers often have lives that revolve solely around their caregiver role. As many people fall into these roles naturally, Caregivers Alberta are finding that by the time people reach out

for help, they are already reaching their breaking point, overwhelmed, and burnt out.

The role of this seminar was not only informative for those in attendance. It was a chance to share personal stories and experiences in these roles. It was an interactive and personable experience of self-recognition including stress triggers and their management, including building resilience and self-care. The impact of this workshop is hoped to be shared throughout the community as participants move forward, sharing their stories as a means to help others recognize traits and struggles in themselves and to make them aware that there are resources available to them. With so many people stating, "I wish I knew this five years ago," "It's a lot to deal with." Or "I wish I had this when I needed it." Carole Alves-Cornell reacted by saying these were the most



Volunteer Coordinator, Carole Alves-Cornell explains the role and resources available through Caregivers Alberta.

common things they hear. The goal now is to get the word out there and make sure caregivers know they

have somewhere to turn. For more information, for support, to learn about

caregiver programs, or to become a Senior Caregiver Ambassador please visit [caregiver-alberta.ca](http://caregiver-alberta.ca).



## Thinking of planting a shelterbelt?

Sturgeon County residents can buy seedlings through our Tree Program starting Feb. 21, 2024.

The County offers a wide range of tree and shrub varieties to encourage sustainable and diverse shelterbelts.

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Information on shelterbelt planting from AWES.



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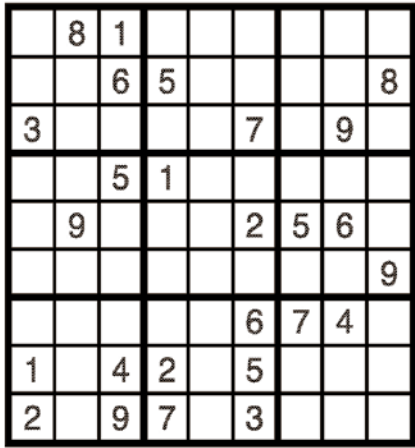




# PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15 *Review*

## SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

## Crossword Clues

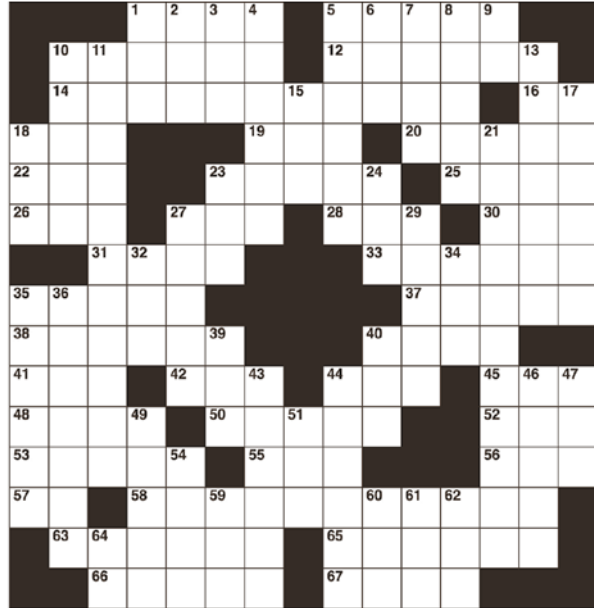
### CLUES ACROSS

- Gene type
- Persian male given name
- Type of protection
- Cloud
- One who returns to life
- Gym class
- General's assistant (abbr.)
- Baby's dining accessory
- Enchantress
- Prefix denoting "in a"
- Spiritual leader
- Cavities
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Foot (Latin)
- Sweet potato
- Pharaoh of Lower Egypt
- Land
- More inquisitive
- Dog breed: \_\_ Apso
- Stood up

- Direct and uninhibited
- Authorless
- Blocking type of drug (abbr.)
- Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
- Root mean square (abbr.)
- Macaws
- Actress Remini
- Polynesian wrapped skirt
- City of Angels hoops team (abbr.)
- Fitzgerald and Baker are two
- Bowling alley must-have
- A way to cool down
- Ethnic group in Asia
- A way to alter
- Set of five
- Removes from the record
- Dummies
- Set period in office

### CLUES DOWN

- DC Comics superhero
- Brew
- Play
- Single-celled animals
- Rough to the touch
- Small island (British)
- Often noted alongside cons
- Preparation of rootstock
- Atomic #44
- Egyptian unit of capacity
- About secretary
- Particular groups
- Poke fun at
- Make certain that something occurs
- Financial term
- Justify
- Arbiter
- 007's creato
- Czech name for Prague
- Groans
- American time
- No seats available
- \_\_ Stahl, journalist
- Cleft lip
- Talk incessantly
- Expresses atomic and molecular weights (abbr.)
- A part of a river where the current is very fast
- Curdled milk
- Running competitions
- A team's best pitcher
- Carthaginian explorer
- World-renowned city
- Most common Japanese surname
- The bill in a restaurant
- They \_\_
- City of Angels football team (abbr.)
- Distinctive practice
- One quintillion bytes



## HOROSCOPE

### ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Creativity may prove elusive this week, Aries. You want to get into a crafty project but you simply can't find traction just yet. Don't give up too soon.

### TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Taurus, a distracted friend or loved one may not be good company over the next few days. Reach out and offer to be a sounding board to help this person re-center their focus.

### GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



Are you feeling preoccupied, Gemini? You can't seem to focus on one thing or another and friends will start to notice when you are in their company.

### CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Romantic matters are going very well right now, Cancer, even if you may not feel entirely confident. The person who cares for you will not notice your insecurities.

### LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



The more challenging path may prove the best one to take as your work on a certain task, Leo. Dig in and start figuring a way out to the other side.

### VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



Virgo, there is so much to do around the house that you may not know where to start. Spring cleaning comes a month or two early. Ask for help if you're feeling frazzled.

### LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



You may be in the mood to expand your knowledge on one or more subjects, Libra. Visit the library or a bookstore and pick up something that piques your interest.

### SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



Scorpio, you may pick up on some vibes when hanging out with others that just don't fit in with your line of thinking. Give it some time before you cut any ties. You may be misinterpreting.

### SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



There has been a lot going on in your life, Sagittarius. You may be experiencing some apprehension about the future. Take every concern individually and give it thought.

### CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Information coming to you could have you feeling nervous about your financial security, Capricorn. If this is outside your area of expertise, you may want to sit down with a planner.

### AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



Confusing messages from work may find you reconsidering plans that you already put into motion, Aquarius. Get more information before modifying your plans.

### PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



Pisces, your mind is all over the place right now, so it could be difficult to focus on mundane things like chores or other activities right now. However, don't push them off.

## SWEETHEARTS WORD SEARCH

Q C H O C O L A T E S T V L C C O M S S  
 E T H P T N L S R V B Y A B Q Q N V S N  
 T W U D N E I R F L R I G I U Y G R R C  
 A R E U D N E I R F Y O B S B F P E R L  
 R O N T B T V D G R D I O B W F H P B T  
 B G A C L B H S L N D R B G E L I P F R  
 E M M I P P E E J I I Y B I H O P I N  
 L Y O T A Q W R N F F V R N S F A V D F  
 E L R N J E L N U Y R U O N F C T F E S  
 C N E A J F E M Y T A Q O L A R V S L I  
 F Q D M O R F V N R S I Q R F A P J N D  
 S M D O V B O T Y V T E D F L R D V T N  
 V H I R M M Y Y M A A S G E O Y O J N W  
 V V Q C S T N N L U W O N P W J R S T Q  
 W B S M Q R J E R S S T O I N L S T E B  
 W O O D L A R B B D I S L R Q U O S W S  
 C H S D T E C U Y N A I M D E M U U D S  
 M T V O L H M R E L I G M E E O T A V P  
 C L L P I S E I V O M B J R P N T I H H  
 O Y P G P B O U Q U E T V S L E A Y D N

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

### WORDS

BOUQUET  
BOYFRIEND  
CARDS

CELEBRATE  
CHOCOLATES  
DATE  
DINNER

ENAMORED  
FEBRUARY  
GESTURE  
GIFTS

GIRLFRIEND  
HEART  
JEWELRY  
LOVE

LOVING  
MOVIES  
PROPOSAL  
RED

RELATIONSHIP  
ROMANTIC  
ROSES  
SPOUSE  
VALENTINE



# Larry Hryciw receives prestigious award

By Brandie Majeau

Larry Hryciw was awarded the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies Honorary Life Membership award. This award “recognizes outstanding volunteers and their dedication to local, regional, and provincial levels of agriculture.” Since 1982, the AAAS board has received nominations from local agricultural societies and selects two recipients based on a point-scoring system to select their recipients. Larry Hryciw is the Thorhild & District Agricultural Society's sole remaining active charter member, a significant role because it represents his dedication and volunteer service for over fifty years.

Hryciw began his volunteer service with the Thorhild Ag Society in 1973 at its inception in 1973 and has served on

the board as various committee chairs as well as the director, expressing a dedication to leadership and non-leadership roles alike, believing that there is no success of one without the other's support. Hryciw stepped into the position of Ag Society president in 1978 - 1980, introducing annual cattle shows and a variety of events designed to boost community engagement and increase funding and income to support the growth and maintenance of the facilities. Hryciw was also instrumental in many fundraising efforts to support additional construction projects.

His passion and dedication to various community projects serve to promote the community as well as local businesses and organizations. His efforts and diligent work have rippled throughout the

community, with its impact reaching into Thorhild Minor Sports, the Thorhild Community Association, and various roles in the Community Hall, Agriplex, and Thorhild Lion's Club. Larry Hryciw has also been noted as a master of ceremonies for numerous years at varying functions including the annual Remembrance Day ceremony held by the Royal Canadian Legion Thorhild Branch 234.

With a passion and zest for community spirit and enhancement, Larry Hryciw exemplifies the Honorary Life Membership award. His enthusiasm and commitment are the embodiment of volunteerism. With over fifty years of service, it is impossible to convey everything that he has accomplished and all the lives he has touched.



Brett Warder, President of AAAS presenting Larry Hryciw with the Honorary Life Membership Award. Photo courtesy of Thorhild Ag Society.

**PUBLIC HEARING - Bylaw 1647/24**  
Amendment to Land Use Bylaw 1385/17

Sturgeon County Council requests public input on proposed Bylaw 1647/24.

Sturgeon County is proposing amendments to the Land Use Bylaw (Bylaw 1385/17) Public Open Space District (POS) and Environmental Preservation (EP) Districts:

- To remove reference to the terms 'public' in order to focus on land use and not ownership.
- To amend the list of permitted and discretionary uses within both districts.

A bylaw is needed to amend existing bylaws, and a public hearing must be held.

[View the proposed bylaw at sturgeoncounty.ca/hearing-1647](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/hearing-1647)

**Public Hearing details**

The Public Hearing will be held in person and via videoconference on:

**Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.** (or as soon as practical thereafter)

Sturgeon County Council Chambers (9613 100 St. in Morinville)

**Questions? Contact us!**

Kyle Schole  
Planner, Current Planning  
780-939-1397  
kschole@sturgeoncounty.ca

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**Important information about Public Hearings**

**Requirements for speakers**

All speakers have five minutes to speak and are encouraged to provide a written copy of their submission before the Public Hearing.

*Speaking in person*

To speak at the Public Hearing in person, contact Legislative Services at **780-939-8277** or **780-939-1377** to pre-register.

*Speaking via videoconference*

To speak at the Public Hearing via videoconference, you **must** register by **February 26 at 1:30 p.m.** by contacting Legislative Services at **780-939-8277** or **780-939-1377**. This ensures you receive instructions to access the videoconference.

**Written submissions**


Email your written submission to Legislative Services at [legislativeservices@sturgeoncounty.ca](mailto:legislativeservices@sturgeoncounty.ca). Written submissions are accepted up to the close of the Public Hearing.

If making a written submission, you must include your name, state your interest in the matter (such as a County resident directly impacted by the proposed bylaw), and indicate if you are in favour of or opposed to the proposed bylaw.


**Watching the Public Hearing**

You can view the Public Hearing in person or online at [sturgeoncounty.ca/CouncilMeetings](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/CouncilMeetings). To view the livestream, click on the meeting date on the calendar, then click on the video link.

*Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: By submitting comments on this bylaw, either orally or in writing, the personal information you provide may be recorded in the minutes of the public hearing, or otherwise made public. This information is collected in line with section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have questions, contact the Access and Privacy Officer at foip@sturgeoncounty.ca or 780-939-4321.*



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**KID'S CORNER**




**STUDENT**

Sofia  
 second grade  
**H.A. Kostash School**

Sofia is a 7 year old, second grade student at HAK in Smoky Lake. She is a good friend and a hard worker. She is also a good story writer. She is great at drawing detailed pictures. She enjoys playing pet games. One day she hopes to become a veterinarian.

Sponsored by  **Smoky Lake Thorhild**

 **Please recycle this paper**

*Thank You*

**From The Bottom Of Our Hearts At The REDWATER FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES FOOD BANK A Special Thank You To All Individuals, Families, Businesses who donated time, funds, groceries, home grown produce and fruits anonymously. There were so many! Our Communities Have Been Lifted By Your Generosity. It Was Truly Appreciated By All!**

- 1291150 AB Inc
- Access Pipeline (Wolf Midstream)
- Alliance Church & Members
- AM PM Towing
- ATB Financial - Redwater Branch
- Burger Baron
- Cando Rail & Terminal
- Catholic Womens League St. Clares
- Chris No Frills
- Dane's Pride Dairy Farm
- Enbridge Pipelines
- Erdmann's Garden & Greenhouses
- Farm Credit
- Food Banks AB and Food Banks Canada
- Fort Saskatchewan Food Bank
- Gas AB Inc
- Government of Alberta
- Government of Canada
- H & M Traditional Sausage & Meats
- Holy Family Catholic School Waskatenau
- Homeland Housing
- Inter Pipeline
- Kick's Saloon
- LTD Oilfield
- Moore Memorial United Church & UCW
- Nook In The Woods
- Noreen & Friends Attic
- North Corridor Cooperative
- North Parkland Power
- Northbank Potato Farm
- Nutrien (Calgary Office)
- Nutrien Employees
- NWR Sturgeon Refinery and Employees
- Ochre Park School Students, Staff & Parents
- Pembina Pipeline Corp and Employees
- Pembina Place Staff
- Prairie Gardens
- Redwater Art Society
- Redwater & District Chamber of Commerce
- Redwater FCSS
- Redwater Fitness Centre
- Redwater Home Hardware
- Redwater IGA, Ken and Karen Evans & Staff
- Redwater Quilt Guild
- Redwater Red Apple Store and Staff
- Redwater School Students, Staff & Parents
- RKS Canada Inc
- St. Albert Community Foundation
- Strathcona Food Bank
- Sturgeon County
- Suncor Energy Services
- The Review
- Thorhild Central School Grad Class
- Thorhild Central School Students, Staff & Parents
- Thorhild Co-op Grocery Store Managers & Staff
- Thorhild County Council and Staff
- Thorhild FCSS
- Thorhild Lion's Club
- Town of Redwater Council, Staff & Employees
- Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity
- Wild Rose Mama's (Red Hat Society Members)

**If we inadvertently missed to Thank You, please accept our sincere apologies and our heartfelt Thanks!!**









**Six-plex for sale in Keremeos, British Columbia**

**\$999,000**

Be a land baron for under 1 Million ... 4 two-bedroom and 2 one-bedroom units on 2 levels. 1974 construction on a .331 AC lot. Well organized property with tons of future potential. Metal roof, 20 years old, new on demand hot water system 2 years old, Electrical is the responsibility of the tenants, parking is ample and open. Storage available for all units. City water, private septic. Private lot with tall hedges. Investment-wise, Cap rate in the range of 6% and with increase in rents you will be laughing all the way to the bank. Some upgrades may be required. This is a smart opportunity worth looking into.

**Contact Chad Wozniak with Chamberlain Property Group in Penticton at 250-488-3304.**

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**Direct Cremation \$1180 + GST\***

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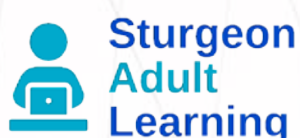
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# Redwater Citizens on Patrol Year in Review

**Submitted**

The Redwater Citizens on Patrol Association is a not-for-profit local chapter of the Alberta Citizens on Patrol, members volunteer their time to actively patrol our community, acting as the eyes and ears for local RCMP, reporting any suspicious activity and help deter crime by providing an active presence in our area.

We currently have 14 volunteers and make patrols at any time during the day or night that our personal schedules allow. Anyone wanting to join our Association requires a clear Criminal Record Check and clean Driver's Abstract. Two C.O.P. volunteers go out on a patrol at any one time. We use an Alberta Citizens on Patrol App which maps the patrol, logs the kilometers

and hours. Details of suspicious activity and photos can be recorded in the app. At the end of each patrol, a report is generated and submitted directly to the local RCMP.

In 2023, our volunteers patrolled for a total of 3917.20 kilometers, had a total of 426.50 driving hours, participated in special events for 305.50 hours and provided 144.5 hours for administrative purposes.

We hosted three Crime Prevention Seminars for the public in 2023 – Personal Property Security in January, Personal ID Security (Identity Theft) in March, and Travel Safety in May. All were very well received.

Some of the special events we participate in include Police Week activities, Town of Redwater Golf Tournament, Redwater Discovery Days, Redwater

Community Night, Halloween Night Patrols, and Festival of Trees at Kris Kringle Holiday Mingle.

Projects that we have done over the last year is that we created a window decal to sell to businesses at \$10.00 per decal indicating that "This Business is Patrolled by Redwater Citizens on Patrol". We also had some larger gate signs made for businesses in the Industrial Park indicating same, at \$50.00 per gate sign. Both projects are in hopes that it will deter some criminal activity. The proceeds from these go to truck fuel, insurance, maintenance, etc. to help us to continue with our patrols.

If anyone is interested in joining our association, our meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Redwater Legion Hall.



4924 - 47 Street | Box 397 • Redwater, AB T0A 2W0  
Phone: 780-942-3519 • Fax: 780-942-4321  
www.redwater.ca

## NOTICE OF DECISION OF MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS ISSUED – January 31, 2024

Take notice that the following permit for a proposed development as described below have been issued in accordance with the Town of Redwater Land Use Bylaw PD-01-2023:

**Permit Number:** DPR2024-001  
**Legal Description:** Lot 29, Block 4, Plan 822 1694  
**Civic Address:** 4630 49 Ave East  
**Land Use:** Designated Industrial Park District (I-DIP)  
**Proposal:** Vehicle Repair Shop  
**Approved Discretionary Use:** Vehicle Repair Shop

Additional Information: For additional information regarding these permits, please contact the Development Officer at (780) 942-3519.

Appeal: The following information is provided as required by Section 685(1.1) of the Municipal Government Act. Any appeal of this decision shall be filed with the Secretary of the Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (ISDAB), 4924 47th Street-Box 397, Redwater, Alberta T0A 2W0 (780-942-3519 ext. 250), within twenty-one (21) days after the date of notice.

Appeal Fee - \$ 300.00

Development Officer  
**Phone:** 780-942-3519 Ext. 330  
**Fax:** 780-942-4321  
**Email:** devofficer@redwater.ca

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**  
*If you submit comments, either orally or in writing, the information you provide may be recorded, or otherwise made public, subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*

## TIMED ONLINE AUCTIONS



Feb 28th - LAND AUCTION 138 Acres  
15 Km North of Mundare Twp 550 & RR 163  
Real Estate By Antoniuk PH (780) 363-2147

May 1st - LAND AUCTION Hwy 16 & RR 183  
75 Acres of Hay Land, Hiway Exposure

March 20th - Acreage Sale  
for the Kearney's at Grassland.

April 23rd - Victor & Elaine Peiche, Smoky Lake.  
Very Clean Farm Equipment

138 Acres

May 1st - Large Consignment Sale Redwater.  
Let Us Advertise & Market Your Equipment for Top Results

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ONLINE - www.prodaniukauctions.com  
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EMAIL - edprodaniukauctions@gmail.com

**6367 53A AVE REDWATER**



\$46,900

Fantastic building lot ready for your dream home or buy and wait to build. 50 X 100 backing on to a field with nice homes all around. Set of building plans for a 1496 sq foot bi-level with double garage are available.

**#40 WATERDALE PARK HWY 38 STURGEON COUNTY**



\$614,900

Experience the charm of this 2015-built, 1411 sq. ft. raised bungalow on 3.85 acres, just moments from pavement. Immaculately maintained with meticulous landscaping, the main floor features an open design, large windows, and vaulted ceilings. The spacious kitchen has an island, garden doors to a deck, and ample room for a dining table. The primary bedroom boasts a walk-in closet and a 3-piece bath. Two additional bedrooms share a well-appointed 4-piece bath. The main floor also hosts a conveniently placed laundry room. Descend to the fully developed basement with a rec room, an extra bedroom, a 2-piece bath, a cold room, and a mechanical room. The double attached garage is heated. The home features LED lighting, a high-efficiency furnace, and central air conditioning. Outdoors, a sizable garden area awaits, and there's ample space for your recreational vehicles or hobbies. This property is move-in ready, offering a serene country lifestyle.

**4920 50 AVE REDWATER**



\$149,900

Great revenue or holding property zoned commercial but presently used for residential. Loads of upgrades over the years including windows, electrical, shingles and some flooring. 2 bedrooms up with one more in the basement. Could be called a raised bungalow with large basement windows. Finish developing the basement and add equity or just keep it rented out or dynamite starter home.

**27021 TWP RD 564 STURGEON COUNTY**



\$699,000

Discover rural luxury on 6.14 acres in Sturgeon County, where this property unfolds with a raised bungalow, log cabin, and a spacious shop with a guest suite. The open-concept main floor seamlessly connects a beautiful kitchen to a cozy living room, featuring a wood-burning stove and the added convenience of main floor laundry. The main floor also boasts an additional 4-piece bathroom, enhancing functionality. The primary bedroom is a retreat with a walk-in closet and a private 3-piece bathroom. In the ICF basement, you'll find two more bedrooms and a 3-piece bathroom, offering ample living space. The property includes a 1400 sqft shop with radiant heat, a 9000lb hoist, and an apartment-style living quarters. A backup 7500 KVA diesel generator ensures peace of mind. Embrace tranquility without sacrificing modern amenities—this Sturgeon County property is your rural paradise.

**60010 RR202 THORHILD COUNTY**



\$340,000

80 acres of good quality farm land to be subdivided off the quarter. South half.

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## KID'S CORNER



**Isabelle**  
Grade 8  
**Sturgeon Public School**  
**Great effort in science class and always so very positive!**

Sponsored by **Rick's OILFIELD HAULING**



Thorhild Central School had a very eager crew of career-minded students who were working very hard to complete the prerequisite courses required to enable them to take on a placement that would give them valuable work experience and career exposure.

If there are businesses in the area willing to take on work experience students, interns, or RAP students, please contact Kelly Feledichuk at [kelly.feledichuk@aspview.org](mailto:kelly.feledichuk@aspview.org).

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[marty@alfatec.ca](mailto:marty@alfatec.ca)



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## Betty Friebe

December 12, 1930 – January 21, 2024

It is with great sadness that the family of Betty Friebe announce her passing at the age of 93. Betty is survived by her children Beverley Klein, Ken Friebe, Henry Friebe and Shirleyann (Dave) Olchow.



Grandchildren Denise, Steven, Charlotte, Michelle (Colin), Ashley and Jodi (C.J.); and great grandchildren Tyler, Kimberly, Rebecca, Jaxson, Kane, Mason, Jaxon and Hailey. She is also survived by her sisters Mary McKee, Elsie (Don) Clifford and Gloria (Len) Strauss as well as brother Allan (Renate) Klein. She will be missed by numerous surviving nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors. She was predeceased by her loving husband Charlie of 41 years; her parents Louis and Teresa Klein, brothers Eddie and Loudon,

sisters Ester, Anne and Sonia as well as many in-laws.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, February 3, 2024 at the Abee Community Hall with interment at the Abee Community

Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations are gratefully accepted to the Thorhild Legion Branch No. 234, c/o Box 699, Thorhild, AB T0A 3J0

The family would like to thank all those who attended or assisted with the service; Reverend Peter Yeung, Melvin Svendsen, Audrey Bazian, and the pallbearers. Thank you to everyone who made donations in Betty's memory, sent cards, flowers and phone calls. Many thanks to the staff and homecare at Newthorad Lodge during her short stay. We are most grateful.



## Traditional Art Workshops

Experience our Distinct Indigenous Story

- Capote workshop (2 days) - Feb. 17 & 18, 2024
- Mossbag workshop (2 days) - Feb. 24 & 25, 2024
- Moccasin workshop (2 days) - Mar. 9 & 10, 2024



To learn more call 780 656 2229 or visit <https://metiscrossing.com/experience/traditional-workshops/> to book.



# The Canadian Dental Care Plan is here: What you need to know

(NC) The federal government has begun to roll-out the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP), which will cover some of the cost of most basic oral health care services for uninsured Canadians.

Once fully implemented, the plan will offer dental coverage for up to nine million people in Canada. It's targeted specifically towards Canadians with an annual family income under \$90,000 who do not have access to dental insurance.

The application process is opening in phases, starting with seniors.

## How to apply

Individuals who may be eligible have begun receiving letters from the federal government, inviting them to apply for the plan.

Keep an eye out for one of these letters if you:

- will be 70 years old as of March 2024;
- have a family income of less than \$90,000; and
- have filed your 2022 tax return.

The letter includes instructions on how to confirm your eligibility and apply by telephone.

Only seniors who receive a letter will be able to apply before

May 2024. Here's when seniors can expect to receive their letter:

- December 2023: ages 87 and above
- January 2024: ages 77 to 86
- February 2024: ages 72 to 76
- March 2024: ages 70 to 71

As of May 2024, applications shift from telephone only to an online portal and will open for eligible seniors 65 and older. More information

on this portal will be available closer to its launch date.

Canadians with a valid Disability Tax Credit certificate and children under 18 will be able to apply online starting in June 2024.

All other eligible residents will be able to apply in 2025.

## After you have applied

If your application is successful, starting in March, you will be sent a welcome package by Sun Life, the administrator managing the plan on behalf of the government. The package will include a member card and a start date for your coverage.

Seniors will be able to start seeing an oral health provider as early as May 2024 but start dates for coverage will vary based on when you can apply,

when the application is received and when your enrolment is completed.

## What's covered

The plan will help cover most basic dental services, such as check-ups, x-rays, teeth cleaning, fillings, dentures, root canals and some oral surgeries.

The CDCP will reimburse a percentage of the cost at the plan's established fees. These depend on the members' income level, and some people may have to pay the rest of the expense amount out of pocket. For example:

- if you have a family income under \$70,000, you can have 100 per cent of eligible costs covered;
- if your family income is between \$70,000 and

\$79,999, 60 per cent of eligible costs can be covered; and

- with a family income between \$80,000 and \$89,999, 40 per cent of eligible costs can be covered.
- You may have to pay fees in addition to the potential co-payment if:
- your oral health provider charges more than the CDCP fees
- you agree to receive care that the plan doesn't cover

Before receiving oral health care, you should always ask your oral health provider about any costs that won't be covered by the plan.

Find more information at [canada.ca/dental](http://canada.ca/dental).



## PUBLIC HEARING – Bylaw 1646/23 Road Closure Bylaw

Sturgeon County Council requests public input on proposed Bylaw 1646/23.

The property owner would like to bring the existing outdoor recreational uses on the lands into compliance and develop a recreational plan for their land as a whole at 302 57000 Highway 44.

### Public Hearing details

The Public Hearing will be held in person and via videoconference on:

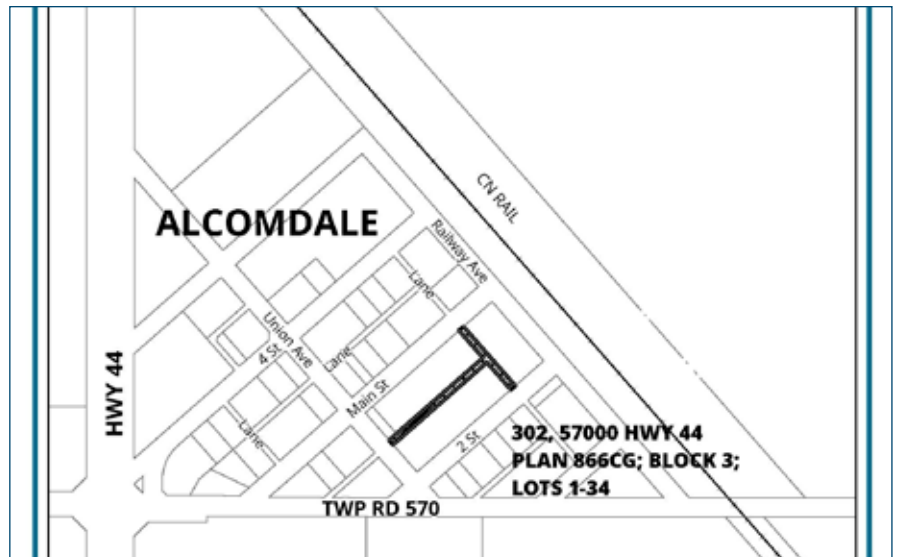
**Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.** (or as soon as practical thereafter)

Sturgeon County Council Chambers (9613 100 St. in Morinville)  
[sturgeoncounty.ca/CouncilMeetings](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/CouncilMeetings)

The land was recently rezoned to REC – Recreational District and the intent is to consolidate all the land into one lot which requires the formal closure of the existing road right-of-way.

A bylaw is needed to formally close the existing road right-of-way.

View the proposed bylaw at [sturgeoncounty.ca/public-hearing-bylaw-1646-23-road-closure-bylaw](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/public-hearing-bylaw-1646-23-road-closure-bylaw)



### Questions? Contact us!

Arjen de Klerk  
Integrated Development and Lands Services  
780-939-8375  
[adeklerk@sturgeoncounty.ca](mailto:adeklerk@sturgeoncounty.ca)

## Important information about Public Hearings

### Requirements for speakers

All speakers have five minutes to speak and are encouraged to provide a written copy of their submission before the Public Hearing.

### Speaking in person

To speak at the Public Hearing in person, contact Legislative Services at **780-939-8277** or **780-939-1377** to pre-register.

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Email your written submission to Legislative Services at [legislativeservices@sturgeoncounty.ca](mailto:legislativeservices@sturgeoncounty.ca). Written submissions are accepted up to the close of the Public Hearing.

If making a written submission, you must include your name, state your interest in the matter (such as a County resident directly impacted by the proposed bylaw), and indicate if you are in favour of or opposed to the proposed bylaw.

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**MOVE IN READY IN WESTLOCK**

This cute, well kept 3 bedroom bungalow in Westlock is move in ready. Renovations over the years include newer flooring and paint, new windows, furnace and h/w tank in 2016, bathroom renos in

2017, shingles in 2017, front and back decks, backflow valve installed in both washer drain and floor drain, and new front door and patio doors. Wall has been opened up between kitchen and living room to allow for a more open concept. Features include a built in vacuum system, pantry, solar light tube in kitchen, patio doors in back bedroom allow access to back deck and fenced yard with storage shed. Basement is partially finished with a family room space, laundry area and den which could easily be a 4th bedroom if window was made a bit larger. There is roughed in plumbing for a bathroom in the basement. Just needs flooring and ceiling installed to finish the basement. This is a great starter home or small family home. Would also be great for an investor as all the work has already been done. **\$219,000. Call Heather to view.**



**ONLY \$164,900 FOR 2 BEDROOM BUNGALOW IN LEGAL**

Looking for affordable living that's move in ready? This 2 bedroom bungalow in Legal is perfect for first time buyers, investors or seniors who aren't quite ready to

give up their pets and move into a lodge. Many upgrades over the years including furnace, vinyl siding and windows. Renos in the past year include all new bathroom with stacked washer and dryer and on demand hot water heater, new counter tops and backsplash in kitchen, eavestroughs, sump pit and pump. Fresh paint throughout. Brand new carpet in bedrooms and lino in bathroom and back entrance and the living room/kitchen flooring is only a few years old. Large 75'x66' fenced lot with fire pit, flower beds, deck and plenty of parking space for a couple of cars and holiday trailer. Or build a garage if you like. Ramp is also in place for easy access with wheelchairs or walkers. Legal is a great small town that's only a few minutes north of Legal. Move in ready! **\$164,900. Call Heather to view.**



**77.16 ACRES NEAR EGREMONT**

Fenced pasture land located just two miles west of Egremont (a few minutes north of Redwater). Lots of great building sites with power lines running on both the range road and township road bordering

this property. A nice mixture of open land and large mature spruce, pine and poplar. Approximately 40 min to Edmonton. Nice spot to start your own small hobby farm, weekend retreat or rent the land out in the summer and use it for hunting in fall. **\$250,000 plus gst. Call Heather for more info.**



**NEW LISTING**

**5.32 ACRES READY TO BUILD ON**

Gorgeous building spot or weekend getaway within a half hour of north Edmonton, right across the road from Half Moon

Lake (north of Bon Accord). This 5.32 acres is one of the largest lots in this subdivision of Pinebrook Estates. Beautifully treed for privacy with mature spruce, poplar, birch and more. There is a nice cleared area with a firepit or a spot to build on. Lots of hiking or cross country ski trails throughout the property. Lots of recreational opportunities at Half Moon Lake like boating, swimming and fishing. Only about a mile of gravel to the nearest paved road. Utilities nearby. **\$99,900. Call Heather to view.**



**4.99 ACRES BY BUSBY**

Room for everything on this 4.99 acres with a 2400 sq ft 1 1/2 storey home that has 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and a full unfinished basement that is framed in for an additional 2 bedrooms. House was originally built in 2009 on a crawlspace but was lifted and had a full basement installed in 2013. Bsmt has roughed in plumbing for another bathroom and a wet bar. This home was built for energy efficiency with walls built from structural insulated panels (30-50% more efficient). It has in floor hot water heating system powered by 2 electric boilers that were installed in 2013. Features 2 sided wood burning fireplace, large kitchen/dining room, moveable island, double oven, gleaming wood ceilings, main floor laundry, chair lift to 2nd floor and more. Master suite has 2 w/i closets, gorgeous ensuite, and private loft area with door to future balcony. Double det'd garage with loft space above. Lots of fruit trees, firepit, trails throughout the trees. A few minutes SW of Busby, just over a half hour to Edmonton. **\$469,900. Call Heather to view.**



**BUILDING SITE BY NEWBROOK**

24.8 acres bordering the Hamlet of Newbrook, about 1/2 hour NE of Redwater on Hwy 63. This is the remainder of the quarter that

much of the hamlet of Newbrook is built on. Currently being used as pasture land with lots of open land and a few treed areas. Nice building sites. Zoning on this land allows for many possibilities for use. Build your dream home on a nice sized acreage, subdivide some lots to expand the Hamlet, maybe start a business ventures. Good possibility to get County approval for any of these uses. May be possible to tie into residential utilities. **\$180,000. Call Heather for directions.**



**FULL QUARTER OF LAND IN THORHILD COUNTY**

Full quarter of open pasture and bush land approximately 1 hour north of Edmonton in Thorhild County. About 100 acres has

been brushed in the past few years and just needs clean up of the brush piles to make open land. This portion had been used as hay land many years ago so could potentially be hay or grain land again. The remained 59 acres is large, mature bush land. The land is fenced and there are two good dugouts so it's all ready for your animals. Also a few nice building spots on this property and power runs along both the range road and township road. Great spot for hunting, quadding, snowmobiling. County bylaws allow for subdivision of this land. **\$279,900 plus gst. Call Heather for more info.**



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HEATHER MOELLER: 780-699-7914  
TARA FISHER: 780-932-0196  
JANINE PEQUIN: 780-349-0361



# Three reasons seniors are embracing technology

(NC) While some seniors are intimidated by today's technology, many have wholeheartedly embraced it for the convenience it can provide in their daily lives. Here are three ways open-minded seniors are using tech to their advantage – and to connect with their family during special occasions.

### Personal safety

Smart-home technology refers to any household appliances or electronics that are connected to the internet. While younger people may mostly use smart-home technology for things like energy conservation or to turn on their favourite playlist while they're making dinner, for seniors, there are added safety

benefits to living in a high-tech home.

You can use voice-activated home systems to turn the lights on before getting out of bed or entering a room. You can also program them to give audible appointment or medication reminders. Owners can also use smart tech to make hands-free phone calls in the event of a fall or other emergency. Outside the home, voice-prompts from GPS maps can get users

safely to their destination without the distraction of trying to read a map on the go.

### Staying in touch

While we were isolated in our homes during the pandemic, many people learned how video communication platforms make it possible to do our jobs remotely. We also used the same tools to connect with friends from a distance.

Seniors, who might otherwise

have been reluctant to try to learn these tools soon realized that it was the only way to stay in touch with friends, children and grandkids. Now, many of us have mastered the art of setting up group meetings so our book club can go on no matter how bad the weather – or how far-flung the participants.

It's also a great way to send Valentine's greetings or to celebrate Family Day with the grandkids if traveling to see them is not an option.

### Automated banking

At this time of year, the weather can often make it tricky or even dangerous to venture out. That's one reason why seniors are increasingly using online banking and

other automated financial tools. This includes setting up direct deposit for any money coming in and automating bill payments so you don't forget to pay one.

If you haven't already, it's useful for seniors – and Canadians of all ages – to sign up for direct deposit payments from the Canada Revenue Agency. It's the fastest way to receive income tax refunds and any other rebates or incentives you're entitled to. You can receive your payment in as little as eight business days with direct deposit.

Learn more about signing up for direct deposit for federal government rebates and refunds at [canada.ca/cra-direct-deposit](http://canada.ca/cra-direct-deposit).



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[www.theredwaterreview.com](http://www.theredwaterreview.com)

**MOUNTIE MINUTE**  
**Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment**

**\*\*UPDATE\*\* The 2 tone Chevrolet Avalanche which was linked to numerous Break and Enters were located and a male was arrested.**

- February 2, 2024 Smoky Lake RCMP responded to a motor vehicle collision which involved a car and semi-truck. The driver of the car was transported to the U of A Hospital with serious injuries. The truck driver sustained minor injuries, Highway 28 was closed for numerous hours to investigate. Alcohol and drugs are being investigated as a possible factor.
- January 29 RCMP located a stolen vehicle from Edmonton, the vehicle was abandoned near Spedden
- Cabins were broken into in the Northeast corner of County of Smoky Lake
- Break and Enter to a seasonal property
- RCMP is investigating a \$40,000 fraud from an on-line platform

**IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON A CRIME CONTACT THE SMOKY LAKE RCMP AT 780-656-3550 or CRIMESTOPPERS 1-800-222-TIPS(8477)**

**Sturgeon COUNTY**

**Council Remuneration Task Force**

**APPLY TODAY!**

If you are interested in ensuring Sturgeon County offers fair, equitable and appropriate compensation for the Mayor and Councillors.

**Opportunity for five public members to join the task force.**

**APPLY IF YOU:**

- Are at least 18 years of age
- Canadian citizen
- Live in Sturgeon County
- Are available to meet as required by the Task Force until project completion in September 2024
- Have a background in financial services, accounting, business and economics, labour and employment relations, or community service
- Are interested in learning more about municipal government

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:**  
February 20, 2024

**APPLY ONLINE:**  
[sturgeoncounty.ca/Boards](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/Boards)

**Sturgeon COUNTY**

**Sand and Gravel Advisory Committee**

**APPLY TODAY!**

If you are interested in ensuring a viable gravel industry that considers the environment, economic objectives, and our community.

**Opportunity for two public members to join the committee.**

**APPLY IF YOU:**

- Live in Sturgeon County (Require at least one member from Division 6)
- Are available to attend six meetings a year
- Are open to sharing and learning new ideas and best practices in resource extraction
- Are interested in learning more about responsible resource development and environmental concerns

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:**  
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**Announcements**

**EGG FARMERS OF ALBERTA** is pleased to announce that our New Entrant Program will be running in 2024! \*FEBRUARY 22, 2024 - webinar information session #1; \*MAY 1, 2024 - application window opens; \*MAY 2, 2024 - webinar information

session #2; \*JUNE 25, 2024 - deadline for applications. For more information and to register for the townhall webinars, please visit <https://eggs.ab.ca/healthy-farms/new-entrant-program/>

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**HIP/KNEE REPLACEMENT.** Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING? The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$3,000 yearly tax credit and \$30,000 lump sum refund. Take advantage of this offer. Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide: Expert help. 1-844-453-5372.

**Services**

**CRIMINAL RECORD?**

Why suffer employment/licensing loss? Travel/business opportunities? Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon. US entry waiver. Record purge. File destruction. Free consultation. 1-800-347-2540. [www.accesslegalmjf.com](http://www.accesslegalmjf.com).

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 T W U D N E I R F L R I G I U Y G R R C  
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## CROSSWORDS

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5	3	8	9	1	6	7	4	2
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2	6	9	7	4	3	8	1	5



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