

The FEVER

Volume 27, Issue 07

Thursday, March 5, 2026

Wabasca becoming a bigger hotbed of volleyball action

NDT Project organizers said of their tournament held at Lakeview Sports Centre, "We had a great weekend, and so did Wa-

basca with two hometown teams battling in the final match."

The Associates took first place while the Moose Meat

Mafia were second.

Male Award winners were MVP Jacob Yellowknee, Best Setter Sidney Anderson and Best Hitter Liam Gullion.

On the female side, MVP was Akiva, Best Setter Ashley Auger, Best Hitter Harmony Gladue.

The tournament also raised \$500.00 for each of three Wabasca Volleyball Club competitive teams.

Wabasca teams began playing around the province as club teams last year and have had some successes.



This backyard Wabasca chair did not much, if any, use this winter!

Starting late last fall, Wabasca has been among many communities experiencing more snow than residents really like to see, and often accompanied by extreme cold temperatures and bad road conditions. Next issue, we will present an early review of past weather and hazard a guess or two about upcoming spring weather if that season ever arrives.

In This Issue:

MD & Bigstone residents/member should be proud of their community

See editorial Front Page of Focus

Alberta Budget slammed by many groups

Parents group talks about education failures in first part of budget articles

Northland School Board reports on February meeting

Lots and lots of notices social programs for all ages!

Treaty Chiefs unanimously call for non-confidence in Danielle Smith, UCP government

The Assembly of Treaty Chiefs (AOTC) of Treaty No. 6, Treaty No. 7, Treaty No. 8 has unanimously passed a vote of non-confidence in the UCP Government of Alberta, prompted by the Danielle Smith government's refusal to respond appropriately to the current political atmosphere on our Treaty territories.

The vote took place in a duly convened meeting on Treaty No. 6 Territory, at The Venue at River Cree Resort, Enoch, Alberta.

First Nations have no trust or confidence in the Government of Alberta and the United Conservative Party (UCP) due to their continued failure to meet Treaty-based constitutional and governance responsibilities.

The UCP has acted repeatedly with a lack of critical understanding and respect for those responsi-

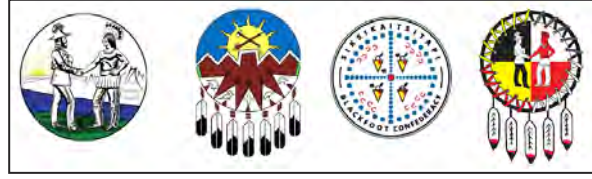
bilities, demonstrating their inability to responsibly and respectfully govern the province of Alberta.

A responsible government requires independent democratic oversight and a transparent legislative process. The UCP has obstructed and failed to meet these basic requirements to govern.

"This UCP government has created conditions in Alberta that are unsafe for First Nations Peoples – promoting ignorance and intolerance along with its support for the separatist agenda is leading to outright racism", said Confederacy of Treaty No. 6 First Nations Grand Chief and Sunchild First Nation Chief Joey Pete.

Influence from U.S.

"Danielle Smith's government is acting as an embassy for the worst we've seen from south of the bor-



der, and it's time to say no. No one wants the future this government is taking us into."

"The UCP has repeatedly demonstrated to all Treaty people that it does not have the capacity to responsibly navigate the political instability resulting from the chaos Danielle Smith has created," said Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta Grand Chief Trevor Mercredi.

"The growing climate of division and separation is a direct result of its failure to respect Treaty Rights, constitutional obligations, and the foundational relationship between First Nations and the Crown. Alberta deserves leadership grounded

in accountability, stability, and respect for Treaty."

"All Chiefs of Alberta have united at the AOTC gathering to take swift action against Premier Danielle Smith and her unconstitutional exercise to separate Alberta from the Crown through a unanimous vote of non-confidence. All Chiefs are well aware of and respect the lifelong covenant that contributed to the establishment of Canada through our Treaties – as long as the sun shines, grass grows, and the rivers flow, we remain connected as neighbors and partners with all humans on this land." - Xakiji Suh Xakiji (Chief El-lery Starlight), Treaty 7 Chiefs Association.

"The Blackfoot Confederacy continues to oppose efforts to promote Alberta separation from Canada, and cannot support a government that encourages this. We stand with other Treaty Nations in firm opposition to all efforts to undermine and erode the foundations of our Treaty Relationship. Our Treaties are with the Crown and are sacred. Our Rights are non-negotiable." – Blackfoot Confederacy Chiefs.

The Assembly of Treaty Chiefs of Treaty No. 6, Treaty No. 7, Treaty No. 8 now calls on members of the current Government of Alberta, New Democratic Party (NDP) and independent Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) to officially and expeditiously declare in the Alberta Legislative Assembly, a Vote of Non-Confidence in this current government.

NDP pledges that unlike UCP it wants nothing to do with separation; will work with all First Nations to keep treaty rights, maintain consultations

Naheed Nenshi, Leader of the Official Opposition of Alberta; Brooks Arcand-Paul, New Democrat Shadow Minister for Indigenous Relations; and Jodi Calahoo Stonehouse, Shadow Minister for Forestry and Parks, issued the following joint statement on Friday, February 27:

"The unanimous vote of non-confidence by the Assembly of Treaty Chiefs from Treaties 6, 7, and 8 is historic.

"This has never happened in Alberta's history, and it reflects the profound harm caused by the Premier's embrace of separatism.

"This week, we were honoured to join the Treaty Chiefs as they gathered for their assembly, where we reaffirmed our commitment to working in partnership with First Nations and to protecting the Treaty relationship that guides this province.

"The Chiefs' message is clear: this government has created instability, division, and an unsafe climate for First Nations by undermining Treaty rights and stoking separatist rhetoric.

"Alberta's New Democrats denounce separatism categorically. It is unconstitutional; it threatens Treaty rights, and it puts Alberta's future at risk. We will continue to stand with First Nations and uphold the Treaty relationship that is foundational to this province."

NORTHERN LAKES COLLEGE

H2S Alive
Mar 17, 2026

Stony Point (Wabasca) Campus
891-Mistassinii Road South

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!
www.northernlakescollege.ca/cect
cect@northernlakescollege.ca
780-849-8623

LEARN WHERE YOU LIVE

May event will highlight Indigenous businesses in Alberta

Showcased at the Indigenous Trailblazer Summit 2026 on May 5 at the Edmonton Convention Centre

will be what organizers say are "the vibrant Indigenous business landscapes."

Attending will be Indi-

gence leaders, business professionals, non-Indigenous allies, and partners. More: indigenoustrailblazers.ca/

Provincial parent group not pleased with education portion of Alberta Budget 2026

Reaction from SOS to Alberta Budget released last week

Support Our Students Alberta

Alberta's UCP Government's 2026 Budget announcement does propose "catch-up" funding to the tune of \$10.8 billion in education funding.

This signifies that Albertans, including the education workers' labour actions,

have successfully mounted substantial pressure on government to at least slow the deliberate dismantling of public education.

However, in the context of the past 6 years of steep and widespread cuts, the proposed 7% overall in-

crease still leaves Alberta short of filling the 16% gap (\$1.55B) between Alberta and the national average.

The proposed increase of \$722 million over Budget 2025, while seemingly substantial is a starting point but not fully restorative.

After adjusting for inflation and divided in real number terms based on historic enrolment growth, Alberta still ends up flattening the real per-student funding

envelope.

"This education Budget, although sounding large on paper, once divided by the expanded student base, is not enough to put out the fire that the UCP government have set to Alberta's education system," explains Medeana Moussa, SOS Executive Director

"Right now, Alberta has the most underfunded education system in the country. Obviously a starved system

welcomes any help offered; but we need to look at the bigger sustainable picture for our kids.

"Without restorative efforts on top of accelerating funds to keep pace with enrolment growth and inflation in real time, our students are left without the support and quality of education they deserve."

The government's data on class size and complexity show: Continued page 8

NSD Board acknowledges tragic Tumbler Ridge events

February 20 Board Highlights



Board Chair Tanya Fayant opened the meeting by ac-

knowledging the tragic events at Tumbler Ridge Secondary School and Tumbler Ridge Elementary School in School District No. 59 (Peace River South).

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, she expressed condolences to families, students, staff and the entire Tumbler Ridge community. Trustees recognized how deeply events like this affect small and close-knit communities and expressed their support for everyone impacted.

As part of his Occupational Health and Safety update, Associate Superintendent Mark Owens reinforced the importance of maintaining strong safety practices across Northland schools. He noted that while events like this are heartbreaking, they serve as an important reminder of why consistent safety procedures matter.

Owens shared that schools regularly work with the division's Occupational Health and Safety Manager to complete fire drills, hold and secures, lockdowns and evacuations. These ongoing practices help schools stay prepared and support a safe learning environment.

ASBA Honouring Spirit Indigenous Student Award nominations

The Board received information on Northland School Division's nominations for the ASBA Honouring Spirit Indigenous Student Award. This award recognizes First Nations, Métis and Inuit students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 across Alberta who show strength and commitment in their education journey.

The following 15 students have been nominated:

- Aurora Chalifoux, Anzac School
- Isabel Bergen, Bishop Routhier School
- Kolby Bigstone, Chipewyan Lake School
- Anna Bellerose, Hillview School
- Aiden Laboucán, Hillview School
- Haisley Supernault, Hillview School
- Kylie Laboucán, Hillview School
- Ruby Grievson, Hillview School
- Jaycob Swan, Elizabeth School
- Sarah Shaw-Willier, Gift Lake School
- Olivia Calahasen, Grouard Northland School
- Violet Faithful, J.F. Dion School
- Erin McKay, Mistassiniy School
- Kylee McLeod, St. Theresa School
- Patience Badger, Northland Online School

The Board congratulates each of these students on their nomination and wish them the best as award recipients are selected.

Bigstone Community Wellness presents:

How To Set A GILL NET

February 18th & 19th, 2026

**** POSTPONED ****

NEW DATE!!!

When:
March 5th & 6th, 2026
 9:30am - 1:30pm

Where:
North Wabasca Lake, AB



SNACKS PROVIDED

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE

MAXIMUM 12 *First Come First Serve*

WEATHER PERMITTING

For More Information Please call Brandon or Jonah @ 780-891-3777



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:

4 Week Youth Cooking Series

Week 1:

Kitchen Safety & Using Electric Appliances

When: March 17th, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Where: BCW Foyer

Maximum: 10 Youth
Ages: 10 - 17

Must have waiver form filled out prior to cooking programming.

Call to register: Bernadette Schneider at 780-891-3777 or toll free: 1-877-767-7060



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:

4 Week Youth Cooking Series

Week 2:

Taco In A Bag

When: March 24th, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Where: BCW Foyer

Maximum: 10 Youth
Ages: 10 - 17

Must have waiver form filled out prior to cooking programming.

Call to register: Bernadette Schneider at 780-891-3777 or toll free: 1-877-767-7060



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:

4 Week Youth Cooking Series

Week 3:

Pizza

When: March 31st, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Where: BCW Foyer

Maximum: 10 Youth
Ages: 10 - 17

Must have waiver form filled out prior to cooking programming.

Call to register: Bernadette Schneider at 780-891-3777 or toll free: 1-877-767-7060



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:
in Wabasca

4 Week Youth Cooking Series

Week 4:

Chicken Dinner in an InstaPot

When: April 7th, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Where: Community Kitchen next to ATB
Updated Venue

Maximum: 8 Youth (Boys and Girls)
Ages: 10 - 17

Must have waiver form filled out prior to cooking programming.

Call to register: Bernadette Schneider at 780-891-3777 or toll free: 1-877-767-7060



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:
in Wabasca

Youth Bingo Night

When: March 26th, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Where: BCW Foyer

Maximum: 20 Youth (Boys and Girls)
Ages: 9 - 18

Snacks Prizes and Tons of Fun
Join us for some Friends and Laughter

CALL TO REGISTER: BERNADETTE SCHNEIDER OR
KEVIN MUSKWA AT
780-891-3777 OR TOLL FREE: 1-877-767-7060



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:

Girls Night Smoothies and a Flick

When: March 27th, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Where: BCW Foyer

Maximum: 20 Youth
Ages: 9 - 17

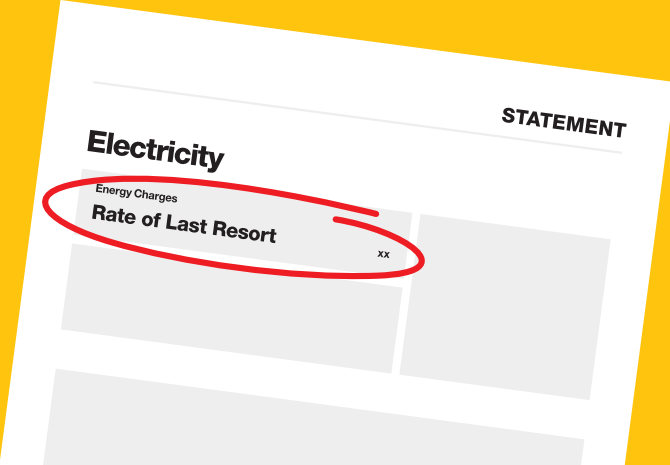
Popcorn, Smoothies and a Movie (Title to follow)

Call to register: Bernadette Schneider at
780-891-3777 or toll free: 1-877-767-7060


Check your electricity bill.

If it says the Rate of Last Resort, you could save hundreds per year by switching plans.

Explore your options at UCAhelps.ca



Electricity STATEMENT
Energy Charges
Rate of Last Resort xx





The 2026 Census is now underway in select northern and remote communities.

Census information can help plan community-based programs and services.






Find out more at census.gc.ca/north




**Bigstone Community Wellness & Calling
Lake School Presents
Calling Lake**

WINTER
festival

MARCH 14, 2026

Calling Lake School Field
12pm-3pm

Everyone Welcome

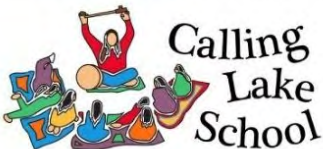
Lunch to Be Served at 12pm inside the gym

Sleigh Rides & Door Prizes

***Concession provided by Calling Lake School
for their Fundraiser**

PRIZES DONATED THROUGH VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

For More Information Call Alex Gold or
Charmaine Cardinal 780-331-3810



Bigstone Community Wellness

presents:

CALL OUT FOR QUILT MAKERS

Supplies Provided.



FEBRUARY 25TH-MARCH 20TH, 2026

For more information contact
Coreen Houle or Cecile Young
at the Bigstone Community Wellness office :
Ph: 780-891-3777 or Toll Free: 1-877-767-7060

BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS

PRESENTS:



A Gospel Healing JAMBOREE

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF PRAISE, WORSHIP AND HEALING

MARCH 16TH, 2026 IN WABASCA AT THE GEORGE D AUGER HALL
FROM 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

MARCH 17TH, 2026 IN CALLING LAKE AT THE COMMUNITY COMPLEX
FROM 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

MARCH 18TH, 2026 IN CHIPEWYAN LAKE AT THE COMMUNITY HALL
FROM 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

"FUNDING FOR THIS PROGRAM IS THROUGH A GENEROUS GIFT FROM
THE NATIONAL SIXTIES SCOOP HEALING FOUNDATION OF CANADA."



*Check The Fever weekly
for events and activities
in Municipal District of Opportunity
& Bigstone Cree Nation*

BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Will NOT be hosting Lunch and Learn on the following dates in March:

- MARCH 17th 2026 - WABASCA
- MARCH 19th 2026 - CALLING LAKE
- MARCH 24th 2026 - WABASCA
- MARCH 26th 2026 - CALLING LAKE

**We will Resume
March 31/26**



BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS

CHIPEWYAN LAKE



COME JOIN US FOR

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BEADING

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
BEADING AND CRAFTING.

AGES 10
AND UP

MARCH 17, 2026

5PM-7PM

**AT THE CHIPEWYAN
LAKE HALL**

SNACKS AND
DRINKS
PROVIDED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT IVY ALOOK
@ (780-891-8569)

Environment group says oil/gas industry lobbies only for its own profit, not to improve health of world

By Environmental Defence

"It is time for Prime Minister Carney to accept the oil and gas industry for what they actually are, not how he wishes they were." Statement from Tim Gray, Executive Director, Environmental Defence

Prime Minister Carney must now realize that there is no grand bargain waiting to be struck with the oil and gas industry. The recent submission from the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) makes that clear.

This is not an industry interested in decarbonizing oil or reducing its pollution. Instead, they are looking to sidestep their responsibilities, pump out more methane, and leave Canadians to deal with the consequences.

Most notably, CAPP attempts to twist the Prime Minister's Davos speech, in which he urged world leaders to take the world as it is, not as they wished it to be, as a justification for scaling back climate ambition.

This is counterfactual, as the growing climate catastrophe represents the world as it is. Their

view is also insulting to the millions of Canadians who have lived through horrific wildfires and floods and are seeing an increase in the cost of living due to climate change.

CAPP also points to the United States repealing climate regulations as justification for Canada to weaken its own system. Their message is clear: they want Canada to follow Donald Trump's approach and roll over to the fossil fuel industry. This is not "elbow's up", it is capitulation.

Recent analysis shows that industrial carbon pricing is the single largest driver of emissions reductions in Canada, and strengthening it is necessary for competitiveness.

Weakening this policy would undercut the price signal that drives investment decisions and leave Canada without any tools to reduce emissions at a level needed to meet our climate goals.

This tactic is not new. Whether it was during COVID-19, in response to the proposed oil and gas emissions cap, or now under the banner of economic sovereignty, CAPP's position has always been the same: roll back climate policy so

the oil and gas industry doesn't have to be held accountable for reducing its own pollution.

The global economy is shifting

Clean energy investment is accelerating, carbon border measures are advancing, and climate disasters are driving up the costs of failing to move quickly. If the federal government does what the oil and gas industry wants, Canadians will be left even further behind in the global energy transition.

The real risk to Canada's competitiveness isn't strong climate policy and investment in clean energy. Rather, it is allowing an industry that consistently resists accountability to undermine rules, push Canada to mirror the United States' rollback of climate regulation and leave Canadians to suffer the repercussions.

Prime Minister Carney must stand by his commitments on climate and the clean energy transition and recognize that no grand bargain will ever be achieved with an industry bent on increasing its profits and pollution, no matter the consequences.

March is fraud prevention month, but be on guard every day of the year

Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction Dale Nally issued the following statement for Fraud Prevention Month:

"No one deserves to be ripped off. Yet every day, swindlers look for new ways to take advantage of vulnerable Albertans. Whether it is a phone call, a text, an email or an online ad, fraudsters constantly adapt their tactics to exploit trust.

"For more than 20 years, Alberta's government has recog-

nized Fraud Prevention Month to raise awareness and give Albertans the tools they need to protect themselves. Education is our best defence. When people know what to look for, they are better able to recognize, reject and report fraud before it causes real harm.

"This year's theme, Hidden Crime, highlights an important truth. Fraud is one of the most under-reported crimes, despite the serious financial and emotional toll it takes. As technology evolves, including artificial intelligence, scams are becoming more sophisticated. Staying informed and vigilant has never been more important.

"If you encounter a scam or any form of fraud, report it to

your local police or to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre. If you suspect a business has committed a scam or unfair practice, contact Alberta's Consumer Investigations Unit (CIU) at 1-877-427-4088. The CIU reviews consumer complaints for compliance with consumer protection and tenancy laws, and assesses and investigates potential violations, including serious cases that may involve criminal offences, such as fraud.

"As fraud tactics continue to evolve, staying informed is one of the strongest defences we have. This Fraud Prevention Month, I encourage all Albertans to explore the resources available online, share information with friends and family, and take proactive steps to protect themselves."



LEARN HOW TO MAKE A POW WOW DRUM!
MARCH 21 & 22, 2026
@ THE FCSS OFFICE (ACROSS FROM LLOYD C MEMORIAL PARK)



May the teachings of Al Crawford inspire you to learn the songs, sing the songs, empower your Cree Language learning while learning protocol of the Drum.

This drum will become our "Community Drum" for practice and using at events but you will also learn how to make your own stick you get to keep!

CALL JANICE OR JODI @
780-891-2659 EXT 405 OR 403 TO REGISTER
LIMITED SPACE

MEALS PROVIDED & AWESOME DOOR PRIZES TO BE WON!



WE THANK OUR GENEROUS SPONSOR



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents Wabasca Recovery Care Day Program

Bigstone Community Wellness is taking registration for the next 5-week program for Wabasca. This program is free and available to anyone (18 years old and over). The program has been developed to bridge the transition from clinical care into a community recovery support program. This program includes group sessions, workshops, presentations, life skills, and many other activities.

START DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2026
WHEN: Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
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
780-891-8252

Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:
in Wabasca



Elder's Lodge Visit

When: March 5th and March 19th, 2026
Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Where: BCW Foyer to meet then travel to the Elder's Lodge and back to centre.

****Transportation forms must be signed prior to event****

Maximum: 5 Youth (Boys and Girls)
Ages: 10 - 17 years

Call to register: Bernadette Schneider or Kevin Muskwa at 780-891-3777 or toll free: 1-877-767-7060

CATCH THE FEVER!

Don't miss a beat! The FEVER is your source for all the vital news, stories and events shaping our Northern Alberta.



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:

GIRLS NIGHT GAME NIGHT & SLIME MAKING

Join us for an evening of games, laughter and SLIME making by popular request

When: March 6th, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Where: BCW Foyer

Maximum: 10 Youth
Ages: 9 - 17

**CALL TO REGISTER: BERNADETTE SCHNEIDER AT
780-891-3777 OR TOLL FREE: 1-877-767-7060**



Bigstone Community Wellness Presents:

Girls Night Escape Room

Does your team have what it takes to make it out of the escape room?

When: March 20th, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Where: BCW Foyer

Maximum: 10 Youth
Ages: 10 - 17

**CALL TO REGISTER: BERNADETTE SCHNEIDER AT
780-891-3777 OR TOLL FREE: 1-877-767-7060**

March 2026 Lakeview Sports Centre Programming

MONDAYS

- 12-2 PM Sr. Pickleball - Gym 3
- 12-3 PM Tiny Tots - Gym 4
- 2-4 PM Adult Open Gym - Gym 3
- 5-7 PM Ball Hockey (8-12) - Gym 4
- 7-8 PM Ball Hockey (12-15) - Gym 4
- 6:30-8 PM U12 Club Volleyball - Gym 1
- 6:30-8 PM U15 Club Volleyball - Gym 2
- 6:30-8 PM Men's Volleyball - Gym 3

WEDNESDAYS

- 12-2 PM Sr. Pickleball - Gym 3
- 12-3 PM Tiny Tots - Gym 4
- 2-4 PM Adult Open Gym - Gym 3
- 4-6:30 PM Volleyball (11-14) - Gym 1
- 4-6:30 PM Volleyball (15-18) - Gym 2
- 5-7 PM Open Gym - Gym 3
- 5-6 PM Soccer (5-7) - Gym 4
- 6-7 PM Soccer (8-12) - Gym 4
- 7-8 PM Soccer (12-15) - Gym 4
- 6:30-8 PM U15 Club Volleyball - Gym 1
- 6:00-8 PM Women's Volleyball - Gym 2
- 5-8 PM Open Gym - Gym 4

TUESDAYS

- 12-2 PM Basketball - Gym 3
- 12-3 PM Tiny Tots - Gym 4
- 2-4 PM Adult Open Gym - Gym 3
- 4-6:30 PM Open Gym (1/2)
- 5-7 PM Basketball 12+ - Gym 3/4
- 6:30-8 PM U18 Club Volleyball - Gym 1
- 6:30-8 PM Open Volleyball - Gym 2
- 8-9 PM Open Gym - Gym 2/3/4

THURSDAYS

- 12-2 PM Badminton - Gym 3
- 12-3 PM Tiny Tots - Gym 4
- 2-4 PM Adult Open Gym - Gym 3
- 4-6:30 PM Open Gym 1/2
- 5-6 PM U12 Volleyball Gym 2
- 5-6:30 PM Smash Ball - Gym 3
- 6:30-8 PM U18 Club Volleyball - Gym 2
- 8-9 PM Co-ed Volleyball - Gym 2
- 8-9 PM Open Gym - Gym 1/3/4

FRIDAYS

- 12-2 PM Sr. Pickleball - Gym 3
- 12-3 PM Tiny Tots - Gym 4
- 2-4 PM Adult Open Gym - Gym 3
- 4-8 PM Open Volleyball Courts - Gym 1 & 2
- 5-8 PM Open Gym - Gym 3
- 4-8 PM Dance - Gym 4
- 6:30-8pm U15 Club Volleyball Gym 2





FEVER Editorial:

Kudos to MD / Bigstone Nation for all they offer to the young people of their communities!

Above is the March schedule of activities and sports events mainly for school-age youths and young adults, offered at Lakeview Sports Centre in Wabasca. It is amazing what the two local governing bodies, MD of Opportunity and Bigstone Cree Nation cooperating with a "one-community for all" concept, offer - usually all free or mostly free - their youth. And sharing the same spirit are the schools and community organizations. Many larger urban and well-populated rural centres would be envious of the situation to be found in Wabasca and other communities within the MD of Opportunity boundaries. Also deserving of praise are the parents and other residents who contribute their own efforts towards providing such community attributes. Despite shadows of some problems, MD and Bigstone residents can be proud of their home!

Alberta Data – February 22 to February 28, 2026

314 (16239 this season) Influenza cases	130 (5367 this season) SARS-CoV-2 cases	325 (3668 this season) RSV cases
7% Influenza positivity	3.5% SARS-CoV-2 positivity	7.5% RSV positivity
45 Influenza in hospital**	47 SARS-CoV-2 in hospital**	68 RSV in hospital**
5 Influenza in ICU**	1 SARS-CoV-2 in ICU**	5 RSV in ICU**
0 (255 this season) Influenza deaths	0 (111 this season) SARS-CoV-2 deaths	0 (28 this season) RSV deaths

FOCUS

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

The FEVER

Thursday, March 5, 2026

First update from Slave Lake Forest for 2026 wildfire season; 7 carry-over fires

Sunday, March 1, was the official start of Alberta's 2026 wildfire season and Sunday morning the wildfire update was issued for Slave Lake Forest Protection Area which has its headquarters in Slave Lake and bases in Wabasca and High Prairie.

Considering the amount of snow already on the ground and more arriving almost daily, it is not hard to believe the first day of fire season had a "Low wildfire danger".

Other information in the first update:

The wildfire danger across the Slave Lake Forest Area is low. Wildfires can still start in cool, damp conditions. Be cautious if you're spending time outdoors and do your part to prevent wildfires.

Start of wildfire season

Wildfire season officially starts March 1 and runs until October 31. During wildfire season, fire permits are required for any burning except campfires. If you've taken on a burning project this winter, revisit the site to make sure the fire is completely extinguished. Stir the ashes and soak them until there is no heat.

Respiratory Illness season linger onwards, hospitals still having 150 cases; flu deaths set record

By the end of February, most respiratory illnesses have usually peaked at least several weeks earlier and only a few cases of each of the respiratory illnesses - influenza, Sars-CoV-2, and the strains of RSV - are serious enough to lead to hospitalizations and deaths.

In past seasons (late August to the next late August), Covid usually has had the highest numbers in each of the five tracked data categories. But the 2025/26 season is ending differently with Covid taking more of a back seat and another disease - measles joining the tracking by provincial health authorities.

Influenza with 255 deaths to February 28 has set a seasonal record, beating last year's record of 236. These records have date back to the mid-1990's when Alberta began being more serious about tracking the flu.

Health authorities and doctors say the record flu deaths have been caused by lower vaccination numbers in the province, and more threatening strains of the disease coupled by the doses of this season's vaccines not matching as well with the strains of flu being seen this season.

While weekly numbers of new measles cases have mostly fallen to zero or one or two, the total number so far in 2026 has been 118 with the North Zone having 41.



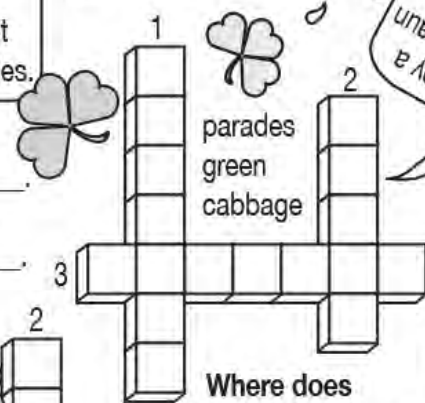
around the Emerald Isle to try to spot a leprechaun. I haven't seen one yet. Do you see one on this page? After you spot him read my clues to fill in the mini puzzles.

beef and cabbage!

I spy a leprechaun guy!

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated:

1. with big meals of corned beef and _____.
2. by people wearing something _____.
3. with marching bands and floats in _____.

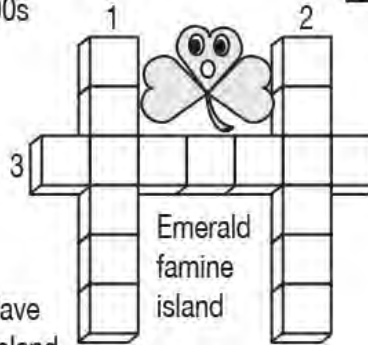


Where does the leprechaun go when spring rains make the ground soggy?

hidden... he does... If you d... keep an... you tric... treasure

Ireland:

1. lost millions of people in the 1800s (who died or moved) due to _____, or lack of food.
2. is an _____.
3. has beautiful green lands - its nickname is the _____ Isle.



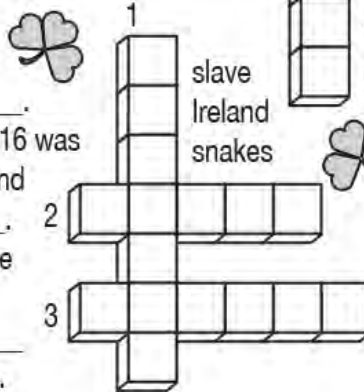
Emerald famine island

Irish Setters and Connemara Ponies are famous animals of Ireland. The Irish elk, now extinct, was a giant deer with huge antlers.



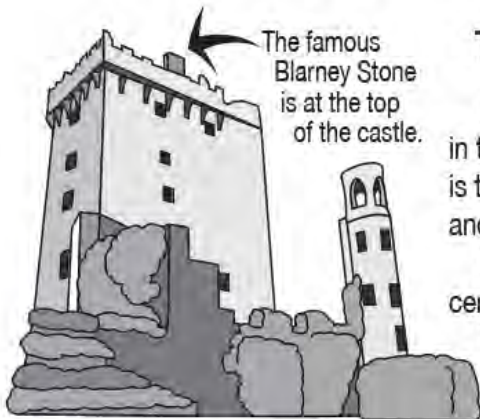
St. Patrick:

1. is the patron saint of _____.
2. at the age of 16 was taken to Ireland as a _____.
3. is said to have driven all of the _____ out of Ireland.



slave Ireland snakes

	9	14	8	9	19	13	21
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21



The famous Blarney Stone is at the top of the castle.

Traveling the Island

Ireland is a beautiful, green island in the North Atlantic Ocean. Great Britain is to its east, separated by the Irish Sea and two channels.

It is a land of low mountains and a central plain. The climate is fairly mild.

There are some well-known landmarks and special places in Ireland.

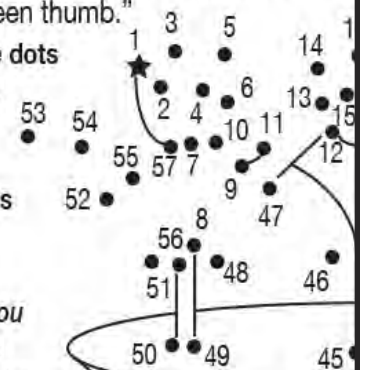
Match the names of places that you might visit in Ireland to their definitions:

1. Blarney Castle
2. Blarney Stone
3. Ring of Kerry
4. Dublin
5. Giant's Causeway (Northern Ireland)
6. St. Patrick's Cathedral

- A. it is said that if you dare to kiss this rock you will get the "gift of gab"
- B. capital of Ireland and largest city
- C. tallest and largest church in Ireland
- D. fort built, and mostly due to war, destroyed and rebuilt over the years
- E. 111 mile road, circles around the coastal area of southwestern Ireland
- F. over 4,000 basalt columns formed here after a volcanic explosion 60 million years ago

Every good gardener knows that a shamrock has three small leaflets. Every good leprechaun has his own patch of this green symbol of Ireland and a special "green thumb."

Connect the dots to see what treasure he keeps on the top of his pot o'gold.



One place that you will never see is a Fairy Door. It may be in the base of a tree.



It is said to be a Gateway to the fairy world.

A Green

Superintendent's Highlights: Moose Cup Floor Hockey!

February 20 Board Highlights



Superintendent Johnson also spoke about the success of the second annual Moose Cup Floor Hockey Challenge. When feedback was gathered for Northland School Division's Education Plan, families, staff and students said they wanted more team sports and more opportunities for students to come together. The Moose Cup is one way the division is acting on that feedback. He thanked Vice Chair Robin Guild, Ward 3 Trustee Karen Noskey and Ward 8 Trustee Richard Monias for attending, along with Elder Paul Courtoreille, MLA Scott Sinclair and Big Lakes County Councillor Rob Porter.

An article and photo gallery are available on the division website <https://www.nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/northland-students-come-together-for-2nd-annual-moose-cup-floor-hockey-challenge>.

Deputy Superintendent Meunier shared that Northland Online School received a \$10,000 Best Buy Teen Tech for Tomorrow Grant. The school was one of only 12 across Canada selected to receive the funding, which will support student access to technology.

Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Krista Veitch provided an update regarding payments for the local ATA Teachers' Convention. Veitch noted that Human Resources and Finance processed payments in line with the Collective Agreement. A review of past professional development expenditures is underway. Veitch also noted that secretarial support training was provided on PowerSchool, PASI and Inclusive Education documentation. Division representatives attended three career fairs in January and continue building relationships with post-secondary institutions focused on Indigenous education to support future recruitment.

Inclusive Education and Housing reports presented

Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Krista Veitch presented both the Inclusive Education Report and the Housing Report to the Board. The Inclusive Education Report outlined ongoing efforts to support students with diverse learning needs across Northland schools. The Housing Report provided updates on division housing, including maintenance, renovations and long-term planning. Both reports are available in full on the Northland School Division website <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/548015> (Pages 67-81)

Visit <https://www.nsd61.ca/governance/board-meetings> to view upcoming Regular Board Meeting dates and Board-related documents.

Note: These writings do not constitute the official record of the Northland School Division. They are, however, provided as general information relating to the action taken at board meetings. For further information, please call 780 624 2060 or 1 800 362 1360.

Consider a Career within The Land of Opportunity!



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BIGSTONE HEALTH COMMISSION

Employment Opportunity



REFERRAL DRIVER Full-Time (Permanent) Shift Work – 8 hours/day Wabasca, AB

The Bigstone Referral Unit in Wabasca, AB is seeking one (1) experienced Referral Driver to join our talented Health Team. 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.

At Bigstone Health Commission, you are more than an employee – you are part of a community. Our work is rooted in respect for culture, connection, and service to the members of Bigstone Cree Nation. We offer a supportive and welcoming workplace where your contributions matter, your growth is encouraged, and your work helps strengthen health services for present and future generations. Joining our team means building a meaningful career while giving back to community. 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:

- Transport clients in the community, with possibility of out-of-town driving
- Must be familiar with geographical locations of Athabasca, Westlock, Fort McMurray, St. Paul, Bonnyville and Edmonton area
- Must be familiar with Edmonton and surrounding areas
- Must be comfortable with in city driving
- Must follow all transportation safety rules and regulations
- Must clean vehicle daily, and report any problems with vehicle as necessary
- Must ensure vehicles are equipped with an emergency aide at all times
- Must take direction from clerks as to coordination of trip schedule
- Filling out and handing in daily logbooks, inspection reports and trip sheets
- Other duties as required.

Qualifications:

- Valid Class 1, 2 or 4 Driver's license
- Excellent communication skills, oral, and written
- Able to speak and understand the Cree language is an asset
- High School Education
- Standard First Aid/ CPR (current)
- Must have reliable transportation

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 & 3 Work Related References, Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check, Child & Youth Intervention Check and Driver's Abstract. **(All checks must be current within the last 6 months and included in the application to be considered)**

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: February 26, 2026

Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
Join a team committed to supporting the health and well-being of Bigstone Cree Nation members

Events / Activities for Chipewyan Lake Residents

BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS:
CHIPEWYAN LAKE



COMMUNITY FISHING DAY

AT THE CHIPEWYAN LAKE SCHOOL

“REEL IN MEMORIES
ONE FISH AT A TIME”

TUESDAY, MARCH 24th, 2026
TIME: 12PM TO 3PM

- Family-Friendly Activity
- Biggest Catch Prize
- Weiner Roast
- Hot Chocolate



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT IVY ALOOK (780)891-8569

BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS:
CHIPEWYAN LAKE

PAINT NIGHT

AT THE CHIPEWYAN LAKE
HALL

Paint • Dance • Celebrate Creativity

Let's light up the night with music,
color, and imagination.



TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

TIME: 5pm to 7pm

AGES 12 AND UP

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
IVY ALOOK @ (780)891-8569

BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS:

Chipewyan Lake

MOVIE
NIGHT

At the Chipewyan
Lake Hall

Join us for a cozy night of cinema,
snacks, and great company!



Popcorn • Cheeseburgers • Hot dogs
And Drinks

Friday March 13th
2026

TIME: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

For more information, Contact Ivy Alook at
(780)891-8569



BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS
PRESENTS:

GYM NIGHT
EVERY
THURSDAY

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF SPORTS
EVERY THURSDAY! STAND TALL, TALK
SMALL AND PLAY BALL. DON'T MISS
OUT ON THE FUN -

AGES 12+

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

AT THE CHIPEWYAN LAKE SCHOOL GYM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT IVY
ALOOK @ (780)891-8569



REFRESHMENTS
PROVIDED



Request for Proposals – 8-2026

The MD Of Opportunity is requesting proposals to contract replacing two hydrants in Wabasca

RFP Packages can be picked up at your nearest MD Office, MD Website or APC site (Alberta Purchasing Connection)
 Deadline date: March 19, 2026 at 11:00 am MT

Must be received with the following conditions:
 In a sealed envelope
 Marked - Request for Proposal 8-2026 – Wabasca Hydrant Replacement
 Delivered to Wabasca Main Office
 Emailed to: tenders@mdopportunity.ab.ca

Contact Person:
 Earl Gullion at 780-891-3778,
 earl.gullion@mdopportunity.ab.ca
 or Kevin Pothier, P.Eng.
 (technical inquires) at 780-260-0419,
 kpothier@mesl.ca

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



Request for Proposals

The MD of Opportunity is requesting proposals to Contract the Disposal of White Goods & Scrap Metals

for Red Earth, Wabasca, Calling Lake Sites.

RFP Packages can be picked up at the Your Nearest MD Office, MD Website or APC Site

(Alberta Purchasing Connection).

Deadline date: March 17, 2026 at 11:00:00 a.m.MT

Must be received with the following conditions:

- In a Sealed Envelop
- Marked 03 - 17 - 2026
- Delivered to Wabasca Main Office

If you have any questions, please call the office at 780-891-3778

BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS
 CALLING LAKE

Homework Club



*CALLING LAKE LIBRARY

*GRADES 7+

March - June

EVERY MONDAY & TUESDAY | CALLING LAKE LIBRARY | 3:15PM-4PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL ALEX GOLD 780-331-3810



BIGSTONE COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS:

MONTHLY SWEATS

WABASCA



60S SCOOP SURVIVORS AND FAMILIES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND A SWEAT FOR HEALING

**MARCH 12TH, 2026
 AT 1:00 PM**

MEN AND WOMEN WELCOME

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

FOR LOCATION OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT COREEN HOULE AND CECILE YOUNG:

PH: 780-891-3777 OR TOLL FREE: 1-877-767-7060

Like us on facebook!



BIGSTONE CREE NATION TRUST EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Trust Administrator

Bigstone Cree Nation Trust is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill the position of a permanent full-time Trust Administrator in the community of Wabasca, Alberta. The individual must be well organized with the ability to work independently, have the ability to multi-task, possess strong work ethic and have an experienced level of knowledge of Trust Law, Trust Administration and Finance Operations.

DUTIES/ RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist members in preparing new proposals or presentations based upon their needs.
- Serve as the administrative contact for Membership, third party, vendors and providers.
- Liaise with other trust service providers on trust matters as required, including legal counsel, investment managers, investment consultation, auditors, etc.
- Provide monthly reports to Bigstone Cree nation trustees.
- Identify opportunities to increase probability, create capacity and reduce expenses.
- Assist in the development of policies and procedures for trust operations or program guidelines.
- Monitor bank activity reports such as transaction history, cash balances, and transactions.
- Prepare cheque requisitions.
- Reconcile bank statements with software monthly.
- Participate in internal projects and initiatives of varying scope and responsibility.
- Other duties as requested.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Business Administration Certificate or Diploma in Advanced Accounting and Finance and/or equivalent education and experience will be considered.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Be respectful, honest, and trustworthy; demonstrate sound work ethic.
- Extensive knowledge and appreciation for Bigstone Cree Nation people, culture, language, history, values, traditions, and extended family relationships.
- Maintain high degree of confidentiality.
- Valid Class 5 Alberta Driver's license, and reliable transportation.
- Must be bondable - a criminal record check is required.

Submit cover letter, resume, C.W.I.S and criminal record check to:

**Bigstone Cree Nation Trust
Box 990 Wabasca, AB, TOG 2K0
Email: trust@bigstone.ca
Tele: 780-891-4803**

Closing date for this employment opportunity will be March 16, 2026.

Thank you in advance for all the applicants. Only applicants that meet the criteria will be contacted for an interview.

**Please submit photos to wabascafever@shaw.ca
We pay for news and good feature photos!**

Careers / Classifieds Wabasca Fever Newspaper

1-800-315-7826

Advertising

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

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

Business Opportunities

ONE OF A KIND BUSINESS FOR SALE. Owner-Operated/ High Cash Flow/ Limited Workdays! Serving rural AB, SK and BC. 1smalltownalberta.com.

Coming Events

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.

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

Employment Opportunities

A-1 CEMENT CONTRACTORS LTD. is seeking an experienced Concrete Repair Technician to join our team in Calgary. This role is ideal for a skilled tradesperson with strong experience in concrete repair, cutting and breakout work and who takes pride in quality craftsmanship and customer service. Competitive wage: \$30/hour, depending on experience, plus benefits. To apply, please see the full job description on Indeed at - <https://ca.indeed.com/cmp/A-1-Cement-Contractors/locations/AB/Calgary>.

Feed and Seed

BARLEY – *NEW-AB Standswell* Smooth AWN, High Yielding, Grain and Forage Great Lodging Resistance. 1st NITROGEN USE EFFICIENT CEREAL IN CANADA. OTHER BARLEY: Cerveza, CDC Austenson, CDC Durango, CDC Maverick, Esma, Sundre. WHEAT – Pintail, Forage or Grain. OATS – AC Juniper, AC Morgan, AC Mustang, Derby, CDC S01 Super Oat. PEAS – Very Early Yellow Peas, Forage Peas. ALSO AVAILABLE: Polish Canola & Spring Triticale. Special pricing on truckloads. www.mastinseeds.com; 403-556-2609.

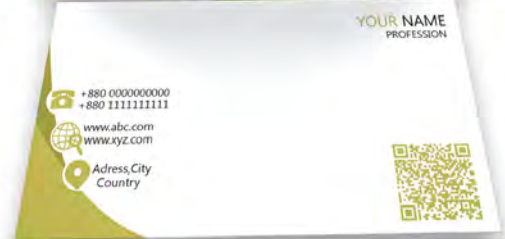
Livestock

33rd ANNUAL ADAIR RANCH BULL SALE. March 18, 2026, Brownfield, AB. 37 Red and Black Simmentals, 8 Angus heifer bulls. Feed Efficiency Tested. Ken 403-575-5470.

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Trump's war against Iran not favoured by most Americans according Angus Reid polling

In a poll of Americans released Thursday, March 5, Angus Reid Institute, had this to say about the U.S.-Israel war with Iran:

It has been less than one week since US and Israeli air strikes on Iran plunged the Middle East, and indeed, the rest of the world, into a tense, twisting and evolving conflict involving countries

near and far from the Persian Gulf.

In six short days, Iran's supreme leader has been killed, proxy wars have begun, millions of expatriates are desperately trying to flee the region, and America's traditional allies have been choosing between commendation, condemnation, and military co-opera-

tion.

But what does America think?

New polling from the non-profit Angus Reid Institute finds nearly half of Americans (47%) oppose the air strikes on Iran, with one-in-three in support and,

notably, one-in-five unsure (21%).

Those who identify as a part of the MAGA base are near unanimous in their support (85%) while non-MAGA Republicans are more hesitant but still supportive at a slight majority

level (56%).

Support among Democrats (11%) and Independents (11%) is meagre.

On the question, should the U.S. put soldiers on the ground in Iran, of 1,215 polled Americans, 58% were opposed, 18% unsure.

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 CharltonCattleCo@gmail.com
 www.CharltonCattleCo.ca

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Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous
Meetings Fridays, 7:00 p.m.
No Limits Boxing Club, Wabasca
 Further Information: 780-773-3330

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 & ENTIRE COIN COLLECTIONS!**



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

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

Required Qualifications:

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

Duties/responsibilities are but not limited to:

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

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

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

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

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

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