



Affinity
Funeral Service

780.778.3330

Unit #1, 4105 41 Avenue
www.affinityfuneralservice.ca

FREE TAKE ONE!

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



The Press



Locally Owned & Operated



Vol. 12 - Issue 2 | Tuesday, January 10, 2023



The battle ensues

The Whitecourt Wolverines took on their division rival on Friday night. The Spruce Grove Saints sit atop the AJHL North standings, with the Wolverines close in second. Given the proximity to playoffs and the points' importance, both teams came in ready to do whatever they could to win. See story page 3.



Patrick Carew

780-778-0053
pdcarew@telus.net

Just a phone call away from your home buying and selling needs.



5114-50 Street, Whitecourt AB 780-778-6678
Each office independently owned and operated



Local news printed on local newsprint

Alberta Newsprint Company



VERHAEGHE
LAW OFFICE

780-778-6644

Real Estate, Wills & Estates, Family Law, Corporate & Commercial Law

5011-51 Ave, Whitecourt, AB. T7S 1P7 info@freedomlaw.ca www.freedomlaw.ca





Compassionately serving families in Whitecourt, Mayerthorpe, and surrounding communities since 1941.

WHITECOURT: 780-779-2533 | MAYERTHORPE: 780-786-2533

We will help you with:

- Personalized Ceremonies
- Reception Catering / Flowers
- Pre-arranged Funeral Plans
- Monument Tributes
- Clergy / Church and Halls
- Grief Support
- Obituary Notices
- Assistance with CPP Applications

Park Memorial Ltd.
Funeral Home & Crematorium
www.parkmemorial.com

Wheelchair Accessible 

CONSUMER CHOICE AWARD 2021 NORTHERN ALBERTA 11 YEARS

Municipal Indicators give Whitecourt a benchmark from which to gauge the community's risk



Infrastructure projects in 2022, like the start of the road at Rotary Park and these culverts, will help increase Whitecourt's percentage.

Thirteen indicators are used provincially to determine a municipality's risk. From the tax base to collection rates, population changes, surplus and deficit markers, and financial reporting, Albertan community leaders use the list as a benchmark to attain.

By Serena Lapointe

Late last year, Whitecourt Town Council received a report from Alberta Municipal Affairs (AMA) highlighting the 2021 Municipal Indicators Dashboard. Generated annually by AMA, the dashboard provides results of financial and governance indicators and predetermined benchmarks, which measure how a municipality is doing. There are thirteen indicators for municipalities to measure against, and they are deemed either at risk or not, depending on how they measure.

Of the thirteen indicators, two are considered critical indicators, Audit Outcome and Ministry Intervention. If a municipality triggered either one, they would be deemed at risk. If a municipality triggered three

or more of the non-critical indicators, it would be the same result. Staying below both of those triggered thresholds keeps municipalities from being considered at risk.

The remaining eleven indicators are Tax Base Balance, Tax Collection Rate, Population Change, Current Ratio, Accumulated Surplus/Deficit, On-Time Financial Reporting, Debt to Revenue Percentage, Debt Service to Revenue Percentage, Investment in Infrastructure, Infrastructure Age, and Interest in Municipal Office.

"This is the one that started a few years back, a change of format for Municipal Affairs. Whitecourt was the test dummy for it if some of council remembers. We had Municipal Affairs come to our Planning Session to run through the plan and these new

indicators for all the municipalities in Alberta," explained Town CAO Peter Smyl.

Director of Corporate Services Judy Barney walked Whitecourt Town Council through the dashboard, highlighting one indicator that Whitecourt was flagged for. "We are not at risk. We did have one indicator that we did not meet the threshold for, and that's Investing in Infrastructure. We were very close. It's a threshold of one (percent), and we were at 0.93 (percent). So, we were very close on that."

Barney explained that AMA asked for an explanation as to why the threshold was not met. "We've attached a report for you that describes the explanation for where we are at. That fact that currently, we aren't meeting the indicator, but when

you look at our twenty-year capital plan for the next five years, we see that we are definitely meeting and exceeding the indicator."

Infrastructure, be it roads or buildings, need replacement and upkeep, and municipalities often carry out the work on an ongoing schedule to help spread out the costs. Instead of paying for a major project in one year, they stretch it out and pay over several years. For 2021, Whitecourt didn't have as much as the threshold required, but the next several years show that Whitecourt will meet it. The Town's response to AMA stated that a "high rate of inflation, limited availability of manpower and material resources, and not having an ICF agreement in place" affected current investment in infrastruc-

ture, causing project delays and deferred fleet replacement.

"One of the important things is that this didn't have an effect on service levels, which is another thing this indicator is measuring. So, we also indicated that to them," Barney said that 2022 could yield a similar result. "We have some capital investment (planned), but we see more coming in the future. I just wanted to give a heads-up on that."

Major projects from 2022, including the Water System Upgrades, roadway at Rotary Park and pathway updates, street improvements and heavy equipment additions to the fleet, will bring Whitecourt near the indicator's threshold. Once numbers are released later this year, it'll be known how close

the community landed to the one percent. Planned subdivision developments in the future will push the community past the benchmark.

One interesting indicator, which measures the public's interest, is the last one listed, Interest in Municipal Office. It gauges whether there is enough community engagement happening in municipal elections. The indicator triggers if an election occurs and the number of candidates running does not exceed the number of councillor positions available. Whitecourt typically sees a healthy balance at election time. Still, it's interesting that AMA uses this specific data to measure municipalities, showing the importance of having residents be willing to run for municipal office.

PUBLIC NOTICE

www.whitecourt.ca | facebook.com/TownofWhitecourt | 780-778-2273



CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP

Starting on Monday, January 9, crews will be picking up trees from across the community on a weekly basis throughout the month of January as time permits. There will be no set schedule, and pick up may be delayed due to snow or other higher priority tasks.

Please place your tree where you would normally place your garbage. For those residents in cul-de-sacs who place their garbage further out into the street, please don't place your tree where it will obstruct traffic.

Trees must be free of all decorations and tinsel. Please do not place the tree in garbage or tree bags.

The Whitecourt Regional Landfill also has a drop-off area for you to dispose of your tree. The Whitecourt Regional Landfill is open Monday to Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wolverine's goalie Lochlan Gordon gives phenomenal performance against AJHL division rival



A jump and a go for #34.



Not sure what's happening here, but, Captain Chase Broda is having a blast.



Heads up pass from #91 Browne to #88 Broda.

By Serena Lapointe

The Whitecourt Wolverines welcomed the Spruce Grove Saints to the Scott Safety Centre for their first home game of the new year on Friday night. With a few players still watching from the sidelines due to injury, goalie Lochlan Gordon laced up his skates to play as the starting goalie. Lit-

tle did he know, he was in for quite the ride.

In the first period, both teams pushed back and forth. One team would fly into the opposing zone only to turn around on their heels as the other team did the same, making them back up the ice. The period went by quickly, with very few stoppages in play.

At the 13:43 mark of the period, the Spruce Grove Saints caught a hooking penalty, putting the Wolverines on the powerplay for the first man-advantage of the evening. With only eighteen seconds left in the two-minute powerplay, the Whitecourt Wolverines struck pay dirt. Cooper Smyl got his team up on the board with

a beauty shot, his twentieth of the season, assisted by Aiden Long and Caleb MacDonald.

In the second period, the Spruce Grove Saints skimmed one past, Gordon just over six minutes into the frame, tying things up 1-1. At this point, the game started to get more active with big hits and a few minor skir-

mishes following a whistle blast, though nothing extended past some pushing. Multiple penalties were called through the second, two against the Wolverines and three against the Saints.

Wolverine Jonah Bevington took a high-sticking penalty at 7:11 and sat for two. Just over a minute later, another

Wolverine pushed a Saint player into the Wolverine's goalie, but the referee missed the push, catching just the interference. The home team got away with one big time there, ending up on the powerplay. Cooper Smyl was the next Wolverine to hit the sin bin after being called

continued on page 5

LIMITED TIME OFFER

TACO TACO \$9.99 PLUS TAX

MEAL DEAL AVAILABLE JAN 1 - 31, 2023

VISIT US
3702 KEPLER STREET
IN WHITECOURT
TACOTIMECANADA.COM



This page is sponsored by:

YOUR ONLY LOCAL CARRIER SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1950



Proud supporter of our local Organizations
780-778-2226



Supporting growth in Whitecourt since 1922, we salute our not-for-profit community.

Millar Western Forest Products Ltd.
a resourceful company



GRIEF SHARE®



Weekly grief support group starting February 7 through April 25, 2023, Tuesdays, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm., at Crossroads Community Church, 4419 44 Avenue, Mayerthorpe. \$35 for 12 sessions includes your personal GriefShare Workbook. Pre-registration is required by calling Reverend Ruth Lotholz at 780-786-2695.



"Serving the community for over 30 years"
The Food Bank relies on donations of cash or food in order to help families in need.
Open Mon, Wed & Fri 11:00am to 2:00 pm
Phone: 780-778-2341

Located within the Carlan Services Community Centre
The Whitecourt Food Bank is operated by the Town of Whitecourt Food Bank Coordinator and dependent on volunteers to operate. The Food Bank relies on donations of cash or food from individuals and organizations. Local grocery stores drop off baked goods including bread and pastries weekly. Other corporations and schools schedule food drives throughout the year.
Open: Mon, Wed, & Fri 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Phone: 780-778-2341

LORNE'S BLANKET

is transitional housing for men.

We exist to help homeless men get back on their feet.

If you know of any male requiring assistance, please Call Lorne's Blanket at 780-778-0952




Soaring Eagle Support Society

Offering support services for marginalized individuals

- Outreach worker, laundry and shower facilities by appt
- Tax program & Bag Lunch Program

5027 - 51 Avenue, Open: Monday to Friday 10am - 4pm **780-396-8777**



WHITECOURT GROUP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

All meetings are in person and online (hybrid)

- Mondays 7:30pm
- Wednesdays 7:30pm
- and Saturdays at Noon

Meetings held at the Family Worship Center upstairs.
ZOOM ID: **818 413 483** PASSWORD: **gratitude**



24/7 CRISIS LINE
780.778.6209
1.800.467.4049

WELLSPRING FAMILY RESOURCE & CRISIS CENTRE
@whitecourt_shelter


Shelter:
Wellspring Provides a Safe, Short Term, Supportive Residential Environment for Women With or Without Children, Fleeing Family Violence & Experiencing Crisis.

Outreach Support Program:
Ongoing Support, Advocacy, Follow-Up & Support Groups for Women, Men and Youth in Whitecourt and Surrounding Communities.

Child Support Program:
Child Care & After School Programs - Age Appropriate Programs & Support for Children Who Have Been Affected By Family Violence

Preventative Education:
Provides Workshops, Information and Awareness to Schools, Community Organizations, Agencies and Businesses

Family Resource & Crisis Centre
www.whitecourtshester.ca



WHITECOURT **CANCER & WELLNESS SOCIETY**

Providing timely and easily accessible financial support for Whitecourt patients and their families who are dealing with a cancer diagnosis.

This can include help with parking costs for hospital visits, living expenses and unforeseen medical expenses. Applications can be made through the Drs at both Whitecourt Medical Clinics or (office hours, can leave a message): **Willow McIntyre** (Community Cancer Navigation Nurse, McLeod River PCN) **780-779-0079**, **Kim Nendsa** (President of Whitecourt Cancer & Wellness Society) **780-778-0932**
wctcancerwellness@gmail.com

***Monthly meetings have been postponed due to COVID-19*

Whitecourt AA Group Of Alcoholics Anonymous



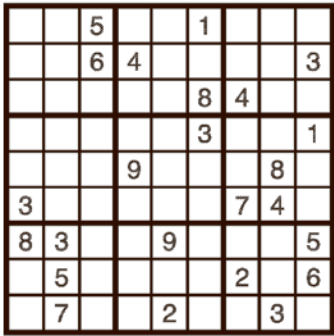
Meetings three times each week

- Monday 8:00 p.m..... (12 Step Meeting)
- Wednesday 8:00 p.m...(Open Topic Meeting)
- Friday 8:00 p.m.....(Big Book Meeting)

Located at the United Church Basement on Legion St. (formerly 5201 - 50 Street)
More info Contact: (780) 396-8777. Please Leave A Message For Our AA member or Contact Addictions Helpline @1(866)332-2322

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 8

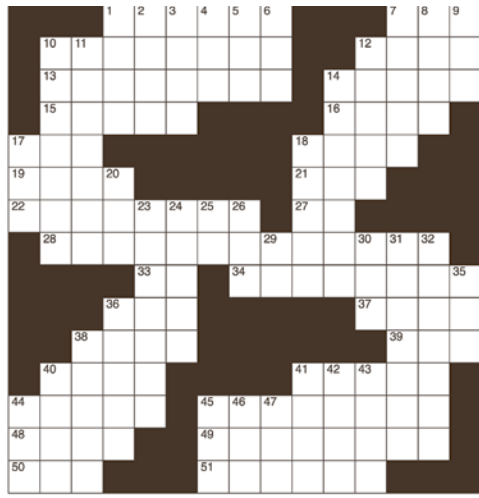
SUDOKU CROSSWORDS



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate



Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Crossword Clues

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Respiratory disorder
- 7. Bulgarian mountain peak
- 10. Group of important people
- 12. South American nation
- 13. Amazes
- 14. ___-Castell, makers of pens
- 15. Perlman and Seehorn are two
- 16. Early medieval alphabet
- 17. Legislator (slang)
- 18. Tasty crustacean
- 19. Course of action
- 21. Airborne (abbr.)
- 22. Permanent church appointment
- 27. Larry and Curly's pal
- 28. Famed American journalist
- 33. 12th letter of Greek alphabet
- 34. In a way, vanished
- 36. Afflict in mind or body

- 37. Egyptian Sun god
- 38. Source of the Blue Nile
- 39. Egyptian unit of weight
- 40. Be the source of pain
- 41. Esteemed award -- d'Or
- 44. Partner to pains
- 45. Deep blue
- 48. No longer living
- 49. Country in the UK
- 50. Not even
- 51. Arizona city

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Wager
- 2. Classical portico
- 3. As a result
- 4. Bird
- 5. A type of "Squad"
- 6. Autonomic nervous system
- 7. Dish with food on a stick
- 8. City northwest of Provo
- 9. C. European river
- 10. One out of jail
- 11. Henry Clay estate

- 12. Heathen
- 14. Refrained
- 17. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 18. "The Stranger" author
- 20. Not old
- 23. Periods of starvation
- 24. Language of tribe in India
- 25. Savings account
- 26. Pitching stat
- 29. Megabyte
- 30. Ribonucleic acid
- 31. A place to put your feet
- 32. The fun part of a week
- 35. We all have our own
- 36. Partner to "oohed"
- 38. African nation
- 40. Breezed through
- 41. Sets out
- 42. Other
- 43. Not fattening
- 44. "Much ___ about nothing"
- 45. Central Time
- 46. Former EU monetary unit
- 47. Charles S. Dutton sitcom



A wicked shot attempt by #34 Jonah Bevington.



Wolverine goalie Lochlan Gordon gave a phenomenal performance.

continued from page 3

for holding. At the 17:40 mark, with the teams still tied up, Wolverines Colby MacDonald snapped off an unassisted goal, breaking the tie. The period ended 2-1 for the Wolverines.

In the third, like clockwork, the Spruce Grove Saints quickly tied things up, 2-2. The top two teams in the AJHL North had traded goals since the start, but the Wolverines had always managed to get the lead back, albeit temporarily. With less than four minutes in the game, the Wolverines again managed to get the lead thanks to a go-ahead goal from Jack Franklin, assisted by Caleb Macdonald, his third point of the game, making it 3-2. With two minutes left, the Saints kept the pattern alive and tied things up. Fans in the Scott Safety Centre couldn't believe it. The teams were off to overtime!

An edge-of-your-seat overtime period followed,

which included a Wolverine powerplay. Both teams stayed in it with the Wolverine's goalie standing on his head. The teams were still tied up at the final whistle blast, breaking the tie. The period ended 2-1 for the Wolverines and Saints prepped for a shoutout. Colby Browne and Cooper Smyl were up for the Wolverines, and both riffled their shots past the Saint's netminder. The Saint's shooters could not beat Gordon. The hometown fans went wild!

The Wolverine netminder saw 42 shots in the game and saved 39. A phenomenal effort. Gordon's antics to keep the puck out of the net had fans cheering loudly. Unsurprisingly, he was named the Wolverine's Star of the Game. The final score from the Scott Safety Centre was 4-3 for the Wolverines. In the AJHL North, as of Friday, January 6, the Wolverines remain in second place with 51 points. The Spruce Grove Saints are

in first place with 63. In the league, the Wolverines are third. The Whitecourt Wolverines have two games in hand on the Saints.

The next home game is on Friday, January 13, against the Blackfalds Bulldogs. The next night, on Saturday, January 14, the Wolverines will take on the Calgary Canucks for Superhero Night! Hometown fans who dress up as their favourite hero will get in the door for only \$5. The Wolverines have bright yellow hero-inspired jerseys for the game and will auction them off afterwards. All proceeds will go to Defeat Duchenne Canada, which raises money for Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD). DMD primarily affects boys, progresses quickly, and is the most fatal dystrophy in children. Defeat Duchenne Canada raises money to create resources that help raise awareness and bring hope and courage to families affected by DMD.

LUNAR NEW YEAR WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| AFRESH | CULTURES | HOROSCOPE | PROSPEROUS |
| ASIA | DECORATE | LANTERNS | RED |
| CALENDAR | ENVELOPES | LIGHTS | REUNION |
| CELEBRATION | FESTIVAL | LION | RITUALS |
| CLEANING | FIREWORKS | LUNISOLAR | SPRING |
| | GATHERING | NEW | YEAR |
| | | | ZODIAC |

FireSmarting Whitecourt; one year at a time



Being visible, like with this vehicle wrap, helps share the message.



One of the tools to spread the awareness of FireSmart is the FireSmart Canada app.

Through hard work, continued education, training, and support by grants, Whitecourt continues to be recognized as a leader for FireSmart in Alberta. At the final Whitecourt Town Council meeting of the year, Fire Chief Brian Wynn shared a report on the 2022 FireSmart activities in the community, which help mitigate Whitecourt's risk of wildfire.

By Serena Lapointe

Since 2010, FireSmart practices have been part of the fabric of the community. The Whitecourt Fire Department is very active in providing education opportunities for its members and residents to raise awareness of the importance of being FireSmart both at the home level and municipality wide.

Each year since its inception, the Whitecourt Fire Department provides a report to Whitecourt Town Council

on the FireSmart work they've done in the previous twelve months. During the final public council meeting of the year, Fire Chief Brian Wynn provided his department's report for 2022. The report is also an integral step in grant application guidelines for the department.

One grant the department hopes to snag again this year is for their Summer Crew which is made up of young adults who do forest clean-up in greenspaces near neigh-

bourhoods. "The Summer Crew is probably the hardest grant for us to get, so we are trying to really, really push it and to educate FRIAA (Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta) about what an active group that this is for four months and that they are selling FireSmart in our community," explained Chief Wynn.

He said the grant is harder to get because FRIAA is opposed to summer crews. "In some areas, the summer crews

were mowing soccer fields and not being used for actual FireSmart work. It kind of taints the flavour for summer crews. But we have a proven track record of seven years now. FRIAA and anybody who comes to Whitecourt knows what our crew does. It's just about pushing that point, and with this report, and a lot more information that we are sending to FRIAA, including a daily log of everything that the Summer Crew does, hopefully, the jus-

tification is pretty black and white," explained Chief Wynn.

The crew receives two weeks of comprehensive training before getting started, including, but not limited to, safety orientation, chainsaw certification, first aid and WHIMIS/TDG. "We had them at the Trade Fair and the Farmer's Market. We also had them trained to do home assessments, so they were part of the crew that completed 32 home assessments," said Chief Wynn. He added

that when the crew was out working, they would chat with residents who came upon the area. "They chatted with many people daily."

The FireSmart Homeowner Incentive Program allowed residents to sign up for a home assessment by the department, learn about things they could do to mitigate their wildfire risks and incentivize them to conduct recommended changes. "The home incentives really

continued on page 7



Do You Suffer from Foot or Ankle Pain?

Our Specialist Can Help!



Call Now To Book Your Consultation!

Phone: 587-328-0743
Fax: 1-888-289-2162

Medical and Surgical Services or Treatments Provided:

Achilles Tendon Pain
Athletic Injuries
Bunions
Fungal Toenails
Heel Pain
Prescription Custom Orthotics

Arch Pain
Arthritis
Corns & Callouses
Flatfoot
Hammertoes
Warts

Athlete's Foot
Ankle Sprains
Diabetic Foot Care
Forefoot Pain
Ingrown Toenails



Dr. Ben Sefcik, DPM
Podiatrist

No Referral Necessary • New Patients Welcome • Covered under most Insurance Plans •

Evolution Foot and Ankle Clinic
www.bensefcikdpm.com

Whitecourt
Advanced Health
Pharmasave
5112 50 St.
Whitecourt, AB

Grande Prairie
Parkland Medical
Centre
#202, 10127 121 Ave
Grande Prairie, AB

Airdrie
Apple Wellness Center
229 1 St. SW
Airdrie, AB

continued from page 6

kicked off in 2022. We hope to have more in 2023. So far, for that incentive program, we've only received one application for funding." Chief Wynn said they would push the home assessment opportunity hard to get more homeowners aware of it and signed up.

FireSmart is a tool that cost-effectively changes the natural environment to increase a home or community's survivability when facing a wildfire. Certain shrubbery, dead trees, tall grass, debris,

and low-laying branches are a big focus for crews. The forested areas are broken down into zones with heavier emphasis placed on those most at risk.

A big part of the project involves mowing. Previously overgrown areas, having been mulched down by crews, can now be upkept with mowing rather than needing the more extensive equipment. In the Hilltop area, the focus was placed along the boundary of the residential regions, amounting to acres of work. Chief Wynn

said their goal through FireSmart is to mow the area twice a year, once in June and again in mid-August. Late-season mowing means the grass would have less opportunity to grow and be an issue in the spring when snow melts and fire risk increases.

Large areas in the valley were also focused on through 2022, including along Flats Road in the green space between the road and residences, across from Graham Acres, near the golf course, west of Rotary Park, and along the train

tracks beginning beside Walmart and extending back towards the base of Eastlink Park. Work done in these areas will be maintained, hence the importance of grant opportunities to bring summer crews on board. "We are adding mowing areas every year," said Chief Wynn. After the summer work is completed, areas worked on are re-evaluated for risk potential and rated appropriately. "If an area is mowed, then it's under control enough that we can control it and then we are keeping the big fires back."

Part of the report to Whitecourt Town Council included Emergency Response Planning to continue or occur in 2023. One of those listed was a joint exercise with Canfor staff and Whitecourt firefighters to practice putting out a fire on the log deck, which is the large pile of stacked wood visible from Rotary Park. The exercise was planned pre-COVID and is anticipated to happen this year.

"We want a joint operational scenario where we spray water on it. We did ask for their crane to have

a standpipe and monitor placed on it, and they did that, but nobody has ever seen it work, and we should. Also, now that we have a tower (firetruck) let's get down to their yard and do a scenario where part of the log deck is on fire and figure out all the water accesses, the hoses, and the crane. Once the hose is hooked up to the crane, the crane can't move, so there are a lot of things they would need to figure out." Chief Wynn added that it likely would include mutual aid partners and forestry personnel.

NOTICE OF DECISION

Decisions have been made regarding the following development permit applications:

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION	LOCATION	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	DECISION	DATE OF DECISION
15-069-2022	PT. SE 19-58-11-W5M Lot 8 Block 1, Plan 102-5167	Setback Variance: Accessory Building (personal use) and Variance: construct Accessory building prior to primary residence	APPROVED with conditions	4-Jan-23
15-070-2022	PT. SW 27-59-12-W5M Lot 3 Block 1 Plan 032-1169	Variance: Accessory Building (farm use)	REFUSED with reasons	4-Jan-23

Any person affected by this decision may appeal to the Secretary of the Development Appeal Board by forwarding a written appeal along with a \$500.00 fee, to the address listed below, prior to **4:30 p.m., January 25, 2023.**

Attention: Peter McKay, Development Officer
Woodlands County
Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt AB T7S 1N3
Telephone: 780-778-8400
Toll-Free: 1-888-870-6315

Information regarding this application may be obtained by inquiring at the address noted.

REMINDER NOTICE REGISTRATIONS FOR GRAVEL TRUCKS / EQUIPMENT

Registrations for the supply of gravel trucks and/or equipment are effective from January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023. All applicants who wish to register may obtain new registration packages at either of the Woodlands County offices after January 2, 2023, between the hours of 8:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Registrations forms are also available on Woodlands County Website www.woodlands.ab.ca.

A copy of valid insurance must be attached, with Woodlands County added to your insurance, as additionally insured.

If you wish to obtain further information, please contact wilma.harris@woodlands.ab.ca

Woodlands County
Municipal Office
Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3
Telephone: 780- 778-8400
Facsimile: 780- 778-8402

OR

Woodlands County
Regional Municipal Office
P.O. Box 33
Fort Assiniboine, AB T0G1A0
Telephone: 780- 584-3866
Facsimile: 780- 584-3988



JOHN BURROWS
Reeve
Councillor for Whitecourt West
Division 2
E-Mail: john.burrows@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-706-4747



BRUCE PRESTIDGE
Councillor for Blue Ridge
Division 5
E-Mail: bruce.prestidge@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-3917



DEVIN WILLIAMS
Councillor for Fort Assiniboine/
Times Division 7
devin.williams@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-305-1525



JEREMY WILHELM
Councillor for
Whitecourt East Division 4
E-Mail: jeremy.wilhelm@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-775-5594



DAVE KUSCH
Councillor for Assinibo
Division 1
E-Mail: dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-9337



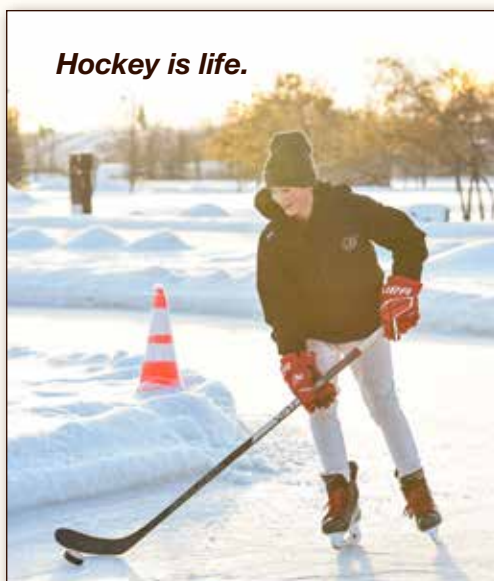
ALAN DEANE
Councillor for Whitecourt
Central Division 3
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-775-0894



PETER KUELKEN
Councillor for Goose Lake/
Freeman River Division 6
peter.kuelken@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-294-2425



The loop is right beside the playground and concession building.



Hockey is life.

There's a new spot to have fun this winter. A skating loop has been created at Rotary Park, but it's not on the pond; it's on the grass! Well, technically, it's on the snow. The loop is right beside the concession stand/ bathroom alongside Festival Way, the paved walking area built to house outdoor markets. With lights along Festival Way already, the skating loop will be a pretty place to lace up the skates even at night. The Town has also placed a bonfire pit, wood supply and benches right at the loop's entrance. All skill levels are invited to give it a whirl. On Saturday afternoon, Dylan Woyewoda and his family were out enjoying the new attraction. The group had a blast bouncing from the loop down to the pond, spending hours at the popular local hangout.

Page sponsored by



Alberta Newsprint Company wishes you and yours a Merry Christmas and all the very best in 2023!

In the hustle and bustle of the season, splurge on moments of joy and togetherness. Spend time with those you cherish. And save the memories made along the way!

For all open career opportunities, please check out our website at albertanewsprint.com -> Careers.



Pembina West Petroleum

780-778-3239

WE DELIVER Bulk Fuel & Lubricants



3862 - 30 St, Whitecourt, AB

- 24 hour card lock service
• Washroom & Shower Facilities
• Oils and Lubricants
• DEF available at the pumps
• Fresh coffee, confectionery, snacks

Career ads, online at: www.whitecourtpress.com

Groat Creek Estates

Lots of Sale

Private Financing Available

6% Interest

5, 7 & 10 year terms

Call 780-706-0333

PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

WORD SEARCH

Grid of letters with words highlighted in orange, including FIREWORKS, SERUTLUC, and others.

CROSSWORDS

Crossword puzzle grid with words like ASTHMA, PANTHEON, and PERU.

SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9.

Shop for Sale or Lease

10,000 sq ft shop with offices. Bays for lease, Office space for lease, lockable compound for lease, Yard space for lease.

Call 780-706-0333



Blanket Classified Ads

Alberta and NWT for \$269 (up to 25 words) \$8.00 each additional word. These ads are placed in over 100 community newspapers throughout Alberta. We can also place ads in other provinces throughout Canada.

Buildings for Sale

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

Coming Events

BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only \$269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach almost 90 weekly newspapers. Call NOW for details. 1-800-282-6903 Ext 225; www.awna.com.

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2023 AUCTION PROGRAM: Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, Antiques, Militaria, Collections, Estates, Single Items for Auction, or Possible Purchase: Toll-Free 1-800-694-2609, Email Us @ sales@switzersauction.com or Visit Us @ www.switzersauction.com.

Employment Opportunities

CAMPGROUND HOSTS NEEDED. Maintenance and office duties for the summer of 2023. Wages negotiable. Please send resume

to castlivercampground@gmail.com. Deadline January 22, 2023.

NOW HIRING COUPLES for work locations in NW Alberta. Create work / life balance on the same schedule. Site specific training provided. Year-round & seasonal contracts available www.OilfieldSecurity.ca.

Feed and Seed

ALBERTA FEED GRAIN: Buying Oats, Barley, Wheat, Canola, Peas, Screenings, Mixed Grains. Dry, Wet, Heated, or Spring Thresh. Prompt Payment. In House Trucks, In House Excreta Cleaning. Vac Rental. 1-888-483-8789.

WE BUY DAMAGED GRAIN - Heated, Mixed, Tough, Light Bugs, Spring Threshed... Barley, Wheat, Oats, Peas, Flax, Canola. "On Farm Pickup". Westcan Feed & Grain 1-877-250-5252.

YEAR END SEED SALE: CERTIFIED SEED. - WHEAT - AAC Goodwin, CDC Go, Go Early, Pintail. OATS - AC Juniper, AC Morgan, AC Mustang, Derby, CDC SO1 Super Oat. BARLEY - Cerveza, CDC Austenson, CDC Maverick,

Sundre. Very Early Yellow Pea, Forage Peas. Polish Canola, Spring Triticale. mastinseeds.com; 403-556-2609.

Health

HIP/KNEE REPLACEMENT. Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING? The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$3,000 yearly tax credit and \$30,000 lump sum refund. Take advantage of this offer. Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide: Expert help. 1-844-453-5372.

Land for Sale

3 QUARTERS OF CROPLAND South of Weyburn, SK. Distressed sale. Priced below market at 1.27 x assessment, with a 4% return with lease. \$594,800.00. Call Doug at 306-716-2671.

Pasture

GET YOUR MESSAGE SEEN ACROSS Alberta. The Blanket Classifieds or Value Ads reach over 600,000 Alberta readers weekly. Two options starting at \$269 or \$995 to get your message out! Business changes, hiring, items for sale, cancellations, tenders, etc. People are increasingly staying home and rely

Services

on their local newspapers for information. KEEP people in the loop with our 90 Weekly Community Newspapers. Call THIS NEWSPAPER now or email classifieds@awna.com for details. 1-800-282-6903, 780-434-8746 X225. www.awna.com.

CRIMINAL RECORD? Why suffer employment/licensing loss? Travel/business opportunities? Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon. US entry waiver. Record purge. File destruction. Free consultation. 1-800-347-2540. www.accesslegalmjf.com.

Odds of a child becoming a top fashion designer: 1 in 7,000

Odds of a child being diagnosed with autism: 1 in 310

No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months. No babbling by 12 months. No words by 16 months.

To learn more of the signs of autism, visit autismspeaks.org

Ad Council AUTISM SPEAKS™ It's time to listen.

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.74 US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7435** (using nominal rate).

Dollar Values as of January 10, 2023

Summer Village of Island Lake
Request for Proposals
Development Officer Position

The Summer Village of Island Lake, being Alberta's largest Summer Village and located on the shores of Island Lake, approximately 20 minutes northwest of the Town of Athabasca, is looking for an outgoing and enthusiastic individual to fulfill a part time contract position for a Development Officer services within our community.

Please visit online for complete details and instructions:
www.islandlake.ca

Summer Village of Island Lake, Box 8, Alberta Beach, T0E 0A0
svs@islandlake.ca
Position will be open until January 12, 2023 or a suitable candidate is found

WANTED: SASQUATCH SKULL!

Also BUYING ENTIRE COIN COLLECTIONS & old money!
BUYING large quantities of SILVER. 999+ bullion, ALL sizes, ALL brands, bars, rounds, ingots, coins, sterling, silverware, pre-1968 coins +.
BUYING ALL GOLD & SILVER coins, bars, unwanted jewelry, nuggets, dust, scrap +++

TODD 250-864-3521

WOMBANIA™

IF YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT LOSING WEIGHT, WINKY, YOU SHOULD TRY EATING SENSIBLY AND EXERCISING.

I DON'T GO FOR CRAZY FAD DIETS.

by PETER MARINACCI

Copyright © 2022 Peter Marinacci All Rights Reserved. www.wombania.com

Letter to the Editor policy

The Press welcomes readers to write letters to the Editor. A maximum of 300 words is preferred but not necessary. Letters must carry a first name or two initials with surname and include an address and daytime telephone number. All letters are subject to editing. Please email letters to wctpress@telus.net.

Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association CMCA AUDITED

NEED HELP? CALL ANYTIME! (24-7)

Mental Health Helpline
1-877-303-2642

Addiction Helpline **1-866-332-2322**

Health Link 811

The Press

A locally owned and family operated newspaper serving Whitecourt

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY

Contact

Valerie Winger at 780-706-1858
Email: wctpress@telus.net

Find us on: & &

Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association CMCA AUDITED

The Press is printed on high quality newsprint using vegetable based ink. We encourage you to share, save, reuse, rehash & recycle.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS

ESTATE OF HELEN DELORES GIESE (aka DELORES H. GIESE) who died on November 22, 2022 and the ESTATE OF GARY GEORGE GIESE who died on April 22, 2022.

If you have a claim against these estates, you must file your claim by January 24, 2023

with TIMOTHY A. VERHAEGHE at Verhaeghe Law Office Barristers & Solicitors #203, 10525 – 170 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5P 4W2

and provide details of your claim.

If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

A look at the local weather

	Tue., Jan 10	Wed., Jan 11	Thu., Jan 12	Fri., Jan 13	Sat., Jan 14
P.O.P.	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%
High	-7°C	-7°C	-6°C	-2°C	-2°C
Low	-9°C	-9°C	-10°C	-5°C	-8°C
Wind	E 9 km/h	E 9 km/h	SE 6 km/h	S 7 km/h	W 6 km/h
24-Hr Rain / Snow	-	-	-	<1cm	-

Stop bullying!

Tuesday, January 10, 2023
www.whitecourtpress.com



The Press

If your life is in danger or you know someone's life is in danger DIAL EMERGENCY NOW 911!

If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, you need to know that you're not alone. You can also call if you are not in crisis, seeking additional information. The new Canada Suicide Prevention Service (CSPS), by Crisis Services Canada, enables callers anywhere in

Canada to access crisis support by phone, in French or English: toll-free **1-833-456-4566** Available 24/7
Crisis Text Line (Powered by Kids Help Phone) Canada Wide free, 24/7 texting service is accessible immediately to youth anywhere

in Canada by texting TALK to **686868** to reach an English speaking Crisis Responder and TEXTO to **686868** to reach a French-speaking Crisis Responder on any text/SMS enabled cell phone.
KidsHelpPhone Ages 20 Years and Under

in Canada **1-800-668-6868** (Online or on the Phone). First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness 24/7 Help Line **1-855-242-3310**
Canadian Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line **1-866-925-4419**
Trans LifeLine – All Ages **1-877-330-6366**

Have you been bullied, and want to share your story?

Email wctpress@telus.net All submissions remain confidential

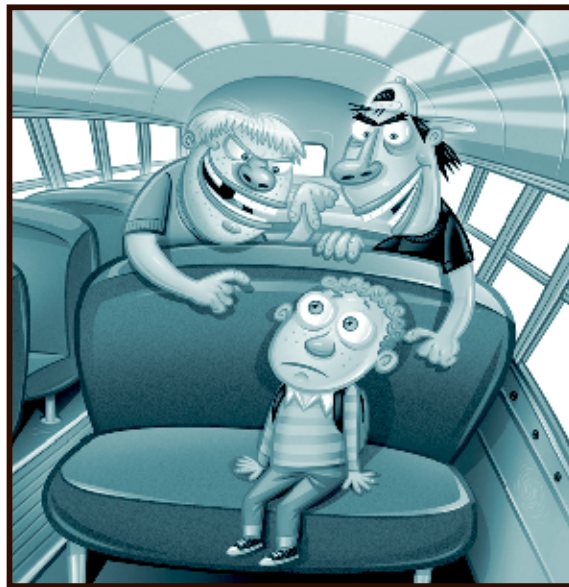


When you keep criticizing your kids, they don't stop loving you, they stop loving themselves.
Let that sink in.



Are you or someone you know being bullied?

Call the Bullying Helpline (Confidential)



Toll Free, open 24 hours per day, seven days per week

1-888-456-2323

Stand up! Don't be afraid of bullies!!

Putting a face on suicide



Devan Latham
Age 18

Every 40 seconds somewhere around the world someone dies by suicide, that's 99 people every 66 minutes. Every day, that's almost 100 people in the United States alone, and over 2160 worldwide. Putting a Face on Suicide (PAFOS) is a suicide awareness project that creates posters and videos to pay tribute to those we have lost to suicide with dignity and respect. PAFOS humanizes the daunting statistics; lovingly replacing numbers with faces.

SPONSORED BY

The Press

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS

Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email wctpress@gmail.com

Tri-Logging Ltd.



Tri-Logging is against bullying

Robert Brown
Owner
3507 37th Avenue
Whitecourt, AB T7S 0C3
Phone 780-778-0699
Fax 780-778-8431



FLINT™

A Division of ClearStream

780-778-5000

- Electrical & Instrumentation
- Fabrication & Modularization
- Maintenance & Turnarounds
- Insulation
- Facility Construction
- Pipeline Integrity Digs
- 24/7 Callout Services

Whitecourt youth interested in taking on a big title are encouraged to look into the Mayor For A Day initiative from the Town of Whitecourt. Each year, two youths, grades 6-12, are selected by Town Council, based on the recommendation by the Youth Advisory Committee, to wear the mayoral crown for a day. The winners will shadow Mayor Tom Pickard as he attends meetings, including flanking him at a Town Council meeting and sitting amongst the elected officials. Youth will learn about the mayor's role, get to ask questions, and share their ideas for the community. Last year's winners, Tehya Ophus and Josiah Moore, visited the Firehall and RCMP detachment and even got to get inside an RCMP vehicle and learn all about it. Following the Town Council meeting, the pair received swag bags. Applications are available on the Town of Whitecourt website, and submissions must be in by noon on Wednesday, January 18.



Tehya Ophus and Josiah Moore all set to start their day with Mayor Tom Pickard last April.

Photos: Town of Whitecourt



Checking out the inside of a cop car.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Permanent: 0.8-1.0 FTE Depending on the applicant
 Salary Range: Competitive salary based on provincially approved pay range
 Location: Whitecourt or Edson AB



PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS

Primary Care Networks (PCNs) are not-for-profit organizations and collaborations between local physician groups and Alberta Health Services to enhance comprehensive primary care services in a geographic area. The McLeod River PCN was established in 2010 and employs 20 staff to assist 38 Family Physicians working in 5 clinics to deliver primary care services in Edson, Fox Creek, Mayerthorpe, and Whitecourt. Bighorn PCN was established in 2016 and employs 7 staff assisting 19 Family Physicians working in 2 clinics to deliver services in Hinton and Grande Cache. We envision that our patients will exceed Alberta's average life expectancy and enjoy a high quality of life. Our patients will live healthier lives and require less hospitalization because of their involvement with our teams and enhanced access to comprehensive primary health care services. Our PCN will be an outstanding example to other PCNs across Alberta and Canada.

THE POSITION

The Executive Director is the senior executive officer of the PCN. The Executive Director is responsible and accountable for leading the operational team in planning, delivering, and evaluating PCN programs and services in support of the PCN's vision, mission, and Business Plan. The Executive Director will develop and maintain strong working relationships with key stakeholders and leaders to provide operational leadership and oversee all related programs and services. The Executive Director establishes and maintains positive relationships with essential local, provincial, and national representatives and healthcare stakeholders, including government departments and officials.

McLeod River and Bighorn PCNs are geographically neighbours and serve similar patient populations with similar healthcare needs. We share common programming and have some patient care flow between our communities. We have had some success with shared executive and administrative leadership and are looking to share an Executive Director. The position has some flexibility, while being located in one of our communities is preferential, we are open to virtual options for a strong candidate. Intermittent travel to our communities will be required at times (e.g.: board meetings, AGMs, staff meetings, town halls, etc.)

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INCLUDE:

- Implementation and operationalization of the business plan through the PCN,
- Extensive collaboration with joint partners and other key stakeholders within the PCN and across the Zone,
- Leading the process of development and management of the PCN budget,
- Service program planning, implementation, and evaluation,
- Development and support of quality assurance and risk management strategies and,
- Management of a multidisciplinary team of professionals and support staff.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- The candidate should have proven strategic thinking, leadership, and business acumen and experience in system-level thinking, consensus building, and conflict resolution.
- Three or more years of leadership and management experience, demonstrating advancement in responsibility preferred.
- Three or more years of recent experience at various Alberta healthcare system levels is preferred.
- Clinical operations experience – either or both a) an administrator of services or b) direct provision of patient care
- Graduate degree/education in a health-related or business field is preferred.
- Experience in Governance, board relationships, business operations, information technology, project/change management, financial management, data analytics, human resources, communication, and relationship building is preferred.
- A demonstrated background in building high-performing multidisciplinary teams and managing multiple stakeholder relationships will be regarded highly.

The opportunity for a hybrid work environment exists in either remote or work-from-home

Interested candidates are invited to send a resume and letter of interest to HR@mrpcn.ca by

Friday, January 30, 2023; please use "McLeod River PCN Leadership Application" as the subject line.

In addition, **your letter of interest should answer the following in 300 words or less:** Please tell us why you are interested in the Executive Director role at the McLeod River Primary Care Network and why at this point in your career? When answering this question, please focus on how your values, experience, and education align with the essential skills and competencies required for this role.

WANTED PART TIME

Heavy duty mechanic and/or Welder

- Must be Journeyman • Work evenings or weekends
- Help maintain truck and trailers • Mechanic to have knowledge in doing CVIPS • Welder should be Journeyman or be able to weld with mechanical Journeyman ticket

Apply by email to truckinghrdept@gmail.com

We thank you for your application, however only the most qualified will be contacted.

Career ads, online at: www.whitecourtpress.com

HELP WANTED

Tim Hortons in Whitecourt is looking to fill the following positions:

Food Service Attendant
Full Time / Shift Work

Food Service Supervisor
Full Time / Shift Work

SHIFT INCENTIVE FOR OVERNIGHTS

Please apply in person at the restaurant.



4331-52 Ave Unit 1 Whitecourt, AB | 4216 Elko Drive Whitecourt, AB

Sales & Service Directory

FURNITURE DEN
Mattress Superstore
 Appliances & Electronics

Shop local for all your home furnishings

E: sales@furnitureden.ca

780-778-2016  <https://www.furnitureden.ca>
 4807 - 50 Avenue Whitecourt, AB

HB HENDRICKSON BLACK LLP
 Chartered Professional Accountants
 ** TAX & ACCOUNTING SERVICES **

Dean Hendrickson CPA, CMA, CFP Partner
 Lana McDonald CPA, CGA Partner
 Sarah Letkeman CPA, CGA Partner
 Debbie Davio CPA Partner

Locally owned & operated

Mayerthorpe office 780-786-4044
 Whitecourt office 780-778-4116
 Fox Creek office 780-622-3944

www.hendricksonblack.ca

Providing Traffic Control and Piloting

• Traffic Control Personnel
 • Provide service for emergency lane or road closures
 • Construction zone set ups

Road Monitoring & Radar Services

Servicing Woodlands and Yellowhead Counties

780-865-5815

We're there where you need us most!

Busted Knuckle Technical Service Inc.

GENERAL AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOP

- Licensed Journeyman Mechanic
- Serving Whitecourt and surrounding area for more than 12 years
- Body, Chassis & Electrical Diagnostics
- Shop Rate \$90.00/hr.

Call Des: 780-779-8546

Career Ads, affordable price, with print ad, receive free online job posting at ...

WWW.WHITECOURTPRESS.COM

The Press

Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email wctpress@gmail.com

A.C. Waring & Associates Inc.
 Licensed Insolvency Trustee
 Trustee in Bankruptcy

DEBT SOLUTIONS
 780-424-9944

Debt/Credit Counselling Debt Consolidation
 Creditor Negotiations Consumer Proposals
 Bankruptcy Alternatives Bankruptcy Protection

FREE Consultation
www.DEBTFREE.ca

Leanne Gould
 Mortgage Associate

toll free 1.866.235.9906
www.mortgagegroup.com

403.505.9906
leanne.gould@mortgagegroup.com

THE MORTGAGE GROUP
 The Mortgage Group Alberta Ltd.
 304 - 3015 50th Ave. NE, Calgary AB T2A 0K4

METRIX GROUP LLP
 CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

4927 - 51st Avenue, PO Box 328, Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N5

Accounting	Tax	Estates and Trusts	Consulting	Contract Controllorship	Audit and Review Engagements
MICHAEL EPP Partner CPA, CA, CMA	TERRY ST. LAURENT Partner CPA, CGA, CA	AMANDA LIND Associate CPA, CA	Amanda Lind, CPA, CA will be in the Fox Creek office (20 Commercial Court) every Wednesday. To set up an appointment please contact our Whitecourt office.		
Edmonton T: 780-489-9606	Lloydminster T: 780-875-7433	Fox Creek/Whitecourt/La Crete T: 780-778-3091	Fort Saskatchewan T: 780-992-0266	Evansburg T: 780-727-2017	T: 780-928-9525

Toll Free: 1-877-489-9606 METRIXGROUP.CA

Whitecourt Veterinary Clinic 4439 - 52 Ave

...where pets are family...

Thankyou to all those loving families who've adopted the pets at the Whitecourt Vet Clinic.

RF RESCHKE FRITZ LLP
 PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

MARK R. RESCHKE, CPA, CA
 PARTNER

Tax planning
 Corporate & Personal Tax Preparation
 Full Accounting Services

Box 569, #101, 5011 - 51 Ave
 Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N6
 780-778-3981 mreschke@rflp.ca

Career ads, online at:
www.whitecourtpress.com

WOK BOX

we deliver!
 CALL 780-778-3348 TO ORDER

Hours: Mon to Sun 11am-10pm

Whitecourt 3722 Kepler Street

LOCAL BUSINESS THE PRESS

Call Now To Book This Space **780-706-1858**