



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 8 | Tuesday, February 21, 2023

Family Day 2023 brought a big crowd of residents out to Rotary Park on Saturday to celebrate all things family and the impact of families on communities. Various games and activities were spread over three days to keep the fun going all weekend long. Thumbs up for fresh bannock.



Family Day in Whitecourt

By Serena Lapointe

Last weekend's three-day break was a fun-filled one as Whitecourt and area families of all sizes got out to enjoy Family Day. Rather than having everything jam-packed into one day, the Town of Whitecourt and community sponsors, Rota-

ry Club of Whitecourt, and Primerica (Amanda St. Pierre) kept the fun going Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

Things kicked off on Saturday at lunchtime at Rotary Park with many different things to get into. The always popular ice slide was back, with children, and

some brave chaperones, climbing the hill, taking a seat and letting out a squeal of excitement as they took turns sliding down the two icy handcrafted creations. A dinosaur ice sculpture made the perfect perch to pose for a picture,

continued on page 10

An easy way for Woodlands County residents to submit service requests is just a click away

By Serena Lapointe

Woodlands County Council recently went over the Service Tracker report from last month. The tracker was added to the County's tool chest in April 2021 and allows residents and Woodlands County staff members to make service requests by logging onto the County's website. Whether

residents call in and report to staff or use the website to complete a report, the information is put onto the Service Tracker portal.

In January, 35 requests came through the tracker. Thirty of them were entered by staff on behalf of residents, and five went through from the website. The types of service

requests varied, though the overwhelming majority were focused on snowplowing and sanding, with nineteen requests specifically. Much of the snowplowing and sanding requests came from the three divisions nearest to Whitecourt, West, Central, and East,

continued on page 2



Woodlands County Council's livestream.

Residents of Woodlands County that wish to request service, be it sand for an icy road, snowplowing, or getting a pothole fixed, can easily access an online, fillable form. Council receives a monthly look at the requests that come through the portal and recently looked at January's breakdown.



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



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

Wheelchair Accessible

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

continued from page 1

with the most from Whitecourt Central.

The next highest request from last month concerned signs, including a downed yield sign on the ANC Road. Three requests came in for grading/wash boarding and two each for snow plow flags and issues at transfer stations, which included shovelling in Blue Ridge and emptying the sandbox at Goose Lake's station. Rounding out January's service requests was one each for water odour, pothole/road repairs, and an electronics issue at the bulk

fill station. One, unlike the others, was an employee kudos passed along from the Strike Group, complimenting plow operators on a job well done.

Councillor Alan Deane spoke about the way requests were coming in. "I noticed that 86 percent of the service requests that are going into the Service Tracker were entered by staff, and only fourteen percent were entered by residents through the website. That ratio just seemed really skewed to me." Councillor Deane said he wasn't sure how to get the message out to residents so that more

would know about the option of putting in requests through the site.

"I think if they knew about this because there's certainly going to be a lot of residents that don't, they would use it more than calling in and having staff have to put it in (for them). Anybody that I've talked to wasn't aware of that when I explained it to them and showed them where the link is on the website," he explained. "They are always grateful and appreciative of it and like the fact that they can do it on their own time. I think we need to do a better job of getting that

information out to our residents."

Councillor Bruce Prestidge joined the conversation. "I think there's people that look at this and say, if I do it on the Service Tracker, how do I know it's getting looked at? (Whereas) if they phone in and talk to somebody, they have acknowledgement that their concern is heard. Could we, when somebody puts something in there on the Service Tracker, have an acknowledgement sent back to them, saying that their concern is heard?"

Administration explained that the online form includes a check

box where residents can request to be contacted about their concerns. The way the form is structured, it automatically clicks yes. "The resident can opt-out and say no. Or if they want a response, then when they click yes, (and) we give them that response," responded CAO Gordon Frank.

Councillor Dave Kusch asked about a service request in his division, Anselmo, for snowplowing and sanding. "The one out of my zone, it says (road near twp.) 582/583. The area is maintained by Lac Ste. Anne (County). If it's part of our

agreement or whatnot, that it's maintained by another county, how can we ensure that our residents are getting service on that road? Is there any type of follow-up on that?" Administration assured Councillor Kusch that follow-up with Lac Ste. Anne did occur.

Councillor Deane mentioned that he had recently spoken to a concerned resident who drives a school bus. They were concerned about the icy conditions in the Whispering Hills subdivision and that it was "dangerous" to turn around. "I see that Range Road 121 is on here, and that was part of the concern, but did that request get to administration about turn-arounds in Whispering Hills?" Administration confirmed that it had.

Councillor Jeremy Wilhelm spoke of his appreciation for the infrastructure and administrative staff. "Every time I've put in a Service Tracker request, or a resident has put in a Service Tracker request when I've asked them to, they've always contacted me afterwards and said their issue was dealt with. I've said this many times, but this is saving us a huge amount of headaches. Administration's follow-up on it and the policies around it are excellent, and they make everyone look fantastic."

Residents who want to put in a service request can access the Service Tracker fillable online form on the County's website, www.woodlands.ab.ca. The link is located on the main page and states, "Submit Service Request."

PUT YOUR FUTURE IN THE FAST LANE.

If you're looking to spark your career, we want to help you own and operate a Shell Station. You'll receive our comprehensive training program, pay no franchise fees, and join a company where you can move full speed ahead.

Visit shell.ca/biz_opps or call 1-866-318-2445 to learn more.

BE PART OF A BETTER FUTURE

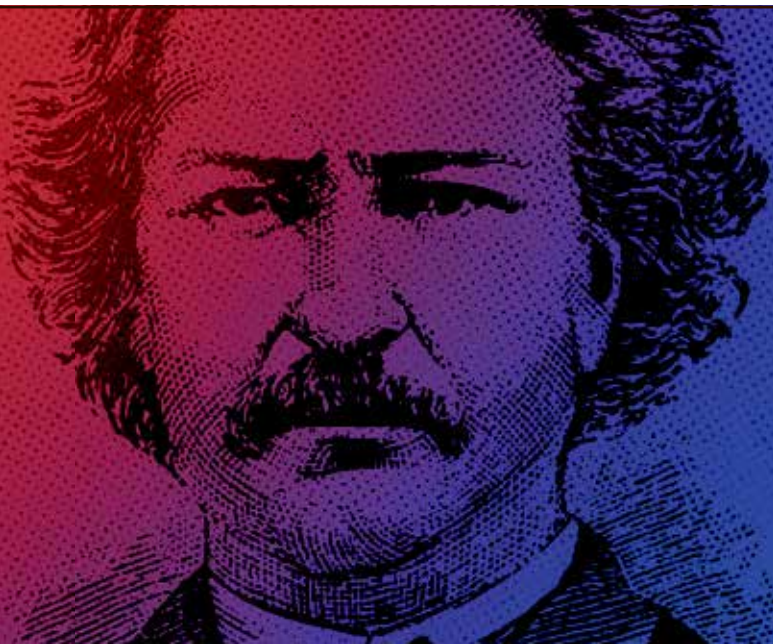
The Press

Get the Whitecourt Press App at iTunes AppStore and Google play

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

96.9%
VOTED
'YES'



THANKS TO YOU, WE'VE HONOURED OUR PAST, AND WILL OWN OUR FUTURE.

Thank you to everyone who voted on the MNA Constitution this past fall. We are so grateful that Métis Citizens like you have stayed engaged throughout this process, helped shape our Constitution, and taken the time to vote. Because of your efforts, we will now be able to realize our ancestors' dreams of self-determination, and create a better future for generations of Métis people. But our work is far from finished. Please continue to visit MNAconstitution.com to stay up to date with the latest news and what's happening next with the Constitution.

Maarsii

Métis Nation of Alberta

WE NEED
MORE
FOSTER
PARENTS
LIKE YOU.

When you foster a child and they stay connected to their family, community and culture you not only change their future, but the future of generations to follow.

Learn more.
Alberta.ca/FosterParents

Alberta

THE EARLY BIRD PRIZE YOUR OKANAGAN LAKEFRONT TOWNHOME

VALUED AT
\$878,365



EARLY BIRD
DEADLINE
MARCH 2, 2023

STARS
LOTTERY

starslottery.ca 1-855-STARS-68

EARLY BIRD DRAW: MARCH 17, 2023. MAIN DRAW: APRIL 5, 2023. DRAWS WILL TAKE PLACE AT 3950 12TH ST NE, CALGARY, AB. STARS MAIN LOTTERY WILL ONLY SELL 1,260,000 TICKETS AND WILL BE SOLD AT \$30 EACH, A SET OF 4 FOR \$75, A SET OF 8 FOR \$125, A SET OF 20 FOR \$275, AND A SET OF 35 FOR \$400. LICENCE 611781. TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ALBERTA, MUST BE 18+ TO PURCHASE. PLEASE PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

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

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



**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

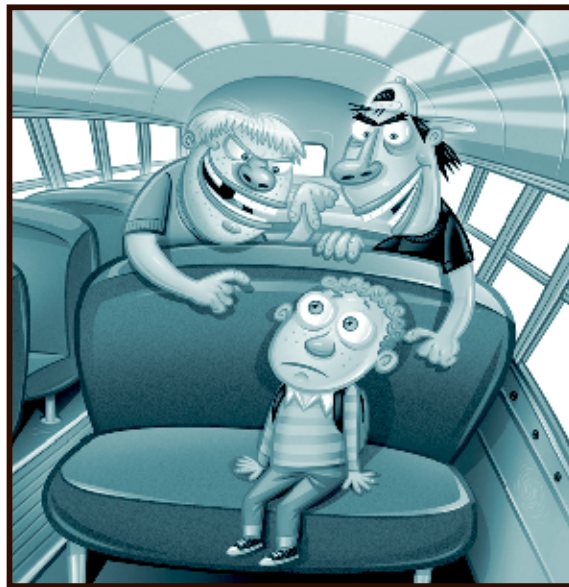


When you keep criticizing your kids, they don't stop loving you, they stop loving themselves.
Let that sink in.



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



Brittany Marie Lafferty

Age 16

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



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza Now Hiring Cashiers NOC 65100

Responsibilities:

- Greet customers
- Receive and process payments by cash, cheque, credit card, or automatic debit
- Provide information to customers
- Calculate foreign currency exchange
- Calculate total payments received at end of work shift and reconcile with total sales
- Verify the age of customers when selling lottery tickets, alcohol or tobacco products
- Operate cash register
- Process money, cheques, and credit/debit card payments
- Scan Items
- Tabulate total payment for goods or services required
- Receive payment for goods or services
- Calculate daily/shift payments received and reconcile them with total sales
- Suggestive selling
- Provide excellent customer service
- Assist customers with self-service items
- Participate in promotional activities

Qualifications:

- Some secondary school education is usually required. High school graduation may be required by some employers.
- Eligibility for bonding may be required.
- A casino gaming license may be required for cashiers working in gambling casinos.
- Must be able to complete Smart training courses
- Must be able to complete AML

Experience: 2 – 3 years, or we will train.

Education: Some post-secondary, high school may require.

Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time 40-hour work week.

Language: English

Employment Conditions: Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.

Wage: \$15.00 per hour.

Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, Health after 90-day probation period.

Location: Twp.Rd.602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, AB Canada.

Address: Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta Canada T7S-1N3

Contact: 780-779-2727 or Fax 780-706-7451

Visit our Website: www.eaglerivercasino.ca

How to Apply: Send resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax



This handsome little pup, Oliver, enjoyed Saturday afternoon outside with one of his humans. The active four-legged cutie was a bundle of excitement as he came across others to seek affection from, soaking up every bit of attention he could muster. Bounding from side to side while walking along Festival Way, Oliver was just as happy to be at the park as any of the children playing nearby.



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza Now Hiring Casino Shift Manager NOC 62022

Responsibilities:

- Co-ordinate, assign and review the work of casino workers
- Establish work schedules and procedures and co-ordinate activities with other work units or departments
- Resolve work-related problems and prepare and submit progress and other reports
- Hire and train staff in job duties, safety procedures, and company policies
- Requisition of supplies and materials
- Ensure smooth operation of computer systems, equipment, and machinery, and arrange for maintenance and repair work
- May perform the same duties as workers supervised
- Perform the same duties as workers supervised
- Assist clients/guests with special needs
- Co-ordinate, assign and review work
- Ensure smooth operation of computer systems, equipment, and machinery, and arrange for maintenance and repair work
- Establish work schedules and procedures and co-ordinate activities with other work units or departments
- Hire and train staff in job duties, safety procedures, and company policies
- Requisition materials and supplies
- Resolve work-related problems and prepare and submit progress and other reports.

Qualifications:

- Completion of secondary school is usually required.
- Completion of college courses related to the area supervised may be required.
- Experience in the occupation supervised is usually required.
- AGLC casino gaming license will be required.
- Must be able complete Smart training courses
- AML certificate

Experience: 3 – 5 years.

Education: Completion of secondary school is required, casino gaming license.

Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time 44-hour work week.

Language: English

Employment Conditions: Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.

Wage: \$23.08 per hour.

Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, and Health after a 90-day probation period.

Location: Twp.Rd.602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, AB Canada.

Address: Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta Canada T7S-1N3.

Contact: 780-779-2727 or Fax 780-706-7451

Visit our Website: www.eaglerivercasino.ca

How to Apply: Send resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax.

Herc Rentals®

**Herc Rentals is Hiring a
Heavy-duty Journeyman**

**for a field mechanic position in
Whitecourt. Paid time off, Great
benefits package, great pay,
experience working on Rental
equipment as asset.**

**Apply online today at
careers.hercrentals.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**

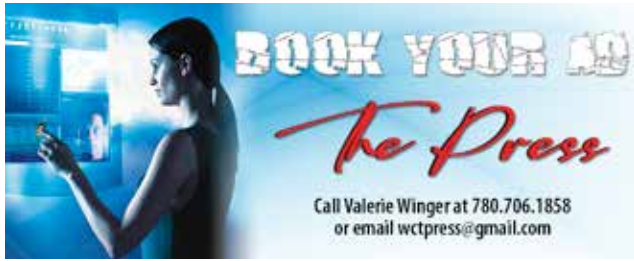
SHIFT INCENTIVE FOR OVERNIGHTS

Please apply in person at the restaurant.



**4331-52 Ave Unit 1
Whitecourt, AB**

**4216 Elko Drive
Whitecourt, AB**



Woodlands County Council recap

Woodlands County Council discussed the following items at their recent meeting of Council:

Bylaw 596/23 – Amending Schedule of Fees was passed adjusting Planning & Development fees, which are set to come into effect on April 1, 2023. The full schedule of fees is available on the Woodlands County website.

Council endorsed a letter of support in favour of Camrose Resort Casino's appeal of relocation to Edmonton. The casino's request to relocate was denied by the Alberta Gaming, Liquor & Cannabis (AGLC) in November 2022. Many rural community organizations and charities including those in Woodlands County work at casinos to supplement their revenue, following approval from AGLC. The move to Edmonton would provide shorter wait times for approvals and higher revenue sharing for rural charities and community groups. MLAs Martin Long, and Glenn van Dijken will receive a copy of the letter of support.

Council is considering a transfer of Crown-owned property, east of Fort Assiniboine, to Alan

O'Brien Industries Ltd., pending the approval of a recreation plan and following public consultation. Mr. O'Brien would use the parcel to expand Woodlands RV Park and River Marina campground, which is already at capacity. Woodlands County intends to keep 10 metres of property around the parcel which was identified as a future trail in the Recreation Master Plan.

Whitecourt Ford was awarded the tender to provide Woodlands County with five ¾ ton trucks at a value of \$355,666.25 plus GST. Courtesy Chrysler was awarded the tender to provide Woodlands County with one 1 ton cab and chassis truck at a value of \$79,775 plus GST. The replacement of aging equipment was identified and approved in the 2023 capital budget.

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting is Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 9:30 am. The meeting is held in-person at the Municipal Office in Whitecourt and streamed on the Woodlands County YouTube channel. Agenda packages are available on the Woodlands County CivicWeb Portal.



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

Now Hiring Executive Chef NOC 6321

Responsibilities:

- Plan and direct food preparation and cooking banquets and specialty functions.
- Plan menus and ensure food meets quality standards
- Estimate food requirements and may estimate food and labour costs
- Supervise activities of sous-chefs, specialist chefs, cooks
- Arrange for equipment purchases and repairs
- Recruit and hire staff
- May prepare and cook food on a regular basis or for special guests or functions.
- Demonstrate new cooking techniques for and new equipment to the cooking staff
- Prepare and cook complete meals or specialty food, such as pastries, sauces, soups, salads, vegetables, meats, poultry, and fish dishes. Create and decorate food displays for special events such as banquets.
- Instruct cooks in the preparation, cooking garnishing, and presentation of food.
- Maintain records of food costs, consumption, sales, and inventory
- Analyze operating costs and other data

Qualification:

- Post Secondary diploma in Business Management, Culinary Arts, or Hospitality
- 3-5 years of supervisory or management experience in the Hospitality or Restaurant industry.
- Ability to provide leadership and communicate with all staff members.
- Ability to compute basic mathematical calculations.
- Knowledge of proper sanitation procedures and food safety guidelines.
- Understanding of food handling and sanitation standards.
- Understanding of restaurant operational procedures.
- Effective decision-making skills.
- Ability to acquire and maintain relationships e.g., associates, customers, and vendors.
- Positive communication and interpersonal skills.
- Positive attitude and a consistent display of professionalism.
- Innovative, detail-oriented, and quality conscious.
- Ability to endure abundant physical movements in carrying out job duties.
- Demonstrated ability to lead and direct a team.
- Ability to respond quickly in a dynamic and changing environment
- Knowledge of cost analysis, fiscal management, and budgeting techniques as an asset

Education: Post-secondary in business management, Culinary Arts or Hospitality

Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time, 44-hour work week

Employment Conditions: Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.

Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, and Health, After a 90-day probation period

Location: Twp.Rd, 602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, Alberta

Address: Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta T7S 1N3

Contact: 780-779-2727 or fax 780-706-7451 **Visit our website:** www.eaglerivercasino.ca

How to apply: Send your resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax.

Experience: 5 years or more

Language: English

Wage: \$70,000 per year.



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

Now Hiring Security Guard Supervisor NOC 62029

Responsibilities:

- Co-ordinate, assign and review the work of security guards and other service workers not elsewhere classified
- Establish work schedules and procedures and co-ordinate activities with other work units or departments
- Resolve work-related problems and prepare and submit progress and other reports
- Hire and train staff in job duties, safety procedures, and company policies
- Requisition of supplies and materials
- Ensure smooth operation of computer systems, equipment, and machinery, and arrange for maintenance and repair work
- Monitor quality and production levels
- May perform the same duties as workers supervised.
- Arrange for maintenance and repair work
- Assist clients/guests with special needs
- Co-ordinate activities with other work units or departments
- Ensure smooth operation of computer equipment and machinery
- Establish work schedules and procedures
- Handle emergency situations
- Monitor quality and production levels
- Prepare and submit progress and other reports
- Requisition or order materials, equipment, and supplies
- Resolve work-related problems
- Supervise the operation of mechanical equipment and machinery
- Supervise, co-ordinate and schedule (and possibly review) activities of workers
- Train staff/workers in job duties, safety procedures, and company policies.

Qualifications:

- Completion of college courses related to the area supervised may be required.
- Experience in the occupation supervised is usually required.
- Certification or licensing AGLC.
- Must be able to complete Smart training course
- Must have a valid driver's license class 5
- Must be able to complete AML.

Experience: 2 – 3 years.

Education: Completion of secondary school an asset.

Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time 44-hour work week.

Language: English

Employment Conditions: Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.

Wage: \$20.77 per hour.

Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, Health after 90-day probation period.

Location: Twp.Rd.602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, AB Canada.

Address: Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta Canada T7S-1N3

Contact: 780-779-2727 or Fax 780-706-7451

Visit our Website: www.eaglerivercasino.ca

How to Apply: Send resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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

If you enjoy a fast-paced, progressive work environment and you have a passion for serving the local community- then this may be the opportunity for you! We believe that our values of diversity, collaboration, innovation and mutual respect bring out the best in our team, and we are currently looking to fill the following positions:

- **Job#:** 23-010, Custodian, Casual Position
- **Job#:** 23-011, Parks and Open Spaces Operator (Gardener), Permanent, Full-time Position

Please visit www.whitecourt.ca for all employment opportunities and details on how to apply.



Northern Gateway Public Schools set eyes on advocacy ahead of spring provincial election

By Serena Lapointe



With the provincial election looming, the Board of Trustees for Northern Gateway Public Schools is focused on preparing advocacy documents for members to use when speaking with election candidates. Through their Advocacy Committee, the board sets priorities that best support staff and students. Pictured is Trustee Linda Wigton explained advocacy ideas for NGPS.

The Board of Trustees for Northern Gateway Public Schools discussed the upcoming election at a recent board meeting. The Advocacy Committee, whose purpose is to develop, support and monitor the Trustee Board's advocacy plan, provided an update on where things are right now.

Trustee Linda Wigton spoke on the committee's behalf. "We are asking that board members in various jurisdictions contact their local candidates and set up a meeting with them. We've provided two-minute pitches and further detail as well," she explained. Board-approved materials would be provided so that each board member could properly articulate the board's priorities.

Wigton suggested that the meetings could happen at the discretion of each member rather than providing concrete direction on how to go about it. She said that members could have meetings in a cohort, with people join-

ing them. The purpose of the meeting is ultimately to make sure that each candidate understands what Northern Gateway Public Schools is advocating for on behalf of students and staff.

"We discussed at what point would we, the board, meet with our MLAs post-election. We could set up some kind of meeting where we would bring all the MLAs in and have a meeting with the board, whether formal or informal; however, we as a board decide that." She conveyed the importance of meeting with candi-

dates before and after the provincial election, slated for May 29. "It was really important for the committee to be really clear, and non-partisan, with all of our candidates what our priorities are," said Wigton.

The first priority slated for the handout was to meet the increased and complex needs of learners. "There are two bullets under that. (One is) the expanding mandate, in other words, we are being asked to do more and more for more people with less and less, and increased student need. The pandemic learning

loss and shortage of specialized service providers in rural areas is leaving students in rural Alberta at a serious disadvantage. That's our first message," said Wigton.

"Our second message is that 30 percent of Alberta Health's specialized service positions in our communities are vacant. This is leaving teaching staff to manage increasingly complex classrooms," explained Wigton. Trustee Gerry Steinke asked about the vacancies. "When we talk about 30 percent of healthcare specialized service positions

being vacant, where do we get that information from? Is that a reference to student-based specialized services that we use, or is it for all Alberta health positions in small communities?"

Superintendent Kevin Bird said the number was from an NGPS staff survey and that they were positions that specifically served their students. "That's specific to us," stated Bird. Trustee Steinke suggested changing the wording so that it clearly reflects that the 30 percent is specific to NGPS communities and their children.

The second priority also focused on dual credit, employment readiness and post-secondary learning opportunities for senior and rural students. "Employment readiness programs and post-secondary options must be available to rural students in their rural communities. Funding for dual credit programming should be restored," commented Wigton.

The third item stated that NGPS supports pub-

lic education that "welcomes every student." From there, Wigton said the brochure would include examples of the priorities to round it all together. "Examples are really important, I think," said Wigton. Specific to specialized services that help students, she pointed to speech-language, counselling and mental health support programs and providers who live, work and are accessible in rural communities.

"PUF funding (Program Unit Funding) for kindergarten has been cut, and we are seeing a change in how early learning is happening in some of our communities because of that. ParentLink, and other learning programs, help support these early learners at the preschool age and help parents in understanding the needs of early learners," explained Wigton. "The loss of ParentLink in Whitecourt was huge," she added. Wigton said trustees are encouraged to talk with parents of

continued on page 9



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



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.

Visit www.whitecourtpress.com

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

COIN SHOW and SALE - Canada's largest. 11 & 12 March 2023, 10 am - 4:30 pm. Lions Centre 11113 - 113 Street, Edmonton. Free market evaluations. Dealers from across Canada, auctions, displays, coin striking. Family friendly. www.edmontoncoinclub.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.

Commercial Property

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.

Employment Opportunities

FREIGHTLAND CARRIERS INC. is looking for owner/operators to deliver tri-flat deck freight in Alberta, Saskatchewan or BC. Monday to Friday work. Steady year-round work with substantial increases in rates. Contact Freightland by email at dispatch@freightland.ca or telephone toll free 1-800-917-9021.

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.

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.

Notices

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 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.

Services

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.accesslegalmj.com.

GET BACK ON TRACK! Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need Money? We Lend! If you own your own home

- you qualify. Pioneer Acceptance Corp. Member BBB. 1-877-987-1420. www.pioneerwest.com.

PRIVATE MORTGAGE LENDER. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. Toll free 1-866-405-1228 www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca.

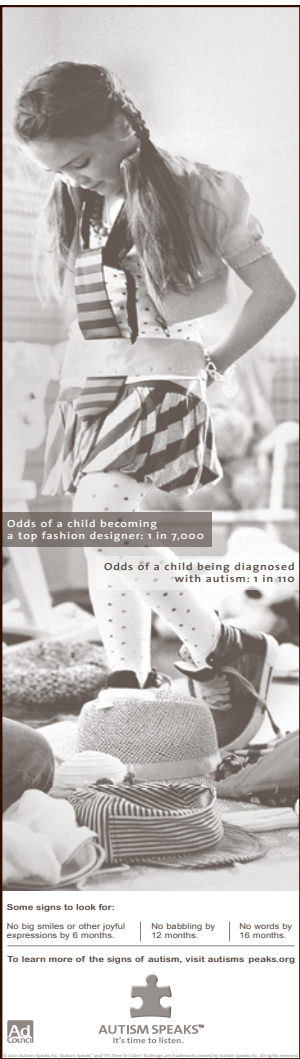
continued from page 8

young children about support programs and encourage advocacy for early learner supports with both municipalities and the government.

The Advocacy Committee looked at programs that have been affected by changes at the provincial level. "We feel as a committee that although there may have been some issues with dual credit, and certainly even with PUF funding, they (provincial government) did throw the baby out with the bath water. They really missed the mark (with) getting rid of these two programs, and it really impacted our rural students terribly," explained Wigton. "The government needs to look at that, and we need to

look at how to support our students with getting post-secondary training in their communities."

She said increasing satellite learning opportunities, including post-secondary training options in rural communities, is an important advocacy focus. "We all know when we look around in our communities; we know students in our communities that are not moving into post-secondary because the cost is prohibitive for them to move into the city or to move away from home. It's a huge disadvantage, and we need to make our elected officials aware of that." The Advocacy Committee will continue working on the document before seeking board approval and fanning it out to members.



Odds of a child becoming a top fashion designer: 1 in 7,000
Odds of a child being diagnosed with autism: 1 in 160

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.

Squeeze the MOST out of your advertising dollars

Advertise Province-wide **\$995** with a combined circulation of over 750,000 for only... plus GST/HST

Value Ad Network

Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association toll free 1-800-282-6903 x225 email classifieds@awna.com or visit your community newspaper

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.74 US Dollar at an exchange rate of **0.7421** (using nominal rate).

Dollar Values as of February 21, 2023

WOMBANIA™

THAT'S NOTHING! MY HUMAN IS SO OLD, HE DRINKS WATER FROM A GLASS, NOT A BOTTLE!

YOU'RE LYING!

NO WAY!

by PETER MARINACCI

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.

A look at the local weather	Tue., Feb 21	Wed., Feb 22	Thu., Feb 23	Fri., Feb 24	Sat., Feb 25
	A few flurries	Mix of sun and clouds	Mix of sun and clouds	Mainly sunny	A few flurries
P.O.P.	40%	20%	30%	30%	40%
High	-15°C	-19°C	-18°C	-9°C	-2°C
Low	-24°C	-25°C	-26°C	-16°C	-11°C
Wind	NW 13 km/h	NW 8 km/h	SE 6 km/h	W 9 km/h	W 23 km/h
24-Hr Rain / Snow	<1cm	-	-	-	<1cm

continued from page 1

and ice blocks were on hand for building forts.

Those who hadn't seen the skating oval near the concession building yet got to see it for the first time and lace their skates up to give it a whirl. A stocked fire pit beside it kept everyone toasty. Nearby there were tables set up with volunteers offering deliciously fresh fried Bannock.

To warm up, attendees grabbed hot cocoa and a bite at the free barbecue. Also on Saturday were sleigh rides. Families lined up for their turn to climb up onto the wagon and be pulled around by two beautiful horses from Cactus Patch Ranch. To handle the large crowd, two wagons were going simultaneously.

Croki curl was another fun event to try out. Created in 2016 by two Canadian ladies and played for the first time in Winnipeg, the game blends two favourites; curling and the Crokinole board game. Water jugs with frozen coloured water inside made for the perfect "stones" to play with. A coloured ice surface with pylons frozen in place gave attendees a chance for some friendly competition.

There were various games to try, including a scavenger hunt with prizes up for grabs. The hunt had families use their smarts to decode clues. A code translator was provided along with the first word to translate, which led them to the following location, with six spots to find in all, spread around the park site.

Many of the activities remained the follow-

continued on page 11



A wagon ride.



A shot at Croki curl.



Wheeee!

A busy sliding hill.



Cooking up a batch.



Cheeeese!



That was fun!!



A trio of smiling cooks.

NOTICE OF DECISION

A decision has been made regarding the following development permit application:

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION	LOCATION	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	DECISION	DATE OF DECISION
15-002-2023	PT. SE 23-59-12-W5M Lot 8 Block 1 Plan 962-0522	Garden Suite	APPROVED with conditions	15-Feb-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., March 8, 2023.**

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

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



JOHN BURROWS
Councillor for Blue Ridge
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
Timber Division 7
E-Mail: devin.williams@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-305-1825



JEREMY WILHELM
Councillor for
Whitecourt East Division 4
E-Mail: jeremy.wilhelm@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-6594



DAVE KUSCH
Councillor for Assiniboine
Division 1
E-Mail: dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-5337



ALAN DEANE
Councillor for Whitecourt
Central Division 3
E-Mail: alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-0894



PETER KUELKEN
Councillor for Goose Lake/
Freeman River Division 6
E-Mail: peter.kuelken@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-264-2425



Page sponsored by



Alberta Newsprint Company wishes you and yours 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.



Out enjoying the day.



A snowy wagon ride.

continued from page 10

ing day for families that couldn't make it to Rotary Park on Saturday. Cro-kicurl and the scavenger hunt remained accessible to those who went on Sunday, extending the fun. The ice slide and skating oval will remain usable as the weather conditions allow.

On Monday, there were two more events for families to enjoy. Free public skating at the Scott Safety Centre ran midday. All residents needed to do to participate was bring along a donation to the Whitecourt Food Bank. After skating, families went downtown to the Vista Theatre to watch a movie at 2 pm.

Mild temperatures and light snow on Saturday brought many families out to enjoy the afternoon together. The purpose of Family Day is to celebrate the importance of family life while celebrating the many families within the community. Given the attendance, Whitecourt definitely enjoyed the celebration!

WE DELIVER Bulk Fuel & Lubricants

Pembina West Petroleum
780-778-3239

3862 - 30 St, Whitecourt, AB

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

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



OPEN FOR TENDER

The Town of Whitecourt has the following project Open for Tender:

- 2023 Street Improvement Program

Tenders Close: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 2:00p.m.

A full description of the project details will be included on the Tender posting on APC. Tender Documents will only be distributed electronically in digital PDF format through Alberta Purchasing Connection (APC) <http://www.purchasingconnection.ca/>. Any inquiries for this project must be sent no later than 72-hours prior to submission deadline, and can be sent to Juan Grande at JuanGrande@whitecourt.ca or 780-778-2273.

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

780-865-5815

We're there where you need us most!

Road Monitoring & Radar Services

Servicing Woodlands and Yellowhead Counties

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...

Thank you 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



Staff from the Whitecourt Food Bank were busy spreading the love around town last week. On Friday, February 17, Food Bank Director Lori Coffey and super-volunteer, Shirlyz, dropped off some delicious chocolate treats at each of the area's schools to brighten the day for teachers (Central School and Pat Hardy Primary, pictured). The duo then brought chocolates to the police station and the fire department. The random acts of chocolatey kindness brought smiles to everyone's faces, including their own. Great job, ladies!