

The FEVER

Volume 27, Issue 29

Thursday, August 20, 2026

**"One Community" concept
has brought lots of progress,
facilities, events, wellness
to Wabasca**

**Thanks to Municipal District of Opportunity
and Bigstone Cree Nation
Some details on Fever Page 6**



The NDT Girls from Wabasca won the U19 Girls Division 1 Championship at the 2026 Alberta Indigenous Games.



The Lakers Under 15 Fastball Team got bronze at the Alberta Indigenous Games. Playing on the team were three girls from Wabasca: Brielle Auger, Lynelle Mackay and Layla Cardinal.

We read about all the fun events...



Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

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... in our community, so we can join in.

Kids: color stuff in!



News! Read All About It!

Our Town News

September 30

Sunny, 73° F

Dish Runs Away With Spoon!



Breaking News!

On Thursday, Sept. 29 at 9 p.m. officers responded to a complaint about loud noises in a small suburban kitchen.

On Friday, Mr. James Smith, owner of the home, explained what had happened.

"There was a rustling noise in the kitchen. I got up to check on it and, to my surprise, one of the dishes was running away with a spoon," he said.

Eyewitnesses included forks and knives. Most occupants, except the kitchen sink, claimed to have been thrilled by the daring escape.

Who gets important community news, information and stories out to the public? Reporters and journalists. There is a whole team of people behind every item published – from the reporter and video crew in the front to the columnists, editors, printers and publishers in the back. Today, lots of people enjoy the paper version of the newspaper, while many also are reading the news on their tablets, computers and smart phones. People always want to learn about what is going on.

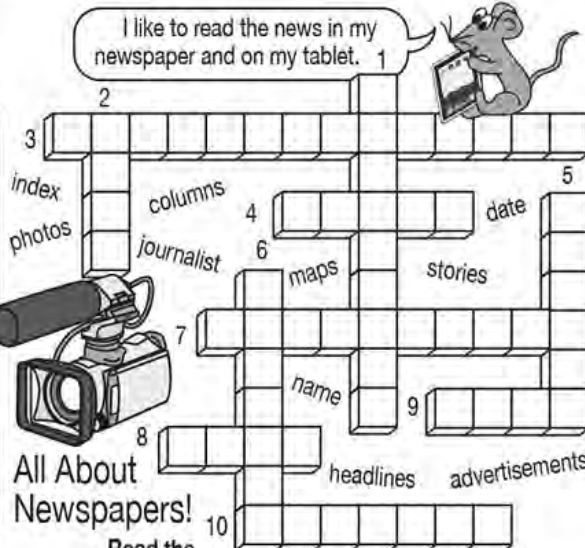


All About Newspapers!

Read the

clues below to fill in the puzzle.

1. short titles of articles
2. day, month, year
3. businesses pay to put these next to the news
4. tells section and page where item is located
5. pictures of people, events
6. advice, opinions
7. person who writes stories for publication
8. often largest words on the front page, newspaper's _____
9. for weather, road construction, travel
10. written information



I like to chew on the ideas in newspapers!

Hard news is best – it helps me to keep my gums healthy!

Newspaper articles try to answer the questions "Who, what, when, where, why and how." Read the story above and see if you can find out the answer to each of these questions.

What's Inside Your Newspaper? (Index)

If you look on the front page of your newspaper you may see an index. An **index** lists where to find each section **inside** the newspaper. Can you fill in the vowels that are missing in the index? Next, match each listing to what is in it.

Inside

Where can I find the movie listings?

1. B _ s _ n _ s s
2. C l _ s s _ f _ _ d
3. C _ m _ c s
4. _ d _ t _ r _ _ l s
5. L _ v _ _ n g

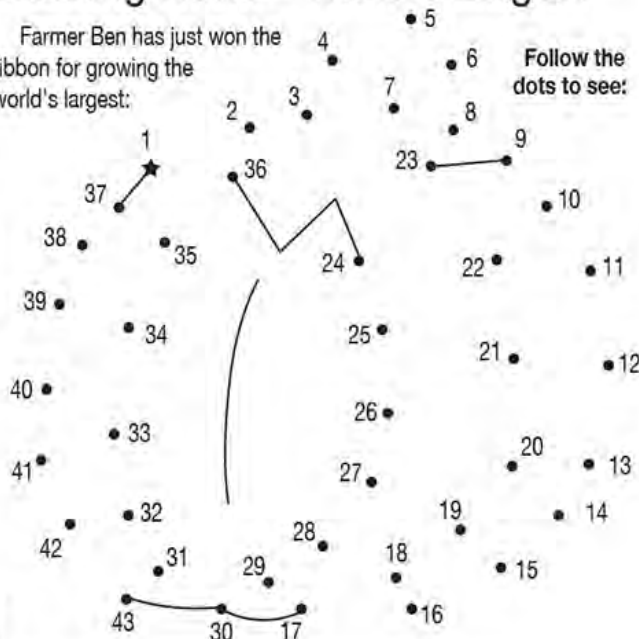
6. S p _ r t s
7. T _ l _ v _ s _ _ n
8. T _ w n N _ w s
9. T r _ v _ l
10. W _ _ t h _ r

- A. advertisements to sell and buy
- B. stories about what people are buying, new stores, stock market
- C. home, yard, clothing fashions
- D. cartoons, puzzles, contests
- E. people send letters or write articles to express their ideas
- F. forecasts of sunshine or rain, temperatures
- G. team news, game scores
- H. road work, places to visit
- I. listing of movies and shows
- J. local news

Breaking News – World's Largest

Farmer Ben has just won the ribbon for growing the world's largest:

Follow the dots to see:



u i o e e e e a a e i i e i e i a o i i e i o a o i o

An Extra Puzzle Fun Page this Issue. Also see Page 2 of Focus!

Tuesday, August 18 a very odd Alberta day - there were no wildfires burning

Environment Canada statisticians had to check back in the wildfire data as Tuesday started with no active wildfires in the province, and as the day went on with mostly clear skies and no lightning around most of the province, the afternoon proclamation was that August 18, 2026 may have been the first August day in more than 40 years in Alberta where there was not a single active wildfire in any of the 10 provincial Forest Protection Areas.

Zero's were in the Alberta Wildfires Dashboard boxes for current active fires, mutual aid wildfires, carry over wildfires and municipal wildfires,

The remaining boxes listed 689 total wildfires up to August 18 and that 17,720.97 hectares have been affected by the 2026 fires.

The risk of a fire suddenly starting on Tuesday was mainly moderate for the northern forests but up to extreme in the southeast corner, along the southern Montana border, and extending into the foothills and into southern B.C.. where there are Alberta firefighters, equipment and aircraft aiding that province's still serious fire situation.

By Wednesday morning two fires were listed on the wildfire dashboard. Both were in the High Level Forest Protection Area and

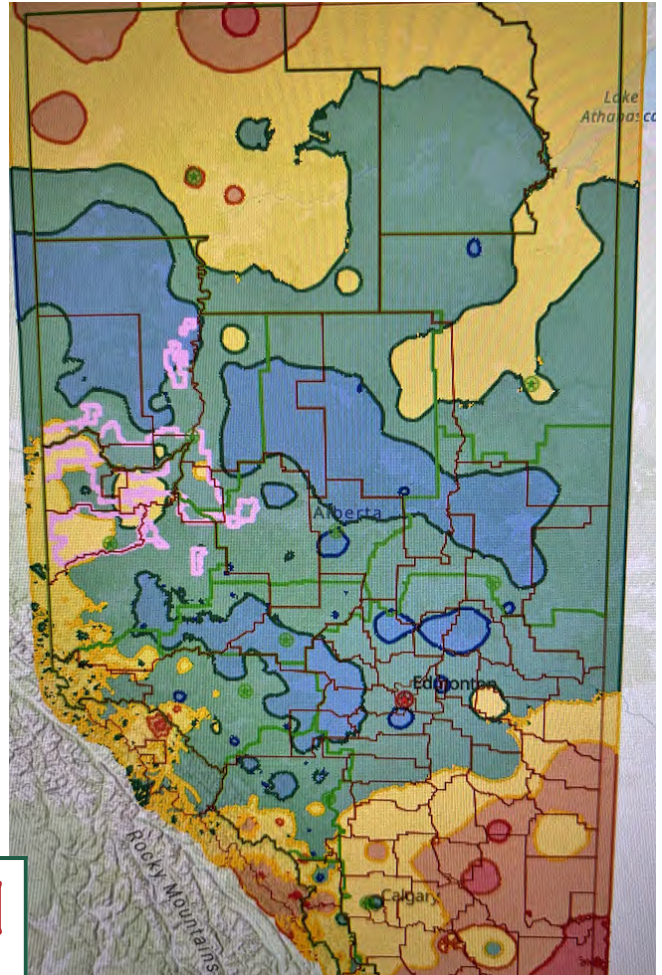
were being held. As of noon Wednesday, there were still only two wildfires in Alberta.

The Tuesday fire danger map on the right side of this page shows that due to a lot of rain in north central Alberta those regions were surely at low or moderate risk of fires while regions further north in High Level Forest and regions southeast of Edmonton and across southern Alberta had the highest risk.

But the acute reader may notice that some hot times were planned in the Fort McMurray forest where according to the green and blue, there's a boy with a blue sleeve getting ready to kiss a gem-toothed girl.

Back on wildfire statistics for this year, if the almost daily rains in many regions do not resume, there still may be a chance that the north central Alberta forests will dry out and there will be an increase in fires which may not be good since Alberta has lent a lot of firefighters, equipment and aircraft to the fire battles in British Columbia and the United States.

Up to Wednesday noon, Alberta has had 691 fires covering 17,715 hectares. Slave Lake Forest has had 61 fires so far in 2026. High Level Forest leads with 143.



Northland SCHOOL DIVISION

Re-Registration

Parents and guardians can re-register students by contacting their local school starting the week of August 31, when school staff return.

New Student Registration

New students need a completed registration form and one of the following:

- Birth certificate
- Residency document
- Canadian citizenship document
- Passport

Registration forms are available at:
www.ca/students-parents/student-registration-forms

Contact your local school starting the week of August 31 to complete registration.

Back To School 2026-2027

New school year is almost here!

Classes resume September 8, 2026

School Supplies

School supplies will be ready for Northland School Division students, including notebooks, markers, glue sticks, pencils and more.

School Bus Information

Northland students who still need to register for busing can contact their school starting week of August 31.

Students attending a non-Northland school can register for busing at:

www.nsd61.ca/departments/transportation/bussing

Kindergarten Information

Kindergarten start dates may vary by school. Contact your local school to confirm the start date.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY

The following Development Permits were processed on August 17, 2026:

26-DP-037 – 0525897;30;14 – Calling Lake
Development: Sea Cans
Zoned as R1A – Residential District – **Approved**

26-DP-038 – 9524154;17;1 – Calling Lake
Development: Liquor Store
Zoned as C3 – Commercial District – **Refused**

26-DP-040 – 7822775;1 – Calling Lake
Development: Garden Suite
Zoned as R1C - Residential 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.

Second degree murder charge laid after stabbing death at South Tallcree First Nation

Sunday morning, August 16, had Fort Vermilion RCMP responding to an 8 a.m. call from the South Tallcree First Nation about a deceased man. Officers arrived at the scene and found resident Roger Seeseequon, age 39, deceased and showing signs of having been stabbed.

Alberta RCMP Major Crimes Unit took over the investigation with the assistance of Fort Vermilion Detachment, RCMP Police Dog Services and Forensic Identification Section.

The victim was transported to the Edmonton office of the Chief Medical Examiner which determined that the death was a result of a homicide.

A suspect was identified and arrested. Ricky Seeseequon, 52, a resident of South Tallcree First Nation, was charged with second degree murder. He was remanded into custody and his first court appearance will be in Fort Vermilion on August 25.



First Time Home Buyers Program



- The Opasikoniwew Housing Authority is now accepting Applications for the First Time Home Buyers Program.
- Eligible first-time home buyers may receive a grant of up to \$15,000 toward their down payment.
- Band members must provide a copy of their mortgage pre-approval.

Please call 780-891-2072
if you have any questions
or to request an application form

Funding is limited.
The program is first come, first served.



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El Nino is giant this year; is affecting global weather

By Chico Harlan

El Niño, the Pacific climate shift that comes around once or twice a decade, is back this year — warming tropical oceans and triggering various consequences worldwide. We know to expect these, and they don't usually reach full strength until December.

But this year's El Niño is already huge — and affecting the planet well before it is done growing. Scientists say the world should brace itself for some major weather extremes.

El Niño is nudging up already-sweltering global temperatures. It's causing dry spells and crop failures across the world. We'll feel the ramifications into next year in droughts, floods and heat waves that had already been growing more intense because of climate change, scientists say.

Now scientists wonder whether human emissions are causing El Niño events to become stronger and more frequent. There's no expert consensus yet, because El Niños are very complex — and good records don't go back far enough to have certainty about how they are changing. But the question hangs over the current cycle because it's on track to be the strongest in nearly 80 years of records.

The Pacific influences weather around the world. So when temperatures in its tropical zones jump, the consequences play out everywhere from Central America to the Horn of Africa. In those places, experts are now seeing El Niño's telltale pattern.

Parts of Panama, normally one of the wettest countries on Earth, haven't had a major storm since early May, raising concerns about operations in the Panama Canal. It raises and

lowers ships through the locks using water from a rain-fed lake.

Ethiopia's fertile highlands, its agricultural breadbasket, are enduring one of their driest summer stretches in four decades.

Kenya's western grain-producing counties are experiencing a poor maize harvest.

India had its fifth-driest June since its modern rain records began in 1901.

Dry and hot seasons mean fewer crops, which will feed fewer mouths. The United Nations World Food Program says that El Niño could drive an additional 50 million to experience acute hunger by end of next year.

Why now?

El Niño events are essentially ocean anomalies, and their magnitude is measured by looking at a specific rectangular zone of the Pacific.

Continued on Page 5

Opasikoniwew Housing Authority (OHA)



has funding available for
off reserve Members



for service/maintenance calls

- These funds are to help cover the cost of emergency plumbing and heating issues and furnace and hot water bottle repairs/replacements.
- These funds do not include any renovations.
- It will be the responsibility of the homeowner to find a contractor.
- Must provide proof of home ownership and be in the Member's name.
- Forms can be picked up at the OHA office.

Funds are limited, so first come first serve!

Opasikoniwew Housing Authority



now accepting Applications
for Off Reserve Renovations



- Must provide proof of home ownership and be in the Member's name.
- Applications can be picked up at the OHA Office.
- Must fill out a new application. Old applications will not be accepted.
- Deadline for applications August 28, 2026.

**If you have any questions,
please call the OHA office**

(780) 891-2072

Posted August 10, 2026

El Nino is heating things up ... from Page 4

When the surface temperatures of this part of the Pacific veer from normal, the El Niño is created.

Temperatures have soared over the past three months, and forecasts say this could be the most freakishly warm year for that zone in modern history — hotter than the strongest El Niño cycles. (If you're curious about what that means, the three-month average temperature in that area of the Pacific is likely to be at least 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit higher than normal this year. It doesn't seem like a lot, but the ocean is vast and requires tremendous excess heat to warm even slightly.)

The extra heat affects air

temperatures, too. This year isn't quite as scorching as 2024, the planet's hottest year on record, but experts widely believe that 2027 will be the hottest year on record, thanks in part to El Niño.

Until 2010, the world didn't have a single year that was more than 1.0 degree Celsius, or 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit, above preindustrial times. But Zeke Hausfather, a climate scientist at Berkeley Earth, forecasts that temperatures will be 3.17 degrees Fahrenheit above that level in 2027.

The temperature spike from El Niño is transitory. But it offers a glimpse of where the world is heading.



Too many think climate change will never claim them with extreme heat or sweep them away in a tidal wave or flood!

Climate change will affect all areas of Canada; however, it will be most apparent in Canada's Far North. The Arctic is warming at triple the global rate and is considered one of the more vulnerable regions to climate change in the world.

In the Far North, permafrost underlies most infrastructure, including roads, buildings, bridges, landfills, sewage lagoons and tailings ponds. Ice road networks, built on frozen seas, lakes and rivers, facilitate delivery of food and medical supplies and enable Indigenous hunting, fishing, and gathering traditions.

With few permanent roads, frozen oceans and land provide transportation links to hunting grounds. The rapid thawing of permafrost and ice roads has profound implications for the health and safety of northern people. By altering traditional ways of life, these changes will also result in further physical, social and economic disruption.

Furthermore, the animals that make up the base of the Inuit diet (seal, caribou, arctic char, beluga whale, and narwhal) are vulnerable to climate change-related conditions, presence or absence of snow or ice, and a precipitation regime that determines migration timing, abundance and health. **Canadian Public Health Assoc.**



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- Access courses through partnerships across Northland School Division.
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- Chromebook and learning tools provided.

To learn more visit www.northlandonlineschool.ca

ONE COMMUNITY: Bigstone Cree Nation, MD of Opportunity shows what partnership can accomplish

By Cherry Nyg

For generations, governments in Canada treated Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities as though they existed separately.

Colonial policies created different legal systems, different governing authorities and, in many cases, barriers that discouraged cooperation and encouraged separation between races.

Yet in northern Alberta, one region has been demonstrating that another approach is possible.

Bigstone Cree Nation and the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 has become known simply as "One Community." Their councils even have asked for the provincial and fed-

eral governments to recognize them as such.

It is not a legal agreement that merges governments, nor does it diminish the authority of either partner. Instead, it recognizes a practical reality: the people in the hamlets of the MD and the people on the Bigstone reserves, live, work, attend school, play sports and just plain share life together.

They share their resources as well whether it be facilities for sports and recreation or joint infrastructure projects such as water systems and natural gas distribution.

Wabasca has become one of Canada's successful examples on Indigenous –

Municipal collaboration.

That simple idea has helped shape one of Alberta's most successful examples of Indigenous – municipal collaboration.

Many Indigenous readers may recognize that the philosophy behind "One Community" reflects principles found in the Cree concept of wahohtowin.

Often translated simply as "kinship," wahohtowin carries a much broader meaning. Cree Elders and scholars describe it as understanding that all relationships come with responsibilities, to family, community, the land, the natural world and future generations. It emphasizes reciprocity, respect, caring for



The idea of Bigstone Nation and M.D. #17 being just "One Community" began to gel in the period of 2014 to 2000 when most band members and residents wanted to have a seniors nursing facility so Elders and Seniors could remain in Wabasca during their final years. Other projects, facilities, programs and events began being co-sponsored or shared. The above leaders, Chief Silas Yellowknee, and Reeve Marcel Auger with their councils and administrators made many improvements and additions: Lakeview Sports Facility, Eagle Point Golf Course, Keekenow Seniors Facility, new Bigstone schools, Mistassiniy School replacement, natural gas and water treatment expansions to name just some physical infrastructure, but social programming, health care, education and other services grew.

one another and recognizing that individual well-being is connected to the well being of everyone around us.

One example is the Atoske Action Group, established in 2013. "Atoske" is the Cree word meaning "to work."

The organization was created through collaboration among Bigstone Cree Nation, Municipal District of Opportunity, Peerless Trout First Nation and other partners to strengthen education, employment and workforce development.

Rather than having organizations compete for resources or operate independently, the group works to connect residents with education, training and employment while reducing barriers such as transportation and limited access to services.

Sports is huge in this one community and both Bigstone Nation and the MD councils make sure all youths can attend events like the spring Alberta Native Hockey Championship, the summer Alberta Indigenous, and even some sporting events in other parts of the world.

Many community events

and social programs are co-sponsored by both governments. Even May clean-ups.

The One Community idea really got a boost in the second decade of this city when the number of concern of both Bigstone and MD citizens was the treatment of seniors and elders who had to leave their local homes due to lack of a nursing home.

While the MD took the financial lead on the Keekenow Seniors Facility which opened in the early days of the Covid pandemic, Bigstone Nation eventually financed the operation of a portion of the 50-plus beds.

Beginning in 2016, Bigstone Nation and the District partnered on a regional source water protection plan alongside watershed organizations and post-secondary institutions. The project recognized that clean drinking water and healthy watersheds do not stop at reserve or municipal boundaries, making cooperation essential for protecting shared resources.

In next issue, other aspects of the "One Community" will be looked at, including the historical background.

BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENT

MASSAGE THERAPY

DATES AVAILABLE

- AUGUST 4-6
- AUGUST 18-20
- AUGUST 25-27
- SEPTEMBER 1-3
- SEPTEMBER 8-10
- SEPTEMBER 15-17



DAYS & TIMES

- TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
12:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- THURSDAY 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM



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Repeal of federal government's electric vehicle plan sets Canada's back in many ways

by Adam Thorn, Pembina Institute

"The federal government's decision to repeal the Electric Vehicle Availability Standard (EVAS), and delay a replacement to ensure Canadians have access to an increasing supply of electric vehicles (EVs), is bad news for every Canadian wanting more affordable vehicle options and lower transportation costs.

"Transportation is one of the largest expenses

facing households. EVs significantly reduce fuel and maintenance costs over time, but those savings are only available to Canadians if they have access to a wider range of affordable models.

A policy that ensures automakers supply more EVs to Canada is critical to expanding consumer choice and bringing lower-cost models to Canadians. Repealing that policy without immediately replacing it slows that progress and means many

Canadians will be forced to wait longer for affordable EV options.

"Prime Minister Mark Carney committed to having 75% of new vehicle sales be electric by 2035. This decision removes the only federal regulation designed to help achieve that target while delaying its replacement. It's difficult to see how the Prime Minister expects to meet his own objective without a policy to drive the transition.

The government must move to quickly introduce a new VES to meet that goal or continue to fall behind the rest of the world.

"Repealing the EVAS without a strong replacement also sends exactly the wrong signal to automakers, investors and charging developers.

As global markets accelerate electrification, manufacturers are deciding where to allocate vehicle supply and where to invest in building cars, supply chains and charging stations based in part on the strength and certainty of government policy.

Canada should be making it clear that it intends to compete for that investment and give Canadians access to the vehicles being developed for markets around the world, not stepping back from policies that help make that happen.

"This decision also represents a failure of an early test of the government's commitment to electrification. The federal government has identified electrification as a core pillar of its economic and climate strategy and committed to doubling the supply of domestically generated electricity. Delivering on that ambition hinges upon ensuring that transportation electrifies, which means ensuring that the majority of new vehicles sold are electric. If electrification is expected to deliver more affordable energy to Canadians and reduce emissions, transportation policy needs to actively drive EV adoption."



Save the date

World Suicide Prevention Day

September 10, 2026



Chipewyan Lake

Community Hall

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Calling Lake

Community Complex

1:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Wabasca

George D Auger Hall

1:00 pm – 6:00 pm



**For more information call
Judy Auger (780) 891-3777**



DASH FOR DIALYSIS RELAY RUN

SATURDAY AUGUST 29, 2026

COMMUNITY SPONSORS NEEDED

We are seeking community sponsors to support the Dash for Dialysis Relay Run, taking place August 29, 2026. This event is raising funds to support the development of a dialysis program in Wabasca, Alberta, helping bring much-needed treatment closer to home for community members living with kidney disease.

Currently, many community members must travel weekly outside of the community to attend their dialysis appointments. For some, the travel has become so difficult that they have had to move away from their families, homes, and community to access the treatment they need.

Why Your Support Matters

- Bring dialysis closer to home for community members and families.
- Reduce the burden of weekly travel for those receiving dialysis.
- Help keep families together by making treatment accessible within the community.
- Support improved health and quality of life for individuals living with kidney disease.
- Invest directly in our community and help create a future where members can receive essential care closer to home.

Every contribution, big or small, brings us one step closer to making local dialysis services a reality. Your sponsorship can help make a lasting difference in the lives of our community members and their families.

To become a community sponsor, please contact us using the information below.

For more information or to submit a nomination, please contact:

Taylor Courtorielle

Phone: 780-891-2000

Email: taylor.courtorielle@bigstonehealth.ca



MD OF
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FOCUS

Supplement of News, Employment Ads
and Classified Ads for Readers of *The Fever*

The FEVER

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Lots of tragedies during Heritage holiday continued into mid-August around Alberta

August 2026 has been tragic for many Albertans and even visitors. Alberta RCMP reported five traffic deaths in their jurisdictions during the Heritage Day holiday weekend. Edmonton and Calgary police services had both traffic and violence deaths.

More drownings occurred. On August 16, about 9 p.m., Banff RCMP received a report that a swimmer in Johnson Lake had gone under the surface of the lake and did not reappear. The male swimmer's body did appear a short time later and he was declared deceased. He was identified only as a 29-year-old Banff resident.

Another possible drowning occurred on the same day and in the same area. A man's body was found the morning of August 16 in the Bow River in Canmore. The death of the victim is still under investigation. He was identified as a 52-year-old Canmore resident.

Calling Lake Hit and Run by UTV

Last Saturday, about 4 a.m., on Corner Drive in Calling Lake, a 33-year-old local male resident was hit by a UTV side-by-side machine and the operator is reported to have left scene.

Witnesses were able to help RCMP identify the operation and collision is under investigation.

Senior Motorcyclist Killed

In Parkland County on Highway 627, a collision occurred between a motorcycle and pick-up truck occurred shortly after 6 a.m. on August 13. The 69-year-old man from Edmonton on the cycle was killed.

The 82-year-old male driver from Spruce Grove of the truck did not receive any injuries.

Young woman trapped under SUV

Also on August 13, about 12:30 a.m. in Strathcona County on a rural road, a SUV with four people in it, went out of control on gravel and rolled off the road into a swamp ditch. the 21-year-old driver, a female passenger of the same age, along with a younger male passenger all escaped from the vehicle.

When emergency responders arrived, they were told that another 21-year-old female was missing. Strathcona County fire department personnel had to get that person from underneath the vehicle.

She had life-threatening injuries, so EMS rushed her to a hospital where she succumbed to her injuries.

Teen girl killed in Edmonton

On Sunday night in northeast Edmonton, a teen girl was killed in a shooting and a 16-year-old boy has been charged.

A soup kitchen in a Wabasca trailer, food cart on Calgary street

By Cherry Nyg of The Fever

Canadian cities are seeing more and more people living on the street, crowding into shelters meant for them or into public buildings or underground transit spaces when the cold, rain and now even extreme heat waves threaten their health and even life.

Small armies of paid workers and volunteers work in food banks and even travel in vans trying to make sure the homeless and families with homes but no food on their dining tables can survive.

The same scenario occurs in communities of all sizes, for example, Wabasca.

And usually in this non-stop human tragedy, certain individuals stand out in figuring out a way they can help the people who need food or clothing or shelter.

Before Covid, in Wabasca, there was a short term resident named Roy who decided he would create a soup kitchen in a humble trailer near the business area.

He was not mobbed by individuals, but he usually had a few hungry, usually males stopping to get coffee, soup, maybe a sandwich. Local food stores, other businesses and residents began donating food, or special edible treats.

Did Roy save any lives, probably not, but he was there helping people in need, and his singular effort was noticed by other local people.

In this current world where there is such contrast between the rich and well-off, a minority, then a majority of people and fam-

ilies who are living comfortable lives, and then the very vulnerable people.

There are all races, nationalities, religions, political stripes, persons with various physical and mental health concerns, and people of all levels of income, wealth, and education involved in every aspect of human life on Earth.

Although all the unpleasant woes of various sectors of the billions of earthlings are unlikely to ever go away, there are those who advocate what is called Allyship.

The Google AI summary of this social term or principle is "the ongoing practice of using personal power, privilege, or social standing to support, amplify, and advocate for individuals from marginalized or mistreated groups to which you do not belong. It is an active commitment rather than a static label."

Roy in Wabasca was involved in allyship although he probably did not realize it. He felt the men wandering around his community needed help.

Calgary's Huggabowl

Tyler Melnyk is not Indigenous, but his work has had a meaningful impact on Indigenous people and others experiencing homelessness and food insecurity throughout Calgary.

Tyler is the founder and executive director of Huggabowl, a charitable organization built around the belief that everyone deserves access to a nourishing meal, regardless of whether they have money in their wallet.

Through its pay-it-forward model, when someone purchases a meal, they receive a token for a second bowl that can provide a free meal to someone in need. People receiving those meals are not required to explain their circumstances or prove why they need help.

Recently, Huggabowl has been operating a pop-up electric food truck on Thursdays in downtown Calgary in response to changes following the closure of Olympic Plaza for redevelopment. Tyler has explained that construction and fencing displaced many people experiencing homelessness, food insecurity, addiction and marginalization, changing where vulnerable people are moving throughout the downtown core.

Huggabowl adapted its out-
Continued Page 3



Fever Reporter Cherry Nyg visits Tyler Melnyk at his Huggabowl in Calgary for a story on how people can get involved helping others in need whether they live in a city or a smaller, remote community like Wabasca.

We learn with technology and still...



Newspaper Fun!

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...use pens to write and markers to color!

Kids: color stuff in!



Ask your parents and elders what school was like for them, but be careful with Elders some had bad experiences at residential schools!



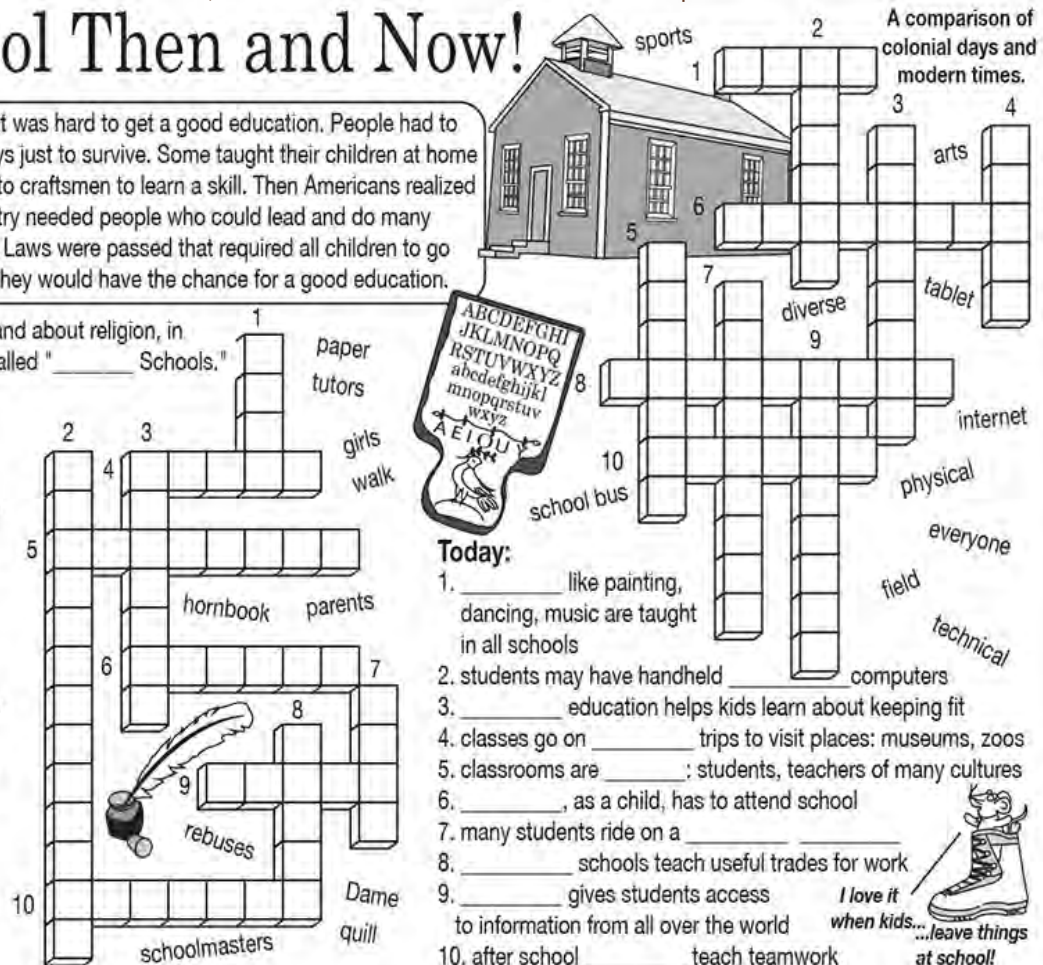
School Days

School Then and Now!

Long ago it was hard to get a good education. People had to work long days just to survive. Some taught their children at home or sent them to craftsmen to learn a skill. Then Americans realized that the country needed people who could lead and do many kinds of jobs. Laws were passed that required all children to go to school so they would have the chance for a good education.

Did you know that years ago:

- housewives taught children their alphabet, and about religion, in their kitchens for a small fee? These were called "_____ Schools."
- teachers in schoolhouses were almost always men and were called _____?
- _____ working hard just to survive had to teach their children at home?
- _____ was very expensive and scarce?
- students used a flat, wooden board with a handle called a _____? A paper with a lesson was placed on it.
- wealthy families hired _____ to teach in their homes?
- some students had to _____ many miles in all kinds of weather to get to school?
- _____ often stayed home to learn skills for running a household: sewing, cooking, the alphabet, etc?
- students were lucky to have charcoal or _____ pens to write with?
- one way to teach reading was by using pictures in stories, called _____?



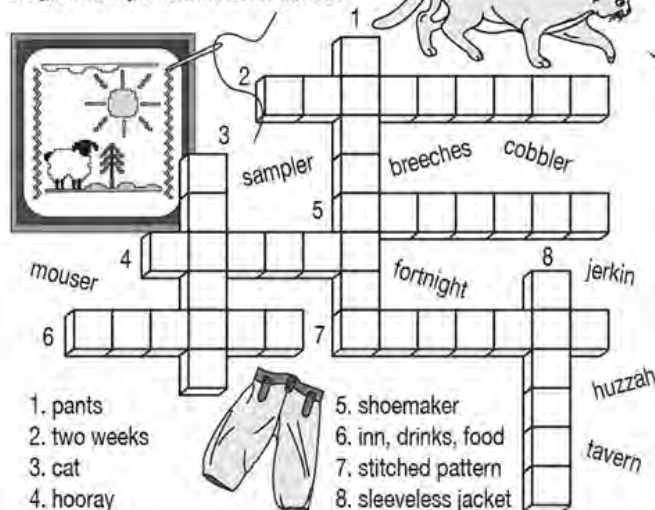
Today:

- _____ like painting, dancing, music are taught in all schools
- students may have handheld _____ computers
- _____ education helps kids learn about keeping fit
- classes go on _____ trips to visit places: museums, zoos
- classrooms are _____: students, teachers of many cultures
- _____, as a child, has to attend school
- many students ride on a _____
- _____ schools teach useful trades for work
- _____ gives students access to information from all over the world
- after school _____ teach teamwork

I love it when kids...leave things at school!

Say Whaaat?

Words and phrases continuously change throughout the years. Read the clues below to fill in this crossword puzzle with the words that kids would have used in colonial times:



- pants
- two weeks
- cat
- hooray
- shoemaker
- inn, drinks, food
- stitched pattern
- sleeveless jacket

Then... or Now?

Schooling has changed throughout the years. Reading, writing and arithmetic are still the basis for a good education! But, demands on teachers, ways to teach, and subjects taught are different. Computer classes anyone?

Draw a ring around 11 things we have or do...

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| one room school | spankings for bad behavior! | computers | NOW! |
| moveable desks and chairs | media libraries | wood for heat | |
| teacher stays with families | P.T.A. | paper scarce | |
| teachers continue their own studies at college | total silence most of the time | teacher paid with food or wood | |
| AI tools to write and draw | gym classes | educational T.V. | every child goes to school |
| very few books | | programs for kids with special needs | |

A Friend In Deed

**Keekewow Senior Facility
Invites You to Make a Difference**

Keekewow Senior Facility is launching a heartfelt community program — "A Friend In Deed."

We are calling on caring individuals who would like to volunteer their time to visit and support an Elder.

Your visit can:

- Reduce social isolation
- Support emotional well-being
- Enhance the quality of life for an Elder

Even 30 minutes to an hour a week can make a meaningful impact.

Building a friendship with an Elder is deeply rewarding — the connection benefits both you and them in powerful ways.

Get Involved Today!

Contact Clara Moberly
Keekewow Senior Facility
780-891-2985

Strengthening Community Through Care & Connection

Feeding the hungry ... Continued from front page

reach accordingly.

The demand is significant. Huggabowl can serve approximately 100 people in only two to three hours before running out of food. A few years ago, Tyler says about 60 per cent of Huggabowl's service went toward outreach through its tokens, while 40 per cent came through donors and purchases.

Today, following a significant decrease in donations and sales, approximately 99 per cent of its service is going toward free meals.

Behind those numbers are real people. Tyler has spoken about feeding one of his former high school students and an eight-month-pregnant woman experiencing homelessness. He has said these en-

counters have humbled him and changed how he looks at difficult days in his own life. His understanding of homelessness is also personal. His father experienced homelessness and eventually died while living on the streets of Hamilton, Ontario.

Stories like these remind us how easily words such as "homeless" can hide the person underneath. The person standing in line for a meal is someone's parent, child, sibling, former student, friend or relative. For Indigenous people, that understanding is especially important because our people continue to be disproportionately represented among those experiencing homelessness and severe poverty.

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BIGSTONE HEALTH COMMISSION

Employment Opportunity



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

**Permanent Full Time
Monday to Friday – 7 hours/day
Wabasca, Alberta**

Bigstone Health Commission is seeking an experienced, highly detailed oriented Executive Assistant with strong administrative and organizational skills to join our talented Health Team. This is a rewarding opportunity if you have an appreciation for First Nations 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 administrative support and assistance to the Director of Community Wellness including but not limited to taking minutes, scheduling interviews and meetings, travel arrangements, report planning and other office duties.
- Excellent communication skills (verbal, written, and computer application)
- Excellent computer proficiency (MS Office – Word, Excel, Outlook)
- Demonstrate ability to perform detailed work accurately and timely, independently, with minimal supervision, and collaboratively as part of a team
- Ability to prioritize multiple tasks and adapt to changing situations and conditions
- Assist with the development of meeting and communication materials
- Participate in internal/ external events
- Maintaining absolute confidentiality and discretion is imperative.
- Maintain compliance with all policies and procedures
- Ability to travel; ability to work outside regular hours when required (weekend/evenings)
- Other duties as requested

Qualifications:

- Post-Secondary Certificate or Diploma in Business Administration, Office Administration, or related fields from a recognized institution or a minimum of two (2) years equivalent experience
- Ability to speak Cree is considered an asset
- Must have excellent organizational skills
- Strong ability to multi-task
- Must possess excellent communication skills, both written and oral
- Current Certificates in CPR Level C, First Aid, and WHMIS or willing to take training.
- Valid Class 5 Driver's License

Benefits:

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

Salary will commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Send Cover Letter, Resume and Criminal Record Check, along with 3 work related references to:
(All checks must be current within the last 6 months)

**Bigstone Health Commission
Human Resources Department
Box 1020 Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0
Fax: 780-891-2623**

Email to: bhcresumes@bigstonehealth.ca

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

Job Ad Posted on: August 12, 2026

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

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

**Those who are placing
employment ads, submitting
other notices, photos, news, are
reminded current
e-mail addresses are:**

**For printing:
info@scopeprinting.com**

**For Fever:
bruce.thomas@thefever.online**

Careers / Classifieds Wabasca Fever Newspaper

1-800-315-7826

Auctions

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FARMLAND RENTAL AUCTION. 121 acres, Sturgeon County, AB, SE-13-56-24-W4. Four year term. Starting bid \$80/acre. Bidding closes Sep 2. Land4Rent.com or 587-600-1981.

Pintail Winter Wheat ON SALE! Extremely hardy. High yielding. Awnless. Excellent variety for Forage or Feed Grain production. Low inputs. High Profits, Big Discounts for Large Orders. You Have to Try it. It's That Good! Call 403-556-2609 or text 403-994-2609; mastinseeds.com

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Bigstone Community Wellness is seeking

Catering Services




September 10, 2026

**Chipewyan Lake - 100 People
Calling Lake - 200 people
Wabasca - 300 people**

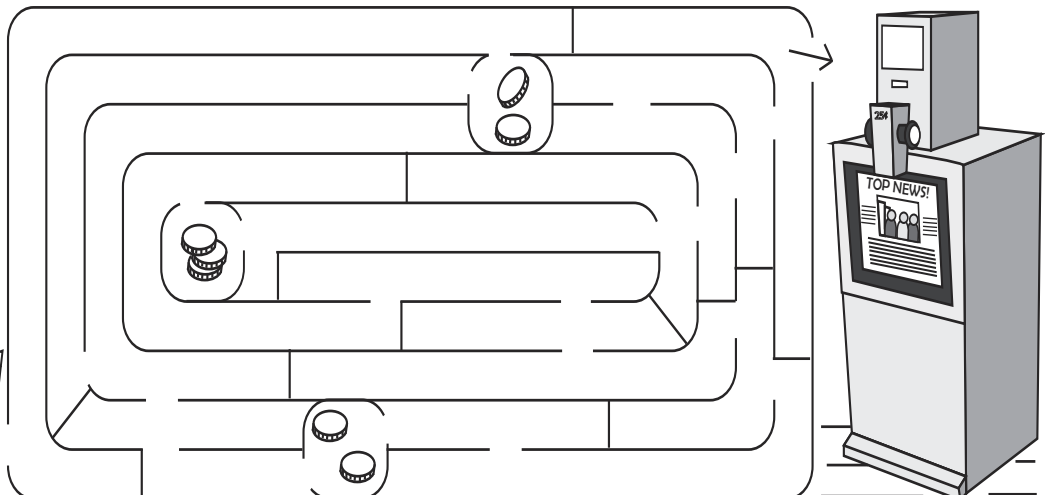
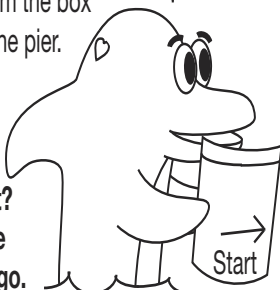
**Menu: 2 kinds of stew, 2 salads,
bannock/buns, butter, fresh fruit, 2
desserts, tea/coffee/water & juice,
plates, napkins, cutlery**

Please send your menu and bid to
Deanna.macdonald@bigstonehealth.ca
780 891-3777
Please submit by: August 24, 2026

Today's News!

Echo wants to buy today's newspaper from the box at the end of the pier. Can you help him scoot through the maze to get it? Pick up all the coins as you go.

I really enjoy reading the newspaper. That's tricky for a dolphin!



Continuing care facilities involved in clash over private operators getting more public health care dollars

By Friends of Medicare

Bargaining is ongoing at a number of AgeCare continuing care facilities in Alberta, where staff have not had a contract since 2022.

The union representing these workers, the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, has issued a formal complaint over bargaining delays, and has reported the employer has offered meager wage increases of just 1% over four years.

They also report that there exist “significant disparities” in benefit levels between AgeCare, a for-profit continuing care operator, and the publicly operated Alberta Health Services (AHS) and Carewest.

“Working conditions are care conditions. Seniors in our province deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, and that starts with supporting continuing care workers in providing the best possible care to their residents,” said Chris Galla-

way, executive director of Friends of Medicare.

“The simple fact is, every public dollar that goes towards profits for these operators and their corporate shareholders is a dollar that’s not going to residents’ care.”

Two 2023 Auditor General reports validated longstanding concerns about for-profit seniors’ care in Alberta, highlighting how profoundly our residential continuing care system has failed seniors and workers through decades of underfunding and chronic understaffing.

The same is true for those working in home care. But instead of action to improve care and working conditions, we have repeatedly seen the Alberta government make moves to jeopardize care, further gut regulations, and bolster private profits.

“Private continuing care operators like AgeCare are

receiving millions upon millions of public dollars, and yet failing to treat their staff with basic respect, or even to bargain fairly,” said Galloway.

“But time and again we have seen this government bend over backwards to find ways to increase the profit margins of these companies and their investors, often with little regard for the safety and wellbeing of the seniors that they are entrusted to care for.”

In 2024, Alberta’s new Continuing Care Regulations eliminated minimum requirements for operators

to ensure that residents received at least 1.9 hours of direct care per day.

Better at public facilities

As of this April, Alberta’s new Continuing Care Capital Program is funnelling even more public health dollars to expand private, for-profit continuing care instead of building new public beds, despite a wealth of research suggesting publicly owned facilities have better outcomes than for-profit care homes.

Of these grants, AgeCare received \$77.7 million, 20% of the total first round of funding.

“Our government’s number one priority should always be the best possible care for residents. But that’s only possible if we stop treating seniors like real estate investments, and start to appropriately staff and support the workers who provide their care,” concluded Galloway.

This week rallies were being held by AgeCare workers and others protesting how the province is handling the aspect of health care and how there has to be both better working conditions and better care conditions.

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Tuesdays, 12 noon**

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September 10, 2026

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PLEASE APPLY BY: AUGUST 24, 2026**





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Survey of lottery players shows many would feel satisfied with just winning \$100,000 prize

A new survey commissioned by Western Canada Lottery Corporation (WCLC) paints Albertans as practical dreamers.

Most Albertans (82 per cent) say winning \$100,000 would change their lives, and the Prairie MORE Survey suggests they would be sensible when it comes to spending it.

In Alberta, as across the Prairies, the first instinct is to save it, pay down bills and look after family, not to splurge.

"After more than 50 years researching how Canadians think about lottery, we're seeing a real shift," said Jason Pchajek, research analyst, WCLC.

"The lottery fantasy used to be the jet, the yacht, the mansion. Today, what people picture is far more grounded.

"Four in five Prairie Canadians tell us the cost of living has meant putting a real goal on hold, and that has changed what a meaningful win looks like.

"People still dream big, they're just being practical about it. They would put \$100,000 toward saving, paying the bills or helping family, with only about 16 per cent set aside for fun. That's not a smaller dream. It's a clearer one."

That shift arrives alongside the biggest change to LOTTO MAX since 2009.

The new game puts more of those wins in play, adding \$100,000 prizes to every draw.

Since launching in April, 17 Prairie winners have each won \$100,000, with another Prairie winner sharing a \$100,000 prize with someone from outside the region.

Nationally, LOTTO MAX has produced 110 \$100,000 winners.

"These results tell a very Alberta story that includes

big dreams and practical plans," said Emily Olsen, spokesperson for Lotto Spot. "Albertans told us a \$100,000 win would matter, and that saving, paying bills and helping family come

first. That is exactly why the new LOTTO MAX game speaks to them. With \$100,000 prizes in every draw, there are more opportunities to win a prize that matters to people."

Just like everyone else: Albertans don't see themselves as a special case. Four in 10 (42 per cent) say people here think about money just like the rest of Canada, while only 21 per

cent say Prairie people are more practical and conservative with money than other Canadians.

How would you react if you won \$100,000 or would you prefer millions more?



NEW HOUSING AVAILABLE

Wabasca/Desmarais Housing Authority (WDHA) is pleased to announce that **TWO** family housing units are available in the **RED EARTH COMMUNITY!**

- Both units are rent subsidized
- Eligible applicants are given priority based on need

■ Where to get an Application

- WDHA office in Wabasca
- Red Earth M.D. Office
- By request via email: housing@wdha-ksf.ca

■ Submit Your Application

(only complete applications will be considered)

- Via email: housing@wdha-ksf.ca
- In person at the WDHA office in Wabasca

■ Questions?

Wabasca/Desmarais Housing Authority (WDHA)

 housing@wdha-ksf.ca

 Phone: 780-891-2985

900 Mistassiniy Road, South, Wabasca, AB T0G 2K0

P.O. Box 1260, Wabasca, AB T0G 2K0

Telephone No. 780-891-2985; Fax No. 780-891-2919

Bigstone Community Wellness Presents Recovery Care Day Program Wabasca

START DATE: Tuesday, September 1, 2026

**WHEN: Every Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday for 5 weeks.**

TIME: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

LOCATION: Bigstone Community Wellness

Lunch and snacks will be provided.

Transportation available.

Open to all community members.

Must register to join the program.



Contact Recovery Care Staff to Register

Robert Zabot

robert.zabot@bigstonehealth.ca

or

Cherie Cardinal

Cherie.Cardinal@bigstonehealth.ca

780-891-3777