Happy Thanksgiving

From all of us at The Fever • Monday, October 12



See Fever 8, 9, 10 & Focus 7

Northern Alberta News | Features | Commentary $1.90

The FEVER

Volume 27, Issue 36 Thursday, October 8, 2026

Wabasca's Ryder Cardinal making a name for himself on hockey ice!

Turn to Focus Front Page

Will Danielle Smith be dumped by her own party?

Recent polling has NDP almost tied with UCP with voters - UCP lost recent Calgary byelection to NDP
At least one UCP riding association has called for a leadership review at UCP November convention
Smith fell by another point to 38% in the September Angus Reid Premiers popularity polling

Political Cartoon on Page 3 shows other bad news for the Premier

Also in This Issue:

Giant costs would occur for Alberta to leave Canada

Oil / mining operators could leave billions of dollars of clean-up to taxpayers

New puzzle page Family Fun Puzzle will continue



Sunday, October 4, Beaver and Alook Families, chose to honour our missing loved ones, Audrey Ramona Beaver, missing since August 2020, and Terrence Alook, missing since October 2016.

We hosted our first annual walk, from Highway 754 turn-out in Wabasca along 754 to the billboard on Bigstone Reserve D seeking help to find out what has happened to Audrey and Terrance. Despite the sorrow in our hearts, it was a beautiful day for a walk!

Next year, we invite others to join us in memory of not only Audrey and Terrance, but other missing persons or unsolved fatalities.

Raising awareness of our missing or departed family members may lead to information that will bring closure to families and prevention of further tragedies.

Loretta Beaver

Publisher's Ponderings – Miscellaneous Notes

By Bruce Thomas

• CBC Radio early this week had a short feature on how speed limits on Canadian highways have been increasing (such as Alberta Government now calling its pilot project of a 120-kilometre limit on 22 kilometres of Highway 2 south of Leduc being so successful that the length of the pilot project has been doubled to 44 kilometres). But .

RCMP release: "On Oct. 3, 2026, at 11:38 a.m., Wetaskiwin RCMP was dispatched to a report of a multi vehicle collision on Highway 2 at Highway 616. RCMP was notified that a Sheriff's vehicle was involved. Upon arrival it was determined that there was a total of four vehicles in the collision.



"Initial investigation shows that the Sheriff had pulled over an offender in the left lane of Highway 2. The Sheriff was in their vehicle when they were rearended by another vehicle. During the collision, two other vehicles were hit. Thankfully, there were only minor injuries."

Since there is a general tendency of many highway motorists to drive at least up to 10 kph and some even to 20 kph over the limit, the traffic expert CBC interviewed said the obvious – the faster the speed in a vehicle crash, the worst it is going to be for damage to the vehicles and the humans bodies inside.

• These days it would not be misinformation to suggest that almost everyone on earth living in the developed portions of the world where technology seems to be in control of everything, is at risk due to the threats posed by AI and people who control or want to control it for financial, political power or AI's destructive power.

With daily stories about threatening AI use by others or AI systems by themselves, humanity may truly be in trouble.

• Canadians normally hear only about how many residents of their country are enjoying warm winter vacations in the resorts of Mexico. And that number has certainly grown as the majority of Canadians do not want to spend money in a country which has a corrupt leadership directly threatening them and trying to economically bankrupt Canada. So the revelation that came late last week from the provincial government was great news.



This week a delegation from Alberta is visiting tourism officials and others in Mexico to design ways for even more Albertans to visit Mexico and for more Mexicans to come visit our beautiful province.

"Alberta's government will lead a strategic tourism mission to strengthen Alberta's presence in Mexico City from October 5 to 9. Minister Andrew Boitchenko and representatives from Travel Alberta will meet with airline, travel trade and media partners to promote Alberta as a premier year-round destination," states a media release dated October 4.

"Mexico is a key international tourism market for Alberta, driving significant economic growth. In 2025, Mexican visitors spent about $51 million in Alberta, fueled by a 38 per cent increase in air passenger volume as visitor number climbed from 6,000 travellers in 2024 to 8,000. To support this growth, the mission will focus on strengthening relationships with key international partners, promoting direct air access, Alberta's unique experiences and encouraging future investment in tourism development."

With Prime Minister Carney doing so much to establish better trade and other types of relations with countries other than the United States, average Canadians can help him with making sure they buy as few items as possible from the states, and if they are travelling try to visit other countries and avoid even air travel through American airports or on its highways.

• Well, we Oilers fans can be happy that it appears the first quarter of this regular season may not be as bad as some of the loosing starts of previous seasons.

The high scoring in the first two games with the Canucks made it appears that Connor McDavid and Leon Draisaitl might be at the top of the league scoring stats right from the start. Which would be great as long as they don't burn out or get injured. Obviously it was impressive on Sunday night to see three Oiler jerseys (McDavid, Evan Bouchard and Draisaitl) at the top of the league's skating leaders, followed by three Oiler jerseys in the first, third and fouth spots for goal leaders (Bouchard, Draisaitl and Vasily Podkolzin) and Oiler colours occupying the first three listing in the complete leaders Plus/Minus list (McDavid, Mattias Ekholm, Bouchard).

Would it not be even more impressive if all those Oiler jerseys were still in even the top ten of those lists when November starts? December? and May 2027?

Wednesday (October 7) hopefully was an easy victory for the Oilers over the Anaheim Ducks.









Bigstone Community Wellness Wabasca :
October Youth Programming

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6 Decorate journals BCW Boardroom 5 pm - 7 pm max 10-must register	7 Haunted stories BCW Boardroom 5 pm - 7 pm max 15- must register	8	9	10
11	12 Thanksgiving Office Closed	13 Halloween Movie BCW Boardroom 5 pm - 7 pm 15 and younger max 20	14 Halloween Movie BCW Boardroom 5 pm - 7 pm 16 and older max 20	15 Halloween cookie decorating BCW Boardroom 5 pm - 7 pm max 10-must register	16	17
18	19 Lego Building BCW Boardroom 5 pm - 7 pm max 9- must register	20	21	22	23 Community Day Of Prayer	24
25	26	27	28 Halloween craft BCW Boardroom 5 pm - 7 pm max 10- Must register	29	30 Halloween Party Community Hall 5 pm - 7 pm	31

Call to register at 780-891-3777 with Emery Orr

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY NO. 17

Box 50
Red Earth, Alberta
T0G 1X0
Phone (780) 649-3427
Fax (780) 649-3440

Box 60
Wabasca, Alberta
T0G 2K0
Phone (780) 891-3778
Fax (780) 891-4283

Box 22
Calling Lake, Alberta
T0G 0K0
Phone (780) 331-3860
Fax (780) 331-3950

Municipal District of Opportunity
MUNICIPAL LIBRARY BOARD

Are you interested in serving your community?

The MD of Opportunity is recruiting one volunteer to serve as a **Member-at-Large** on the Municipal Library Board representing Calling Lake, Wabasca and Red Earth Creek. The appointment is for a three-year term.

Board Structure
The Library Board consists of no fewer than five and no more than 10 members appointed by Council. No more than two Council members may serve on the municipal library board. Appointments are for terms of up to three years.

Board Duties
Subject to any enactment that limits its authority, the municipal library board has full management and control of the municipal library established by the board. In accordance with the regulations, it shall organize, promote and maintain comprehensive and efficient library services in the municipality or municipalities it serves. The board may also cooperate with other boards and libraries in providing those services.

Budget
Before December 1 each year, the municipal board shall prepare a budget and an estimate of the funds required to operate and manage the municipal library during the ensuing fiscal year. The board shall submit the budget and estimate to the council of the municipality.

Accounts
The municipal board keeps account of its receipts, payments, credits and liabilities, ensures a person who is not a member of the municipal board and whose qualifications are satisfactory to council to review the accounts each calendar year & prepares and submits a financial report to council immediately after its completion.

Individuals interested in serving on the board are invited to submit a letter of interest by **October 14, 2026**. Submissions may be sent by email, delivered in person or mailed to the Municipal District of Opportunity using the contact information below:

Lynda Gray
Executive Assistant to Administration
PO Box 60
Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0

The appointment for this Board will be made on October 19, 2026 at the Organizational meeting of Council. If you have any questions or require more information, please contact Lynda Gray at 780-891-3778 or email lynda.gray@mdopportunity.ab.ca.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY NO. 17

Box 50
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Fax (780) 891-4283

Box 22
Calling Lake, Alberta
T0G 0K0
Phone (780) 331-3860
Fax (780) 331-3950

Municipal District of Opportunity
GREATER NORTH FOUNDATION

Are you interested in serving your community?

The MD of Opportunity is seeking a dedicated and community-minded individual to serve as a **Member-at-Large** on the Greater North Foundation Board on behalf of the municipality. The appointment is for a one-year term.

Board Structure
The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of 8 appointed members from Contributing Municipalities.

The MD of Opportunity participates in the Foundation because Calling Lake is within the municipality and some MD residents use the Foundation's lodges and homes.

Member Duties
The member is expected to attend Board meetings and report to the MD of Opportunity Council as needed.

Regular Board meetings are held every second month, with special meetings scheduled throughout the year as required. Meetings typically rotate among Athabasca, Boyle and Lac La Biche. Members will be notified of any location changes.

Letter of Interest
Individuals interested in serving on the board are invited to submit a letter of interest by **October 14, 2026**. Submissions may be sent by email, delivered in person or mailed to the Municipal District of Opportunity using the contact information below:

Lynda Gray
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Separation report warns Alberta could face heavy costs, big debt, job losses

A University of Calgary report on Alberta separation says leaving Canada could bring major financial risk, large new debt, higher costs for families and serious uncertainty for jobs and public services.

The report, **The Economic and Fiscal Implications of Alberta Separation,** was commissioned by the Government of Alberta and prepared by University of Calgary's School of Public Policy.

It does not tell Albertans how to vote, but it gives voters a detailed look at what separation could mean before the October 19 referendum.

One of the report's biggest warnings is the cost of setting up Alberta as a separate country.

According to the Alberta government's summary of the report, the cost could range from $50 billion to $170 billion in the first five years after separation.

That would include the cost of creating or replacing services now handled by the federal government.

A separate Alberta would have to take over responsibilities such as border control, national defence, taxation, federal benefit programs, international trade negotiations, courts, legal structures and possibly new constitutional arrangements.

The report also says Alberta could need many more public servants to run these new responsibilities.

Debt is another major issue.

Even in the report's best-case for separation scenario, Alberta would have to negotiate its share of Canada's federal debt.

The report estimates Alberta's total debt could rise to about $324 billion, or nearly 65 per cent of GDP, in a smooth transition

In a more difficult scenario, total debt could rise to about $442 billion, or nearly 89 per cent of GDP.

Alberta Separation Report: Key Numbers

The Economic and Fiscal Implications of Alberta Separation from Canada
University of Calgary School of Public Policy

Estimated setup cost: $50 billion to $170 billion in the first five years

Possible debt impact: Alberta debt could rise to about $324 billion to $442 billion

Difficult scenario:
Economy could be more than 16% smaller after 20 years

Jobs: Employment could fall by up to 10% in the short term

Voters: Eligible Albertans are encouraged to read report before the referendum!

Higher interest rates

The report also warns interest rates for the new country and its citizens could rise because Alberta would no longer borrow under Canada's stronger credit position.

Higher interest rates could affect government borrowing, business investment, mortgages and household loans.

The difficult scenario is especially serious. The report estimates Alberta's economy could be about 10 per cent smaller in the first five years and more than 16 per cent smaller after 20 years than if Alberta stayed in Canada.

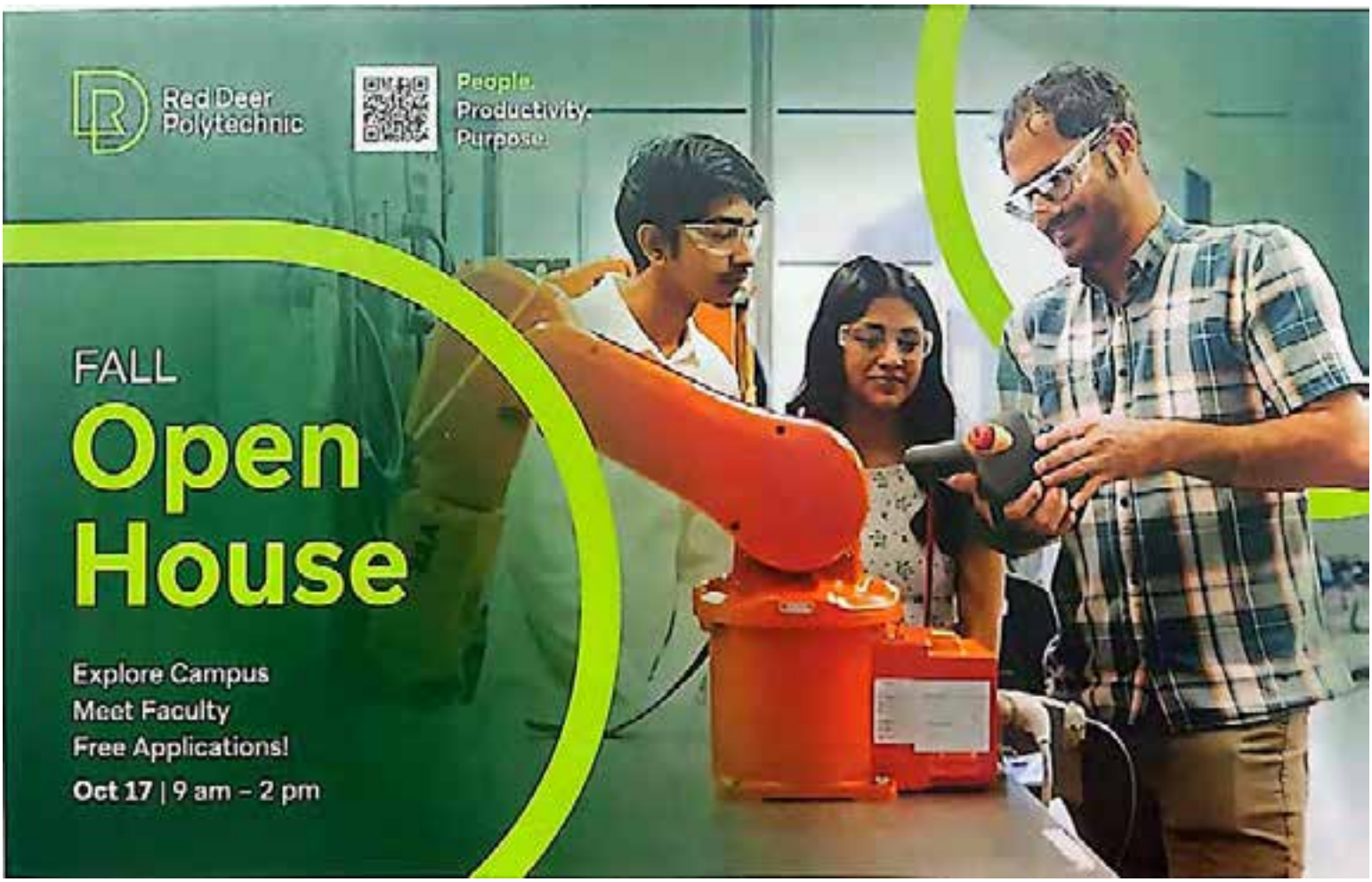
Employment could fall by 10 per cent in the short term and remain almost five per cent lower in the long term.

Household income

In the difficult scenario, the report estimates wage income per person could fall by more than $5,000 in the short term and nearly $12,000 in the long term.

Government finances could also come under pressure.

Continued on Fever Page 6



Council Meeting

Otipemisiwak Metis Government
District 22
Wabasca Desmarais

All Metis Citizens Welcome

Oct 15, 2026
7:00 pm

Wabasca Metis Office
2331 Transport Road
across from Pelican Automotives

Hope to see you there

Rose lives.
The Titanic sinks.



SPOILER: Sometimes knowing sooner is better.

GetAMammogram.ca

The Fever extends best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving!

STAND UP FOR A
STRONGER ALBERTA

Vote for:
- Sustainable immigration
- Resilient social services
- More provincial autonomy

VOTE ON OCTOBER 19

FOR A STRONG AND SOVEREIGN ALBERTA
WITHIN A UNITED CANADA
AlbertaReferendum2026.ca

ALBERTA REFERENDUM 2026

PAID FOR BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA



Alberta's Clean-up Promise of Oil/Gas Fields/Sands, Coal Mines, Open Pit Extractions has $51 Billion Security Gap

By Cherry Nyx

Alberta's latest mine cleanup figures show $55.7 billion in estimated costs, with $4.7 billion held in financial security. That leaves approximately $51 billion unsecured by those deposits and guarantees.

Alberta Energy Regulator published the figures on September 29, 2026. They cover oil sands and coal mines together

Security amounts to about eight cents for every dollar of estimated cleanup costs.

This is not a bill already charged to taxpayers. Companies remain responsible for their sites. The question is what protection exists if an operator cannot pay?

Financial security includes cash, letters of credit and demand forfeiture bonds that can be drawn on when operators fails to meet their obligations.

Oil sands mine security increased from about $1.78 billion in September 2025 to $3.88 billion this September. Coal mine security accounts for the rest of the combined total.

Shrinking reserve life at Syncrude's Mildred Lake and Aurora North mines triggered additional deposits. Fort Hills also triggered deposits because its calculated asset coverage fell below the required threshold and it completed less reclamation than planned.

Fort Hills security rose from roughly $39 million to $556 million. Syncrude's listed security increased from about $1.07 billion to $2.66 billion.

Those increases are significant. But why does Alberta allow most estimated cleanup costs to remain outside the security fund?

The Mine Financial Security Program permits operators to use calculated asset values, including expected earnings from resources still underground, instead of securing the full cleanup cost throughout operations.

Additional deposits are required when assets fall below three times liabilities, when fewer than 15 years of reserves remain, or when approved reclamation targets are missed.

That makes the accuracy of the asset calculation crucial. Overvaluing a mine can delay the requirement to provide more security.

Auditor General finds problems

In December 2025, Alberta's Auditor General found that a recommendation dating to 2015 remained unimplemented. The concern was that the program could overestimate mining assets.

The auditor identified two major problems: inadequate recognition of the reduced value and uncertainty of money expected far in the future, and the exclusion of development costs needed to bring reserves into production.

In plain English, the calculation counted anticipated income without adequately accounting for important costs and risks.



The department maintained that its method was reasonable and the program was working as intended. The auditor reported finding no evidence supporting those claims. A separate recommendation concerning extended mine life was found to have been implemented.

That assessment predates the new deposits. Their collection does not, by itself, establish that the valuation concerns have been resolved.

Regional concerns

For Wabasca, reclamation concerns are already documented.

Bigstone Elders gave oral traditional evidence in Wabasca during hearings on the Albersun Pipeline Asset Purchase Project in May and June 2017. A federal account published in 2018 records concerns about cumulative industrial impacts, traditional land use and reclamation after assets changed hands.

Evidence included cultural and harvesting areas around Wabasca, Pelican River and Athabasca River.That proceeding involved a pipeline and different financial rules. It nevertheless demonstrates that responsibility for restoring industrially affected land has long mattered to Bigstone Cree Nation.

Reclamation can involve removing infrastructure, treating contaminated areas, reshaping land, replacing soil and establishing vegetation. Alberta requires mines to achieve equivalent land capability.

Provincial guidance says reclamation and certification can take decades due to long operating lives, technical challenges and tailings storage.

Continued on Page 14

Golden Eagle Opens 5th Annual Cultural Days

Twenty-plus teaching stations, a Cree-language game show and a youth feast round dance filled a week on the grounds in Wabasca

September 16th to September 22nd 2026



Youth about to crunch down on a frybread



Mary Lou Cardinal at Bannock on a stick



Sharon Loonskin with a youht at the Plant Identification tipi,



Sophie Auger from Slave Lake created a slingshot



Ella Gladue



Linda Yellowknee winner of a $250 visa card for 1st place.



William Auger, Nadine Young with contestant at the Cree Language station



Doreen Gladue and Albert Yellowknee near the Elders Teepee



Richard Bigstone at the Fish Filleting/smoking station

Family Community Support Services (FCSS) MD of Opportunity 5th Annual Cultural Days

The set up days began on September 14th on site and we were graced with a Golden Eagle presence. Landing on various teepees that were lined up against the lake. Even allowing some to approach closely until it spread its wings to fly off to the marshes close by.

What a majestic sight and beautiful message to begin the 5th annual cultural days in Wabasca, Alberta.

THIS SPACE IS PROUDLY DEDICATED BY THE FEVER TO FCSS,
IN RECOGNITION OF ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CULTURAL DAYS CELEBRATION.

The FEVER

Family Community Support Services (FCSS) MD of Opportunity 5th Annual Cultural days

September 16th to September 22nd

The set up days began on Sept 14th on site and we were graced with a Golden Eagle presence. Landing on various teepees that were lined up against the lake. Even allowing some to approach closely until it spread its wings to fly off to the marshes close by.

What a majestic sight and beautiful message to begin the 5th annual cultural days in Wabasca, AB.

Although we did not have our loved Elder with us on opening, he certainly was on many peoples minds as Mike Beaver became our opening and closing person. A moment of silence was requested by our Reeve Marcel D Auger.

Our keynote opening address was provided by Dr. Darlene Auger, and this was an opportunity to learn some of the root words of the Cree Language which are important and make so much sense and aligns with of the work FCSS tries. We are lucky that our people are doing their part in preservation like so many across Turtle Island. There is so much more work to ensure it becomes strong again from the ages zero to one hundred.

Kick off of the multiple teaching stations began shortly after with Moose Hide Tanning, dry meat making, fish filleting, fry bread making (hands on), Plant identification, Kinship ties, Fire making, Elders Teepee, Bannock on a stick, Treaty Teachings, Rites of passage, Fish Scale Art, Mini tipi making, medicine wheel lanyard making, orange shirt keychain making, Birch bark caller making, Metis district #22 tent, art therapy station, Traditional Tea station, Fry bread taste testing station and Cree language game and including a Big auntie earring contest.

The youth loved the Cree language game which was in the format of Deal or No Deal and a chance to win some visa cards. Janice was in the Elders Teepee when one young boy was up on the stage! He perfectly said the month in Cree and Janice got to see the pride and amazement in our Elders eyes when he said it loud and clear! Great job! Over 52 games were played with over $6,500 in prizes won!

Art therapy had many young emerging artists create beautiful paintings! Authentic Birch bark moose callers was a busy station for the adults.

Dry meat making station did an impromptu handing of over 100 bags of tasty morsels of dried moose meat! It made it fun and many ran over to grab a bag! Really a thousand was probably needed. Later on Elders also were gifted some as well.

Kinship ties had knowledgeable people to help you learn the Cree titles within your family but also to help you create your genealogy family tree.

This year we even made it easier to start a fire using strikers and cotton balls. First year was just a match and kindling, following year strikers with kindling, this year strikers with cotton balls and kindling. The youth built more confidence because it was easier to create a fire this year.

Again, this year we brought in Treaty teachings but with Margo Auger this time as the facilitator for 2026 and many learned about the history on site.

The biggest auntie earring contest had 37 contestants, and Elvis Presley made an appearance to dance with all. So many creative designs showcased!

Lots of love and connections were made and we had schools attending daily except the weekend. Numbers on the weekend were great. Each day items were up for grabs at the registration tent as mementos of the event. Unfortunately, we did not have thousands of items but many still received something. The feast bags provided were a hit with a draw string bag with the MD of Opportunity logo! FCSS does try to do its part in encouraging people to use feast bags and this was one way to do so. We hope to see them all year round at each event we go to.

Each day the photographer, videographers were on site. We cannot wait to view them all and post them on our FCSS MD of Opportunity Facebook page but also our www.mdopportunity.ab.ca website.

On Sept 22nd, Youth Feast Round Dance Giveaway had students from St. Theresa attend. We hope many took away goodies such as Stanley, Nike cups, Nike, Adidas, or Carhart apparel, backpacks, socks, tarps, pots and pans, frying pans useful man items, La La Vien comfy jammie sets to name a few with many Stirling silver items gifted out.

MC of the round dance was Ben Cardinal from Saddle Lake and expressed comments of how clean the grounds were and that the number of items for giveaway are a symbol of how much your requests in ceremony will be thought of and how they may be answered by what you provide at the giveaway. Ben also was impressed with our pamphlet that showcased the knowledge being taught on site. Janice advised well this year was the 5th and why we had many stations, told him we may have less next year….So Ben says "Why less you need to add more!"

One young 19 year old singer/drummer in particular is a 6 time world champion and is always part of the big name drum groups. We were treated with great signing and drumming. But also with two Eagles flying high above us as we round danced to song and listened to the heartbeat of Our Mother Earth, the drums.

FCSS MD of Opportunity would like to express gratitude to our Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Facilitators, Cooks, Grounds crew, helpers and everyone helped in any way to make the 5th Annual Cultural days a huge success including our own MD departments.

And to FCSS' supporters with funding, our own employer MD of Opportunity, our Platinum sponsor, Primary Care Alberta Honouring Life, our Diamond Sponsor.

Thanks to our cash sponsors CNRL $10,000 Headwater $5,000, Tamarack Valley $2,000, Reed Energy $2,000, Spilak Tank Truck Services $1,000, Alpac $1,000, Ward Chemical $1,000, Strike Group $500, Fillmore Construction $500, SL Ford $250, Jesse Mart $200, Boss Pressure $200.

Thanks to Fillmore Construction that will be sending us two $250 Visa cards to use for more survey taking using a QR code that will have public access.

Much appreciation to our In-Kind sponsors of$1,000+ Bluewave Energy, Logo Me This, Ernest Houle.

Super thanks to our In-Kind sponsors of $5,000+ Nipiy Industries and La Crete Transport

Our winners of the PC Gaming system (In person youth survey on site) was Bailey Johnson from Calling Lake. Our adult winner was Myra Watson from Calling Lake, won a 3-piece camping stove, 2 captain camping chairs, 2 lovely ponchos with grilling utensils. We appreciate everyone that took the time to do the surveys as we use the numbers or thoughts added to them as outcome statements at times.

If you would like to also write a letter of how being at Cultural days made you feel, send it to FCSS Box 60 Wabasca AB T0G 2K0.

Everyday was fun and if you didn't come, think you missed out on some amazing conversations, learnings, laughter, ways of being and doing and lots of love!

Follow us on FCSS MD of Opportunity and watch for some interviews and videos coming soon!

FCSS Team
Janice Auger and Jodi Decoine



Two charged with murder after body found in burnt vehicle

A grass fire on February 4, 2026 in Foothills County in the Eden Valley area led to the discovery of human remains inside a burned vehicle.

RCMP Major Crimes Unit announced on Tuesday that investigations since February had led them to two suspects.

According to a media release: "Vance Pidborochnyski (37), and Shelby Filkowski (30-F), both residents of Lethbridge, have been charged with the first-degree murder of Frans Faras.

After Judicial Interim Release Hearings and a first appearance in court on Oct. 5, both have been remanded into custody.

Filkowski will appear in Alberta Court of Justice in Okotoks on October 30 while Pidborochynski is to appear in a Calgary court on November 5.

Deadline for submissions to The Fever is Tuesdays noon

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OPPORTUNITY

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Decision
Development Permit Application 26-DP-038

On , October 1, 2026, the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board for the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 held the appeal hearing regarding Development Permit application 26-DP-038. The MPC reviewed the application on August 17, 2026, refused the development due to it being an incompatible land use due to the proximity to residential areas and recreational facilities.

Decision:

1. The decision of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board is to **overturn the Municipal Planning Commission's decision to refuse the addition of a liquor store at Moosehorn Market located at 3170 Calling Lake Drive with the following conditions.**

The conditions for the decision are as follows:

1. That the hours of operation to the liquor store are from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m., as stipulated;
2. The operation is offered as a "kiosk" style of serving alcohol, where the alcohol is not readily available but to be ordered over the counter and handed to the patron (s).

Any persons wanting to appeal this decision may do so to the Court of Appeal within thirty (30) days after the issue of this decision (see below note for further information).

Note: Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, S.A. 2000, M-26, s. 688, an appeal lies to the Court of Appeal on the questions of law or jurisdiction. An application for leave to appeal must be made to a judge of the Court of Appeal within thirty (30) days after the issue of the decision sought to be appealed. The notice of the application must be given to the municipality and the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board and any other persons that the judge directs.

Wabasca Main Office
2077 Mistassiniy Road North
Box 60 Wabasca, AB T0G 2K0
1-888-891-3778 | mdopportunity.ab.ca

Remember to vote in the upcoming referendum

Advance Voting
Tues, Oct 13 to Sat, Oct 17, 2026

Election Day
Monday, October 19, 2026

You have three ways to vote:

1. **Vote during Advance Voting** from October 13 to 17, 2026, at an advance voting place in your electoral division.
2. **Vote on Election Day, October 19, 2026** at your designated voting place.
3. **If you've already requested a special ballot,** it must be received by mail at Elections Alberta by 5:00pm on October 16. Canada Post recommends you mail it no later than October 9.

Scan to find your voting place

Find everything you need to be referendum ready at **elections.ab.ca**

elections alberta

The firefighters in our community give us lots of fire safety tips and ideas.

Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

Annimills LLC © 2026 V39

Kids: color stuff in!

It's the time of year to practice fire safety in your own home! Gather up family members and make rules for what everyone does should a fire starts!

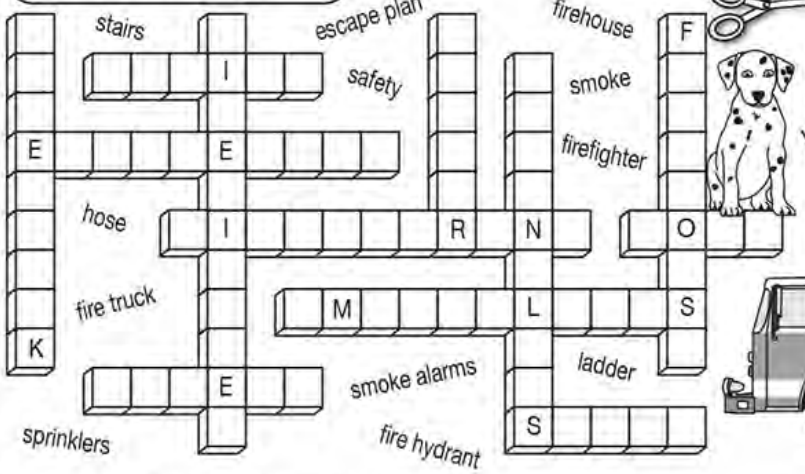
Fire Safety Matters!



Do you know any firefighters? Everyone likes to ask them about their jobs. It's fun to visit the firehouse or have firefighters come and speak at school. They like to talk about preventing fires and display pieces of their fire equipment. Three safety messages that firefighters share with students are:

- Get out of the house quickly if there is a fire.
- Call the fire department from a neighbor's house.
- If your clothes catch on fire, remember to STOP, DROP AND ROLL!

Read the words scattered about this puzzle. Use the letters already placed in the puzzle to help you fit the "fire" words into the puzzle.



Family Fire Safety Checklist

- ☐ Only cook in the **kitchen** when an adult is helping you.
- ☐ Don't touch matches, lighters or candles. They are for **adult** use only.
- ☐ Do you have smoke **detectors** on every level of your home? Test them monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.
- ☐ Do you know **two** or more ways out of the house?
- ☐ Never use elevators (**stairs** are much safer) if there is a fire.
- ☐ Smoke rises, so if there is a fire, stay low: **crawl** under the smoke.
- ☐ Have you picked a place to **meet** the rest of your family once you are all out of the house?
- ☐ Once you are out of the house, **stay out** of the house.

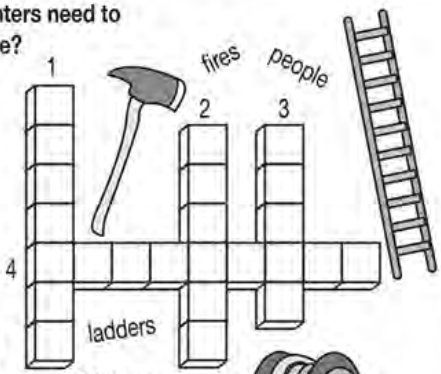
Cut out the list and talk with your family about each idea.



Why do you think firefighters need to keep in good physical shape?

Because they:

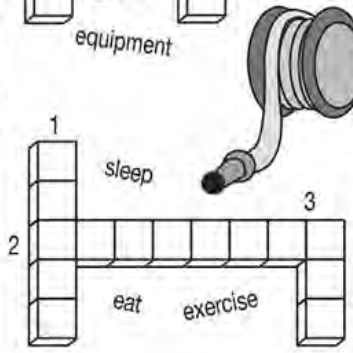
1. climb _____
2. carry _____
3. fight _____
4. use heavy _____



How do firefighters stay in top physical condition?

They:

1. get enough _____
2. _____ every day
3. _____ a healthy diet

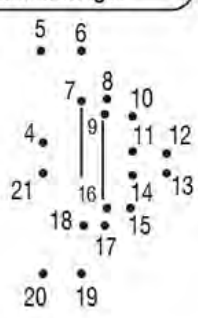


Firefighters Keep Us Safe!

The job of firefighters is dangerous and physically demanding. They always must be ready to fight fires and help at other emergencies, such as an explosion in a factory or a traffic accident. Firefighters need to stay in shape physically and be mentally alert at all times. They must be able to run, stand for a long periods, drive fire trucks and use heavy equipment to put out fires and keep people safe. **Follow the dots to see one tool that firefighters might use to increase arm strength.**







The Family Fun Puzzle Page is now being joined most weeks in FEVER/Focus by Puzzles Page for All Ages - See Focus Page 2!

Indigenous Perspective

Supporting Indigenous Firefighters, Protecting Families, Communities



Cherry Nyx



First Nations firefighters across Canada train and answer calls for their communities.

Their dedication deserves recognition. So does the work of ensuring they have the resources to protect the people counting on them.

Statistics Canada found that from 2011 to 2018, the fire mortality rate among First Nations people was 5.2 times higher than among non-Indigenous people.

That is a national figure. It cannot be used to judge any particular First Nation or its firefighters.

A separate Statistics Canada study examined the circumstances of fire deaths from 2011 to 2020.

Among the records researchers could link to census information, Indigenous people who died in fires were 39-years-old on average, compared with an average of 59 among non-Indigenous people. The difference makes the loss especially stark, although the two populations also have different age profiles.

Housing was one part of the picture. About 56 percent of Indigenous people who died in residential fires had previously lived in homes needing major repairs.

The comparable figure for non Indigenous people was 13 percent. Researchers could not determine whether every fatal fire occurred in the same home recorded by the census, but the finding puts housing conditions squarely in the fire safety conversation.

Distance was another factor. Sixty eight percent of Indigenous people who died in fires had lived in rural areas, compared with 34 percent of non-Indigenous people.

Twenty percent of Indigenous people who died in residential fires were involved in fires that killed at least two people; the corresponding figure for non Indigenous people was only seven 7 percent.

Overcrowded housing is a common situation in many First Nations across the country.

Those findings point to work which need to starts before an emergency. Housing repairs, working alarms and fire safety education can reduce risks at home.

More First Nations fire departments also need training for their firefighters, maintained vehicles and facilities suited to the communities they serve. No single purchase can meet all of those needs.

First Nations are helping set the direction. The Assembly of First Nations and Indigenous Services Canada jointly developed a fire protection strategy for 2023 to 2028.

It identifies prevention, training, partnerships with other fire departments, First Nation and/or nearby municipalities. and infrastructure among its priorities, while recognizing the importance of approaches shaped with communities.

Investment is underway

Indigenous Services Canada reports that, as of March 31, 2026, $211.7 million in targeted funding had been invested in 521 fire protection infrastructure projects benefiting 504 First Nations communities.

Three hundred projects were completed and 221 were ongoing. Those totals show activity across the country, although the needs and outcomes of individual communities must be understood locally.

Fire chiefs and volunteers can identify gaps in training or equipment. Families can speak to housing conditions and prevention. Listening to them is part of making each investment useful.

The firefighters already doing this work offer a foundation to build on.

Continued progress means more families in safer homes and more First Nations fire services with the ability and resources to answer when a fire call comes.

Sources: Statistics Canada, "Circumstances Surrounding Fire Related Deaths Among Indigenous People in Canada, 2011 to 2020"; Assembly of First Nations and Indigenous Services Canada, "First Nations Fire Protection Strategy, 2023 to 2028"; Indigenous Services Canada, "Overview of Indigenous Community Infrastructure Investments."



Cleaning up after oil and coal ... from Page 7

Planted trees alone do not establish that a site meets the conditions for certification.

A 2012 study examined oil sands mine closure plans. It warned replacing peatlands with different landscapes would cause major losses of peatland habitat and stored carbon.

Those findings concern plans available then, not a measurement of every site today. They raise a question that financial guarantees cannot settle: will the reconstructed land provide the functions of what was removed?

For Indigenous communities, that means asking whether restoration supports harvesting, cultural practices and access to the places those activities depend on.

Alberta says Indigenous communities helped inform its financial security review. Its engagement page also states that environmental oversight and protection requirements were outside that review.

Residents deserve to know how much cleanup protection is available, what still depends on future earnings, and how Indigenous land use will shape restoration standards.

Development brings obligations that last beyond production. The people who remain on the land deserve protection that lasts just as long.

Sources: Alberta Energy Regulator, Mine Financial Security Program Security and Liability, September 29, 2026; Annual Mine Financial Security Program Submissions, 2026 submissions for the 2025 reporting year; Mine Financial Security Program guide. Office of the Auditor General of Alberta, Mine Financial Security Program Assessment of Implementation, December 2025. Government of Alberta, Guidelines for Mines and Mine Financial Security Program Engagement. Canada Gazette, March 17, 2018, Albersun Pipeline Asset Purchase Project. Rebecca C. Rooney, Suzanne E. Bayley and David W. Schindler, "Oil sands mining and reclamation cause massive loss of peatland and stored carbon," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 2012.

The Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17

Wabasca Forcemain Mulching – Request for Proposal 17-2026

Sealed quotations marked "*MD of Opportunity – Request for Proposal 17-2026 – Wabasca Forcemain Mulching*" will be received via email to tenders@mdopportunity.ab.ca or received in a sealed envelope at the MD of Opportunity's Wabasca Office, #2077 Mistassiniy Road North Wabasca, Alberta up to 11:00 AM LOCAL TIME, Tuesday October 6, 2026.

The Municipal District of Opportunity (MD) requests written proposals from qualified vendors to provide service for mulching along the right of way for the sanitary forcemain from the Main Lift Station to the Lagoon in Wabasca. The clearing by mulching area is approximately 10 Ha along the forcemain right of way at a width of 10 m.

Tender documents are available by emailing a request to jkitz@mesl.ca.

Inquiries can be directed to;

Earl Gullion
Director of Utilities
earl.gullion@mdopportunity.ab.ca



Healing Hands 4U

Cell: 780-891-0396
Wabasca, Alberta

Relaxation and Therapeutic Massage Services



Full Body Chair	Hot Stone	Indian Head	Reflexology / Foot
$100.00/Hr $70.00 Hr	$130.00/Hr	$60.00/Hr	$60.00/Hr

***** 1/2 hr Chair Massage is also available @ $35.***

!! PLUS A NEW MODALITY IS NOW AVAILABLE! *STRETCH MASSAGE @ $120/HR.*!!

- Registered, Licenced Massage Therapist – 15 + years experience.
- Member of the Natural Health Practitioners of Canada Association.
- *Insurance Company receipts available.* No direct billing.
- *Gift Certificates are available.*
- *E-transfer or cash payment.*

TREATMENTS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Phone or text:
Beth Ann Auger @ 780-891-0396
Address: 2542 Raspberry Lane
Email: thunderspirit16@gmail.com

BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS:

MASSAGE THERAPY



DATES AVAILABLE

- OCTOBER 6-8
- OCTOBER 13-15
- OCTOBER 20-22
- NOVEMBER 3-5
- NOVEMBER 10-12
- NOVEMBER 17-19



DATES & TIMES

- TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
  12:00PM- 7:15PM
- WEDNESDAYS
  10:00AM-5:00PM



BIGSTONE CREE NATION
COMMUNITY WELLNESS

OPEN TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS!
DIRECT BILLING PROVIDED; HOWEVER SERVICES WILL BE COVERED BY BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS FOR BAND MEMBERS WITHOUT INSURANCE.
MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF STATUS

NON-BAND MEMBERS MUST PROVIDE INSURANCE OR PAY OUT OF POCKET.

BOOK WITH OUR RECEPTIONIST
@ 780-891-3777 OR 1-877-767-7060

Pin-up Calendars



Send your family photo or branded calendar to the people on your list.

Include your family photo or company photo, logo & information.

The background may be switched to include colours that are more your style or brand.

Our calendars are printed on heavier stock, are perfect for year-round use, and have numbers that are easy to read.

11X17 PIN-UP CALENDAR

Use the space included for all of your important dates, or switch it out for a favourite recipe, or a fun fact about your business.

10	$4.00 each
20	$3.75 each
50	$3.00 each

8.5X11 PIN-UP CALENDAR

These calendars are printed both sides, and the back of the calendar can include a short newsletter about your family or business, along with something fun, like a favourite recipe...it's up to you.

10	$4.25 each
20	$4.00 each
50	$3.25 each

OTHER CALENDAR STYLES

We can also print coiled and stapled wall calendars, as well as magnet calendars.

Scope Printing

780.474.8929 main
780.784.1217 direct
1.800.315.7826
info@scopeprinting.com
scopeprinting.com

12015 76 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5B 2C9

OTHER QUANTITIES

Other quantities are available ... ask us for a quote on any quantity not shown here.

DESIGN FEES

Prices include a basic design setup; any extra alterations may be subject to additional design fees.

Wabasca's Ryder Cardinal making a name for himself on various ice surfaces

FOCUS
Supplement of News, Employment Ads and Classified Ads for Readers of The Fever
The FEVER
Thursday, October 8, 2026

By Cherry Nyx

A national silver medal and five points on the scoreboard. Wabasca's Ryder Cardinal helped Team Alberta make its mark at the 2026 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships in Regina this spring.

Selected as a forward for Alberta's male team, Cardinal recorded three goals and two assists across six tournament games, including the playoffs, according to Elite Prospects. His contribution included a goal and an assist during the playoff round.

Hockey Alberta announced Cardinal's selection in January. The roster brought together players from various communities including Fort McMurray, La Crete, Horse Lake First Nation, Maskwacis and Lethbridge.

In May, they competed in Regina at a championship hosted by Ochapowace Nation in partnership with the Aboriginal Sport Circle. Eight male teams and eight female teams took part.

Cardinal's hockey record shows the experience he brought to that opportunity.

During the 2023/2024 regular season, he recorded 17 goals and 14 assists in 30 games with the Sturgeon Sting under-15 AA team.

The following season, he played with the Indigenous Sports Academy's under-17 team, recording four goals and 12 assists in 35 regular season games.

In the 2025/2026 regular season, Cardinal recorded eight goals and 11 assists in 38 games with the Fort Saskatchewan Rangers under-18 AAA team. His national tournament performance added another accomplishment to that growing record.



Alberta's celebration reached beyond the male team. The province's female team also won silver, giving Team Alberta two medal finishes at the championships.

Raevyn Neahr, a forward listed by Hockey Alberta as being from Bonnyville, earned the tournament's Most Valuable Forward award. A national individual honour alongside a team silver medal made her tournament especially memorable.

The female roster also included Riley Bourque from Gregoire Lake Estates and Kasha Moses from Calais.

Together, the two Alberta squads put players from northern communities and across the province on the national stage.

These championships offer something special: high level competition in an event that brings First Nations, Métis and Inuit athletes together. Indigenous identity belongs at the heart of the tournament.

The Indigenous Sport Council of Alberta says the championships have provided a national platform since 2002, supporting cultural pride and the development of Indigenous hockey. The council works with Hockey Alberta to form, manage and support Team Alberta.

For young players in Wabasca, this year's results come with a hometown name to follow. Cardinal's selection and performance show that a player from their community can earn a place at this level.

The athletes deserve the applause, along with the coaches and people who support young players as they develop. Every practice, every trip to the rink and every opportunity to compete can help build the experience behind a moment like this.

Congratulations to Ryder Cardinal, Raevyn Neahr and both Team Alberta squads. Two silver medals, a national forward award and a Wabasca player contributing five points make this a season of Indigenous hockey success worth celebrating.

Boyle homicide still being investigated

The death of a 42-year-old man at a rural property north of Boyle is still being investigated as a homicide.

Boyle RCMP were told of the deceased person on Monday, September 28.

There apparently was some public concern when another sudden death was reported also north of Boyle two days later, September 30. It was not related to the first death.

Alberta RCMP believe the homicide is an isolated incident and there is no further risk to the general public.

If you have any information on this homicide, contact the Boyle RCMP at 780-689-3622.

Puzzle Page for All Ages

Fall Harvest & Thanksgiving

Happy Thanksgiving, Monday, October 12!

HARVEST WORD SEARCH

Find the hidden words. They go across, down or on a slant.

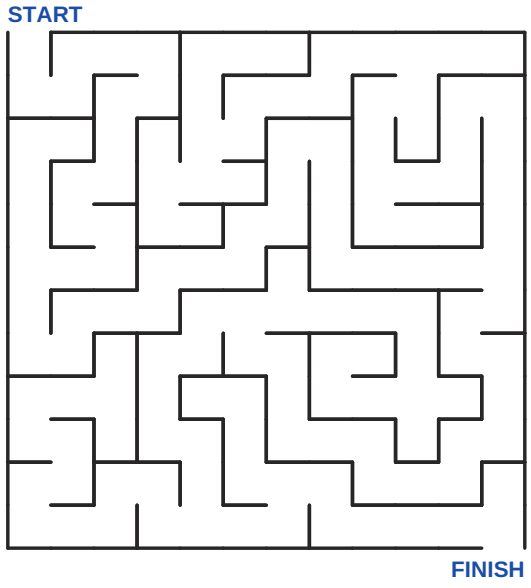
A	M	L	H	H	J	O	B	G	C	S	J	W
M	P	O	A	U	T	U	M	N	O	B	A	L
C	P	C	K	T	R	F	E	A	S	T	U	C
K	G	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	E	L	B	A
C	E	D	W	J	G	I	Y	F	C	I	H	P
A	E	G	D	A	L	E	A	V	E	S	A	P
R	S	N	T	U	R	K	E	Y	A	C	R	L
R	E	Y	C	S	Q	U	A	S	H	N	V	E
D	C	P	B	N	P	O	T	A	T	O	E	E
F	O	I	Y	K	N	W	C	J	J	L	S	D
T	R	E	L	B	F	A	M	I	L	Y	T	H
V	N	G	B	E	R	R	I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

WORDS TO FIND

- ☐ APPLE
- ☐ AUTUMN
- ☐ BERRIES
- ☐ CORN
- ☐ FAMILY
- ☐ FEAST
- ☐ GEESE
- ☐ HARVEST
- ☐ LEAVES
- ☐ PIE
- ☐ POTATO
- ☐ PUMPKIN
- ☐ SQUASH
- ☐ THANKFUL
- ☐ TURKEY

HELP THE GOOSE FLY SOUTH

Find the path from START to the warm lake at FINISH.



PUMPKIN SUDOKU

Fill each row, column and box with the numbers 1 to 6.

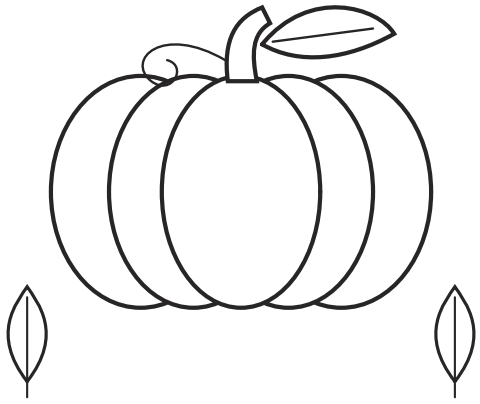
4		6		2	1
3		2		6	
	6	4	5		
		3			
6			2	1	
2	4		6	5	

MIXED-UP WORDS

Unscramble these Thanksgiving words.

1. YVGRA _____
2. RAOCN _____
3. UPINPMK _____
4. ORSETF _____
5. KHTANS _____
6. VASHTER _____

COLOUR ME!



GIGGLE CORNER

Q: Why did the turkey join the band?
A: Because it had the drumsticks!

Q: What has ears but cannot hear?
A: A field of corn!

Q: Why do leaves fall in autumn?
A: Because they are tired of hanging around!

Q: What do you call a stolen yam?
A: A hot potato!

ANSWERS

Mixed-up words: GRAVY, ACORN, PUMPKIN, FOREST, THANKS, HARVEST.

Sudoku:

4 5 6 3 2 1
3 1 2 4 6 5
1 6 4 5 3 2
5 2 3 1 4 6
6 3 5 2 1 4
2 4 1 6 5 3

Look for the Puzzle Page for All Ages most weeks in The Fever – make it a Family fun time to solve all the puzzles!

Bigstone Lot 25 Corp

Employment Opportunity

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

One (1) Permanent Full-time
Monday to Friday (7 hours/day)
Wabasca, Alberta

Bigstone Lot 25 Corporation is seeking a highly organized, motivated, and detail-oriented Operations Assistant to provide administrative and operational support to the Operations Manager. This position plays an essential role in ensuring the efficient day-to-day operations of the entity by coordinating office activities, preparing documentation, maintaining records, scheduling meetings, and providing exceptional administrative support.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Organize and maintain accurate, accessible files and records
- Coordinate and schedule meetings
- Respond to telephone inquiries professionally and courteously
- Process and distribute incoming and outgoing mail.
- Review daily workflows and recommend improvements to increase productivity and reduce errors.
- Monitor inventory levels
- Order office supplies as needed
- Maintain and update order forms and tracking logs
- Facilitates communication between departments, manage vendor relationships, and respond to routine client or stakeholder inquires
- Perform other duties as assigned

Education and Experience:

- High school diploma or equivalent is required; a degree in business administration is helpful for career growth.
- Ability to multitask, prioritize daily tasks, and manage a busy schedule.
- Strong written and verbal skills to talk with staff, vendors, and clients.
- Accuracy when handling data entry, financial records, and confidential corporate documents.
- Experience providing administrative support to management or supervisory staff is considered an asset
- Previous experience working within a First Nation organization would be considered an asset
- Valid Class 5 Driver's License is considered an asset

Salary is dependent on qualifications

Please forward your Cover Letter, Resume (including 3 work related references), & Criminal Record Check to our:

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 ON October 5, 2026

**Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest in our organization, 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

Payroll Analyst

Permanent Full Time - Wabasca

The Municipal District of Opportunity is seeking a highly organized, self-motivated individual possessing sound payroll knowledge to fill a permanent full-time position of Finance Analyst. Working in payroll, the successful applicant will be under the supervision of the Assistant Manager of Financial Reporting and will be responsible for assisting in the following areas:

Responsibilities:

- Calculation & reporting of entitlements for employees (vacation, personal leave, sick leave, special leave, including retro payments)
- Employee setups in Great Plains, and with benefit providers: Alberta Municipalities - Sunlife, LAPP, and RRSP/TFSA.
- Termination processes of employees as required from time to time.
- Bi-weekly time summary entries for permanent, temporary, and special project employees; semi-monthly entries for Council and monthly entries for firefighters.
- Prepare online submissions for benefit payments and records of employment.
- Prepare bank transactions for our benefit carrier and ensure accuracy of payments.
- Prepare and remit statutory payments to Canada Revenue Agency.
- Ensure that the policies and procedures related to the payroll function are adhered to.
- Prepare submissions for annual payroll reporting for T4's, LAPP and WCB.
- Other duties that may be assigned.
- Conduct the required year-end reconciliations and prepare the associated reports.

Qualifications:

- High School Diploma, Business Administrative Diploma and Canadian Payroll Compliance Practitioner Certificate are desired or a minimum of two years of payroll experience may be considered
- Knowledge of general office procedures, Payroll and benefit plans.
- Computer skills a definite asset (Microsoft Environment – Word/Excel and Great Plains Dynamics)
- A team-oriented person with good public relations, analytical and interpersonal skills.
- A satisfactory Criminal Record Check will be required at time of hire.

Salary will commensurate with experience and qualifications. For further information, please contact Omar Khalil at 780-891-3778. Interested individuals are asked to submit their resumes with 3 work related references to the attention of the:

Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity No.17
Box 60, Wabasca, AB T0G-2K0 Phone: (780) 891-3778 Fax: 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.

BIGSTONE HEALTH COMMISSION

Employment Opportunity

MENTAL WELLNESS RESPONSE TEAM SUPPORT WORKER

One (1) Permanent Full-Time
Calling Lake, Alberta

The Bigstone Community Wellness department is seeking an experienced Mental Wellness Response Team Support Worker, to join our talented Health Team in Calling Lake, Alberta. This is a rewarding opportunity if you have an appreciation for Indigenous culture, a desire for continuing professional development and enjoy the support and collaboration from our multidisciplinary team and various other professionals and agencies.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provide response to crisis situations in communities.
- Act as advocates for individuals, community members requesting mental health support.
- Assess crisis situations, provide follow up post crisis support, and connect to appropriate care.
- Provide program information, resources and assistance to service providers.
- Create and participate in working partnerships with mental health agencies / committees to ensure effective delivery of the crisis team program services in community.
- Willing to travel to provide program services in Wabasca, Calling Lake and Chipewyan Lake.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Strong organizational, communication and decision-making skills
- Strong attention to detail and a high level of accuracy in completing tasks.
- Demonstrate ability to maintain privacy and confidentiality.
- Must possess excellent communication skills, both written and oral

Education and Experience:

- Availability to work evenings, weekends, and holidays as requested
- Willing to take any necessary training that is required
- Willing to travel within Alberta
- Must be dependable and reliable
- Class 5 Drivers License
- Standard Frist Aid with CPR

Benefits:

- ✓ Competitive Salary
- ✓ Paid Vacation & Sick Time
- ✓ Employer Matching Registered Pension Plan
- ✓ Extended Health, Dental & Vision Plan

Salary is dependent on qualifications

Please forward your Cover Letter, Resume (including 3 work related references), Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check & Child & Youth Intervention Check to our:

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: September 24, 2026

*Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest in our organization, 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.

Millions of dollars of illegal smokes seized in Westlock, other locations, Westlock resident arrested

When Westlock RCMP were told in January, 2026, illegal unstamped cigarettes were being sold in the town, they probably did not realize how huge their investigation would become.

Over many months, seizures of contraband cigarettes were made, warrants were issued and the investigation led to locations in Morinville and Edmonton and a rural property in Westlock County. The suspect was arrested in June and again on September 15. He has been released on conditions after his arrests.

On Monday, the extent of the whole operation was revealed by the RCMP.

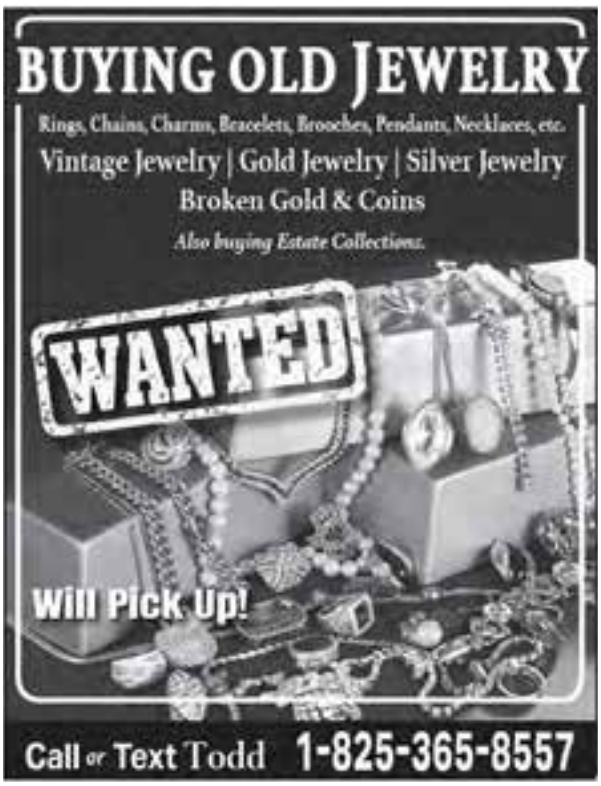
"As a result of the 15 judicial authorizations obtained and executed, the following items were seized:

• 2,954 master cases (147,700 cartons) of unstamped/contraband cigarettes (Approximate retail value of $30,008,705.00, representing approximately $9,737,300 in deferred taxes);
• 3 firearms;
• $225,045 in Canadian Currency; and
• Two vehicles.

"As a result of the investigation, Omar Saleh (50), a resident of Westlock, was charged with multiple offences, including:

• Illegal sale of tobacco products;
• Fraud over $5000;
• Careless use of a firearm (x3); and
• Possession of property obtained by crime over $5000.

Saleh was brought before a justice of the peace and released on conditions. Saleh's next court appearance is October 29, at the Westlock Court of Justice."



BIGSTONE PHARMACY LTD

Employment Opportunity

PHARMACY ASSISTANT

Permanent Part-Time
Wabasca, Alberta

Bigstone Pharmacy Ltd is seeking an experienced, highly motivated, and dependable Pharmacy Assistant to join our talented Health Team for the Bigstone communities in which we serve in Wabasca, Calling Lake, and Chipewyan Lake. This is a rewarding opportunity if you have an appreciation for First Nation culture, a desire for continuing professional development and enjoy the support and collaboration from our multidisciplinary team and various other professionals and agencies.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Perform the technical component of dispensing including filling medication orders and filling prescriptions
- Retrieving, counting pouring, weighing, measuring medication as directed by the Pharmacist
- Invoicing prescription drug orders
- Provide immediate service to customers at the prescription counter
- Maintain proper drug storage and security
- Prepare, package and label prescription medications
- Maintain prescription and inventory record keeping systems
- Place and receive orders for stock to maintain inventory
- Accept payment for prescriptions
- Merchandising
- Other duties as required

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Must be prepared to work irregular hours
- Good organizational skills, make sound decisions and act quickly in critical circumstances
- Good knowledge of office procedures, data collection and reporting
- Be extremely observant to detail and accuracy.
- Must be able to work in a diverse environment
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Must be a team player and able to work with minimal supervision
- Maintain confidentiality in accordance with Bigstone Pharmacy Ltd policy
- Ability to speak Cree is an asset

Education and Experience:

- Grade 12 Diploma
- Pharmacy Assistant experience is an asset
- Excellent computer skills
- Ability to stand for long periods of time
- Willing to take further training

Benefits:

- ✓ Competitive Salary
- ✓ Training Provided
- ✓ Employer Matching Pension Plan
- ✓ Extended Health, Dental & Vision Plan
- ✓ Paid Vacation & Sick Time

Salary is dependent on qualifications.
Please forward your Cover Letter, Resume (including 3 work related references), Criminal Record Check & Vulnerable Sector Check to our:

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: September 29, 2026

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Employment Opportunity

PHARMACY ASSISTANT

Permanent Full-Time
Wabasca, Alberta

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- Prepare, package and label prescription medications
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- Place and receive orders for stock to maintain inventory
- Accept payment for prescriptions
- Merchandising
- Other duties as required

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Must be prepared to work irregular hours
- Good organizational skills, make sound decisions and act quickly in critical circumstances
- Good knowledge of office procedures, data collection and reporting
- Be extremely observant to detail and accuracy.
- Must be able to work in a diverse environment
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Must be a team player and able to work with minimal supervision
- Maintain confidentiality in accordance with Bigstone Pharmacy Ltd policy
- Ability to speak Cree is an asset

Education and Experience:

- Grade 12 Diploma
- Pharmacy Assistant experience is an asset
- Excellent computer skills
- Ability to stand for long periods of time
- Willing to take further training

Benefits:

- ✓ Competitive Salary
- ✓ Training Provided
- ✓ Employer Matching Pension Plan
- ✓ Extended Health, Dental & Vision Plan
- ✓ Paid Vacation & Sick Time

Salary is dependent on qualifications.
Please forward your Cover Letter, Resume (including 3 work related references), Criminal Record Check & Vulnerable Sector Check to our:

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: September 29, 2026

*Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest in our organization, 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.*

RCMP trying to wipe out financial crimes in Wood Buffalo region

With Wood Buffalo Region and Fort McMurray being a hotbed of criminal activity in regards to financial crimes and scams, perhaps residents and businesses in north central Alberta should be aware of the possibility of the bad actors moving their operations further west.

At the start of this month, Wood Buffalo RCMP revealed:

"In April of 2026, Wood Buffalo RCMP launched a pilot project with intent to focus more specialized services on Financial Crime impacting the region. With a one-year mandate to explore specific activity related to embezzlement, misappropriation, fraud, and money laundering, the Wood Buffalo RCMP have had great success in identifying and interdicting some of the areas offenders in the underworld of local financial scams.

"In the last six months, Wood Buffalo RCMP Financial Crime Unit has laid over 80 criminal charges specifically related to illegal financing schemes, identified millions of dollars in lost capital, and has linked several national and international criminal networks to local activity.

"'Our Financial Crime Unit investigators are executing an average of 2.5 judicial authorizations every week to follow the money, wherever that trail leads. By working with police partners across Canada, FINTRAC and Canadian financial institutions, we are increasingly able to identify and disrupt the financial networks that enable criminal activity.

"'In Wood Buffalo, this work is well underway, and its impact is only beginning to be felt,'says Inspector Mike Robinson, Investigative Services Officer.

"RCMP encourage anyone who suspects they have been a victim of financial crime to report it to your local law enforcement agency and to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at www.antifraudcentre.ca , or by calling 1-888-495-8501."



Province-wide ClassifiedAds

BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only $269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach 75 weekly newspapers. Call for details. 1-800-282-6903; www.awna.com; email classifieds@awna.com or contact The Fever at bruce.thomas@thefever.online

Coming Events

EDMONTON COIN SHOW - October 17 & 18, 2026. Saturday 10 am - 4:30 pm; Sunday 10 am - 3 pm. Lions Centre 11113 - 113 Street, Edmonton. Family friendly! Displays * Auctions * Free market evaluations.* Dealers from across Canada. * Visit www.edmontoncoinclub.com/shows

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2026 AUCTION PROGRAM: Firearms, Ammunition, Accessories, or Militaria. Collections, Estates or single items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Contact us: 1-800-694-2609, Email: sales@switzersauction.com or Visit us @ www.switzersauction.com for Auction Dates & Details.

Services

CANADIAN PICKERS! Downsizing? Moving? Buying Silver Flatware & Jewelry. We buy all Mint sets, Gold Jewelry, Rings, Chains, etc. Ted or Joy 825-966-4373.

PRIVATE MORTGAGE Lender. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. 403-543-0927; www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca

Travel

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

RCMP News in The Fever!

Alberta

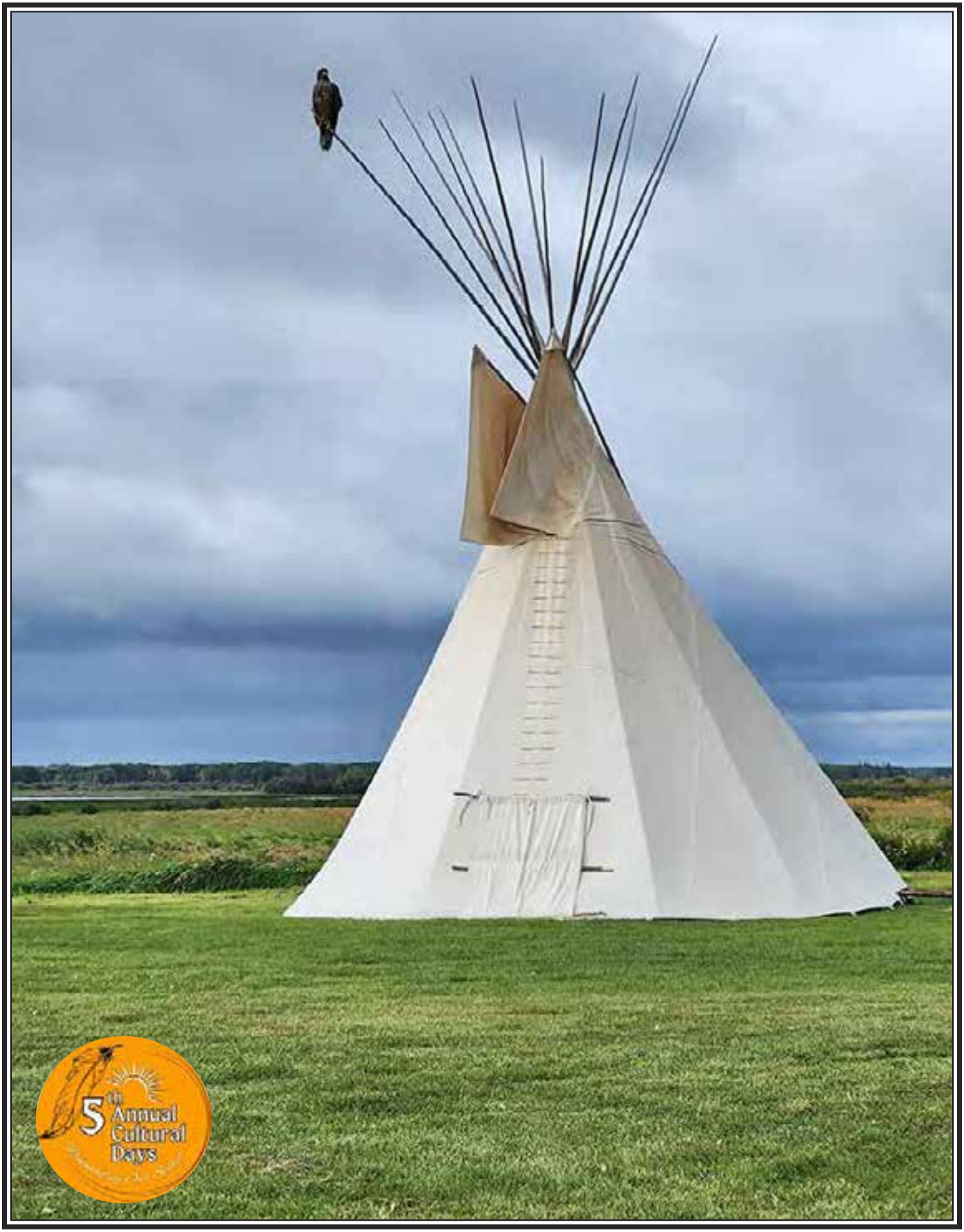
Deadline for Ads and other items:
Tuesdays: Noon

e-mails:
bruce.thomas@thefever.online
thewabascafever@gmail.com

780-474-8928

Early submissions of ads can aid in proofing and placement in paper

CASH PAID for GOLD & SILVER
ALL JEWELRY, ALL GOLD & SILVER COINS
Bars, Bullion, Ingots, Nuggets, Sterling Silver, Old & Broken Gold, etc.
BUYING ENTIRE COIN COLLECTIONS & OLD MONEY
TODD 1-780-504-7995
Covering ALL OF ALBERTA



Even a lone Eagle enjoyed Wabasca's latest Cultural Daze! See Fever's Pages 8, 9 & 10

Indigenous Firefighter Competition Celebrates Skill, Teamwork, commitment to community service

Firefighters from First Nation communities were recognized for skill, teamwork and service during the 31st Annual Indigenous Firefighter Competition, an event that brought crews together for a day of challenge, community pride and professional respect.

According to a public event listing by the Blood Tribe Department of Health, Blood Tribe Emergency Services hosted the Sept. 5 competition and welcomed visiting First Nation fire departments from Peerless Trout First Nation, Bigstone Cree Nation and Enoch Cree Nation, along with the Blood Tribe Fire Department team.

The competition was open to the public and gave community members a chance to support firefighters who serve on the front line in emergencies, road responses, structure fires, grass fires and other calls where quick action can protect lives and property.

The Blood Tribe Emergency Services Firefighting team came out on top, winning 1st place. The team consisted of: Team captain – Cobi Bevans, Wick Potts, Nicolas Chief Moon, Brianna Breaker-Fox, Brent Coleman, Jakob Soldier, Sherilyn Yazzie, and Daryl Vencino.

- 2nd: Enoch Cree Nation – Enoch Fire Rescue Services;
- 3rd: Peerless Trout First Nation – Fire Service; and
- 4th: Bigstone Cree Nation – Bigstone Fire Department.















Bigstone Cree Nation Education Authority
Employment Opportunity

1 Full-Time Cook Assistant

(2026-2027 School Year)

Bigstone Cree Nation Education Authority is seeking **1 Full-time Cook Assistant**. The Candidate must be responsible, team oriented and self motivated while working collaboratively with the Manager of Special Programs and Head Cook to establish a plan to ensure healthy well balanced meals for the students at the school. The cook assistant must be familiar with meal planning, all food service equipment and must have a warm personality with a sincere desire to work with children and school staff.

Responsibilities:

- To ensure meal planning and monthly menus for the school
- To ensure that all meals are served in an efficient and pleasant manner with few leftovers
- Team player with the other cooks and all the staff at the school
- To ensure high standard of services are provided for the students and staff
- To ensure food and kitchen is clean and meets all health and safety expectations for the environment and food handling.
- Demonstrate good personal hygiene at all times
- Work cooperatively as a member of a school team
- Make a positive contribution to the school's functions and activities
- All other duties as assigned

Qualifications:

- Clear Criminal record check with Vulnerable sector and clear Child Intervention Check
- Must have a food handling certificate
- Working in fast paced environment
- Ability to stand for extended periods
- Attention to detail
- Demonstrate ethical behavior
- Demonstrate responsible behavior towards attendance and work schedule

Closing Date: October 7th, 2026 at 4:30pm

Salary: Based on a salary grid that is progressive and based on years of experience.

Please submit cover letter, resume, supporting documents and references in confidence to:

Human Resources
https://www.bigstoneeducation.ca/careers (PREFERRED) OR
Email: human.resources@bigstoneeducation.ca
Mail: P.O. Box 870, Wabasca, Alberta, T0G 2K0
Fax: 780-891-2178
Or drop off in person at: Suite #8 - 911 Mistassiniy Road S

Thank you in advance to all who submitted an application, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Heavy Duty Journeyman Technician

Wabasca– Permanent Full Time

The Municipal District of Opportunity is now accepting applications for a full-time permanent Heavy Duty Journeyman Technician in Wabasca. The individual chosen for this permanent full-time position will be responsible for the following duties on the municipal fleet equipment.

Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- Red Seal Journeyman Certificate.
- A Valid Driver's License.
- Good hearing, eyesight and manual dexterity.
- Experience with heavy equipment or heavy truck with repairs and maintenance.
- Ability to interpret work orders and technical manuals.
- Ability to keep up to date with changes in technology.
- Write service reports.
- Ability to work within a Microsoft Office computer environment.
- Understanding of NSC Regulations.
- Ability to use scan tools.
- A satisfactory criminal record check upon hire.

Duties include:

- Perform scheduled maintenance services such as oil changes, lubrications, etc.
- Advise the Shop Foreman of work performed general equipment conditions and future repair requirements.
- Assist the Shop Foreman in determining mechanical problems by examining equipment, using diagnostic equipment, and test driving the vehicles.
- Responsible for the dismantling of faulty assemblies, repair and/replace worn or damaged parts.
- Other duties that may be assigned from time to time.

The working conditions for the service technician vary considerably from one job to another. Some duties will be performed in the shop, construction sites and sometimes outdoors in all types of weather conditions. Travel requirements and hours of work also may vary. The salary range for this position is based on experience and qualifications.

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

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

This job advertisement will close on October 13, 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

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 the12-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.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
2 Equipment Operators
Red Earth Creek – Permanent Full Time

The individuals chosen for this permanent full-time position in the M.D. of Opportunity with our Public Works Department at our Red Earth Creek location will be responsible for the following duties:

- Operation of various equipment within the Public Works Department;
- Responsible for operation & routine maintenance of a variety of light & heavy equipment;
- Some manual labor related to maintenance of the road system, parking lots & other MD operated facilities;
- Maintenance & installation of road signage as required;
- Routine maintenance of culverts & control of flooding problems on local roads;
- Provide written reports on operations as may be required;
- Under the direction of the Area Lead Hand;

Qualifications:

- Valid Class 1 Drivers License with Air Brakes (Class 3 maybe accepted);
- A minimum of Grade 12 or a minimum of two years' experience may be considered;
- Ability to work independently and as a team player;
- Ability to exercise good judgment on the operation of light/heavy equipment as it relates to safety;
- Clean Driver's Abstract;
- Satisfactory Criminal Record Check upon hire.

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

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

This job advertisement will remain open until October 19, 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

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

CUSTODIAN

Wabasca – Permanent Full Time

The Municipal District of Opportunity is now accepting resumes for a permanent full time custodian position in our Facility Maintenance Department in Wabasca. The custodian will be responsible for the daily cleaning, maintenance of various buildings, organizing inventory of all cleaning supplies and equipment. The position entails a full spring and fall cleaning (including but not limited to shampooing of carpets, washing windows inside and out, washing walls, etc.) and may include minor maintenance.

Applicants must possess and meet the following qualifications and requirements:

- Ability to work on their feet for a complete shift of an 8 hours/day while constantly bending, stretching, walking and lifting or moving things.
- Ability to communicate effectively with others.
- Preparation of monthly building repairs and maintenance reports.
- Ordering and maintaining cleaning supplies and inventory.
- Must have a minimum of Grade 10 Education or higher.
- Must possess WHMIS or be willing to take training.
- Other Security Checks (CWIS) that may be required.
- A satisfactory Criminal Record Check upon hire.
- **Valid Class 5 Drivers License is required as you will be driving to different facility locations.**

Salary range for this position will reflect on qualifications and experience. Interested individuals may submit their Resumes and three (3) work related references:

Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17
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 October 5, 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. Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Arena/Parks Operator

Wabasca – Permanent Full Time

The Municipal District of Opportunity is now accepting applications for one Full Time Arena/Parks Operator for the community of Wabasca. Some duties include but are not limited to:

Responsibilities:

- Keeping proper checklists of areas cleaned.
- Maintaining a clean atmosphere at all times and ensuring facility is properly maintained
- Issue receipt payments.
- Supervise patrons in the Facility.
- Perform minor maintenance as required at the arena in winter and in summer months maintain the parks, cleaning, grass cutting and weed whacking.
- Keep an updated list of cleaning inventory.
- Work towards facility viability and self-sufficiency.
- Must be able to make and maintain ice for skating and curling rinks, this will include painting markers.
- Report daily to the Manager of Marion Wolistki Arena.

Qualifications:

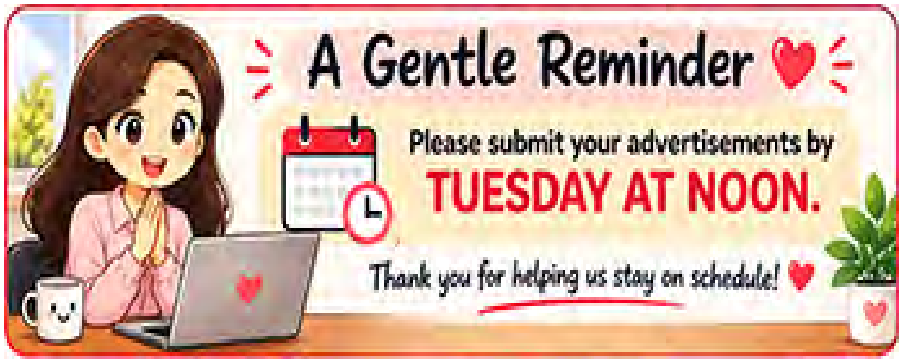
- Level 1 & 2 Arena Operators Certificate or ability to attain one.
- A valid Class 5 Driver's License.
- The ability to operate a Olympia or any other required equipment such as z-tracks and weed whackers.
- The ability to lift a minimum of 50 lbs.
- A willingness & ability to cross train in other positions.
- Knowledge & experience in arena operations with respect to ice-making, janitorial care-taking, maintenance.
- The ability to establish & maintain effective working relationships with officials, authorities, minor hockey & the general public.
- Proven communication, public relation, inter-personal skills and the ability to exercise independent judgment & initiative in completing assigned duties.
- Satisfactory Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check upon hire.

The salary range for this position is based on qualifications and experience. Interested persons are invited to send their Resumes, three work related references to:

Human Resources Department
Municipal District of Opportunity No.17
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 October 16, 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.





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