

Data Centre Proposal in Wabasca Region Still Alive; MD Council already Given its Okay

Story on Focus front page

Northern Alberta News | Features | Commentary \$1.90

The FEVER

Volume 27, Issue 33

Thursday, September 17, 2026



September 26, 1942 to September 10, 2026

A Keeper of Treaty and Tradition: Elder Mike Beaver Walks On

By Cherry Nyx

Bigstone Cree Nation and communities throughout Treaty 8 are mourning the passing of Elder Mike Beaver, a respected knowledge keeper, former Chief, cultural leader and Treaty advocate whose work reached across generations. Beaver passed away on September 10, 2026, just weeks before what would have been his 84th birthday.

Throughout his life, Beaver devoted himself to protecting Treaty rights, Cree language, ceremony and culture. A member of Bigstone Cree Nation, he served his Nation as both Chief and councillor, carrying responsibilities that extended far beyond elected leadership. His work touched education, traditional knowledge, cultural preservation, Treaty advocacy and ceremony.

Beaver was known for his ability to move between political leadership and traditional responsibilities while remaining grounded in the teachings and obligations he carried as a Cree man and Elder. His leadership reflected an understanding of Treaty.

Continued on Page 3

Publisher's Ponderings – *Miscellaneous Notes*

By Bruce Thomas

• **Premier Danielle Smith is in trouble. Her approval rating has dropped another point since the June Angus Reid polling. A Calgary riding's by-election saw voters switch to the NDP while the two previous elections had been solid UCP victories. Prominent provincial politics columnist Don Braid wrote in a September 5 column under a sub headline: "Alberta separatism raises its head and the B.C. Conservatives fall into ruin."**

In the body of the column, Braid suggests that the UCP convention being held in Calgary, November 22 to 29, might be a tough event for Smith. Remember that the UCP has a reputation for eating its own when a premier doesn't bow to the party's extremists. Braid wrote: "Smith is often criticized because she isn't campaigning very publicly or vigorously for federalism. Today, more than half the party's governing board of 17 elected people are considered to be separatists."

The premier seems to have a lot of Albertans disliking her. I've had several people tell me they have voted Conservative all their lives, but they are not ever vote for Danielle Smith. Look at how many times she is being attacked by Indigenous leaders throughout Alberta. She went to visit Trump and fails to say anything negative about him. That raises the question, does she think if Alberta does separate from Canada, it can become Trump's 51st state? Remember that U.S. money has been reported to have been given towards the Alberta separation movement.

Look how Smith and the UCP are always being protested against by labour unions, organizations concerned about public health, environment issues, education, gender issues, library content. The UCP party in Alberta seems to want to control everything, while giving the oil and gas industry priority.

There is a large number of immigrants living and working in Alberta and the UCP is campaigning in the referendum against them, just like Trump and his enablers. Will there be a special branch of law enforcers carding people to see if they have proof on their Alberta card that they are Canadians? It is a wonder that this government did not require your gender and sexual orientation.

• **Last issue I wrote of the Doomsday Clock and some of the dangers that might cause the clock to tick through it remaining 85 seconds. Not long after that the world heard about a whistleblower involved in one of Artificial Intelligence leading developer, quitting and warning that AI may lead to the destruction of humanity. That scary news was followed by others in the AI industry saying the first guy was right.**

How long will AI allow humans to continue? Will it be a combination of AI and climate change wiping out earthlings?

• **Wow, the Edmonton Elks really stamped over that team from Calgary this past Saturday in the second football battle of Alberta. The visitors to Edmonton probably thought they might actually win, going into the second quarter with a 7-3 lead. Little did they know.**

But their confidence must be jarred when at halftime, the score was 19-10 for the Elks. Then the second half had Calgary get a whole three points in each quarter for a whole 16 points. The Elks yawned and said so what as they got 17 on the third and another 17 in the fourth for 53.

Edmonton is still at the top of the West Division with a 10-3 record while the Alouettes have the 10-3 tally.

The betting sites predict there is almost a 60% possibility of Montreal and Edmonton meeting to fight over the Grey Cup.



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Strengthening Community Through Care & Connection

MIKE BEAVER ... CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

To Mike, Treaty was not simply a historical agreement or government document, but an ongoing relationship carrying responsibilities between Nations and across generations.

He was also involved in protecting traditional ways of life and advocating for Indigenous rights, including matters connected to trapping, land and Treaty responsibilities. For Indigenous communities across northern Alberta, those issues remain inseparable from culture.

Hunting, trapping, gathering and maintaining relationships with the land are not simply recreational activities. They are part of livelihood, identity, knowledge transmission and the exercise of Treaty rights.

Variety of Ceremonies

Ceremony was another important part of Beaver's life and service. He was entrusted with opening gatherings in prayer, participating in pipe ceremonies and sharing ceremonial spaces with Elders and knowledge keepers from Treaty 6, Treaty 7, Treaty 8 and other communities.

These responsibilities are not titles casually given. Within Indigenous communities, they are built through years of relationships, teachings, trust and responsibility.

His work in education carried the same

commitment to the generations coming behind him. Beaver supported efforts to keep Cree language, cultural knowledge and traditional teachings present for younger people.

At a time when Indigenous communities continue working to restore languages and knowledge systems deliberately disrupted through colonial policies and residential schools, the presence of Elders who can carry those teachings forward remains deeply important.

Beaver also understood cultural preservation involves more than keeping history in books or museums. He was among those who advocated for cultural belongings connected to Bigstone Cree Nation be returned to the community.

For Indigenous Nations, such belongings can carry family histories, ceremonial significance and knowledge that cannot be separated from the people and lands they came from.

Repatriation is therefore not simply about recovering artifacts. It is about restoring relationships and returning pieces of a Nation's history to the people to whom they belong.

His work also brought him into the painful continuing legacy of the residential school system. Beaver supported community efforts involving Survivor testimony, archival research and investigations connected with former residential school sites. That work asks Elders and communities to confront some of the most difficult parts of Canadian history while also protecting the mem-



Mike and baby Kyle

ories and experiences of those who lived through it.

For Bigstone Cree Nation, his passing represents the loss of a man who witnessed more than eight decades of change and helped shape his community through leadership, cultural responsibility and advocacy.

For the Treaty community, it is the loss of another Elder whose knowledge came not simply from documents, but from lived experience, ceremony, relationships and teachings passed from one generation to another.

The Young, Beaver and McLeod families are among those grieving his passing, together with relatives, friends, Elders, leaders and community members who knew him through the many roles he carried during his lifetime.

The passing of an Elder is more than the loss of one individual. It can mean the loss of stories remembered firsthand, words of language spoken with a particular understanding, knowledge of the land, ceremonial teachings and memories of events that may never have been written down. That is why the work of Elders matters so deeply.

Elder Mike Beaver has walked on, but the responsibilities he carried do not disappear with him. They remain with the people he taught, the communities he served and the generations who will continue protecting Treaty, language, culture and ceremony.

His work is now part of the history of Bigstone Cree Nation and Treaty 8, and the teachings he helped preserve will continue wherever those responsibilities are carried forward.



M.D. OF
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bɑ."Δ<P>

PROCLAMATION

**ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS WEEK
SEPTEMBER 14th TO SEPTEMBER 18th, 2026**

WHEREAS A Development Officer is a current planning and development specialist with knowledge in current legislation, policy and bylaws, systems and technical requirements for physical development within communities in the Province of Alberta. A Development Officer enforces and administers land use regulations and policies on behalf of a municipality and is designated to the position of Development Authority by the municipality as defined by the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, Chapter M-26.

WHEREAS Alberta Development Officers Week helps us to publicly recognize the work of our municipal colleagues in planning and development for the improvement of the *Municipal District of Opportunity*. We recognize Development Officers and their commitment to public service and do hereby proclaim the week of *September 14th to September 18th, 2026* to be designated as Alberta Development Officers Week in the *Municipal District of Opportunity*.

Wake and Funeral

The wake for Elder Mike Beaver will be September 21, 2026, beginning 1 p.m.

His funeral will take place September 22, 2026, at 11 a.m.

Both will be held at the Wabasca Lakeview Sports Centre

May family, community and all those whose lives he touched be surrounded by strength as they gather to honour a lifetime of leadership, teachings and service

Mobile mammography service to visit Slave Lake

Alberta Screen Test program will be in Slave Lake in October to provide screening mammograms to eligible individuals aged 45 to 74.

A mobile mammography trailer will be at the Slave Lake Healthcare Centre, located at 309 6th Street NE, from October 1 to 3 and 5 to 10.

Screening is available at no cost for eligible individuals, but appointments are required. Call 1-800-667-0604 to book an

appointment or learn more about the program.

A mammogram is an X-ray of the breast.

Mammograms are the best way to find breast cancer early when treatment may work better. Getting screened for breast cancer saves lives.

More information about breast cancer screening and who is eligible can be found at https://screeningforlife.ca/breast/get-screened/#who_should_get_screened

Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:



Orange Shirt Day/Youth Gathering Osow Pakowyan Kisikow/Oskayak Mamawintowin



**September 23, 2026 Wabasca
George D Auger Hall
Time: 10:00am-9:00pm**



**September 24, 2026 Calling Lake
Community Complex
Time: 10:00am-9:00pm**

**September 25, 2026 Chipewyan Lake
Community Hall
Time: 12:00pm-5:00pm**



For more information call
Coreen Houle or Helen Alook
(780) 891- 3777



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PO BOX 60
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Fax: (780) 891 4283


BIGSTONE CREE NATION

PO BOX 960
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Phone: (780) 891 3836
Fax: (780) 891 3388

Community Health Advocacy Committee

Are you interested in serving your community?

MD of Opportunity and Bigstone Cree Nation are currently recruiting four (4) Volunteers, (2) residing on reserve and (2) residing off reserve to serve as "members at large" on the

Community Health Advocacy Committee for Wabasca:

Board Structure

The Community Health Advocacy Committee must consist of (10) members who are appointed by respective councils. Not more than 2 members of council of Bigstone Cree Nation and 2 members of Council of MD Opportunity are appointed members of the Community Health Advocacy Committee. Board will consist of 4 members at large, 2 members of MD of Opportunity Council and 2 members of Bigstone Cree Nation Council, CEO of Bigstone Health Commission, CAO of MD of Opportunity and 2 Rural Leads with Alberta Health Services.

Board Duties

The Community Health Advocacy Committee will be a committee that will serve as collaborative stakeholders who will facilitate and bring forward community perspectives. The board will organize, promote and encourage comprehensive and efficient health services in the community/municipality and may cooperate with other boards in the provision of those services.

Budget

The Community Health Advocacy Committee shall prepare a budget and an estimate of the money required during the ensuing fiscal year to operate and manage the community health advocacy committee. The selected members will receive \$250 honorarium per meeting and meeting schedule is to meet quarterly.

Accounts

The community health advocacy committee keeps account of its receipts, payments, credits and liabilities, ensures a person who is not a member of the community health advocacy committee and whose qualifications are satisfactory to council.

Individuals who are interested in serving on the above noted committee are requested to submit a letter of interest, that includes a short biography with work experience, previous board or committee experience, and relevant education by **September 30, 2026**, via fax, email or mail to the Municipal District of Opportunity:

Terah Yellowknee – Community Health Advisory Committee
PO Box 60
Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0
Fax # 780-891-4283

If you have any questions or require more information, please contact Terah Yellowknee at 780-891-3778 or email terah.yellowknee@mdopportunity.ab.ca

FLU AND COVID SHOT BOOKINGS OPEN OCTOBER 5

Flu vaccine free for every Albertan six months and older
COVID-19 vaccine free for First Nations, Inuit and Métis

Vaccination appointments for this fall's respiratory virus season begin on Monday, October 5, according to the Government of Alberta, which says the influenza vaccine is available free of charge to all Albertans six months of age and older.

Provincially funded COVID-19 vaccines follow two weeks later. The province's respiratory virus season page, updated on September 14, says that starting October 19, 2026, the COVID-19 vaccine will be available free to eligible Albertans.

Who gets the COVID-19 vaccine free The Government of Alberta lists eight (8) groups who qualify for a free COVID-19 vaccine: people sixty-five (65) years of age and older; residents six (6) months and older of long-term care homes and other congregate living; people with underlying medical or immunocompromised conditions; people experiencing homelessness; pregnant people; First Nations, Inuit and Métis people; health care workers and care providers; and teachers eligible under the Back to School Act. Albertans twelve (12) and older who do not qualify can buy the vaccine at a pharmacy.

Where to go Children under five (5) must be immunized at a public health clinic, the province says. Albertans five (5) and older can go to a community pharmacy or a public health clinic, and appointments can be booked by calling Health Link at 811 or online through the provincial booking system.

In Wabasca, public health immunizations are offered at the Community Health Service at 867 Stony Point Road, which Alberta Health Services lists as open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at 780-891-3931. [dates of any community flu clinics in Wabasca, Desmarais, Calling Lake and Chipewyan Lake — to come from public health and Bigstone Health Commission]

Why it matters now The province says immunization is especially important for seniors, pregnant people, young children, people with chronic health conditions, and First Nations, Métis and Inuit people. Its immunization program covers the fall and winter respiratory virus season.



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Part 2

Bobbi-Jo Starr steps into spotlight

By Cherry Nyx

For Bobbi-Jo Starr, becoming a singer-songwriter was not marked by one dramatic moment when she suddenly knew where her life was headed. It developed through teenage talent shows, taking chances on original music and gradually learning how much she belonged on a stage.

Starr remembers entering talent shows in Edmonton when she was about 16 or 17 years old. She cannot pinpoint her first public performance, but she remembers the feeling of singing in front of a large crowd with a full band beside her.

"There was something incredibly rewarding about singing my heart out and hearing the audience applaud when they enjoyed the performance," she said. "I loved that feeling of connecting with people through music."

That connection has become one of the strongest parts of performing for Starr. She recently appeared at the Afro-Indigenous Cultural Festival, which she says drew more than 2,000 people throughout the weekend. Large audiences do not intimidate her. Instead, she feeds off their energy.

"When people are clapping, cheering and singing along, it amplifies my own energy and helps me perform with more confidence, passion and emotion," she said. "I try to channel that energy back to the audience."

Starr jokes that she was "literally born a Starr," but says her decision to seriously pursue music came when she began posting original songs online. She initially doubted herself and was surprised by the positive response.

The encouragement gave her the push to continue writing, recording and pursuing music professionally. Her songs are now available through major streaming platforms including Spotify, Apple Music and Amazon Music.

"It feels like a milestone, a sign that I'm truly stepping into my career as an



After her performance at Art Walk in Edmonton, Bobbi Jo offered copies of The FEVER which carried Part 1 of her feature story to audience members.

artist," she said.

Starr is already looking ahead. She wants to expand her audience, begin developing a second album and create opportunities for her music through licensing and other areas of the industry.

She has also learned that an independent artist cannot simply wait for opportunities to arrive.

"The biggest person who has helped me in my career is myself, choosing to help myself," Starr said. "A lot of these opportunities didn't simply come to me. I had to ask for them, work for them or organize them myself."

At the same time, Starr credits relationships within the Indigenous arts community with helping her learn the business. She has sought mentorship and advice on everything from

marketing to music distribution while studying what other artists are doing successfully.

That support became particularly visible during an album fundraiser Starr organized last fall. Lance Cardinal hosted the event, with Donita Large, Curt Young, Jarrod Sawan, Jesse Rose, Darla Daniels, Lena Daniels and Melody McArthur among the Indigenous artists who helped bring it together.

"When you got a goal, you gotta make it happen yourself and not be afraid to ask for help when you need it," Starr said.

One of her most enthusiastic supporters is now her mother. Starr says her mother was not entirely convinced at first when she announced she wanted to become both a singer and activist. As the music videos, performances, online views and opportunities began accumulating, that changed.

"She's become my biggest fan," Starr said. "She shares everything I do online and shares my excitement when opportunities arrive."

Recent performances have shown Starr how much she has developed as an entertainer. She appeared at Strathearn Art Walk this past weekend and performed at the Banff Centre alongside Indigenous artists from across Canada, including Logan Staats.

She also returned to Indigenous MainStage after performing the previous year, this time feeling far more comfortable engaging directly with the crowd and speaking about the Indigenous teachings and water messages woven through her music.

"I have so much more confidence now that I can have fun with it and truly engage with my audience," she said.

Starr says she has fortunately avoided any major onstage disasters. There have been awkward hair moments, bad camera angles and the occasional wardrobe mishap, but she has learned to laugh, keep performing and move on.

Her growing stage presence has also taken her into Indigenous fashion. Starr is a fan of Thunderbird Clothing and has worked with designer Charm Logan, who has dressed her and invited her to participate in modelling shows.

Walking the runway has helped Starr develop her personal style and become more comfortable in front of cameras, while also teaching her something she believes matters just as much in music.

"As an artist and performer, you have to learn to self-love yourself and let your personality shine through," she said. "That's what the audience gravitates to."

From teenage talent shows to festival stages, recording studios and Indigenous fashion runways, Starr is building her career by taking chances, learning the industry and surrounding herself with people willing to share their knowledge.

For an artist who once hesitated before posting an original song online, she is no longer wondering whether she belongs on the stage. She is already there.

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Email: thunderspirit16@gmail.com

Bigstone Nation electing Chief and Council on September 29

Bigstone Cree Nation members have less than two weeks to wait to choose a Chief and 10 Councillors.

Online voting has been open since Tuesday, September 15, and in-person polls open in six places on Tuesday, September 29.

The general election is being held under the Election Law of Bigstone Cree

Nation (2026), according to the Nation's Notice of Nomination Meeting which was held August 14.

Nominations were taken at George D. Auger Community Hall in Wabasca the evening of September 9.

The 10 Council seats are divided by community: six for Wabasca/Desmarais,

two for Calling Lake and two for Chipewyan Lake.

Five for Chief

Five candidates are seeking the office of Chief, and 20 are seeking the 10 Council seats — 15 of them for the six Wabasca/Desmarais seats, three for the two Calling Lake seats, and two for the two Chipewyan Lake seats.

Because the number of candidates in Chipewyan Lake is the same as the number of seats, those candidates will be elected by acclamation.

A candidate could withdraw under section 8.9 of the Election Law.

CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF WABASCA

- 1). ALOOK, HELEN
- 2). ALOOK, HERMAN G.
- 3). AUGER, JUDY VELMA
- 4). AUGER, MELBA D.
- 5). BEAUREGARD, CHRIS
- 6). BEAVER, PETER
- 7). CARDINAL, ROMEO RALPH
- 8). GLADUE (BIGSTONE), LEON
- 9). NANEMAHOO, ELMER (ELMO)
- 10). OAR, LAWRENCE
- 11). PETERS, RAY
- 12). RATHBONE, DENISE
- 13). SCHAMEHORN (AUGER), JOEL
- 14). SINCLAIR, RHONDA
- 15). YELLOWKNEE, DWAYNE C.

CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF CALLING LAKE

- 1). ANDERSON, GLORIA
- 2). CARDINAL, CURTIS C.
- 3). LOONSKIN, SHARON

CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF CHIPEWYAN LAKE

- 1). NOSKIYE, STELLA
- 2). OAR, ELVIS

CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF CHIEF

- 1). AUGER, MARGO (M. J.)
- 2). NOSKIYE, JASON
- 3). THUNDER, WAYNE DEREK
- 4). YELLOWKNEE, SILAS
- 5). YOUNG, SIRAE



Bigstone Community Wellness is offering Community Debriefs

Here to Listen and Share Resources



we are offering debriefs for :

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- Groups/Agencies

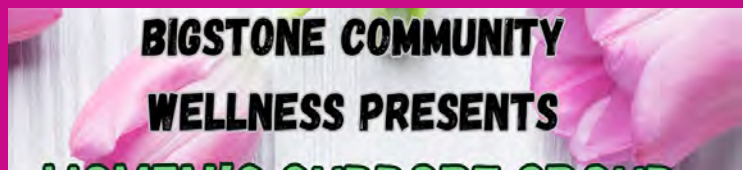
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For more information, please contact our Mental Wellness Response Team @ 780-891-3777 or Toll Free number 1-877-767-7060

- Wabasca
- Calling Lake
- Chipewyan



BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

LOCATION: Bigstone Community Wellness
TIME: 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Monday September 21, 2026 - Dragonfly presentation.
Monday October 5, 2026 - Women's drum circle.
Monday October 19, 2026 - Dragonfly presentation.
Monday November 9, 2026 - Beaded fringe earrings.
Monday November 30, 2026 - Beaded fringe earrings.
Monday December 14, 2026 - Game night.



- Food and coffee provided.
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- Transportation available.

Contact Recovery Care Staff
Crystal Gambler Gladu
780 - 891 - 3777
crystal.gladu@bigstonehealth.ca



WABASCA CULTURAL DAYS

SEPTEMBER 16-22, 2026

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Fry Bread Making
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Slingshot Making
Kinship Ties
Fire Making
Trappers Tent
Creé Language Games
Fish Filleting
Elders Tipi



Birch Bark Canoeing
Bannock on a stick
Treaty Teachings
Rites of Passage
Fish Scale Art
Mini Tipi Making
Laynard Making
Orange Shirt Keychain Making
Birch Bark Moose Caller Making
Metis District Tent
Art Therapy Station:
Paint, Sketch & Create

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SEPTEMBER 22ND**

MORE INFO ON SEPERATE POSTER



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LODGING
INFO**

Lodging Information



**EVENT FACEBOOK
PAGE**

Cultural Days Event FB Page

**VIDEOS FROM
LAST YEARS
CULTURAL DAYS**



MD FCSS Website

**FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFO CONTACT FCSS STAFF
JANICE AUGER OR JODI DECOINE AT 780-891 3778 EXT. 405 OR EXT. 403**

Power plant for proposed data centre has not yet cleared AUC clearance

By Priya Phillips

A proposed natural-gas power plant that would supply a data centre in the Wabasca area is back before the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), after Armada Nowlit Energy Ltd. submitted a new and larger application following two earlier attempts that the Commission rejected..

The application, dated September 14, 2026, seeks approval under the Hydro and Electric Energy Act to build and operate the Hoole Natural Gas Power Generation Facility, a 19.8-megawatt (MW) plant made up of nine natural-gas-fired engine generators rated at 2.2 MW each.

The company proposes to build it in two phases, with four generators producing 8.8 MW in the first phase and five more added in the second.

The plant would sit on provincial Crown land, on an existing well-site lease at 16-36-080-25 W4M in the Hoole area, and would take its fuel from the neighbouring gas plant.

According to the application, all of the electricity would be used on site to power co-located data infrastructure and none would be sent into Alberta's power grid.

The application covers only the power plant and its equipment, not the data centre, and its submission does not mean the Commission has approved either.

Two earlier applications closed

On December 23, 2025, the AUC closed an earlier application from the company for a 9.5-MW gas-fired plant at Hoole, saying it contained errors, incomplete information and inconsistencies.

Among the problems listed, the company's consultation record did not show it was aware the project lands are Crown land, and the distance it gave to the nearest Indigenous community was wrong; the Commission put that distance at 2.5 kilometres.

"Given the number of deficiencies, proceeding with the current application would not be efficient for either the Commission or Armada," the Commission wrote, adding

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Supplement of News, Employment Ads
and Classified Ads for Readers of *TheFever*

The FEVER

Thursday, September 17, 2026

that any new application would have to be a full application under its Rule 007 rather than a shorter checklist form.

Armada Nowlit registered another checklist application for the same 9.5-MW plant on April 9, 2026. The Commission closed that one on May 7, stating that the company had not filed the full Rule 007 application it had been told was required, and that "the application, including the supporting documents, contains numerous deficiencies."

The Commission said it "strongly encourages Armada to refamiliarize itself with the legislative and regulatory requirements applicable to power plants, including the requirements of the new Rule 007."

What the company says about the plant

The application describes a closed-loop cooling system that would need no process water to be drawn or discharged, along with selective catalytic reduction equipment to cut nitrogen-oxide emissions and a predictive emissions monitoring system.

**Parkland Institute author writes
about UCP targetting immigrants** - Page 4

Continued on Focus Page 5



**The harder the pressure...
the wider the welcome.**

**How Canadians can help
their country beat Trump
and make him look
like the crazed tyrant he is:**

1. Buy Canadian first.
2. Buy European or products from other democratic countries. In larger centres there are many groceries and retail stores where there a variety of good products at fair prices.
3. Remember most Americans are embarrassed how their government is threatening Canada and they, too, are being hurt by the unnecessary trade war and the tariffs. Trump is at his lowest approval
4. If you know Americans, give them a call and tell them to be sure to vote this fall for the return of democracy in their country.
5. Help your fellow Canadians get through these expensive times.

We like to pick apples and buy...

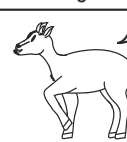


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Getting ready for winter can be a big job; so help the family by not jumping in and scattering the leaves!

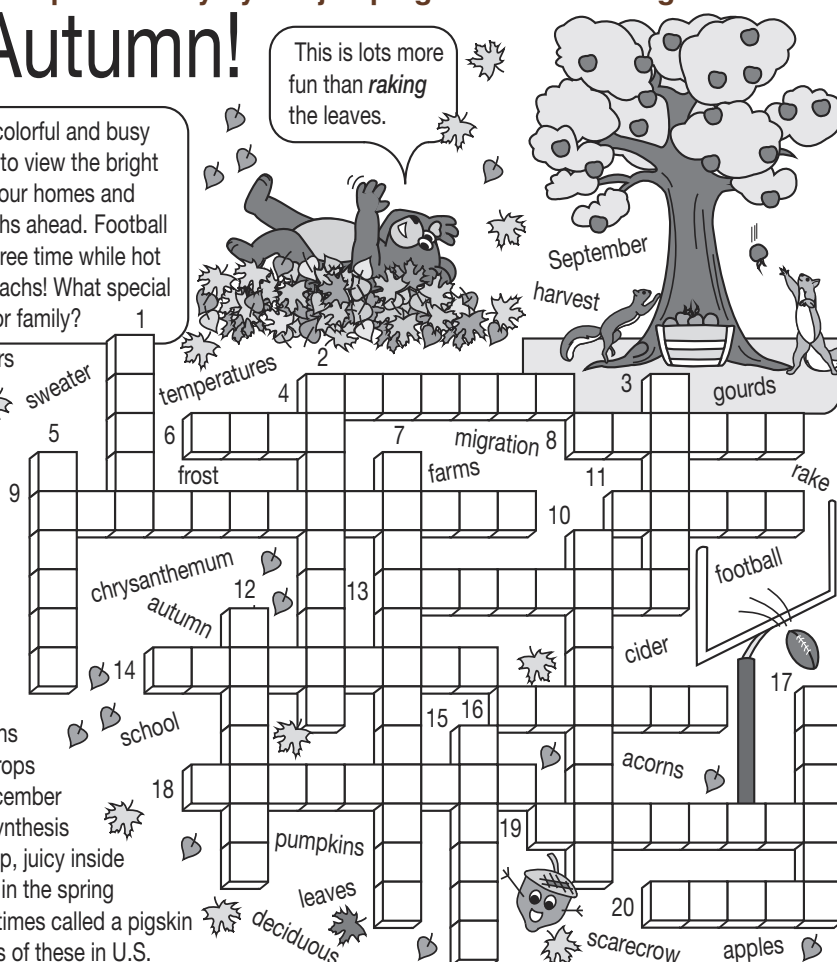


Read the clues to fill in the crossword with fall words:

Falling Into Autumn!

The autumn season is a very colorful and busy time. People take drives or hikes to view the bright fall leaves. We fall to work to get our homes and clothes ready for the winter months ahead. Football games and apple picking fill our free time while hot cider and doughnuts fill our stomachs! What special activities do you do with friends or family?

- juice made from crushing apples; made for over a thousand years
- ninth month of year; first month of autumn
- fruits with a solid rind or skin; grow on vines
- long-sleeved clothing, often knitted from wool or cotton
- place where people are educated; teaches skills for life
- long stick with comb-like prongs used to gather leaves
- degree and intensity of heat; measured in Fahrenheit or Celsius
- nuts of an oak; tough shells protect a single seed
- flower that belongs to the daisy family, often called a "mum"
- seasonal travel of animals (birds) from one place to another
- deposit of small ice crystals, a major problem for crops
- time of year for gathering crops grown during summer
- orange gourds with fleshy center, used for pies or as decorations
- stuffed person-shaped figure; used to scare birds away from crops
- temperatures start to drop; crops harvested; September to December
- parts of plant connected to a stem; absorb sunlight for photosynthesis
- fruit of trees from the rose family; green, red or yellow skin; crisp, juicy inside
- type of tree that sheds leaves every autumn and regrows them in the spring
- most popular sport in U.S.; played with oval-shaped ball sometimes called a pigskin
- places that grow crops and raise livestock; about a billion acres of these in U.S.



Falling to Work on This Fall Puzzle!

Have you ever heard of **idioms**? They are words or expressions that have a meaning that's different from what you would think from reading the words. For example, look at the expression, "It's raining cats and dogs"! Do people really mean that cats and dogs are falling from the sky? No, they mean that it is raining heavily.

Read the **idioms** below. Match them to their meanings. One is done for you.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. He is falling down on the job. | A. failing to sell |
| 2. The advertisement is falling flat . | B. not doing the job well |
| 3. The boy is falling behind in his studies. | C. doing everything she can |
| 4. A falling star shot by. | D. meteor |
| 5. They had a falling-out . | E. argument, quarrel |
| 6. She is falling over backwards to help. | F. not keeping up |

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. The inspections are falling through the cracks . | A. not working right |
| 2. The students are falling short in their budget. | B. beginning to believe |
| 3. The new members are falling into line . | C. do not have enough |
| 4. The can opener is falling apart . | D. not being done |
| 5. The teacher is falling for my story. | E. obeying the rules |
| 6. Their family is falling on hard times. | F. has many troubles |

Mum's the Word



Mom loves the color of fall flowers. Her favorite flower is the chrysanthemum.

Chrysanthemum? Is that just a big word for the mums our Mum buys every fall?

Yes. They might look like little balls like the ones below or they could be flat like a daisy. It's a secret that we are buying her some...so "Mum's the word."

These smell so nice!



Look for Puzzle Fun in most issues of The Fever! But beware we do not print the answers!



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY **TFT Equipment Operator** Wabasca

The Municipal District of Opportunity is seeking a temporary full-time Equipment Operator (Water truck) for Wabasca. The individual chosen for this position in the M.D. of Opportunity will be responsible for the following duties:

- Be familiar with and comply with NSC standards
- Supply water & sewer delivery services to seasonal property owners
- Perform trip inspections on equipment operated and load ensuring safety and roadworthiness;
- Maneuver trucks into loading or unloading positions, following signals from fellow workers as needed; check that vehicle position is correct and any special loading equipment is properly positioned;
- Communicate effectively with the public, customers, and co-workers both verbally and in written form;
- Perform periodic inspections before, during, and after delivery to ensure that load is roadworthy and safe;
- Ensure that any debris caused by the loading, unloading of truck is cleaned up;
- Provide feedback to supervisor regarding customer, mechanical, or delivery challenges;
- Maintain truck's overall service and perform required inspections;
- Provide written reports on operations as may be required.

Qualifications:

- > Must possess an acceptable drivers abstract
- > A minimum of Grade 10 or a minimum of two years' experience may be considered;
- > A valid Class 3 driver's license with air brakes;
- > Current TDG, WHIMIS, H2S, First Aid and Confined Space safety tickets;
- > Ability to work independently and as a team player;
- > Ability to lift a minimum of 30 lbs
- > Ability to work flexible hours;
- > Ability to exercise good judgment on operation of light/heavy equipment as it relates to safety.
- > Satisfactory Criminal Record Check upon hire.

Interested persons are invited to submit their Resume along with three (3) work related references to:

Human Resources
Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17
Box 60, Wabasca, AB. T0G 2k0
(780) 891-3778 Tele or (780) 891-4283 Fax
Email hr@mdopportunity.ab.ca

This advertisement will close on September 8, 2026 at 3:00 pm.

The personal information submitted pursuant to this advertisement will be utilized for this Employment Opportunity only and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY **Early Childhood Educators** Red Earth Creek

The Municipal District of Opportunity is seeking to fill a permanent full-time and casual positions at the Opportunity Daycare in Red Earth Creek, AB. The ideal candidate should be outgoing and energetic with demonstrated skills in their area of work, who are self-starters and team oriented. The successful individual will help create and deliver a high-quality early learning childcare service that meets MD policy as well as provincial Childcare Licensing.

Primary responsibilities are to:

- ✓ Provide childcare services by actively engaging in the supervision, care and development of children;
- ✓ Provide a safe and nurturing environment;
- ✓ Ensure the well-being of each and every child in the childcare program;
- ✓ Promote early learning programming and age-appropriate developmental activities.

Qualifications required:

- ✓ Child Development Certification Level 1, 2 and or 3;
- ✓ Valid Class 5 Drivers License and reliable transportation;
- ✓ Child First Aid and/or Standard First Aid certificate;
- ✓ A current satisfactory Criminal Record Check and Child Youth Intervention Check must be provided upon to hire.

Salary will commensurate with qualifications and experience. Please send resume along with 3 work related references and Child Intervention Check to the attention of:

Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity
Box 60 - Wabasca, AB T0G 2K0
Phone : (780) 891-3778 Fax : (780) 891-4283
Email : hr@mdopportunity.ab.ca

This advertisement will remain open until suitable candidate is found.

The personal information submitted pursuant to this advertisement will be utilized for this Employment Opportunity only and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



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Email: bruce.thomas@thefever.online

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Scapegoating and Separatists

Why Immigration Is on the Ballot

By Bronwyn Bragg of PARKLAND INSTITUTE

On October 19, 2026, Albertans will vote on 10 referendum questions. Most of the conversation about the referendum has focused on a convoluted 'separation question' that asks whether Alberta should remain in Canada or the provincial government should hold a binding referendum on whether Alberta should separate from Canada. Less attention has been paid to the four questions that address constitutional issues (such as abolishing the Senate and giving the province more control over judicial appointments), and the five questions directly related to immigration. The five immigration questions are the subject of this policy brief.

Why are we talking about immigration and why are we talking about it now? In other words, what does immigration have to do with Alberta separatism? And why has the provincial government decided to put five questions related to immigration on the ballot?

These five questions must be understood as a political tactic that combines a broader strategy of blaming the federal government for Alberta's problems with an appeal to the far-right forces in the premier's base of support. It is an age-old strategy of blaming minorities for the social, political, and economic challenges facing society. It is also one that is already having negative impacts in communities across the province.

Albertans are experiencing a scarcity of publicly available services, a family doctor shortage, long wait times for provincial services, and overcrowded classrooms. Cost of living is reportedly the number one concern in the province (Coletto 2026). This creates an environment ripe for scapegoating immigrant and migrant communities.

Shifting the blame for Alberta's political and economic challenges onto minority communities — in this case immigrants and migrant workers — is a strategy likely to be effective, considering the broader national trend of falling support for immigration. In 2025, nearly 70 per cent of Albertans reported believing there was "too much immigration" to Canada. This aligns with trends nationally and a broader collapse in public opinion on immigration since 2022 (EnviroNics Institute for Survey Research 2025).

The immigration questions rely on problematic anti-immigrant tropes advanced by far-right movements globally and leveraged by the separatists here in Alberta. When talking about immigration, both Premier Danielle Smith and the separatists have employed language consistent with this far-right rhetoric. These narratives are dangerous and damaging in any context. But when they're promoted by a premier and her government, anti-immigrant tropes are much more likely to have a negative impact on society.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Utilities System Maintenance/ Utilities Operator

Permanent Full Time - Wabasca

The Municipal District of Opportunity has seven hamlets located within the boundaries, home to nearly 4,000 people. Under the general direction of the Utility Supervisor and Compliance Supervisor; the successful candidate has direct responsibility for the daily operation and may be responsible for providing program support to field staff and participating in the maintenance of municipal facilities, routine maintenance & repair of water/sewer plants in Wabasca, Chip Lake, Sandy Lake, Calling Lake and Red Earth Creek. The Utility Systems are responsible for water & distribution, wastewater and collection maintenance repairs. Other responsibilities include ordering supplies, preparing and submitting reports also conduct weekly safety and health walk-through inspections of all work facilities. Ensuring that provincial standards are met in the operation of water and sewer systems also abide by Municipal District of Opportunity Safety Program (COR):

*Must be able to eventually participate in the on-call rotation.

1. **Must have a Grade 12 Alberta Education Diploma (with a copy available) and/or Transcript or Equivalent GED**
2. Must have a minimum of Class 5 Drivers License.
3. Level 1 Water Distribution, Level 1 Wastewater Collection would be an asset.
4. Safety Tickets would be an Asset but not required.
5. A satisfactory criminal record check upon hire.

The position requires an individual who is a team player. A detailed job description is available upon request as well as the hours of work information. An Ideal candidate can work in all weather conditions, able to lift 50 lb. pails, and has a willingness to train.

For questions regarding the position please contact Utilities Director, Earl Gullion, at 780-891-8230.

The salary range for this position is dependent on qualifications with an excellent benefits package. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted.

Interested candidates are invited to submit their resume, along with three work related references and copy of their grade 12 diploma to:

Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity
Box 60, Wabasca, Alberta - T0G 2K0
Tel # (780) 891-3778 fax # (780) 891-4283
Email: hr@mdopportunity.ab.ca

This posting will remain open until September 23rd, 2026 @ 3 pm.

The personal information submitted pursuant to this advertisement will be utilized for this Employment Opportunity only and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



A Gentle Reminder

Please submit your advertisements by
TUESDAY AT NOON.

Thank you for helping us stay on schedule!



BIGSTONE HEALTH COMMISSION**Employment Opportunity****Home and Community Care Manager**

One Permanent Full-Time Position
Monday to Friday – 8 hours/day
Wabasca, AB

Bigstone Health Commission (BHC) is committed to delivering high-quality, culturally safe health services that uphold the vision of reviving, strengthening, and protecting treaty rights to health while enhancing the quality of life for those living on Bigstone Traditional Lands.

We are seeking an experienced and motivated **Home and Community Care Manager** to lead the planning, coordination, delivery, and evaluation of home and community care programs across the Wabasca and Calling Lake communities. This role requires a strong, collaborative leader with a commitment to Indigenous health, health equity, and continuous quality improvement

Key Responsibilities:

- Client Care and Case Management Oversight
- Leadership and Strategic Planning
- Staff Management
- Operational and Financial Management
- Quality improvement and Risk Management
- Program Development and Evaluation
- Collaboration and partnership
- Program oversight and support
- Perform other duties as assigned

Education and Experience:

- BScN degree from a recognized University
- Licensed with the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta
- Must have valid drivers' license
- Clear current criminal record check
- Knowledge of the Cree Nation culture, government, and language and community dynamics are considered an asset.

Benefits:

- ✓ Competitive Salary
- ✓ Fully Furnished Accommodation Provided
- ✓ Education and Retention Allowances
- ✓ Professional Registration Reimbursement
- ✓ Relocation Assistance
- ✓ Paid Vacation and Health & Wellness Leave
- ✓ Employer matching Registered Pension Plan
- ✓ Extended Health, Dental and Vision Plan

Salary is dependent on qualifications.

All applications MUST include Cover Letter, Resume & 3 Work Related References, Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check & Child & Youth Intervention Check

(All checks must be current within the last 6 months).

Bigstone Health Commission
Human Resources Department

Box 1020 Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0

Fax: 780-891-2623 or via Email to: bhcresumes@bigstonehealth.ca

Closing Date for this Employment Opportunity will be: **Until a Suitable Candidate is found.**

POSTED: September 15, 2026

Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Vision: To revive, strengthen and protect members' treaty rights to health and to enhance the quality of life of members and others living on Bigstone Traditional lands.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Permanent Full Time
Early Childhood Educator
Wabasca

The Municipal District of Opportunity is seeking to fill a permanent full-time position at the Opportunity Daycare in Wabasca, AB. The ideal candidate should be outgoing and energetic with demonstrated skills in their area of work, who are self-starters and team oriented. The successful individual will help create and deliver a high-quality early learning childcare service that meets MD policy as well as provincial Childcare Licensing.

Primary responsibilities are to:

- ✓ Provide child care services by actively engaging in the supervision, care and development of children;
- ✓ Provide a safe and nurturing environment;
- ✓ Ensure the well-being of each and every child in the childcare program;
- ✓ Promote early learning programming and age appropriate developmental activities.

Qualifications required:

- ✓ **Child Development Certification Level 2 and or 3;**
- ✓ Valid Class 5 Drivers License and reliable transportation;
- ✓ Child First Aid and/or Standard First Aid certificate;
- ✓ A current satisfactory Criminal Record Check and Child Youth Intervention Check must be provided upon to hire.

Salary will commensurate with qualifications and experience. Please send resume along with 3 work related references and Child Intervention Check to the attention of:

Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity

Box 60 - Wabasca, AB T0G 2K0

Phone: (780) 891-3778 Fax: (780) 891-4283

Email: hr@mdopportunity.ab.ca

This advertisement will remain open until
September 25, 2026.

The personal information submitted pursuant to this advertisement will be utilized for this Employment Opportunity only and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

RCMP give tips on how to avoid internet trouble

Throughout September, the Alberta RCMP is sharing online safety tips with youth. Youth today can be put in vulnerable circumstances due to the internet, at times becoming victims to cyberbullying or sextortion, but by learning safe online practices, youth can better protect themselves and others.

In the digital age, youth can protect themselves by learning more about the following:

Sextortion: A form of online blackmail in which someone threatens to share a sexual image or video of you unless you pay money or provide more intimate content. Offenders often pretend to be someone your age and manipulate victims into sending explicit media.

They may use fake or incomplete social media profiles, quickly express strong feelings, or pressure victims to move conversations to private platforms where they can request intimate content.

Cyberbullying: The use of computers, smartphones, or other digital devices to embarrass, threaten, harass, exclude, or harm someone online.

If you are a victim of sextortion:

- Stop all communications with the offender.
- Do not comply with any threats and do not send money, images, or additional content.
- Save evidence, including screenshots of messages, usernames, profiles, and any images involved.
- Deactivate, but do not delete, your social media account.
- Do not accept new friend requests after disengaging – this could be the offender using a new profile.
- Reach out to a trusted adult, parent, guardian, Elder, or another support person.
- Report the incident: Cybertip.ca allows you to report online child sexual exploitation incidents anonymously.
- Get help removing pictures from the internet at Need-HelpNow.ca.
- Report the incident to the platform where it occurred.
- Contact your local police service.

If you are a victim of cyberbullying:

- Do not respond to bullying messages or posts.
- Save messages, screenshots, or other evidence.
- Block and report the individual responsible.
- Talk to a trusted adult, parent, guardian, Elder, or another support person.
- Report the behaviour to your school or the website/app where it occurred.
- Contact the police if you feel threatened or believe a crime has been committed.

“If you are a victim of sextortion or cyberbullying, remember that you are not at fault, and help is available,” says Cst. Scott Sterling, ALERT Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit.

“Youth can support one another by being active bystanders. If you witness cyberbullying or sextortion, speak up, offer support, and help connect victims with trusted adults and available resources.”

For more information on online safety, visit Public Safety Canada’s Help for Youth, follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta, Instagram @RCMPALBERTAGRC, X @RCMPALberta, and on YouTube @RCMP-GRC Alberta.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Community Peace Officers Wabasca – Permanent Full Time

The Municipal District of Opportunity is hiring Community Peace Officers (CPO's), to be based out of the Wabasca MD Office. Community Peace Officers will be enrolled in the 12-week CPO Induction Program in Lac La Biche, AB. Upon completion of the required training, CPO's will enforce Municipal Bylaws, Animal Control Services and approved Provincial Statutes, within MD of Opportunity No. 17 boundaries. The individuals must possess a strong work ethic, maintain confidentiality, and can interact with diverse social, economic, and cultural backgrounds. Liaise with other Enforcement Agencies. Successful candidates will receive conditional Training Allowance.

Required Qualifications:

- Grade 12 Diploma/Certificate
- Minimum age 18.
- Valid Driver's License and Drivers Abstract.
- Pass Physical Abilities Evaluation and obtain Medical Clearance.
- Pass or have completed the 12-week CPO Induction Program
- Ability to speak and understand Cree is an asset.
- Ability to obtain clean criminal record check and Child Youth Intervention Check upon hire.

Duties/responsibilities are but not limited to:

- Daily administrative duties including report writing.
- Ability to multi-task and work within a team-oriented workplace.
- Document and keep accurate records/stats.
- Serving Documents.
- Animal Control duties.
- Ensure effective resolution on all investigative files.
- Polite and professional radio communications with the public and agencies.
- Assist in other duties required with the direction of the Bylaw Enforcement Manager.
- Ensure adherence to operational health and safety policies and procedures.
- Shift and evening work is required.

Inquiries about our CPO program or a detailed job description can be directed to the Manager of Bylaw Enforcement, Bill Auger @ 780-891-0988.

Interested persons are invited to submit their Resume, along with three (3) work related references to:

**Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity
Box 60, Wabasca, AB. T0G 2K0
Tele (780) 891-3778 or Fax (780) 891-4283
Email hr@mdopportunity.ab.ca**

This advertisement will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

The personal information submitted pursuant to this advertisement will be utilized for this Employment Opportunity only and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



Power plant / data centre from front page

The company says it sent its site emergency response plan to Wabasca Fire Department on July 7, 2026, and had received no requirements or feedback by the time it filed.

It estimates the cost of decommissioning and reclaiming the site at the end of the plant's life at about \$2.05 million, and says a bond or similar financial guarantee would be in place before commercial operation.

These are the company's own design claims and estimates, and all remain subject to regulatory review.

The municipality and other approvals

The application says the M.D. of Opportunity No. 17 has approved and issued Development Permit No. 26-DP-001 for the power plant, and that the M.D. signed the Commission's municipal engagement form on August 25, 2026. The company states that the project complies with the M.D.'s land-use bylaw and needs no land-use amendment, and that the municipality raised no concerns or objections.

The company also says Alberta Environment and Protected Areas has issued a draft environmental approval for both phases, and that a Historical Resources Act clearance has been obtained.

Because the site is on Crown land, the company still needs a disposition under the Public Lands Act before construction, either from Alberta Forestry and Parks or through an amendment to the existing well-site disposition held with the Alberta Energy Regulator. The development permit and the application to the AUC do not, by themselves, allow construction to begin.

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MEIER LIVE GUN AUCTION, Saturday, Sept 26 - 10am Wetaskiwin - Selling Rifles, Shot Guns, Antique Firearms, Gun Safes, Ammunition, Scopes, Sportsman Equipment, Consign Now. Free Pick Up. Call 780-440-1860 www.meierauction.com

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OSOYOOS LAKESHORE Villa: Executive lakeview villa in Osoyoos, BC, breathtaking lake and mountain views; just 3 minutes from town. Vacation in Canada's warmest destination. Or warmer weather, two luxurious 5-star resort units in Phoenix, Arizona. Doug 306-716-2671 or visit osoyooslakevilla.com



MOVE MORE

A little activity each day
Can lift your energy,
mood and well-being.
Start with one small step



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Assistant Director of Recreation & Culture Permanent Full Time

The Municipal District of Opportunity is currently seeking a dynamic, team-oriented and self-motivated individual to fill the position of **Assistant Director of Recreation & Culture**. Reporting directly to the Director of Recreation and Culture, the Assistant Director will play a vital role in delivering high-quality local government services and management for the communities within the Municipal District of Opportunity. This position involves supporting the role in providing overall direction to the recreation and culture staff, including managers and supervisors. The Assistant Director will support the Director in managing current responsibilities, ensuring all recreation facilities operate smoothly, and that staff understand and adhere to the safety program. Some other duties include but are not limited to as follows:

Responsibilities:

- ❖ Assist in providing support to all managers in Recreation & Culture.
- ❖ Reports for the Director including month end, grant applications,
- ❖ Assist in Capital Project Management of all capital in Recreation
- ❖ Assist and oversee Special Events/Projects such as Canada Day, Remembrance Day, partnerships with Bigstone Cree Nation, Annual Golf Tournament.
- ❖ For the development of programs that are relevant to the needs of all municipal communities.
- ❖ For ensuring the staff of safe work practices and the safety of patrons.
- ❖ For developing an operational budget that allows Recreation and Culture to maintain the desired level of service.

Qualifications:

- ❖ Degree in Recreation or other related discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution or three years of supervisory experience supplemented with training in a Recreation field.
- ❖ Extensive experience in the supervision and direction of staff.
- ❖ A minimum of three years' experience in program development, proposal writing, and project reporting and budgeting would be an asset (excellent writing skills).
- ❖ Strong interpersonal skills and ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing to prepare reports and make presentations.
- ❖ Excellent working knowledge of various computer applications including Microsoft Excel, Word and others.
- ❖ Background in Sports or Recreation, Coaching experience is an asset,
- ❖ Valid Driver's License
- ❖ Ability to obtain satisfactory criminal record and vulnerable sector check and Child Intervention Check upon hire.

The salary range for this position will commensurate based experience and qualifications. Interested individuals are invited to submit their resume and three work related references to:

Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity No.17
PO Box 60, Wabasca, AB T0G 2K0
Phone: (780) 891-3778 Fax: (780) 891-4283
Email: hr@mdopportunity.ab.ca

This advertisement will close on October 1, 2026, at 3:00 pm.

The personal information submitted pursuant to this advertisement will be utilized for this Employment Opportunity only and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Privacy Act.

**Deadline for Ads
and other items:
Tuesdays: Noon**



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