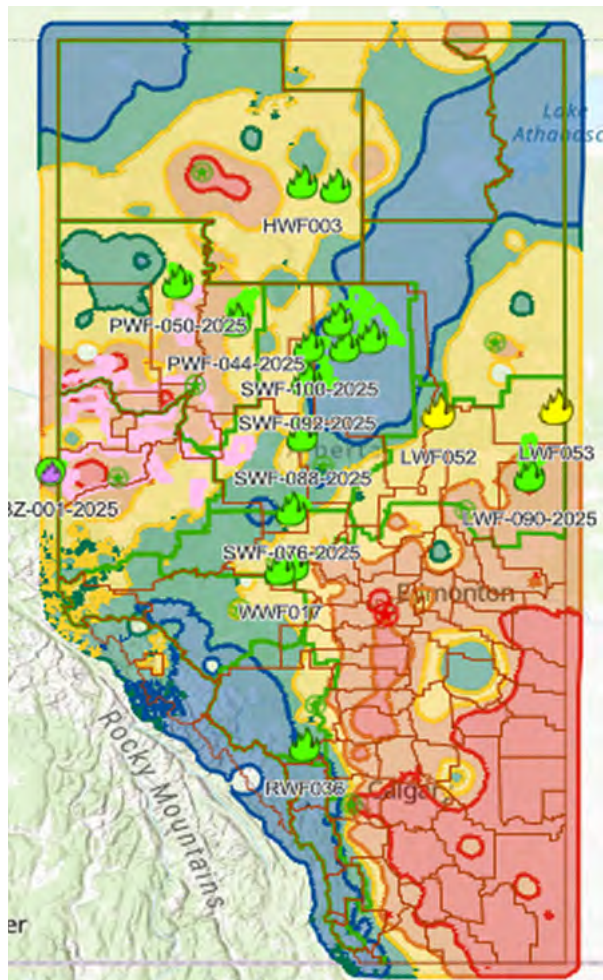




Northern Alberta News | Features | Commentary \$1.90

The FEVER

Volume 27, Issue 19

Thursday, May 28, 2026

HOT, DRY, WINDY are becoming more common words now and the rise in fire danger ratings in northern Alberta is changing from the blue and green levels to the more threatening colours of yellow, brownish orange and red.

With records amounts of snow this winter and all the way into late April and some Alberta places into early May, northern Alberta has enjoyed a slow start to this fire season un-

like the previous three.

Fire protection areas near the mountains and the National Parks also show how the huge snow pack at higher elevations is helping ward off any early fires, but has raised the dangerous risk of avalanches for late season skiers and back country hikers and snowmobilers.

It is likely if The Fever publishes a late June fire danger map, the colours scheme will be different.

We'll see.



Low: Fire can still ignite but is not expected to spread to deeper vegetation layers or larger fuels, such as trees.

Moderate: Creeping or gentle surface fire is likely.

High: Forest fuels are dry and fire risk is serious. Moderate to vigorous surface fire is expected, which may spread to treetops. Conditions may be challenging for fire suppression efforts.

Very high: High-intensity fire is expected and likely to spread to treetops. Fire is expected to start easily and to challenge suppression efforts.

Extreme: Forest fuels are extremely dry and pose a very serious fire risk. Fast-spreading, high-intensity fires are likely, which are very difficult to control.

Board celebrates two special student accomplishments

Board Meeting Highlights May 23, 2026



The Board celebrated two Northland School Division (NSD) students who received provincial recognition for their leadership, growth, and commitment to learning.

Jaycob Swan from Elizabeth School was selected as a recipient of the 2026 Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Award. The award recognizes First Nations, Métis and Inuit students across Alberta who show strength, resilience, and commitment to their education. Jaycob was recognized for his dedication to learning, pride in his Métis identity, and willingness to share his culture with others.



The Board also celebrated Patience Badger from Northland Online School. Patience was selected as a recipient of the 2026 ASBA Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Student Award. The award recognizes students who show growth, determination, and success in their learning and personal lives. Patience was recognized for her progress in learning, attendance, confidence, and the kindness she shows to those around her.

The Board and administration congratulated Jaycob and Patience on these meaningful achievements and recognized the positive example they set for all Northland students



Wanted

Kevin Wyatt Badger

Last known Location
Gift Lake

Areas of Activity
Atikameg, Wabasca

DO NOT
APPROACH

This individual is wanted by the RCMP for various crimes. Report any information to police in your area or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS). Warrants must NOT be acted upon without first confirming the validity of the record with the originating agency. To ensure all biases are removed from the selection process, offenders for Wanted Wednesday posts are determined by a data-driven scoring system using the Crime Severity Index to identify the individuals causing the most harm to communities. Factors such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, religion, sexuality, or disability are not considered in the scoring process.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

In This Issue

All Fall referendum questions are presented on Focus Page 7; Confusing Separation one is getting lots of flak; But multiple ones on immigrants are really worrisome

Publisher's Ponderings ...

A column of news & commentary

sign • So the province is getting rid of the 25-year-old Alberta entrance signs at various border crossings. The new description of the province on the sign is “Strong and Free” which Premier Smith and UCP cabinet ministers seem fond of. The trouble is what do those two words mean to the ultra-conservative minds?

Does “Strong” mean that Alberta can flex their muscles and beat up on federal government leaders and their policies that do not cater to the fossil fuel industry?

And “free!”? During Covid, crowds were marching around Ottawa and some other cities around the country endlessly shouting out “Freedom. Freedom, Freedom.” But they never really explained “Freedom” from what.

Did they all want freedom from vaccinations even though throughout the Pandemic, data on deaths from the virus showed more unvaccinated than vaccinated people were dying in most places.

Did they all, or just some of them, want freedom from Canada’s gun control laws, perhaps so they could mimic the United States and have more assault rifles and the resulting mass murders like in America?

Did they all want the freedom to do more about lessening the numbers of immigrants of colour, of gay people, certain books from schools and public libraries, or whatever else they personally deems to be bad?

In regards to the signage, most Albertans are probably happy that these signs do not proclaim “State of Alberta” or “Sovereign Nation of Alberta” or “Future Fiefdom of the Donald Trump Family.”

• Inside this week’s Focus supplement on Page 7 is the exact wording of the other questions inside the UCP fall referendum. While all the fuss is being made over the one confusing question on Alberta separation, every sane Albertan should realize that current and future immigrants may end up regretting they came to Alberta.

If all the questions on immigrants became law, Alberta UCP will likely copy Trump and his supporters and create a heavily armed ICE department to go out and find all the illegal and criminal immigrants. The provincial government has already decided to have driver licenses be used as evidence of Canadian citizenship. And besides giant data centres that will threaten to further weaken’s Alberta’s natural water resources, there might have to be big deportation centres built as well, too.

It is good that various groups are being formed now to counter the authoritarian direction of Danielle Smith and the extremists within her party.



Rendering of new entrance sign for Alberta was released last week.



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY!



Northland School Division supports students as they take their next step after high school.

Bursaries and scholarships are available each year for students entering university, college or a technical institute.

This includes support for students pursuing an education degree, programs outside of education, early childhood education, computer related studies or social work.

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS JUNE 1ST

Scan the QR code to access the application form.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATE

We have updated our official email addresses to ensure safe and reliable communication.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your understanding and continued support.

OUR NEW CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESSES ARE

EDITOR Bruce Thomas bruce.thomas@thefever.online	PRINTING MANAGER Mona Bouchard info@scopeprinting.com	ASSISTANT EDITOR Patsy Phillips thewabascafever@gmail.com
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Thank you for continuing to support The Fever.

Alberta Health offering a new weight reduction without major surgery

Albertans now have access to non-surgical treatment for obesity - a minimally invasive weight-loss procedure performed by bariatric surgery and gastroenterology teams at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

Endoscopic sleeve gastropasty (ESG) reduces the

stomach size by suturing it internally.

The surgical team inserts a thin flexible tube with a camera down the mouth to reach the stomach.

They then use tools through the endoscope to stitch the stomach from the inside to reduce the size of

the organ

The procedure typically takes about 90 minutes.

"This procedure is a significant advancement in the field of weight-loss surgery, especially for patients who don't qualify for traditional bariatric surgery or prefer a less invasive option," says Dr. Noah Switzer, upper gastrointestinal and bariatric surgeon.

"Rather than having a complex surgery requiring extensive recovery, patients have access to technology that requires no cuts or incisions that allows them to go home the same or next day."

For years, Mary-Ann Thurber felt hesitant about the risks associated with bariatric surgery as a long-term weight management treatment.

The 65-year-old patient in the Edmonton Adult Bariatric Specialty Surgery Clinic at the hospital found

short-term success with appetite suppression medication. She was offered the new procedure as an alternative treatment option.

"Since having the procedure in February, I am sleeping

better, I have more energy and ultimately feel better equipped and motivated to manage my weight without the help of appetite suppression medication," says Thurber.

Red Earth Creek man accused of trafficking and flight from police

About 334 grams of methamphetamine, \$1,936.00 in Canadian currency and drug paraphernalia was seized on May 3 after Red Earth Creek RCMP officers on patrol spotted a man who had his driving license suspended, behind the wheel of a vehicle.

When the officers attempted a traffic stop, the man sped away. However, the vehicle was located parked a short distance away, and the man was arrested for fleeing from the police.

The arrest led to the search of the vehicle.

Tyler Cowan, age 32 and a resident of Red Earth Creek, was released from custody on conditions and also made an appearance before the Alberta Court of Justice in Red Earth Creek on May 19.

Thank You!

The family of the late Francis P. Gladue would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following businesses, organizations, volunteers, family members, and friends for their generous donations, support, and assistance during the poker rally on May 19, the wake on May 21, and the funeral on May 22. Your kindness and support during this difficult time are deeply appreciated.

OPK School
Bigstone Education Authority
Home Hardware
Northern Store
MD of Opportunity #17
Chapel of Memories
Bigstone Consultation- Gilman
Cardinal
Irene Gladue-Supernant
Karen Alook
Tracey and Gerald Rathbone
Devon Rathbone
Bernadine Muller
Melba and Fred Auger
Megan Auger
Fredelle Auger
Lorraine Cardinal
Sheila and Willy Mcleod
Muriel Bigstone
Christine and German Gullion
Diane Peredery
Stephanie Blakeney
Brenda Blakeney

Ronnie Rathbone
Rusty Potts
David Cardinal
Marcel Gladue
Freddy Gladue
Wanda Turk
Cori Alook
Nicole Jackson
Lauralyn Houle
Cindy Moore
Virginia Rathbone
Rita Gullion-Houle
April Davis
Chris Thosath
Mona Young
Marylou Cardinal
Florence Gullion
Eddie Jardine
Jesse and Benita Gladue
Mary Rathbone
Evelyn Alook
Aline Auger

Marie Gladue

Bigstone Community Wellness is seeking a

GRANDSKEEPER

For the Indigenous Day Powwow Event on Sunday June 21, 2026

Deadline: June 15, 2026

PLEASE CONTACT:
Deanna MacDonald
780-891-3777
deanna.macdonald@bigstonehealth.ca





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You can empower child amputees
by providing them with the artificial limbs they need to lead independent and active lives.



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Calling Lake resident among authors of bestselling co-leadership book

Calling Lake resident Cheri Courtorielle is one of seven co-authors behind the collaborative leadership book *Co-Leadership*, which recently became a bestseller in three categories on Amazon.

The book brings together women from across Western Canada (Saskatchewan, Alberta, BC) with backgrounds in leadership coaching, education, municipal government, business, public speaking, and consulting. Through personal stories and lived experiences, the authors explore leadership in a way that is honest, relatable, and grounded in real life.

“Cowriting CoLeadership encouraged me to look inward and reflect on my own life, experiences, and lessons learned. It changed how I see leadership. I used to think leadership was about having all the answers. Now I see it as courage. The courage to listen, communicate, take responsibility, and create space for others to lead too. I believe leadership doesn’t belong only to people with titles or positions. Everyone has leadership within them; they simply need the courage to trust their journey and find their own path.”

Cheri Courtorielle

The group began meeting over Zoom in early December 2025 and published the book in March 2026. Although the seven women spent months writing and collaborating together virtually, they did not meet in person until the official book launch event in Vancouver, BC on April 25.

The other contributing authors include leadership guide, coach and facilitator Maggie Reidy, university instructor, professional speaker, facilitator, and leadership coach Ashli Komaryk, professional speaker, facilitator

and coach Jeannette Austin, educator and facilitator Dr. Donna VanSant, professional speaker and facilitator Teresa Walker, and professional speaker, facilitator, media producer Adera Angelucci.

Courtorielle says being part of the project pushed her outside of her comfort zone and gave her the opportunity to tell stories and perspectives that many people quietly carry, but do not always put into words.

While *Co-Leadership* began as a book, the movement behind it continues to grow. Through speaking engagements, workshops, and leadership training, the authors are bringing the lessons and experiences from its pages



into communities, organizations, and conversations across Canada and beyond. At its heart, *Co-Leadership* is about connection, communication, resilience, and recognizing that leadership can look different for everyone. Its message is meant to inspire people from all walks of life whether in business, community work, industry, or everyday life.

Co-Leadership is available through Amazon and directly through the authors. Cheri has signed copies available for \$25.

Courtorielle’s perspective in the book is shaped by nearly three decades in the road building industry, two terms on municipal council, and life experience gained through leadership, responsibility, adversity, and working closely with people from all walks of life. Her writing focuses on the reality that leadership is not always polished or glamorous, but often built through difficult decisions, resilience, accountability, humour, and human connection. She is the only indigenous author and one of two women from Alberta.



From left to right: Teresa Walker, Ashli Komaryk, Adera Angelucci, Cheri Courtorielle, Jeannette Austin, Maggie Reidy

Contact Information

Cheri Courtorielle is available for speaking engagements, leadership workshops and community events.

Phone: (780) 231-4442

Email: cheri.courtorielle@gmail.com

LinkedIn: Cheri Courtorielle Facebook: Cheri Courtorielle

A gentle reminder

Our deadline for submitting advertisements is every **TUESDAY BY NOON**.

Sometimes we receive ads even on Wednesday, which makes it challenging for us to plan and publish on time.

Your timely submissions make a big difference. Thank you!

How you can help

✓ Please send your advertisements **BEFORE TUESDAY BY NOON**.

This helps us ensure everything runs smoothly for everyone.

Thank you for helping us stay on track!

Board approves Education Plan in Principle

Board Meeting Highlights May 23, 2026



The Board of Trustees approved the 2026-2029 Education Plan in principle following a discussion led by Deputy Superintendent Scott Meunier.

The plan guides Northland School Division’s work to help students thrive. It was shaped by student, parent, staff, community, Elder, Knowledge Keeper and Trustee voices, including recent community engagement sessions and the Superintendent’s Youth Council and Elders/Knowledge Keepers Council.

The plan continues to focus on four priorities:



Connections Supporting Truth and Reconciliation, Holistic Learning, Excellent People Supporting Students, and Responsible Resourcing. The plan includes actions to strengthen connections to land, language, culture and community. It also supports literacy, numeracy, attendance, high school completion and social-emotional skills.

Hands-on learning is another important focus. This includes Career and Technology Studies, dual credit, career exploration, trades exposure, health care pathways and practical certifications.



Alberta Rural Health Week Proclamation May 25 to 29, 2026

Rural healthcare providers are essential to the strength and well-being of our communities. Each day, they bring care closer to home-supporting patients across distances, building meaningful relationships, and ensuring that individuals and families can access the care they need where they live.

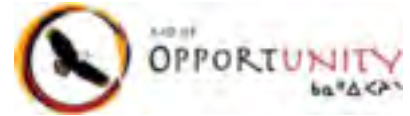
Their contributions extend far beyond clinical care. As neighbours, mentors, volunteers, and community leaders, rural healthcare professionals play a vital role in shaping healthy, connected, and resilient communities-today and for the future.

Community volunteers, including local health professional attraction and retention committees, are also key to sustaining rural healthcare. Through their dedication and innovation, they help ensure communities can continue to attract and support the healthcare professionals who make local care possible.

M.D of Opportunity hereby proclaims May 25 to 29, 2026, as Alberta Rural Health Week. Residents are encouraged to recognize and celebrate the individuals and teams who bring care closer to home and contribute to a strong future for rural healthcare.

Signed this 14th day of May, 2026

Marshall D. Auger
Reeve
Wabasca Alberta



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY

The following Development Permits were processed on May 19, 2026

26-DP-018 – 1222135;3;4 - Wabasca

Development: Workcamp, Heavy Vehicle Parking Lot and 6' Fence

Zoned as M1 - Industrial District – **Approved**

26-DP-020 – 8421791;B;3 - Red Earth Creek

Development: RV Workcamp

Zoned as CH – Highway Commercial District – **Refused**

26-DP-021 – 9020285;2;8 - Red Earth Creek

Development: Renew Workcamp

Zoned as M1 - Industrial District – **Approved**

Any person affected by this decision may submit a written "statement of concern" on the grounds of appeal to: Terah Yellowknee, Subdivision and Development of Appeal Board Clerk, MD of Opportunity, P.O Box 60 Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0, within 21 days of publication. Please quote the appropriate application number when submitting a statement of concern. The residential appeal fee is \$100.00, and the commercial appeal fee is \$400.00.



M.D. OF
OPPORTUNITY
ba''Δ<P'

Save the date
JUNE 21ST 2026



2ND ANNUAL

Celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day

ILLΔ·''ΔΔΔ·

Wabasca Traditional Powwow

Board approves new dual credit course

Board Meeting Highlights May 23, 2026

The Board of Trustees approved a new dual credit course for Northland students. The course, SCIE 2230: Science of Health & Wellness, is a three-credit course offered through SAIT. It gives students



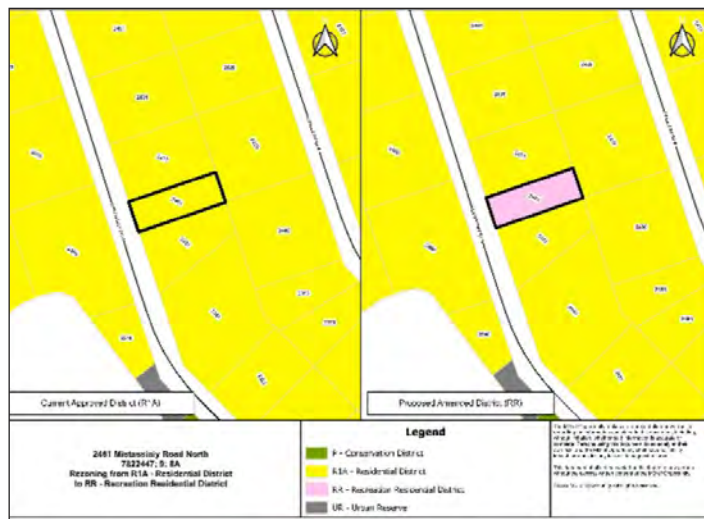
another opportunity to earn post-secondary credits while still in high school. Students in the course will learn about physical and mental health, fitness, nutrition, stress management, infectious and chronic diseases, and healthy lifestyles. This course supports Northland's continued work to expand learning opportunities and help students explore future pathways.



Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BYLAW No. 2026-04

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 191 of the Municipal Government Act, C. M26 as amended, the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 intends to hold a Public Hearing in consideration for rezoning.

Bylaw 2026-04, being a Bylaw of the Municipal District of Opportunity No.17 in the Province of Alberta, proposes the amendment of the Land Use District designation of the location listed below and indicated on the accompanying map:



1. To rezone the portion of the land shown in Schedule A, legally described as Plan 7822447, Block 9, Lot 8A; 2461 Mistassini Road North within the Hamlet of Wabasca, from R1A – Residential District to RR – Recreation Residential District.

At **11:00 a.m. on Monday June 8, 2026**, the Council of the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 will hold a PUBLIC HEARING at the Council Chambers in Wabasca, at which time objections or comments from the public regarding the proposed rezoning may be presented.

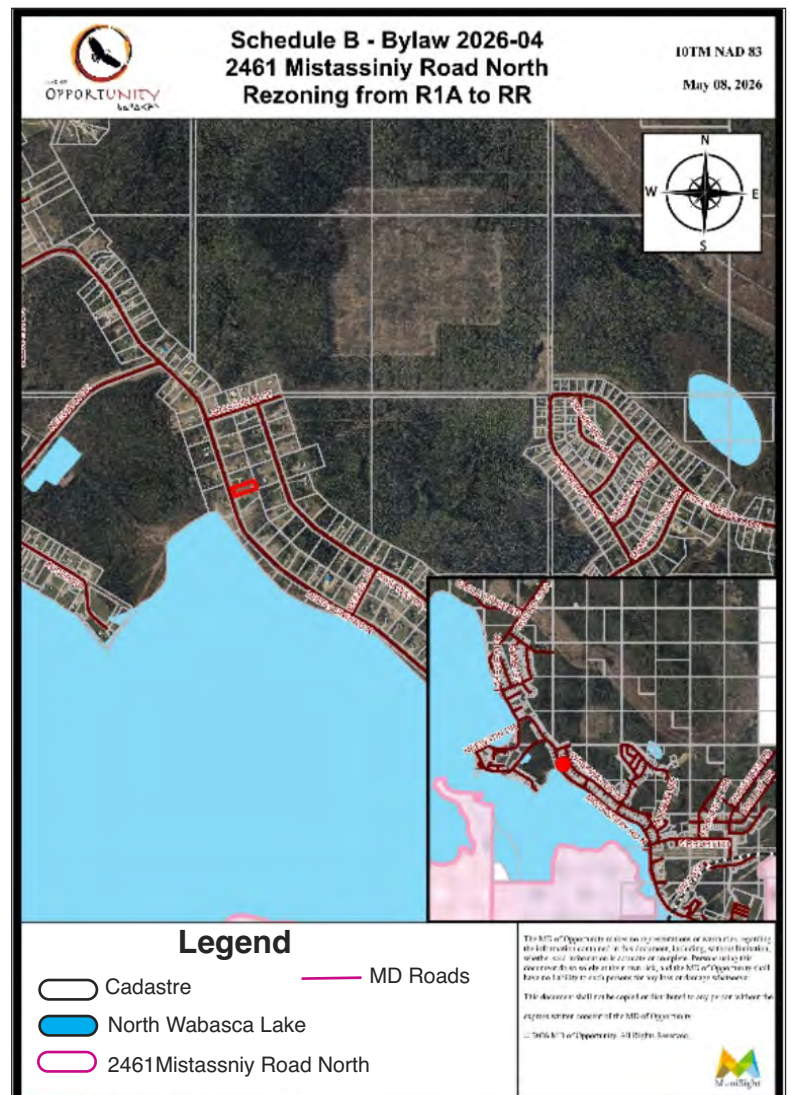
Written submissions may be provided to the Council during the Public Hearing. However, it is requested that a copy of any written submission be delivered to the Office of the Municipal District's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) by 11:00 a.m. of **Friday June 5, 2026**, in order to ensure that each member of the Council has a copy of the written submissions for the Public Hearing.

Chad Tullis, CAO

Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17
Box 60, Wabasca, AB T0G 2K0

Dated this 22nd Day of May, 2026

Copies of the proposed rezoning may be reviewed and inspected and/or purchased for a nominal fee by the public at the Municipal District of Opportunity No.17 Office, 2077 Mistassini Road, Hamlet of Wabasca, during the hours of 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.





KISINOHTAHAWASOKAMIK EARLY LEARNING CENTER K3, K4, K5 PROGRAMS



OPEN FOR REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026/2027 SCHOOL YEAR!!

Children born in 2023, 3 years old on or before
October 1st, 2026 may register for K3 (Aboriginal Headstart)

Children born in 2022, 4 years old on or before
December 31, 2026 may register for K4

Children born in 2021, 5 years old on or before
December 31, 2026 may register for K5

Child must be potty trained to attend

Proof of age (eg. birth certificate) is needed. Other forms of
identification required are Alberta Health Card, Status Card, and a
document with the civic address (example - utilities bill)

We provide comprehensive student support services as needed including:

**Regular parent/guardian communication
Full-time Speech & Language Services
OT and PT Services
Behavioural Supports**



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PEP HOCKEY ACADEMY

AT GOLDEN EAGLE HIGHSCHOOL

This unique program gives students the opportunity to combine their academic studies with elite hockey skill development, supporting both education and athletic growth. Through a valued partnership with Bigstone Education Authority, PEP continues to bring high-level training directly to our community.

☀ PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Serving students in Grades 7-12
- On-ice and off-ice (dryland) training
- Annual trips to attend an Edmonton Oilers practice and game
- Parent & Community Night showcasing student skills
- Year-End Game & Certificate Celebration held on April 29
- Grades 5 & 6 will be added for the 2026-2027 school year

🏆 STRONG LEADERSHIP & SUPPORT

- Coaches: Richard Petiot & Kelly Gladue
- Manager: Christine Gullion
- Guest Coaches: Vern Gladue & Leonard Bigstone
- Special recognition to Kelly Gladue for earning official PEP certification this summer



**GOLDEN EAGLE HIGH SCHOOL
PEP PROGRAM
DEVELOPING SKILLS,
BUILDING CHARACTER,
INSPIRING EXCELLENCE.**

WHO KNOWS? THE NEXT GREAT HOCKEY SUCCESS STORY COULD COME FROM RIGHT HERE IN WABASCA.



PEP founders Joe and Nick Quinn continue to stay actively involved, visiting the program multiple times each season and supporting both coaches and athletes.

💬 MESSAGE FROM JOE QUINN - TRAINED CONNOR MCDAVID FOR 17YRS

"We're now in year 7 of PEP Bigstone Hockey Academy and are so proud to be part of your community. The talent and athleticism here are incredible, and the passion for hockey is undeniable. Commitment and focus are what take athletes to the next level. These are the same qualities that have shaped elite players, and they are essential for continued growth and success. With the right mindset, Bigstone students can achieve anything they set their minds to."



**A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO:
PARENTS FOR THEIR ONGOING
SUPPORT**

**MD OF OPPORTUNITY FOR
PROVIDING ARENA ACCESS
DEDICATED STAFF AND
COACHES WHO GO ABOVE AND
BEYOND FOR OUR STUDENTS**



🏆 BUILDING FUTURE ATHLETES

We are proud to see the continued growth of the program since its start 7 years ago. Now based at Golden Eagle High School, the PEP program continues to inspire students to push their limits and pursue excellence.

After flames, wildfires can pollute drinking water for years to come

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This article first appeared in Canada Conversation

When people think about wildfires, they usually think about flames, smoke and evacuations. However, for many communities, some of the most important damage begins after the fire has passed.

Most wildfires leave behind a barren, blackened landscape, and within this changed environment, important impacts can leave their mark. Trees and other vegetation that once slowed rainfall and held soil in place are gone. Ash and burned debris cover the ground. Soil can become more vulnerable to erosion.

Then, the rain comes. When that happens, streams, rivers and water reservoirs receive a sudden pulse of ash, sediment and fire-suppressant chemicals washed off the land. For communities that depend on those waters for drinking water, wildfires can quickly become a long-term water-quality problem.

This risk is often overlooked when governments and communities think about wildfires. Our recent review of 23 studies across 28 watersheds brings together existing knowledge on how wildfire-related contaminants affect water sources.

One of the clearest lessons is that the impacts of wildfire do not stop at the edge of the burn scar. They can travel downstream, into the waters that people rely on every day.



More contaminants in water

One of the first signs of trouble after a wildfire is often turbidity — the cloudiness caused by suspended particles in the water.

High turbidity can make drinking water much more difficult to treat. Fine particles can interfere with processes, clog filters and make disinfection less effective. After a fire, the problem is often worsened by storms that flush large amounts of ash, soil and organic material into waterways over a short period of time.

Wildfires can also increase levels of contaminants such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), some of which are carcinogenic or suspected carcinogens. Many PAHs can attach to ash, soot and fine particles, allowing them to move through a watershed when water runs off. Some

FOCUS

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

The FEVER

Thursday, MAY 28, 2026

lower-molecular-weight PAHs may also occur in dissolved form, creating additional challenges for monitoring and water treatment.

In some cases, chemicals used in fire suppression can also affect water quality: some fire retardants contain phosphates, which can add too many nutrients to water bodies if they get into streams or reservoirs.

Wildfires also make landscapes more vulnerable to erosion, which can release sediments, metals, dissolved organic matter and other contaminants into lakes, rivers and reservoirs.

Not every wildfire affects water in the same way. The size of the impact depends on many factors: how severely the area burned, how steep the terrain is, what kinds of soil and vegetation are present, how close the burned area is to streams and reservoirs, and how soon heavy rain falls after the fire. In many cases, the fire creates the conditions for water contamination, but the first major storm that follows delivers the blow.

There are still those other persistent factors that can lead to contamination, even years after the wildfire. This is one reason wildfire risk is becoming harder to manage in a warming world.

That broader perspective matters for water policy. If governments treat wildfire only as an emergency response problem, they will miss what happens before and long after the flames. They will also miss opportunities to reduce long-term contamination of drinking water.

What can be done?

The first step is to recognize water protection as part of wildfire preparedness. Utilities and governments should know which watersheds are most vulnerable to severe fire and post-fire runoff. Fire-risk planning, watershed management and drinking-water planning are often handled separately. That needs to change.

The second step is better monitoring. After a major fire, communities need timely information about what is entering their water sources. Without timely monitoring, utilities are left reacting after water quality has already deteriorated.

The third step is stronger support for drinking water treatment systems, especially in smaller and rural communities. Large cities may have more backup options, flexible treatment systems and capacity. Smaller communities often do not. Yet they may face some of the greatest risks when fire affects the watersheds they depend on.

Continued on Focus Page 7

Alberta Respiratory Virus Dashboard – May 17 to May 23, 2026

117 (20003 this season) Influenza cases	19 (6151 this season) SARS-CoV-2 cases	22 (5103 this season) RSV cases
3.8% Influenza positivity	0.7% SARS-CoV-2 positivity	0.6% RSV positivity
22 Influenza in hospital**	12 SARS-CoV-2 in hospital**	10 RSV in hospital**
2 Influenza in ICU**	0 SARS-CoV-2 in ICU**	0 RSV in ICU**
0 (278 this season) Influenza deaths	0 (129 this season) SARS-CoV-2 deaths	0 (66 this season) RSV deaths

**Immigrants seem to be targeted
in many of Danielle Smith's
other referendum questions**

Turn to Focus Page 7

I'm putting addresses into the...



Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

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...GPS to help map the way.



Kids: color stuff in!

Does Your Family take several three or four days times away from home during the summer?

Long Weekends Away!



Long weekends away! More families are taking a few long weekends away from home in place of one longer vacation. It takes a lot of planning to get ready, but people like the change of pace from their weekly routines and feel that they get more breaks. Some families like the idea of visiting three or four different places during the year. It's also a good way to make time to visit relatives and still be able to have a couple of private getaways for just your own family.

What Should We Pack?

Find and circle:

hairbrush	soap	shirt	slippers
shampoo	comb	pants	pajamas
toothbrush	face cloth	shoes	bathrobe
toothpaste	towel	socks	underclothes

I've stuffed everything into my pack, Forest!



Fill in the crossword with things you might do or places you might visit

1. tropical _____ getaway
2. national _____
3. fly to a foreign _____
4. visit the stores along the _____
5. your Mom's or Dad's Mom or Dad
6. place to ride horses: Dude _____
7. higher than hills; you can see the peaks
8. take a tour on a ship



9. learn about animals, growing crops
10. cabin in a _____ near a lake
11. place to ski and be entertained
12. ride a Ferris wheel at the _____ park
13. beach
14. busy place full of people, tall buildings, lights and cars

TOOTHBRUSH IOUBMOCT

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

S E H T O L C R E D N U K J A

What Will We Pack It In?

You can pack your belongings in a knapsack, nylon bag or:

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

esc t a u i s

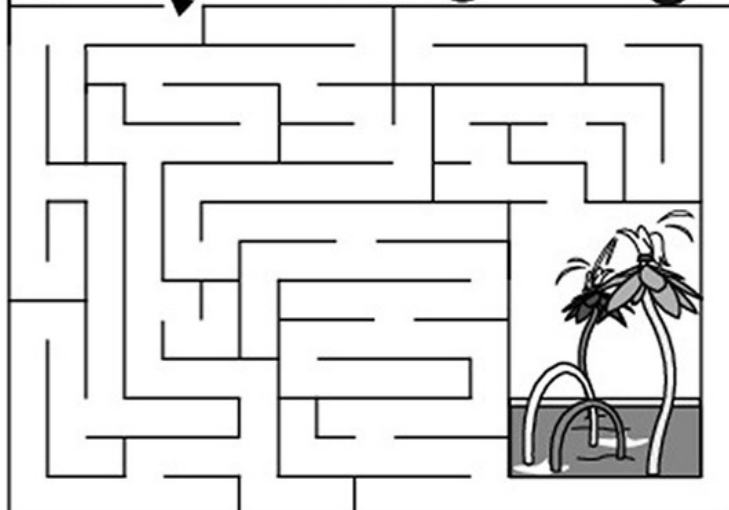
Forest's Stuff

Keep Your Paws Off...

Find and circle 10 compound * words, including the word that will appear when you unscramble the letters above. * (2 small words put together to make a new one)

Traveling Along...
Singing a Song...

The car is packed, everyone is buckled in and Forest is helping with the GPS. Can you help them find their way?



Will Canadiens make all of Canada proud by bringing home Stanley Cup?

By the time this issue of The Fever reaches the hands or screens of most readers, Montreal Canadiens may have already tied the Eastern Conference title match, 2-2 with a Tuesday night victory.

Carolina Hurricanes and the Canadiens are both eager to meet the Western Conference champs, Vegas Golden Knights.

The Knights got themselves into the final cup battles by winning four consecutive games against Colorado Avalanche: 4-2 on May 20, 3-1 on May 22, 5-3 on May 24, and a close 2-1 on May 26.

Meanwhile, Montreal took the long road to get to the Eastern Conference title, having to play the full seven games against the Buffalo Sabres, winning the seventh, 3-2.

Against its final obstacle to get to face Vegas, Montreal has to beat the Carolina Hurricanes.

Game one had the Canadians douse the Hurricanes, 6-2. But in the second and third meetings, the Hurricanes bounced back with two victories, one in overtime, to go into a Wednesday night game with a 2-1 series lead.

Betting odds as of Wednesday morning had the Hurricanes a slight favourite over the Vegas Knights to take the cup.

Canadians, coast to coast, hope the Montreal players will prove the odd-makers wrong and the Stanley Cup will take up residency in Montreal and take tours around the country during the 2026/27 season.



CALL OUT

Bigstone Community Wellness is currently looking for a typist to assist with the drafting of a Procedure Manual.

If you are interested or would like further information, please contact **Charlene Gambler** at 780-891-3777 or via email at charlene.gambler@bigstonehealth.ca



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Post Secondary Students Temporary Full Time

The Municipal District of Opportunity will be accepting applications from Post-Secondary Students to supervise summer students in the **communities of Wabasca, Calling Lake, Red Earth Creek, Chipewyan and Sandy Lake**. This is a temporary full-time position. You will have an opportunity to work and gain valuable learning experiences with respect to some of the important factors needed when entering the "employment" field. The ideal candidates will be responsible for supervising, cutting grass, painting etc. and must possess the **following qualifications**:

- ☐ Punctual & Reliable;
- ☐ Self-motivated and ability to work as a "leader" within a team environment or work well independently;
- ☐ Ability to follow direction and instructions;
- ☐ Ability to assess a job and complete;
- ☐ Ensure that all equipment is prepared, maintained and ready for use;
- ☐ Respect for equipment and property;
- ☐ Abide by the Safety Rules and Regulations at all times;
- ☐ Be willing to learn and be responsible;
- ☐ Applicants must be returning to school in the fall of 2026.
- ☐ Applicants must provide proof of attendance from school attended.

Candidates must be:

- ☐ 18 years of age or older;
- ☐ Must have C.S.A. approved steel toe boots;
- ☐ Must have a valid Class 5 Drivers License;
- ☐ Strong leadership skills along with supervisory experience are a definite asset.

☐ A satisfactory criminal record check upon hire. Interested post-secondary students are invited to submit their resumes, three work related references, proof of acceptance:

Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity No.17
PO Box 60 Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0
(Tele) 780-891-3778 (Fax) 780-891-4283

Email: hr@mdopportunity.ab.ca

Closing date for this advertisement is June 10, 2026 @ 3pm

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.



By Primary Care Alberta
As the days get warmer, the risks related to sun exposure also increase. May is Melanoma Awareness Month and Primary Care Alberta would like to remind Albertans of all ages to stay sun-safe while working or playing outdoors.

Melanoma is a type of skin cancer where abnormal skin cells grow out of control. It's the most serious type of skin cancer and fifth most diagnosed cancer in Alberta. Approximately 65 per cent of melanoma cases are linked to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun and artificial tanning beds.

The best way to prevent melanoma and other types of skin cancer is to practice sun safety:

Wear sunscreen that protects against both UVA and UVB rays, with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 30

Apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes before going outside and reapply every two hours throughout the day

Wear a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses with a UVA/UVB CSA certified seal

Try to wear long pants or skirts and long-sleeved shirts that cover your skin or seek shade when possible
The sun's rays are most harmful around midday (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Consider scheduling outdoor activities during cooler hours of the day.

Melanoma can spread quickly to other parts of the body but is often curable if detected early. Most melanomas show up as a new spot or skin growth.

A monthly head-to-toe self-check is recommended to remain aware of any changes to your skin. Use a full-length mirror and a hand mirror for the harder to see places, like your scalp or back.

BIGSTONE HEALTH COMMISSION
Employment Opportunity

SHELTER COORDINATOR
One (1) Temporary Full-Time
Monday to Friday – 7 hours/day
Wabasca, Alberta

Bigstone Health Commission is seeking compassionate, reliable Shelter Coordinator to join our team and help maintain a safe and supportive environment for individuals experiencing homelessness. This role is essential to the daily operations of the shelter, offering direct support to residents while ensuring safety, dignity, and respect for all.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Oversee the daily operations of the shelter, including shift scheduling, logistics and supplies
- Supervise the shelter staff
- Provide monthly reports to the BCW Manager
- Report to the Community Wellness Manager
- Participate in meetings, discussions, and provide recommendations to the Community Wellness Manager regarding the shelter
- Organize training for the shelter staff
- Other duties as required

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Strong communication, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills
- Empathy, patience, and a non-judgmental approach
- Ability to remain calm and professional in high-stress or crisis situations
- Understanding of trauma-informed care practices
- Ability to work on a rotating schedule
- Effective teamwork and collaboration skills

Education and Experience:

- Grade 12 education preferred
- Experience working with vulnerable populations, such as individuals facing homelessness, addiction, or mental health challenges is an asset
- Experience working in shelters, residential programs, outreach, or crisis settings is an asset
- Certifications in First Aid/CPR, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVC), Harm Reduction Training, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), and Naloxone training is an asset

Salary is dependent on qualifications.

Please forward your Cover Letter, Resume (including 3 work related references), Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check (should be current within the last 6 months) to the:

Human Resources Department
PO Box 1020 Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0
Fax : 780-891-2623 | Email: bhcresumes@bigstonehealth.ca
CLOSING DATE: *Until a Suitable Candidate is Found.*
POSTED: May 21, 2026

*Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest in our organization, however only those selected 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.

For more information and tips on how the sun, visit healthiertogether.ca/living-to-limit-UV-exposure-and-stay-safe-while-in-healthy.



Join The Team at Bigstone Health Commission

BIGSTONE HEALTH COMMISSION
Employment Opportunity

SHELTER SUPPORT WORKER
Six (6) Temporary Positions
12 hours/day – 7 days on / 7 days off
Wabasca, Alberta

Bigstone Health Commission is seeking compassionate, reliable Six (6) Shelter Support Workers to join our team and help maintain a safe and supportive environment for individuals experiencing homelessness. This role is essential to the daily operations of the shelter, offering direct support to residents while ensuring safety, dignity, and respect for all.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Ensure the safety and well-being of all shelter residents
- Conduct client intake and orientation, including coordinating sleeping arrangements
- Provide crisis intervention, de-escalation, and conflict resolution as needed
- Assist with meal distribution and perform general housekeeping / sanitation duties during shifts
- Maintain accurate daily logs, including incident reports and client documentation
- Offer referrals to mental health, addiction, social, and community support services
- Support a trauma-informed, culturally respectful, and non-judgmental shelter environment
- Other duties as requested

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Strong communication, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills
- Empathy, patience, and a non-judgmental approach
- Ability to remain calm and professional in high-stress or crisis situations
- Understanding of trauma-informed care practices
- Ability to work on a rotating schedule
- Effective teamwork and collaboration skills

Education and Experience:

- Grade 12 education preferred
- Experience working with vulnerable populations, such as individuals facing homelessness, addiction, or mental health challenges is an asset
- Experience working in shelters, residential programs, outreach, or crisis settings is an asset
- Certifications in First Aid/CPR, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVC), Harm Reduction Training, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), and Naloxone training is an asset

Salary is dependent on qualifications.

Please forward your Cover Letter, Resume (including 3 work related references), Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check (should be current within the last 6 months) to the:

Human Resources Department
PO Box 1020 Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0
Fax: 780-891-2623 | Email: bhcresumes@bigstonehealth.ca
CLOSING DATE: Until a Suitable Candidate is Found.
POSTED: May 21, 2026

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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.

BIGSTONE HEALTH COMMISSION
Employment Opportunity

SHELTER SUPPORT WORKER
Casual – As needed basis
Wabasca, Alberta

Bigstone Health Commission is seeking compassionate, reliable Shelter Support Workers to join our team and help maintain a safe and supportive environment for individuals experiencing homelessness. This role is essential to the daily operations of the shelter, offering direct support to residents while ensuring safety, dignity, and respect for all.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Ensure the safety and well-being of all shelter residents
- Conduct client intake and orientation, including coordinating sleeping arrangements
- Provide crisis intervention, de-escalation, and conflict resolution as needed
- Assist with meal distribution and perform general housekeeping / sanitation duties during shifts
- Maintain accurate daily logs, including incident reports and client documentation
- Offer referrals to mental health, addiction, social, and community support services
- Support a trauma-informed, culturally respectful, and non-judgmental shelter environment
- Other duties as requested

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Strong communication, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills • Empathy, patience, and a non-judgmental approach
- Ability to remain calm and professional in high-stress or crisis situations
- Understanding of trauma-informed care practices
- Ability to work on a rotating schedule
- Effective teamwork and collaboration skills

Education and Experience:

- Grade 12 education preferred
- Experience working with vulnerable populations, such as individuals facing homelessness, addiction, or mental health challenges is an asset
- Experience working in shelters, residential programs, outreach, or crisis settings is an asset
- Certifications in First Aid/CPR, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVC), Harm Reduction Training, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), and Naloxone training is an asset

Salary is dependent on qualifications.

Please forward your Cover Letter, Resume (including 3 work related references), Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check (should be current within the last 6 months) to the:

Human Resources Department
PO Box 1020 Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0
Fax: 780-891-2623 | Email: bhcresumes@bigstonehealth.ca
CLOSING DATE: Until a Suitable Candidate is Found.
POSTED: May 21, 2026

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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.

RCMP remove 122 impaired drivers from Alberta roads

By Sgt. Darrin Turnbull
Alberta RCMP
Traffic Services

From May 15-18, 2026,
over the Victoria Day long

weekend, Alberta RCMP
conducted enhanced traffic
enforcement to target im-
paired drivers and unsafe
driving practices.

As a result, 122 total
drivers were removed from
the roads for being impaired
due to drugs or alcohol.

The 122 total removed
drivers included the follow-
ing Immediate Roadside
Sanctions (IRS):

- Nine drivers received
IRS 24-hour suspensions;
- 37 drivers received IRS
WARNS;
- 71 drivers received IRS
FAILS; and
- Five novice/commer-
cial drivers were removed
for IRS ZEROS.

Additionally, 1,204 total
tickets were issued, includ-
ing 26 tickets for distracted
driving, 1,142 speeding tic-
kets, and 36 tickets for seat-
belt infractions.

Sadly, there were 25 in-
jury collisions and six fatal-
ities.

The Alberta RCMP will
continue to have an enhan-
ced presence on provincial
roadways every long week-
end.

Everyone has a role to
play—choices like driving
sober, staying focused, and
buckling up can save lives.”

For more traffic safety
information, follow us on
Facebook@RCMPinAl-
berta and X@RCMPAlber-
ta.



Pedestrian Safety
Be Visible at Night

Wear reflective clothing or carry a light
when walking near roads after dark.
Drivers can only avoid what they can see.

If in doubt, stay off the ice.



Distracted Driving
Eyes on the Road

Texting while driving takes
your attention away for
critical seconds.
At highway speeds, that could
mean travelling the length of
a football field without looking.

No message is worth a life.

Careers / Classifieds Wabasca Fever Newspaper

1-800-315-7826

Advertising

Get your message out! Pro-
vince wide classifieds. Reach
readers through 75 commu-
nity newspapers in Alberta in-
cluding the Wabasca Fever!
Only \$269. (25 words or less)
1-800-315-7826; or e-mail:
wabascafever@shaw.ca

Auctions

FIREARMS AUCTION: June
27th: Ward's and Bud Haynes
Auctions in Edmonton. Con-
sign Now! Firearms, Ammo,
Optics, Accessories, etc. Call
Brad Ward, 780-940-8378.
FirearmsAuctions.ca.

Buildings For Sale

**INTEGRITY POST FRAME
BUILDINGS** since 2008
BUILT WITH CONCRETE
POSTS. Barns, Shops, Riding
Arenas, Machine Sheds and
more, sales@integritybuilt.
com 1-866-974-7678 www.in-
tegritybuilt.com.

Feed and Seed

FORAGE SEED FOR SALE:
Organic & conventional:
Sweet Clover, Alfalfa, Red
Clover, Smooth Brome,
Meadow Brome, Crested
Wheatgrass, Timothy, etc.
Free Delivery! Birch Rose
Acres Ltd. 306-921-9942.

For Sale

WHITE SPRUCE TREES: 5'
average \$50. Installation
ONLY \$19. Includes: hole au-
gered, Wurzel Dip enzyme in-
jection, bark mulch appli-
cation, staking. Minimum
order 25. One-time fuel
charge: \$150 - 300. Crystal
Springs. 403-820-0961. Qual-
ity guaranteed. albertaspruce-
trees.com.

Services

**PRIVATE MORTGAGE LEND-
ER.** All real estate types con-
sidered. No credit checks
done. Deal direct with lender
and get quick approval. 403-
543-0927; www.firststandsec-
ondmortgages.ca.

Travel

**OSOYOOS LAKESHORE VIL-
LA:** Executive villa in Osoyoos,
BC, breathtaking lake views,
just 3 minutes from town. Va-
cation in Canada's warmest
destination. Or warmer wea-
ther, two luxurious 5-star re-
sort units in Phoenix, Arizona.
Doug 306-716-2671 or visit
osoyooslakevilla.com.

Wanted

WANTED: Collector paying
top prices: old advertising
signs, gas pumps, Red Indian,
White Rose, Buffalo, Ford
Dodge, GM. 1968-70 Char-
gers, 1970-71 Barracuda's.
Running or not. 306-221-
5908.

Wild chase, bullets fired in Airdrie during holiday

Around 2:30 a.m., May
15, RCMP in Airdrie be-
came involved in a violent
incident where multiple ve-
hicles were chasing at white
Dodge Caravan in an area
and occupants of those ve-
hicles were firing shots at
the Dodge when it was
forced off the road, and col-
lided with a tree.

One occupant of the van
was intentionally run over
when he exited the van to
take cover from the gunfire.

Three people suffered
minor injuries and one was
seriously injured. Two Cal-
gary men were arrested and
face serious charges.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Labourer

Wabasca— Permanent Full Time

The MD of Opportunity is now accepting
resumes to fill a permanent full-time laborer
position. The laborer position will focus on duties
related to the Facility Maintenance Department in
Wabasca under the general direction of the FM
Supervisor.

The successful candidate will be responsible
for various miscellaneous duties such as; snow
removal in winter, grass cutting in summer,
maintenance and other duties that are assigned by
the Supervisor.

**The ideal candidate must possess the following
qualifications:**

- ♦ Valid Class 5 Drivers License.
- ♦ Valid safety tickets would be an asset including
power saw safety.
- ♦ Experience in maintenance and repairs, a
journeyman carpenter is preferred.
- ♦ Must be active and able to do physical activities
(ability to lift a minimum of 50 lbs).
- ♦ The ability to exercise independent judgment
& initiative in completing assigned duties.
- ♦ Must be reliable, responsible, and bondable.
- ♦ Must be able to work at heights and have no
problem getting into crawl spaces, etc.
- ♦ Must be able to work in a team environment
and be able to communicate well with others.
- ♦ Must be able to work independently with little
or no supervision.
- ♦ Must be able to provide a satisfactory criminal
record check upon hire.

**Interested persons are invited to submit
their Resumes,
three (3) Work Related References to:**

**Attn: Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity
Box 60, Wabasca, AB. T0G 2K0
Phone (780) 891-3778 or Fax: (780) 891-4283
Or Email: hr@mdopportunity.ab.ca
This advertisement will remain open
until suitable candidate 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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PRAIRIE PICKERS**

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GOLD!**

Turn your gold into
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- ✓ Gold Coins
- ✓ Rings, Chains, All Gold Items
- ✓ Scrap Gold & Dental Gold

We come to the privacy of your own home!
— Call Joy or Ted Today —
825-966-4373
Friendly • Private • No Obligation

**SENIORS 55+ – GET 10% MORE!
— MAY ONLY! —**

Doing business in Alberta since 1986 • bonded since 1987

SUMMER IS HERE

MORE MOTORCYCLES.

MORE REASON TO RIDE SAFE.

SHARE THE ROAD. SAVE A LIFE.



As temperatures rise, more riders hit the road. Let's all share the road and keep Alberta moving safely. With longer days and warm weather, thousands of Albertans gear up to enjoy the freedom of the open road. More motorcycles on our roads means more responsibility for everyone.

Motorcycles are smaller and less visible than most vehicles, especially at intersections and during lane changes. A moment of inattention can lead to a lifetime of regret.

According to Alberta RCMP traffic data, hundreds of motorcycle collisions are reported each year, resulting in serious injuries and deaths.

Together, riders and drivers can make our roads safer. Awareness, patience and safe choices save lives.



BE VISIBLE. BE SAFE.

5 WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR VISIBILITY



WEAR REFLECTIVE TAPE

Add reflective tape on wheel rims and on parts of your bike close to a light source.



WEAR BRIGHT SAFETY GEAR

High visibility colours like orange, yellow and white help you stand out.



RIDE A BRIGHT BIKE

Brightly-coloured motorcycles are easier for other motorists to see.



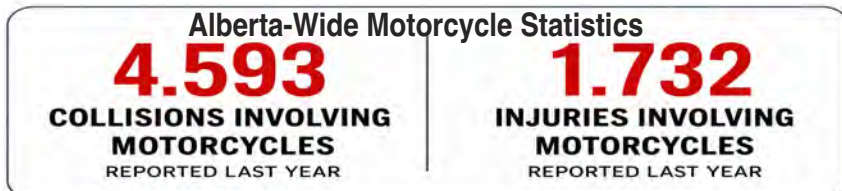
AVOID BLIND SPOTS

Position yourself where drivers can see you. Don't linger in other drivers' blind spots.



USE YOUR BRAKES

Tap your brakes to alert drivers behind you if they are too close or not slowing down.



FOR RIDERS

RIDE SMART. RIDE SAFE.

- ✓ Avoid speeding
- ✓ Don't weave through traffic
- ✓ Slow down on unfamiliar roads
- ✓ Ride within your skill level
- ✓ Stay focused and anticipate hazards
- ✓ Wear proper protective gear
- ✓ Make yourself visible



FOR DRIVERS

LOOK TWICE. SAVE A LIFE.

- ✓ Check mirrors carefully
- ✓ Watch blind spots
- ✓ Signal early
- ✓ Leave extra space
- ✓ Look twice before turning or changing lanes
- ✓ Motorcycles are smaller and harder to see
- ✓ Give riders a full lane width
- ✓ Be extra cautious at intersections



ROAD SAFETY — EVERY ROAD. EVERY DAY. EVERYONE.



SCAN FOR ALBERTA
MOTORCYCLE SAFETY TIPS

alberta.ca/motorcycle-safety



RCMP • GRC

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA

Working together to keep
Alberta's roads safe for
motorcyclists and
all road users.



Motorcycle
Safety
Awareness
Month
May 2026