



A sister publication to **The Free Press**, Morinville, Alberta

Thorhild Bullarama comes with added excitement this year

By **Brandie Majeau**

Excitement is mounting in Thorhild as everyone prepares for the return of the highly anticipated Thorhild Bullarama on April 19. This year, the Thorhild Agricultural Society is introducing an exciting new addition to the competition...the Friday Night Junior Roughstock Event.

Inspired by the impressive performances of two local young riders last year, the Thorhild Agricultural Society saw an opportunity to further



Photos courtesy of Thorhild Agricultural Society



Continued on **page 7**

Bringing beauty home: Rose & Blossom Hair Studio set to open near Redwater

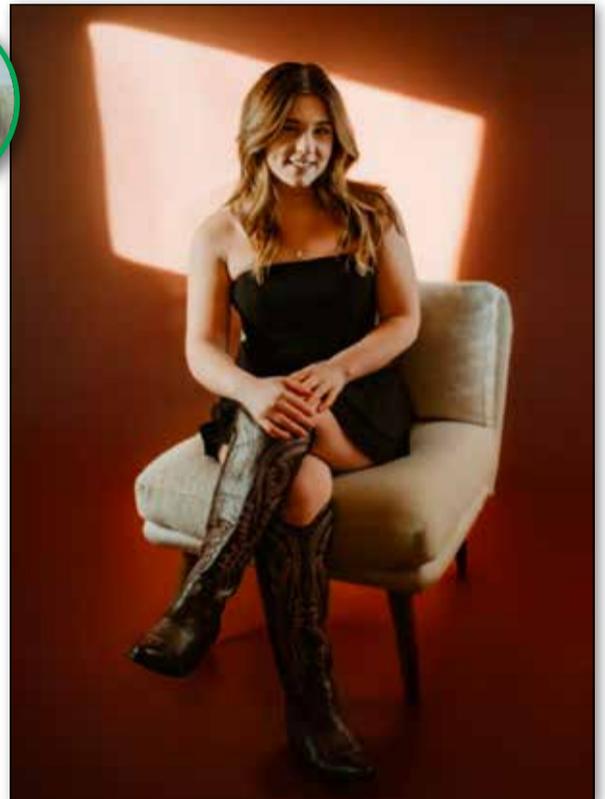
By **Haylee Winger**

A new chapter is beginning just outside of Redwater with the upcoming opening of Rose & Blossom Hair Studio, located at 21125 Township Road 590, Radway, Alberta just 10 minutes from Redwater. With a projected opening date of April 15, the new studio brings five years of professional experience back to the community she proudly calls home.

Owner and stylist Vanessa Chykerda has spent the past five years building a loyal clientele, with many clients from Radway, Redwater, and surrounding areas travelling to Sherwood Park and Morinville for appointments. Now, she is bringing her services closer to them.

Owning a salon was never part of Chykerda's original plan.

During her time at her previous salon, she became involved in far more than hair-styling alone. She gained firsthand experience in operations, client relations, decision-making, and the responsibilities that come with running a



Vanessa Chykerda, owner of Rose & Blossom Hair Studio, is preparing to open her new salon just outside of Redwater, bringing five years of experience and a passion for confidence-building beauty services back to her home community.

business. That foundation strengthened not only her technical skills, but also her confidence and leadership ability.

Her former employer, who is also a close friend, had once planned for Chykerda to eventually take over that salon. It was an opportunity she valued deeply. However, she knew in her heart that Morinville was not where she wanted to plant long-term roots. She felt drawn

to build something of her own, closer to home and aligned with who she was becoming both personally and professionally.

"Opening a salon was never part of my plan," says Chykerda. "But sometimes life prepares you for something long before you realize you're being shaped for it."

Rather than stepping into an existing space, she chose to create

Continued on **page 2**

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Continued from page 1

one from the ground up. Her vision for Rose & Blossom Hair Studio is centered on purpose, continued education, and meaningful connection within the community.

The studio will offer haircuts, colouring services, extension services, eyebrow tinting, formal styling, and bridal packages for all ages. Chykerda specializes in colouring services and is a Matrix and Biolage Artistic Educator, working closely with Matrix and Biolage. As part of her educator role, she regularly

looks for models for colour and haircut services and encourages the public to follow her social media pages for upcoming opportunities.

The salon will use Matrix colour and carry both Matrix and Biolage retail products. Special orders will also be available upon request. Chykerda studies the product lines extensively, allowing her to confidently recommend options tailored to each individual client's needs.

With five years in the industry, she believes strongly in empowerment and the connection between

appearance and self-confidence.

"Look good, feel good has never been more true," she explains. "Loving who you are plays a powerful role in self-confidence, and sometimes that love begins with something as simple, yet meaningful, as a new hair color or a different hairstyle."

Chykerda believes hair can help people reconnect with themselves on a deeper level.

"When someone sits in my chair, the transformation goes far beyond appearance," she says. "It's about being seen, cared for, and

reminded of who they are."

One client living with osteomyelitis had endured fourteen surgeries in attempts to remove chronic infection before ultimately losing her right arm. Doctors later recommended removing her left arm as well. When the client came in for her appointment, her focus was not vanity, but identity. She wanted to feel beautiful again and recognize herself in the mirror.

"I had never left work crying for someone else until I met her," Chykerda shares. "Her story is extreme, but the feeling behind

it is deeply relatable. At some point, we all want to recognize ourselves again."

To stay current and inspired, Chykerda attends national education events within Canada annually and regularly completes online courses through her Matrix and Biolage educator network. As part of a team that helps set trends and inspire others across Alberta, she also teaches regional classes, ensuring she continues to grow both behind the chair and in the classroom.

For now, Rose & Blossom Hair Studio will operate as a

one-chair salon. Once established, Chykerda plans to consider hiring or renting additional chairs.

With experience, heart, and a strong sense of purpose guiding her, Vanessa Chykerda's new venture represents more than the opening of a business. It marks the beginning of a locally rooted space dedicated to confidence, connection, and community. To follow along for updates or to browse her latest work, follow Vanessa on Facebook at Rose & Blossom Hair Studio or on Instagram at vanessarosechykerda.

Redwater School junior high students reel in success at ice fishing adventure



Students from Redwater School junior high recently enjoyed a memorable ice fishing trip filled with excitement, teamwork, and outdoor adventure. The day brought perfect winter conditions, allowing everyone to fully experience the fun of fishing on the ice. A special congratulations goes to Logan, who proudly caught the largest fish of the day, demonstrating both patience and skill. Hunter earned recognition for catching the first fish, kicking off the action and setting the tone for a successful outing. From setting up on the ice to celebrating each catch, students shared plenty of laughter and camaraderie throughout the trip. It was truly a fantastic day outdoors, and a great time was had by all. **Redwater School photos**

Pink Shirt Day: Taking a stand against bullying



On February 25, Pink Shirt Day was recognized across the community as residents wore bright pink to stand against bullying and promote kindness and inclusion. Sturgeon County council members participated by wearing pink, including shirts featuring unique designs created by local children. Each design carried messages of acceptance, respect and standing up for one another. Thanks were extended to the young artists who shared their artwork, helping make the day especially meaningful. Community members who wore pink also helped spark important conversations about bullying and supporting one another. Residents looking for help or resources related to bullying can visit pinkshirtday.ca/resources or kidshelpphone.ca for support. **Sturgeon County photos**



Smoky Lake RCMP Report

By Haylee Winger



The Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment responded to a variety of calls for service during the week of February 16, including break and enters, suspicious activity, and several public safety concerns throughout the region.

RCMP members are currently investigating a burnt vehicle discovered near Victoria Trail and Highway 831. The investigation remains ongoing.

Officers, along with surrounding detachments, responded to an active break and enter. Suspects were located, arrested and charged

in connection with the incident.

Police are also investigating damage to an ATCO transformer box involving the theft of copper wire.

In the early morning hours, at approximately 2:45 a.m., RCMP responded to assist stranded motorists. Members attended and remained with the occupants while they waited for a tow truck.

A false alarm was reported at the Vilna Fire Hall. No further action was required.

Members assisted the Lac La Biche detachment with the service of a subpoena and also supported a Manitoba detachment with an ongoing

investigation.

RCMP responded to a report of a suspicious male who exited a vehicle along Highway 28 and Range Road 122. Police determined there were no safety concerns, and the individual was provided a ride after indicating he no longer wished to remain with the vehicle's occupants.

Officers conducted a wellbeing check at a rural residence and responded to a report of a possible impaired driver whose vehicle was allegedly swerving. The vehicle was located, and a Mandatory Alcohol Screening demand was administered, resulting in a reading of "0." No further signs of impairment were

observed.

Members also assisted the Smoky Lake Fire Department at a local business in the Town of Smoky Lake in response to a non-suspicious fire.

Patrols were conducted following reports of intoxicated males outside the Warspite Bar revving engines; however, police were unable to locate the individuals. Similarly, patrols were completed after

a report of a person walking along Highway 28 near the Mons Lake turnoff, but no one was located.

RCMP responded to a trespassing complaint involving an individual who had broken into a camper. The suspect was arrested and held for a Judicial Release Interim Hearing. The individual was also found to have an outstanding warrant for breach of probation.

Police attended the

Smoky Lake Health Care Centre following reports of a verbally assaultive patient who left prior to police arrival.

Members also received a report of a deceased deer on Highway 831.

The Smoky Lake RCMP remind the public to report suspicious activity. They can be reached at 780-656-3550. Anonymous tips can be provided to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Fleming Hockey Camp is moving to Smoky Lake

By Brandie Majeau



There has been an exciting announcement! The Fleming Hockey Camp will be moving to Smoky Lake this August. For over two decades, the camp has been known in the province's hockey community for its top-tier instruction and strong tradition of developing young athletes. Now, with a new home, Fleming Hockey Camp is set to bring its unique brand of skill development and fun to a fresh group of players from across the region.

Camp Coordinator Kevin Fleming shared his enthusiasm about the camp's new location: "We are very excited about bringing our camp to rural Alberta, and specifically to Smoky Lake!" The move represents

a return to the camp's roots, which stretch back to 1973, when Alberta

Hockey Hall of Famer Jim Fleming co-founded the original "Vermilion Summer Vacation Hockey School." That camp set the standard for comprehensive hockey training, blending on-ice skill instruction, power skating, off-ice conditioning, and a culminating Game Day.

After successful stints in Sherwood Park and Edmonton, where the camp has operated for the past 23 years, the decision to relocate was driven by a desire to inspire and reach young players in rural communities. The inaugural Smoky Lake camp will run from August 17-21, 2026, and promises to deliver the same high-quality experience that has made



Fleming Hockey Camp a household name among Alberta hockey families.

The camp caters to a range of age groups, from the Bombers (6-8 years old) to the Flyers (13-15 years old). Each day will have training with intensive power skating sessions, drills focusing on passing, stick handling, and shooting, as well as

instruction in the fundamentals of team tactics and checking. Off-ice, athletes participate in conditioning, shooting practice, and team-building exercises, ensuring a holistic approach to hockey development. Fridays are capped off with an exciting game session, letting players showcase their progress.

Goalies are not left

out either with specialized instructors are on hand for daily goalie training and dedicated, goalie-only sessions packed with shot and save opportunities.

Anyone interested can stay updated on coaches, schedules, and registration information, by following Fleming Hockey School on Facebook or @fleminghockeyskillscamp

on Instagram. Registration details are available at www.fleminghockeyskillscamp.com/home.html.

With its move to Smoky Lake, the Fleming Hockey Camp invites a new generation of players to lace up, hit the ice, and discover their potential under the guidance of some of Alberta's finest hockey coaches.



Photos courtesy of Fleming Hockey Skills Camp



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COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS February 24, 2026

Below is a brief summary of decisions made at the February 24, 2026, Regular Council meeting:

Unfinished Business - Swimming Pool Schedule

Council directed Administration to bring back the Swimming Pool Schedule to a future Council meeting with further information. Council also directed Administration to bring back the Swimming Pool Rates to a future Council meeting.

Public Hearing and Second and Third Reading for Proposed Bylaw 01-2026 to Amend Land Use Bylaw 1194-2015

Upon the conclusion of the Public Hearing regarding Bylaw 01-2026 to amend Land Use Bylaw 1194-2015 by changing Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 082 8507 within NW 14-58-20-W4M from CR-Multi-Lot Country Residential to AG - Agricultural District, Council approved second and third readings of Bylaw 01-2026.

Public Hearing and Second and Third Reading for Proposed Bylaw 03-2026 to add Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 082 8507 as a Recreational Vehicle Campground under the Agricultural District of Land Use Bylaw 1194-2015

Upon the conclusion of the Public Hearing regarding Bylaw 01-2026 to Bylaw 03-2026 to approve a text amendment for Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 082 8507 within NW14-58-20-W4M to be added as a recognized Recreational Vehicle Campground under the AG - Agricultural District, Section 8.2 (6) of Land Use Bylaw 1194-2015, Council approved second and third readings of Bylaw 03-2026.

Grants in Place of Taxes Write Offs

Council directed Administration to write off \$7,507.67 for 92 tax rolls as listed in Schedule "A" - Grazing Reserve Accounts for Write Off.

County Bus Survey Results 2026

Council accepted the 2026 County Bus Survey results report for information.

Newbrook Historical Society Lease Agreement

Council approved the 10-year lease agreement between the Newbrook Historical Society and Thorhild County, with Reeve Trevor Dafoe and CAO Ryan Maier to sign the agreement.

Correspondence for Action - Feledichuk/Curran Thorhild Memorial Slo-Pitch Tournament

Council directed Administration to waive the diamond rental fees, camping fees, and provide the former school lot and rodeo grounds for overflow camping for the Feledichuk/Curran Thorhild Memorial Slo-Pitch Tournament, from June 12-14th, 2026, and provide a copy of the Community Standards bylaw to the tournament organizers.

Delegation - Aspen View Public Schools Board of Trustees

Council accepted the presentation from the Aspen View Public Schools Board of Trustees - Superintendent Constantine Kastrinos and Trustee April Bauer for information.

Delegation - North Parkland Power

Council accepted the presentation from North Parkland Power - Vicki Zinyk and Charles Newell for information.



FREE TAX CLINICS Get your benefits and credits



If you have a modest income and a simple tax situation, volunteers can do your tax return for you!

For Thorhild County residents that have modest income and very basic tax returns.

Income limits for the 2025 tax year are as follows:

- Singles up to \$35,000
- Couples combined income up to \$45,000
- Families with a combined income up to \$52,500

Taxes will be completed during March and April by appointments on the following dates:

March 12, 2026 10:00am-2:00pm	April 14, 2026 10:00am-3:00pm
March 4, 2026 10:00am-3:00pm	April 15, 2026 10:00am-3:00pm
March 5, 2026 10:00am-3:00pm	April 16, 2026 11:30am-3:00pm
March 10, 2026 10:00am-2:00pm	April 28, 2026 10:00am-3:00pm
March 11, 2026 10:00am-2:00pm	

To book an appointment or for information please call Kelly at 780-398-3741 ext. 2820.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Proposed Amendment of Land Use Bylaw 1194-2015

On proposed Bylaw 04-2026 which would amend Land Use Bylaw 1194-2015 by changing 9.1 Land Use District Map of certain lands identified in Schedule A as attached to Bylaw 04-2026 as follows:

- a) That 15 acres of Lot 1, Block 1 Plan 092 0797 within NW 10-60-23-W4M be redistricted from AG – Agricultural to CR – Multi-Lot Country Residential District.

NOTICE THAT in accordance with section 606 of the Municipal Government Act, the Council of Thorhild County is giving consideration to a Land Use Bylaw Amendment.

The Public Hearing will be held both in-person and via Teams Meeting (audio only) on:

Tuesday, March 10, 2026, that begins at 10:00 a.m. in Thorhild County Council Chambers (801 – 1st Street, Thorhild)

Important Information

- All speakers will be given a 10-minute time limit and are encouraged to provide a written copy of their submission in advance of the Public Hearing.
- If you intend on participating in person, you are encouraged to pre-register.
- If you wish to speak at the Public Hearing electronically by Teams Meeting, you are asked to register by noon on Friday, March 6, 2026. This is to ensure that participants receive instructions to access the hearing.
- If you are unable to attend the Public Hearing, you may make a written submission. Your name, address, legal land location and the bylaw number must be included in your submission.
- To register, submit a written submission or have issues connecting to Teams Meeting, contact the Planning Clerk at 780-398-3741 Ext. 2823 or email: jeannette.cholach@thorhildcounty.com.
- The proposed Bylaw may be viewed at the County Office and is available on the Thorhild County Website: <https://www.thorhildcounty.com/Government/Council/Council-Meetings>.
- Persons wishing to attend the Public Hearing are invited to attend in person or Teams Meeting through the County website at: <https://www.thorhildcounty.com/Government/Council/Council-Meetings>.
- If you have any questions or inquiries pertaining to this Public Hearing, contact David Blades, Manager of Planning and Development at 780-398-3741 Ext. 2825 or e-mail David.Blades@thorhildcounty.com.

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 under the Protection of Privacy Act Section 4(c). If you have any questions, please contact the Protection of Privacy Co-Ordinator at 780-398-3741.

ARE YOU A SMALL BUSINESS IN THORHILD COUNTY?

Then you may qualify for the Non-Residential Small Business Property Sub-Class

The Owner of the Non-Residential Property must apply by the April 30, 2026 deadline to receive the Small Business Property Sub-Class Tax Rate for your 2026 property taxes.

Obtain your application online at www.thorhildcounty.com or in person at the County office (801-1st Street, Thorhild, AB).

For further details call the Tax Clerk at 780-398-3741 ext. 2822; taxes@thorhildcounty.com or visit www.thorhildcounty.com, then click on the Services tab > Corporate Services > Assessment & Property Taxes > Tax Rates, then click on "2026 Non-Residential Small Business Sub Class Declaration"

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Thorhild County is accepting applications from candidates to fill the following summer/seasonal positions. For details, please visit our Careers page at www.thorhildcounty.com.

- Pool Manager & Lifeguards/Instructors
- Equipment Operators
- Summer Program Leaders
- Roadside Mower Operator
- Infrastructure Assistant
- Records Management Clerk
- Agricultural Spray Operator
- Summer Program Coordinator
- Labourers
- Agricultural Assistant

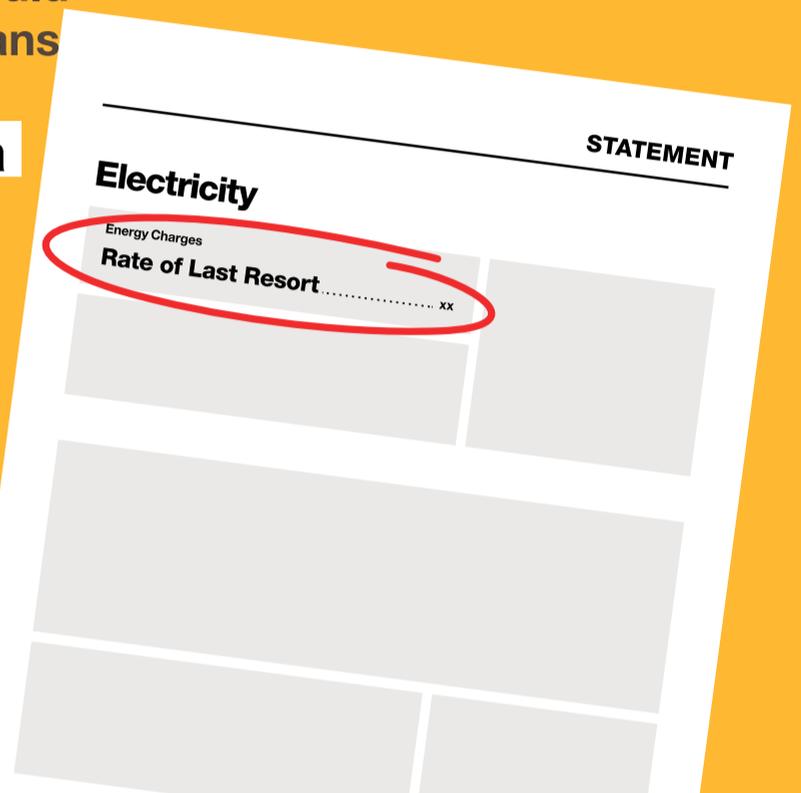


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Alberta



SOLD
MORINVILLE BUNGALOW WITH DOUBLE DETACHED GARAGE

ORIGINAL OWNER three bedroom two bathroom BUNGALOW showing true pride of ownership! On the main floor is an open living and dining room adjoining a large kitchen with an additional breakfast nook space. The primary

bedroom has a two piece ensuite as well as a WALK IN CLOSET. Completing the main floor is a four piece bathroom and two additional bedrooms. Downstairs you have a party area with a built in bar and a gaming room great for pool or an entertainment set up. A large workshop with adjoining storage room offers plenty of space to work on projects, with a small bedroom down the hall and a laundry room. Outside is an OVERSIZED DOUBLE DETACHED GARAGE, large yard, and an additional parking pad on the east side of the house. Numerous updates throughout the years include flooring throughout the main floor, furnace, hot water tank and garage opener. You don't see one like this every day - move in ready and full of charm! **\$365,000. Call Glenn to view.**



YOUR DREAM BUILD AWAITS!

1.52 Acres of sloped land in the Hillsborough subdivision! Great opportunity to build a beautiful walk out home, with mature trees at

the back of the property offering privacy from the neighbors. ON PAVEMENT all the way to Hwy 28, 10 mins from Gibbons and 30 mins from Edmonton. **\$180,000. Call Glenn for more info.**



NEW
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

This 119.23 acres is only minutes from Edmonton, SE of Spruce Grove. Great possibility of future acreage development. There is already an acreage subdivision on the north border of this property. Located on pavement. Currently being used as farmland with some treed areas and two dugouts. Build your dream home and develop the rest. Great holding property that you can rent out while you watch your investment grow. Currently zoned agricultural with low taxes. **Asking \$2,800,000. Call Glenn for more information.**



74 ACRES OF LAND

74 Acres of land bordered by the Hamlet of Radway and Highway 28, less than an hour to Edmonton. Approx 25 acres of this land is high while the rest is wetland. May be able to have it rezoned to agricultural or country residential and use as pasture land or get a few acres of grain land with the possibility of building a house on the high land at south end. Creek runs through the property. Was pasture land at one time but old fence is in poor condition. Possibly use as a weekend getaway and go fishing at the Radway Fish Pond next door. Seller had trees cleared on some of it a few years ago but some have started to grow back. **\$120,000. Call Heather to view.**



NEW
157 ACRES MINUTES FROM PAVEMENT

This SUBDIVIDABLE, nearly full quarter, sits just outside of Riviere Qui Barre with quick access to Highway 44 and Highway 642. Good cultivated grain land. Features include a city water line running in front of the property as well as a dugout. **Asking \$1,050,000.00 Call Glenn for more information.**



AFFORDABLE FAMILY HOME IN REDWATER

Great opportunity to own this 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home with a double attached garage and just under 1500 sq ft of living space. The entire upper floor can be a spacious primary suite with 4 pce bath or fantastic play area for the kids- flexible to suit your lifestyle. The main floor features an open kitchen/living room, 2 bedrooms, 4 pce bath plus a handy space for home office right off the the living area. Step outside to enjoy the private, treed backyard with a deck and hottub-perfect for relaxing or entertaining. Upgrades include some windows, high efficient furnace and 2 jetted tubs. This home offers comfort, great value, and room for your family to grow, all in a quiet Redwater neighborhood, close to schools and parks. **\$244,900. Call Janine to view.**



GLENN FISHER TEAM



Each office independently owned & operated.
10018 - 100 Avenue, MORINVILLE
Website: www.glennfisher.com Email: glennfisherteam@gmail.com



IRP Approved Agent

GLENN FISHER: 780-913-2493
HEATHER MOELLER: 780-699-7914
TARA FISHER: 780-932-0196
JANINE PEQUIN: 780-349-0361



PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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!

CROSSWORDS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
17				18						19		
20					21					22		
23				24			25		26			
			27		28	29	30					
31	32	33		34				35			36	37
38				39				40			41	
42			43			44			45			
			46			47			48			
49	50							51		52	53	54
55				56		57	58	59	60			
61				62					63			
64				65						66		
67				68						69		

68. Gradually gave way
69. Clear-thinking

CLUES DOWN

- Brushed aside
- Water sprite
- Ones to look up to
- Monetary units
- A number everyone has
- Marine invertebrate
- One who takes you to court
- Indicates outer
- Parallelograms
- Strains
- Cross
- A way to remove
- Some pages are dog-__
- Ukraine city
- A citizen of Denmark
- Summer month (abbr.)
- Hindu queens
- Jewelry brand
- Fictional rider of Rohan
- Wet dirt

- Russian city
- Observed
- Furious
- Drivers' licenses
- Musical composition
- Auction
- They __
- Women
- Inspire with love
- Japanese ankle sock
- Appears
- Old World lizard
- The leading performer
- Type of protein
- Pennsylvania town
- Art __: around 1920
- __ Blyton, children's author
- Abnormal breathing
- A place to sleep

Crossword Clues

CLUES ACROSS

- Cut a little bit off
- State with confidence
- River in NE Scotland
- Not narrow
- Lacking social polish
- Amount of time
- Frame
- Automobile
- Toadstools
- High school dances
- Utilize
- Challenged
- One-sided
- Showing extreme greed
- Potted plants
- Everyone has one
- Lake in Botswana
- E.T. rode in one
- Juniors' parents

- Small amount
- Mother of Perseus
- Ornamental box
- Gov't investigators
- Uncertain
- A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- The vast grassy plains in S. America
- Your consciousness of your own identity
- Noted consumer advocate
- Spanish sports club
- Body part
- Tractability
- Woman (French)
- Ready and willing to be taught
- Muslim ruler title
- Depressed

HOROSCOPE

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Aries, your natural charisma is at an all-time high right now. A bold idea you've been sitting on finally gets the green light. Put your plan into action this week.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Comfort and luxury find you this week, Taurus. Expect a heartwarming moment in your personal or professional life that restores your sense of peace and well-being.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



Your social circle may expand this week in the best way possible, Gemini. A new connection brings a refreshing perspective to a creative project. Now you'll work out the details.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Recognition is coming your way, Cancer. Your hard work hasn't gone unnoticed. A small win will feel like a major victory, helping to inspire you to keep going.

LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



Leo, adventure is calling you this week. Whether you take a trip or get involved in a new book, your mind is expanding and your imagination is soaring.

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



A solution to an unsolved puzzle finally clicks into place, Virgo. You will feel a deep sense of relief and clarity. Don't take on too much more right now, and ride this high that you are feeling.

LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



A conversation with a loved one could bring you two closer together than ever before, Libra. In fact, harmony will be a major player in all of your relationships right now.

SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



You are a magnet for productivity this week, Scorpio. You will breeze through your list of things to do with plenty of time left over for self-care.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



Sagittarius, creativity is your superpower this week. Do not be afraid to express yourself through art, music, writing, or other creative pursuits.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Your foundation this week feels rock solid, Capricorn. A family matter is resolved with grace, leaving you feeling supported and loved.

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



This is the perfect week to share your vision with the world, Aquarius. Your communication skills are sharp. People will come around to your way of thinking.

PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



Abundance is flowing toward you, Pisces. Keep your eyes open for a surprise gift or a sudden increase in the tools you need to get things done.

NUTRITION WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- AMINO ACIDS
- ANTIOXIDANTS
- BASAL

- BIOAVAILABILITY
- CALORIES
- CARBOHYDRATES
- CELLS

- DIETARY
- ELECTROLYTES
- ENERGY
- ENRICHMENT

- FATTY ACIDS
- FIBER
- FORTIFICATION
- GLYCEMIC INDEX

- IRON
- LIPIDS
- MACRONUTRIENTS
- METABOLISM

- MICRONUTRIENTS
- PROBIOTICS
- PROTEIN
- SATIETY
- VITAMINS

Continued from page 1
promote the sport of rodeo among youth. Recognizing the value of providing young athletes with a platform to display their skills, they partnered with the Canadian Junior Rodeo Association (CJRA) to bring this event to the heart of Thorhild.

The CJRA is one of Canada's fastest-growing youth rodeo associations, dedicated to nurturing the next generation of rough-stock competitors. The organization prides itself on offering a safe, structured,

and professionally run environment where young riders can learn, compete, and build confidence. Safety is paramount at CJRA events, which are supervised by experienced stock contractors, arena crews, chute helpers, and pick-up men, ensuring all participants are well-supported.

In addition to the adrenaline-pumping rodeo action, the Thorhild Agricultural Society will also be hosting a colouring contest in the weeks leading up to Bullarama.

Organizers are encouraging families and

community members to check the Society's website and Facebook page for updates and details on how to participate.

With both seasoned rodeo fans and newcomers alike eagerly awaiting the event, the Ag Society promises a memorable night of action, sportsmanship, and engagement.

Hold onto that bull rope, it's going to be one wild ride.

For more information about the Thorhild Bullarama and the Junior Roughstock Event, visit the Thorhild Agricultural Society online.



Photo courtesy of Thorhild Agricultural Society



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by PETER MARINACCI

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I WAS JUST TRYING TO BE DOUBLY CREATIVE.

AP

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2026-2027 REDWATER RCMP POLICING PRIORITIES

WE WANT YOUR OPINION
DEADLINE OF MARCH 6, 2026

SCAN THE QR
← CODE



Students and staff at H.A. Kostash School marked Pink Shirt Day on February 25 by wearing pink in a show of unity and support. The school community came together to take a stand against bullying and to promote kindness and inclusion. Classrooms and hallways were filled with pink as everyone participated, reinforcing the message that respect and compassion should be practiced every day, not just on Pink Shirt Day.
H.A. Kostash School photo

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March Meetings and Important Dates

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County Centre Office
Ph: 780-939-4321
Toll Free: 1-866-939-9303
Emergency After Hours:
780-939-4321

Meeting schedule is subject to change. Members of the public are welcome to observe or listen in. For teleconference details and links to the livestream, click on the meetings notice in the following locations:

Council Meetings: SturgeonCounty.ca/CouncilMeetings
Board and Committee Meetings: SturgeonCounty.ca/Boards
Public Hearings: SturgeonCounty.ca/Notices

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board	March 3	2:00 PM
Youth Advisory Meeting	March 4	6:00 PM
Sand and Gravel Advisory Committee	March 9	3:00 PM
Community Services Advisory Board	March 9	5:00 PM
Regular Council/Committee of the Whole	March 10	9:00 AM
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board	March 17	2:00 PM
Regular Council/Committee of the Whole	March 24	9:00 AM
Economic Development Advisory Board	March 25	9:00 AM
ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee	March 25	9:00 AM

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UPDATES | NEWS | CONTACTS & MORE

KID'S CORNER



Ryker - Thorhild Central School



This is Ryker and he is in Grade 2. His favorite subject at school is Math and his favorite thing to do at home is playing outside.

Sponsored by

**Lions Club
Thorhild**



Redwater Rebels players battled hard during the February 21-22 weekend action that saw 129 penalty minutes handed out over two intense games. Despite a determined effort and strong compete level, the Rebels came up short, bringing their season to a close. The team thanked fans, families, volunteers and staff for their unwavering support and looks ahead to the 2026/27 season. **Redwater Rebels photo**

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Sturgeon County Dust Suppression



Sturgeon County offers three options for dust suppression to help reduce dust created by vehicle traffic on gravel roads. See our website for details on the three options.



**Early bird deadline
is April 16, 2026**

TYPES OF DUST SUPPRESSION	OIL	MINERAL OIL	CALCIUM
First 100m	\$4,165	\$1,097	\$405
Each Additional 10m	\$494	\$187.20	\$118

A late fee of \$100 is applied to orders received after April 16, 2026. No orders will be accepted after May 17, 2026.

Download application forms:
sturgeoncounty.ca/dust-suppression

Questions?
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Email: DustSuppression@sturgeoncounty.ca



Rain Barrels \$80



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purchase online!**

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**Pickup:
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8 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

Sturgeon County Open Space and
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For more information
Call: 780-939-8349
Email: osas@sturgeoncounty.ca





Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	3		9
19		20	57
	15	14	45
37	36	38	

16	15	6
20	18	19
4	3	2

Solution

CANADA



HISTORY

1837

British attempts to unite the colonies of Upper and Lower Canada lead to revolt. Two separate rebellions occur, one in Upper and another in Lower Canada.

Craft FACT:

This craft involving yarn gets its name from a French term meaning "small hook."

Answer: Crochet

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

BBYA LBKNATE

Answer: Baby blanket

NEW WORD

CHAIN

the starting stitches of crochet

Teamwork and sportsmanship shine in Smoky Lake



H.A. Kostash P.E. 7 class had an exciting and friendly game of dodgeball recently. Students showed great teamwork, sportsmanship, and positive attitudes throughout the match. There was plenty of energy, laughter, and encouragement as classmates cheered each other on. It was a fantastic way to stay active, build skills, and have fun together as a team. **H.A. Kostash School photos**

Are you looking to pursue a career in print journalism?



CA MacLean Local Journalism Grant

Essay Competition



- 2 (two) - \$2,000 grants available
- Open to Alberta students heading into their minimum second year of a post-secondary program relating to journalism
- Essay must convey the important role of quality community journalism plays in our modern world

CA MacLean Bursary Foundation



By Shelley Winger



Residents in Redwater will have the opportunity to connect with valuable disability supports next week as the Voice of Albertans with Disabilities (VAD) returns for another community session.

The presentation will take place on Thursday, March 5, at 2 p.m. at Pembina Place.

Representatives from the organization will provide information about available programs and services and will be on hand to answer

questions from attendees. The session is designed to help individuals better understand supports available to them and how to access them.

For many individuals and families, navigating government programs and paperwork can feel overwhelming. Sessions like this provide a local, accessible way for residents to receive guidance in person, ask questions in a supportive environment, and gain clarity on what benefits they may qualify for.

VAD staff can also assist with completing and navigating

applications for programs such as Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH), Canada Pension Plan Disability (CPP-D), Old Age Security (OAS), and other benefit programs.

According to the organization, their goal is to create safe and supportive spaces where people with disabilities feel seen, respected and empowered. They work to break down barriers and build bridges between individuals, communities and the supports they deserve.

Community partnerships, including support from

local Family and Community Support Services, help make sessions like this possible and ensure residents can access assistance close to home without needing to travel to larger centres.

Appointments for one-on-one assistance will be available following the presentation. Those wishing to book an appointment in advance can contact the Community Services Office at 780-942-4101.

More information about the Voice of Albertans with Disabilities can be found at vadsociety.ca.

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Vilna community members enjoy the February 16th Family Day skate, taking advantage of a beautiful winter day outdoors. The event saw an excellent turnout, with families gathering on the ice to celebrate together. Organizers also thanked the Vilna Pool Hall for providing extra cookies to help make the day even sweeter. **Jenn Trider photo**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS

Estate of Brian Matthew James Wells, who died on January 13, 2026.

If you have a claim against this Estate, you must file your claim by April 10, 2026.

with **Eva Forsys of Main Street Law LLP**
at **#12-119 First Avenue Spruce Grove, AB, T7X 2H4.**

If you do not file by the date set out above, the Estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

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PUBLIC HEARING – BYLAW 1698/25 MORINVILLE COLONY REDISTRICTING APPLICATION

Sturgeon County Council requests public input on proposed Bylaw 1698/25.

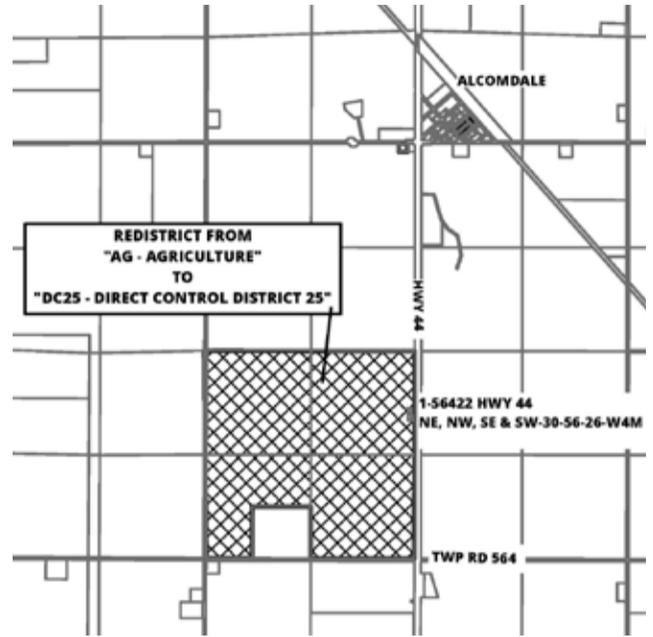
The applicant has requested that a section of land south of Alcomdale (at Highway 44 and Township Rd 564) be redistricted (rezoned) to bring the property into compliance with the County's Land Use Bylaw.

The proposed bylaw would redistrict a portion of Section 30-56-26-4:

- **Current land use district:** Agriculture (AG)
- **Proposed land use district:** DC25 – Direct Control District 25

A Direct Control (DC) District is a customized land-use designation within municipal zoning that allows for specific, site-unique rules. It offers detailed control over development where standard zones are inadequate. It is often used for unique sites or innovative projects needing precise regulation beyond typical zoning.

Learn more: sturgeoncounty.ca/public-hearing-bylaw-1698-25



Public Hearing details

The Public Hearing will be held in person and via videoconference on:
Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 1 p.m. (or as soon as practical thereafter) at Sturgeon County Council Chambers (9613 100 St. in Morinville)

Questions? Contact us!

Rebecca Schapansky, RPP, MCIP; Planner, Current Planning
587-404-9866, rschapansky@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 **780-939-0620** to register.

Speak via video conference (phone or video call-in)

To speak at the Public Hearing via videoconference, you must register by **March 9, 2026 at 1 p.m.** by contacting Legislative Services at **780-939-0620**. This ensures you receive instructions to access the videoconference.

Written submissions

Email your written submission to Legislative Services at 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.

To view the livestream, click on the meeting date on the calendar, then click on the video link.

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 under section 4(c) of the Protection of Privacy Act (POPA). If you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information, please contact the Sturgeon County Access and Privacy Advisor at 780-939-1306 or accessandprivacy@sturgeoncounty.ca.



NATURAL GAS INSTALLATION

Property owners requiring a new natural gas service or a secondary line to a home, business, or farm are asked to call 780-398-3741 ext. 2811 or utilities@thorhildcounty.com to request a new natural gas infill.

When contacting Thorhild County, please state the address or legal description, and the type of installation required.

The cost for new rural natural gas infill is \$8,250 plus GST. The cost for new urban natural gas infill is \$3,500 plus GST.

The application deadline is August 31 of each year.

UPCOMING METER REPLACEMENTS

The Thorhild County Utilities Department would like to inform natural gas customers that gas meter replacements will be completed in 2026.

Additionally, water operators will be replacing water meters in the Hamlets of Newbrook, Radway, Thorhild, and Egremont.

If you have questions, please contact the Utilities Department at 780-398-3741 ext. 2811.

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**Contact Bill:
780-235-4024.**



Photos courtesy of H2H Designs

By Brandie Majeau

Every year, schools across the country are flooded with a sea of pink. Hallways, classrooms, and gymnasiums are filled with students and teachers wearing their brightest and often cleverly punned pink shirts as a powerful symbol of unity and kindness. This imagery and energy displayed has become known as Pink Shirt Day, an annual anti-bullying initiative observed in schools to promote respect, inclusion, and

empathy among students.

Pink Shirt Day traces its origins to Nova Scotia, Canada, in 2007. The movement began when two high school students, David Shepherd and Travis Price, saw a fellow classmate being bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school. In a spontaneous act of support, Shepherd and Price purchased dozens of pink shirts and distributed them to classmates. The next day, the school was awash in pink, quietly demonstrating that this kind of bullying would not be tolerated.

That simple yet powerful gesture has since blossomed into a global movement.

Today, Pink Shirt Day is marked in schools worldwide, with millions participating each year. The day serves as a reminder of the importance of kindness and courage in the face of bullying.

Schools play a pivotal role in the Pink Shirt Day campaign. Educators use the occasion to teach lessons about empathy, respect, and the impact of bullying. There may also be assemblies, workshops, and class discussions organized to encourage students to speak out against bullying and to support those who may feel isolated.

Wearing pink becomes more

Continued on page 14

REGISTER NOW!

2026/2027



At a Glance

Generations United

With support from the Town of Redwater, our award-winning Generations United program connects senior volunteers with students to teach cooking and baking.

Nature-Based Learning

At Ochre Park School, students learn beyond the classroom through outdoor play, a thriving school garden, and hands-on experiences that connect them to the land.

Leadership Opportunities

Our school promotes leadership at every grade, including a dedicated Grade 4 Leadership Club that builds confidence and responsibility through hands-on projects.

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Grade 4

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Redwater, AB

ochreparkschool.ca

Are the kids alright? A look into the financial decisions of young Canadians

By Carol Kamel,
ATB ECONOMICS

When you think about the financial prospects of young Canadians, it tends to be framed as a bleak picture - housing unaffordability, cost-of-living pressures, elevated youth unemployment, the narrative of AI displacing entry-level jobs. A recent Bank of Canada survey backs up the mood: Canadians of all ages rated their financial well-being as worse than a year prior in every quarter of 2025. But bleakness masks the fact that there's more to the story, and it's not all doom and gloom. Today's Twenty-Four digs into what's actually driving young Canadians' wealth-building decisions.

Stocking up

I was recently posed the question: Are young Canadians turning to financial assets like stocks rather than real estate to build wealth? My gut said yes, but a hunch wasn't enough, so I turned to Statistics Canada's Household Economic Accounts for a granular breakdown of Canadian household wealth.

The findings were striking. Households where the major income earner is under 35 saw their average net worth grow the fastest of any age group in Q3 2025 at 7.4% year-over-year (y/y) compared to 5.5% for all age groups. The engine of this growth was financial assets, which grew by 13.2% for the

youngest households, also outpacing the average of 9.6% across all age groups. Moreover, the share of financial assets as a proportion of total wealth is growing faster for under-35s than any other cohort.

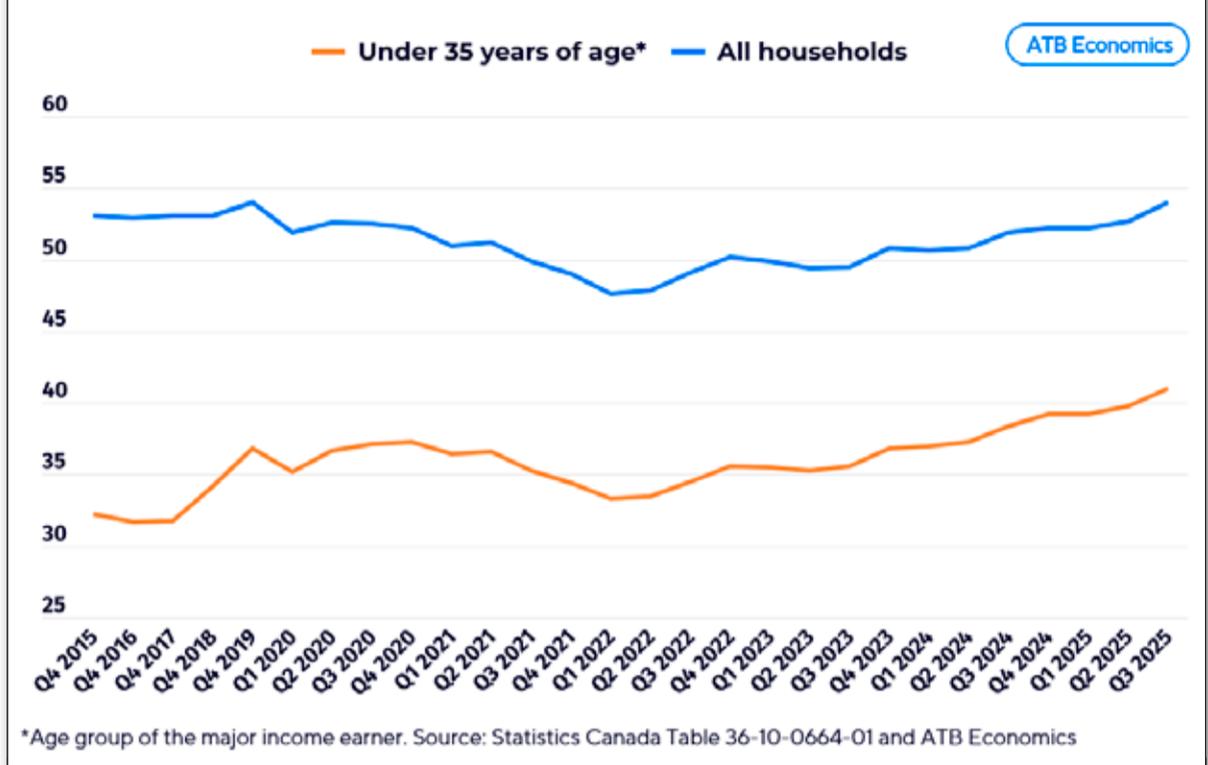
If you were looking for more data to establish this trend, take the CFA Institute's 2023 study: approximately 74% of Canadians aged 18-25 report owning at least one investment and invest a median of \$9,000—well above any country in the study, including our southern neighbours.

Also found in the study is a generational shift in the priorities of young Canadians. The study reports that the top financial goals for Canadian Gen Z investors are: 1) being able to pay monthly bills (55%); and 2) having enough money to travel/vacation (55%).

What about housing?

On the real estate side, Q3 2025 was the first quarter since 2022 in which the youngest households recorded a y/y increase in mortgage debt—and even then, at just 1.9%, it was the lowest of any age group. That multi-year retreat tracked with the Bank of Canada's rate-hiking cycle: from near-zero in early 2022 to 5.0% by mid-2023, compressing affordability. Meanwhile, the national benchmark composite home price peaked at around \$827,600 in February 2022 before pulling back to roughly \$665,000 today—still

Canadians' holdings of financial assets as a share of total assets %



about 28% above pre-pandemic levels.

For young Canadians watching those numbers, the math simply didn't work, and the Bank of Canada's Survey of Consumer Expectations shows it. The share of renters planning to buy a home in the next 12 months fell from nearly 20% in Q4 2024 to just 14.5% by Q4 2025.

Not abandoning ownership, but adapting

It would be a mistake to read this shift as giving up on homeownership. When the door to real estate seemingly closed, the door to equities was flung wide open. For those who walked through that door, the timing has been rewarding.

The S&P/TSX Composite index has returned

approximately 88% on a total return basis (~13% on an annualized basis) over the past five years. Young Canadians today are flipping the typical wealth-building sequence, and so far, the market has rewarded them for it.

What's been playing out in Alberta?

Albertan youth are a part of this generational shift, but unlike the rest of the country, Alberta has been a destination of choice for younger Canadians priced out of more expensive provinces as we have recently shown. In 2023, the province posted a net interprovincial gain that was the largest on record since at least 1972, when the current data series began, and has led the country in

interprovincial migration since. People aged 25 to 29 have been the single largest cohort of arrivals, followed closely by those aged 30 to 34.

The province was simultaneously absorbing record international migration, and the combined population surge outpaced what the housing stock and labour market could absorb.

Meanwhile, rents and home prices were pushed up by the supply gap, delivering some of the same affordability pressures young Albertans had moved to escape. Despite this, affordability metrics like housing costs to income are holding up better than in provinces like Ontario and B.C..

The Alberta story, in

short, is one of a province that absorbed a generational wave of young, ambitious Canadians looking for a more accessible on-ramp to stability—and is now working through the growing pains that came with it. We are in a period of adjustment for now, but it's an advantage in the long-term to have a large pool of young, skilled workers.

It seems that the "bleak picture" of the future is being redrawn by young Canadians who have stopped anticipating that the traditional financial playbook will work for them. Instead, they're pivoting towards a more liquid definition of security, swapping immediate home ownership goals for equity growth and geographic mobility.

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CharltonCattleCo@gmail.com

www.CharltonCattleCo.ca



Continued from page 13

than a fashion statement, it's a visual declaration that students and staff are united in their commitment to

safe and inclusive environments for everyone.

The choice of pink is significant. Once a colour used to target and shame, pink is now a badge of honour and

acceptance. It symbolizes the collective strength of students standing together against bullying. By donning pink shirts, school communities

demonstrate that they will not be bystanders... they will be allies.

Pink Shirt Day continues to grow, fueled by the belief that small acts of kindness can

spark big changes. For students, wearing a pink shirt is a simple act, but the message behind it is profound: everyone deserves respect and a place to

belong. As Pink Shirt Day returns each year, it reminds all that with compassion and courage, anyone can stand up to bullying and stand together.

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Classified Word Ads require Payment with Order. Low cost - high circulation. Your ad will also run free in the Morinville Free Press. Up to 25 words: \$15.00 per week, GST included. Additional words: 50c/ each. Deadline: Thursday 2:00 p.m. Phone 780-942-2023 E-mail: redwaterreview@gmail.com



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Coming Events

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EDMONTON STAMP CLUB STAMP SHOW - March 21 - 22, 2026; Saturday 10 - 5 pm, Sunday 10 - 4 pm. Central Lion's Rec Centre 113 Street & 111 Avenue. Stamps for Sale, Door Prizes, Jr Table, etc. Exhibits (WSP): Stephan Cloutier cloutier1967@sympatico.ca. Food Bank donation box. www.edmontonstampclub.ca.

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- DRAACWAHSOFVELVETPSGV
- WBUGRROOPHIFDIPUCEIV
- NTMBOLCFOQNLNWAMVKLT
- PGMSKHOSAAFFECTIONEG
- PEEEEBLLOALMDGVLMQGLN
- ASIHLMALLTTILVFLVBDT
- STRAEHTEEWSRPNWORUNE
- KEOPMTEETNEMITNESCSAA
- MAKRAWMCMTAUFNMKHOCR
- SSFAVSBQUMNNOITOVEDTO
- COKLSHSGFTRILFOAVUPM
- EAOHPWILSTRAEHVLPVA
- GOELHTEFOBMAHADMIERRN
- OHPUIMIDEMNWFAGHEVOLC
- GENRTACVKIBNGWBGNWPE
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CROSSWORDS

P	A	C	K		D	E	C		A	S	A	P						
A	G	A	I	N		R	A	H		R	H	E	A					
P	A	R	S	E	C		I	R	A		A	R	O	W				
P	R	E	S	T	O		N	F	L		B	I	N	S				
						T	O	T	A	L	I	T	I	E	S			
C	A	R	O	L	E	R		A	C	O	C	K						
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P	E	E	N			S	O	N			S	A	K	I				

SUDOKU

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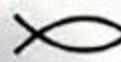
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