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The Press

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Vol. 12 - Issue 38 | Wednesday, September 20, 2023

How Whitecourt and Woodlands County fared during Canada's worst fire season



Photo courtesy Alberta Wildfire

A view of the Shiningbank fire from Alberta Wildfire. See story page 8.

Wolverines Hockey is back for another year, in Whitecourt's newly named JDA Place

By Serena Lapointe

The time for AJHL hockey has arrived in Whitecourt! Fans of the Whitecourt Wolverines kicked off the 2023/2024 season on Friday and Saturday

night at the newly minted JDA Place, previously known as the Scott Safety Centre. The first match-up for the hometown squad was against the Camrose Kodiaks, and it

was a nail-biter.

Something new for the team this year is that there are co-captains. The Wolverines have never had a pair

continued on page 10



Melo (#20) pulling away from the crowd.



Patrick Carew

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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



WHITECOURT LAUNCHES 2024 BUDGET CONSULTATION

Let us know where you would like to see your tax dollars invested for the 2024 budget. Be part of the 2024 Budget process, and share your comments.

Town Council encourages you to share your thoughts on projects and plans at the 2024 Budget Public Input Session. The session is scheduled during the Regular Meeting of Council at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, September 25 at 4:00 p.m.
Forest Interpretive Centre – Council Chambers
3002 – 33 Street, Whitecourt

Community members that are unable to attend the Public Input session are encouraged to submit written comments to the following address by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, September 20:

Town of Whitecourt
Box 509, 5004 52 Avenue
Whitecourt AB T7S 1N6
administration@whitecourt.ca

Verbal comments will also be accepted during business hours by Tara Gallant, Legislative Manager, at 780-778-2273. Comments must be made by Wednesday, September 20 in order to be summarized for Council for the September 25 Regular Meeting.

All comments received regarding the 2024 Budget will be considered by Council during budget deliberations.

NATIONAL COACHES APPRECIATION WEEK SEPTEMBER 16 – 24, 2023

Whitecourt Town Council encourages the citizens of Whitecourt to recognize September 16 – 24, 2023 as National Coaches Appreciation Week. Coaches provide a positive impact to athletes throughout our community and residents are encouraged to thank the coach that has helped them in life or to perform at their best. Sport is the biggest volunteer segment in Canada and those volunteers are a crucial part of building a healthy, active, community.
#thankscoachWCT

NOTICE OF DECISION

The following decisions were made by the Municipal Planning Commission:

Application 23-109: 27 Baly Road – Discretionary use – Home Occupation – Tattoo shop – Approved with conditions.

Application 23-116: 15 Leedy Drive – Discretionary use – Secondary suite – Approved with conditions.

Date of Decisions: September 14, 2023 **Appeal Closes at 4:00pm:** October 5, 2023

An Appeal of the above decision(s) may be made by submitting a written appeal and appeal fee (\$300) to the Office of the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, Town of Whitecourt Administration Building, Box 509, Whitecourt, Alberta, T7S 1N6 prior to 4:00pm on the above noted date. Any person(s) affected by the said proposal(s), has the right to appeal prior to the above date.

RAIL SAFETY WEEK SEPTEMBER 18 TO 24, 2023

Whitecourt Town Council encourages the citizens of Whitecourt to recognize September 18 – 24, 2023 as Rail Safety Week. We encourage all residents to practice safe behaviour around tracks and trains to eliminate injuries and fatalities. For more information on rail safety, please go to www.operationlifesaver.ca.



The crosswalk between the library and the mall.



Adding in the final pieces.



One letter at a time.



Judy Ducharme hand painted each design element without the need for stencils.



Posing with the finished crosswalk after a long day of painting.

On Saturday, a group of women worked beneath the hot sun to paint the crosswalk beside the library in a beautiful orange hue. It's the second year that the Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society has painted this section of 52 Avenue, which links the Whitecourt Library and the Midtown Mall, ahead of Orange Shirt Day on September 30. Judy Ducharme travelled from Peace River to create and paint the mural design, which features an Inukshuk for Inuit Peoples, six dots to represent Treat 6, a feather for First Nations Peoples and the Metis symbol at the feather's tip. Three wavy lines represent the Aurora Borealis, and the saying "Every Child Matters" is painted in white sparkle-infused paint, which glitters and dances with the sunlight. Society board members joined Ducharme to paint the sidewalk, including president Faye Myshyniuk, who said she hopes it encourages awareness. "People should respect and honour the memory of the children who didn't make it home from Residential School and the survivors." She encourages everyone to participate in the Orange Shirt Day events at Festival Park on Saturday, September 30. "Everyone is invited to come. We will have a bannock-making station, and Dallas Arcand is returning." The day includes a Metis fiddler and jigger, singers and drummers, face painting, Metis finger weaving, Indigenous stories, Teepee Teachings including dot art, survivor stories, Honour songs and giveaways. She said there will be several activities for attendees to take part in. "It's a come one come all event. Everyone is invited to come, and we hope they learn a bit about our Metis and First Nations cultures. It's going to be a great day," said Myshyniuk. To learn more about what's coming for Orange Shirt Day, visit the Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society Facebook page.

**NEED HELP? CALL
ANYTIME! (24-7)**

Mental Health Helpline 1-877-303-2642

• Addiction Helpline 1-866-332-2322

• Health Link 811

Whitecourt Town Council updates

Whitecourt has applied for Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) funding as a result of flooding experienced in June 2023. An estimated \$2.4 million in infrastructure damages and related response costs were experienced; this estimate does not include the damages of private residences or businesses. If the application is approved, those Whitecourt property owners impacted by the incident can apply to the program for funding within DRP. Whitecourt will inform the community when the Province has made a

decision on its application.

Whitecourt will be applying to the Forest Resources Association of Alberta for funding for a 2-year FireSmart Coordinator contract position. This new position will be responsible for coordinating FireSmart projects (such as the FireSmart Home Assessment program and vegetation management projects), as well as building awareness and public engagement on FireSmart principles to reduce wildfire risk in the region.

National Coaches Appreciation Week

is September 16-24, 2023. Community members are encouraged to submit nominations for local coaches as part of the recognition event.

Council has awarded Pembina West Co-Op with the contract to provide fuels services for Whitecourt fleet for a period of 5 years starting January 1, 2024.

Council has awarded the Water System Upgrades Access Road project to Westcore Contracting. The project includes construction of an access road to allow vehicle access to up to 1.5 kilometres of water system valves, hydrants, and piping east of Dahl Drive.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC TRUSTEE?

There are two vacant Trustee positions for the Whitecourt Ward.

The deadline for nominations is **September 25, 2023 at noon**. Please note that nominations **must** be submitted in person to **Returning Officer, Bryan Turner**, at the Board Office in Whitecourt (4204 Kepler St.)

Nomination packages are available at the Living Waters Board Office or online at the following link:
[Trustee Nomination Package](#)

FORM 3 **Notice of Nomination Day**
Local Authorities Election Act (Section 26)

LOCAL JURISDICTION: Living Waters Catholic Separate School Division, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Day is September 25, 2023 and that nominations for the

election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the location of the local jurisdiction

office set out below within the period beginning on June 28, 2023

and ending at 12:00 noon on Nomination Day.

Office(s)	Number of Vacancies	Ward or Electoral Division Number (If Applicable)
School Board Trustee - Whitecourt	2	Ward 3

Location (Address) of Local Jurisdiction Office:

Living Waters Catholic Separate School Division
Box 1949, 4204 Kepler St.
Whitecourt, AB
T7S 1P6

DATED at the _____ town of _____ Whitecourt, in the Province of Alberta, this 28 day of June, 2023.

Returning Officer

Art Downtown



On 50 Street, where K W Pets once stood, two blank walls used to flank the empty space. Now, there's only one. On the side attached to Whitecourt Drycleaners is a giant mural featuring calligraphy-styled art and uplifting messaging. The design has three intricate mandala circles and the words "community" and "dream big." Next time you're downtown, make sure you take a look.

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 joel@larrmanagementcorp.ca

DISCRETIONARY USE APPLICATION 15-054-2023

Location: PT SW 27-59-10-W5M Lot 13 Block 2 Plan 892-0200
Proposed Development: Instructional/Public Use: Church Hall
Response Deadline: September 27, 2023, 4:30 pm
Decision Date: October 4, 2023, 4:30 pm, Whitecourt Municipal Office

For full details on Development Permits visit
https://woodlands.ab.ca/
Email: planning@woodlands.ab.ca
Call: 1-888-870-6315

DIRECTOR, CORPORATE SERVICES

The Community:

Woodlands County is a vibrant rural municipality with a thriving economy. They are located approximately 150 kilometers northwest of Edmonton, with administrative offices in the Hamlet of Fort Assiniboine and adjacent to the Town of Whitecourt, Alberta. The economy is rooted in Energy, Forestry, Agriculture and Construction. Communities offer a wide range of lifestyle options including recreational facilities, campgrounds, trails and an abundance of access to natural settings, including lakes and rivers, a great place to live and raise a family.

Position Summary:

The County is recruiting a new Director, Corporate Services to facilitate Council financial plans, bylaws and policies. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to enhance the well-being of the municipality and help shape the future of the County resulting in long term sustainability and efficiencies for County residents.

Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Director will assist in providing direction and leadership to all corporate and management service programs. Direct responsibility includes all finance functions, taxation, assessment, asset management, and risk management, management of external services, policy development, Information technology, human resource management and reception. The successful candidate will be required to attend at Council meetings as necessary.

Requirements:

A Bachelor's degree and CLGM designation (or willingness to obtain) combined with experience working in Municipal Government and comprehensive knowledge of PSAB practises.

Strong written and oral communications skills, public relations skills, practical problem solving ability combined with a demonstrated success in working effectively with elected officials, members of the public and managers and staff in a team environment.

The ability to work effectively and efficiently, performing well under pressure while dealing with contentious matters. Must have the ability to maintain strong attention to detail and possess solid financial and reconciliation skills.

Knowledge & experience with municipal IT programs with an aptitude and interest in Information technology.

Other:

Woodlands County offers an exceptional salary and benefits package.

Detailed information, such as a job description and organization chart will be forwarded upon request through the following contact:

(Submit a cover letter and detailed resume to Matt Noble, Ravenhill - Smith Search Inc.) matt@ravenhillgroup.com

Any questions should be directed to Matt Noble, Team Leader, Ravenhill Group Inc. 1-888-447-5910 #709, 1-250-941-9066 or 1-236-655-2365

OUR LOCATIONS

HEAD OFFICE

First Canadian Place
100 King Street West, Ste.
5600
Toronto, Ontario M5X 1C9
Phone: 1-647-880-8594
Toll Free: 1-888-447-5900

ALBERTA OFFICE

330, 2946-32 St.
Calgary, Alberta, T1Y 6J7
Phone: (403) 612-5900

BC OFFICE

1280 Wilkinson Road, Suite
300
Comox, BC, V9M 4B8
Phone: 1-236-655-2365

MEMBERS AT LARGE REQUIRED

BECOME INVOLVED IN THE DECISIONS THAT AFFECT YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY!

Woodlands County is seeking applications and letters of interest from residents to serve as members on the municipality's Council Committees.

- Agriculture Services Board - 1 vacancy
Airport Advisory Committee - 1 fixed wing and 1 rotary vacancy (*must be resident or facility user/owner*)
Economic Development Committee - 2 vacancies
Municipal Planning Commission - 2 vacancies
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board - 1 vacancy
Community Services Committee - 1 adult vacancy & 1 youth vacancy
Woodlands County Library Board - 2 vacancies (3-year term)

Positions are held for a two-year period from November 1, 2023, to October 31, 2025, (unless otherwise stated).

Learn more about each committee and apply online at woodlands.civicweb.net or submit letters of interest and/or resume and experience to either of our municipal offices.

Application Deadline: Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 4:30pm

Submit Applications to:

Email: carey.stephens@woodlands.ab.ca

In-Person:

Woodlands County
Municipal Office, #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt, AB
Regional Municipal Office, 61053A Highway 33,
Fort Assiniboine, AB



DAVE KUSCH
Councillor for Assiniboine Division 1
dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-5037



JOHN BURROWS
Councillor for Whitecourt West Division 2
john.burrows@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-4747



ALAN DEANE
Councillor for Whitecourt Central Division 3
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-0934



JEREMY WILHELM
Councillor for Whitecourt East Division 4
jeremy.wilhelm@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-6254



BRUCE PRESTIDGE
Councillor for Blue Ridge Division 5
bruce.prestidge@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-3917



PETER KUELKEN
Councillor for Goose Lake/Froestean River Divisions 6
peter.kuelken@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-284-2425



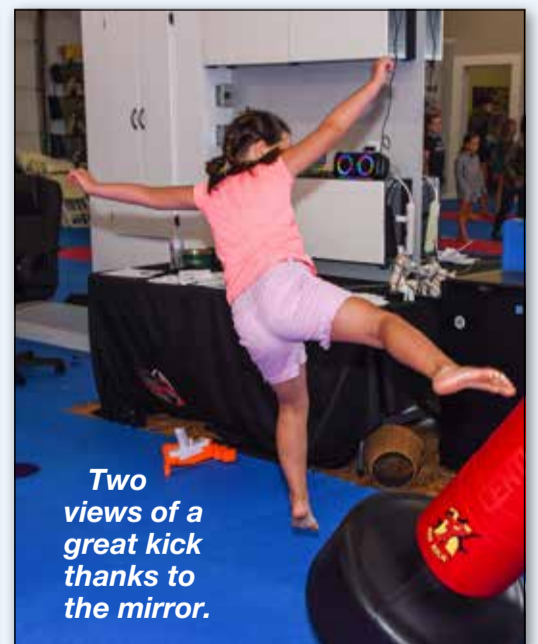
DEVIN WILLIAMS
Councillor for Fort Assiniboine/Temsa Divisions 7
devin.williams@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-305-1825



Huge kick in motion!



Master Rennie guiding how to kick.



Two views of a great kick thanks to the mirror.

These youth were among the last to wrap up summer training at Whitecourt Taekwondo. Fall classes have just started, and things are getting back into the normal swing of things, but at the end of August, these kids were the main event, kicking, jumping and having a blast, showing off their skills. Master Jim Rennie led the camp and said that quite a few of the students taking part were not in regular taekwondo classes and said the two sold-out Action Camps held over the summer gave kids the chance to try the sport out. "The hardest thing is going for the first time and not knowing what to expect," he said. Rennie said the kids did a great job and learned a lot. He hopes to see the new faces continue with taekwondo.

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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



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**

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



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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*

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



Family Resource & Crisis Centre
www.whitecourtshester.ca



GRIEF SHARE

Weekly grief support group starting Tuesday, 19 September through Tuesday, 5 December, 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.**

Whitecourt Alcoholics Anonymous Group



Meetings are three times each week

- Monday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Wednesday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Friday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

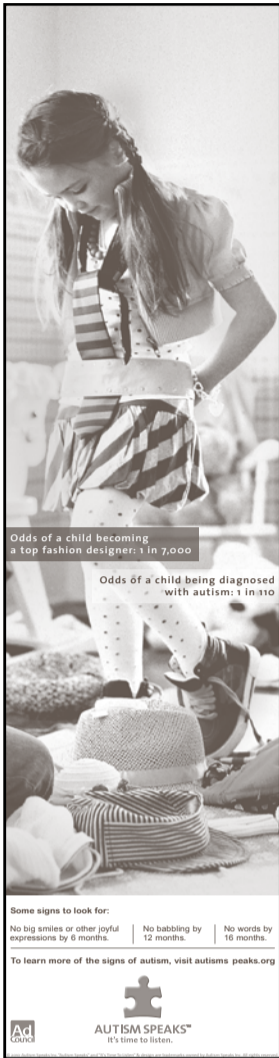
Located at the United Church Basement on Legion Street (formerly 5201 - 50 Street)
More info Contact: (780)286-5144. Please Leave a Message for Our AA member or Contact Addictions Helpline @1(866)332-2322



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- Hammertoes
- Warts

- Athlete's Foot
- Ankle Sprains
- Diabetic Foot Care
- Forefoot Pain
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A look at the local weather

P.O.P.
High
Low
Wind
24-Hr Rain / Snow



Wed., Sept 20
Chance of a shower
40%
13°C
3°C
W 20 km/h



Thu., Sept 21
Mainly sunny
20%
16°C
4°C
SW 16 km/h



Fri., Sept 22
Sunny
0%
17°C
4°C
SE 15 km/h



Sat., Sept 23
Sunny
10%
17°C
5°C
SE 23 km/h



Sun., Sept 24
Sunny
10%
19°C
8°C
SE 13 km/h

How Whitecourt and Woodlands County faired during Canada's worst fire season



Photo courtesy Alberta Wildfire



Photo courtesy Alberta Wildfire

Spraying retardant onto a fire.

After a hectic summer for emergency crews, firefighters, municipal administrators, and staff, Whitecourt and Woodlands County recently reviewed how the fire season was handled in the area.

By Serena Lapointe

With summer winding down, the Administrations for the Town of Whitecourt and Woodlands County recently wrapped up the last few months, providing finalized information from the fire events that affected the area. Sheldon Schoepp, Manager of Protective Services in Woodlands County,

and Lee Hardman, Director of Community Safety for Whitecourt, recently presented the activity from spring and summer to their respective councils.

On May 5, 2023, there was a rash of wildland fire activity detected in the region, several within proximity of Woodlands County. "We had three fairly large wild-

land fires that were indicated to us from the Government of Alberta and Alberta Wildfire," explained Schoepp, speaking of the lightning-caused fires near Shiningbank, Fox Creek and Swan Hills.

He explained that though all three fires grabbed their attention,

continued on page 9

A raging inferno.





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Amanda Stanchfield

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Whitecourt, Alberta T7S 1N9







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As the colours of autumn paint our forests, we remind you to take necessary precautions to make this a safe season. From the last days of camping and hiking to the start of hunting season and the inevitable snow that follows, take a moment to make sure you and yours are best prepared.

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



The Shiningbank fire as seen from Highway 32.



Nearby fires made for a smoky Whitecourt.

continued from page 8

the Shiningbank wildfire took priority. “It just touched our County. Not very much entered into Woodlands, but it did enter. In reference to where it was located, it was 27 kilometres southwest of the Town of Whitecourt footprint.” Schoepp said that residents in the area were quickly notified and that emergency measures were implemented. “We contacted the residents in the area by phone and in person. I was out in the area myself, along with our fire departments, emergency responders, and other agencies. We had face-to-face contact with residents out there.”

Preparedness activities took place, including structural protection equipment on ten County residences in the Anselmo area, done in step with the Whitecourt Fire Department.

They also prepped water sources near the area in advance, including three 400-barrel water tanks. “As we know, water sources are very sparse out there, so we wanted to make sure that we had enough water just in case these fires decided to come into more of Woodlands County,” said Schoepp.

Woodlands County had roaming fire watch crews running 24 hours a day, for roughly seven days, to keep a close eye on the north-northeast portion of the Shiningbank fire. Crews had their fingers ready on the trigger to radio of any movement into the County. They also hired a fire safety contractor company and placed them on standby in case they needed extra help. Woodlands applied to the Disaster Relief Program from the Government of Alberta for \$112,936.00, helping the program

will cover most of the proactive costs incurred. Thankfully, no homes in Woodlands County were affected by the fires and several residents had home assessments done by the Whitecourt Fire Department to further protect themselves.

The numerous regional fires brought heavy smoke, fear, and hundreds of evacuees to the Town of Whitecourt. With Woodlands County and Whitecourt working together to keep watch on the nearby fires, Whitecourt focused on becoming a destination for those fleeing, seeking a soft place to land. On May 6, the AJMC morphed into a reception centre for displaced Fox Creek residents, who were later joined by those from the MD of Greenview and Valleyview.

In the two weeks that the centre remained open, the Town of

Whitecourt supported over three thousand residents from the evacuated communities at a cost of just over \$72,000. The Whitecourt Fire Department also joined the action, helping fight raging infernos in Fox Creek and Edson to the tune of \$144,620. Hardman explained that supportive costs would be recouped from the impacted municipalities.

Whitecourt continues to be an evacuee holdout with residents from the Northwest Territories. Over 460 have received assistance through the end of August. Whitecourt also sent a crew of four firefighters and one apparatus to assist efforts in Yellowknife.

At a news conference on September 7, Canada’s Minister of Emergency Preparedness, Harjit Sajjan, said nearly every province had accessed federal funding due to fires

this year. When asked about Canada creating a national force to fight wildfires, he said all options were on the table. Sajjan added that the government was looking at preparedness for all kinds of disasters. “We’re looking at all different types of disasters, doing the lessons learned, and we’ll come out with the appropriate response,” he said.

Specific to wildfires, Energy and Natural Resources Minister Jonathan Wilkinson said Canada’s unprecedented wildfire season isn’t over yet. Speaking at the same news conference as Sajjan, Wilkinson said wildland fire activity could extend into late fall or even winter, especially from eastern Alberta to central Ontario. He added that the fires up north would continue to smoulder.

Over one thousand fires have burned in

Alberta this year, and as of Friday, September 15, there were still 81 active fires. The Lac La Biche Forest Area saw the most fire activity, with 180 fires. The Whitecourt Forest Area has had 54 fires so far, including several large footprint fires, including the Fox Creek fire that grew to over 66,000 ha.

Alberta’s wildfire season runs until October 31, and recent dry, windy weather creates risk. In a recent social media post, Alberta Wildfire reminded residents to “use caution when recreating in the forest” and to be extra careful when extinguishing campfires. “Soak it, stir it, and soak it again until the ashes are cool to the touch. When we send firefighters to extinguish abandoned campfires, we are taking them away from other duties,” read the post.



A close call.



- Tatarenko (#13) leaning in for a big hit.

You know summer is ending once Wolverines hockey starts up again. This past weekend, the Whitecourt Wolverines took on two tough teams to kick off the 2023/2024 season.

continued from page 1

of captains sharing the leadership role at season kick-off. Colby Browne and Dylan Leslie are the two taking on the big job.

The first period was a blowout for the visitors, with two goals in the first seven minutes and twenty seconds. The 751 fans in the stands grew slightly anxious watching their team go down by two so quickly, but hope was not lost. With just three minutes left, new Wolverine forward Joey Melo (#20) sniped a shot past the Kodiak goalie and got his team on the board. The Kodiaks got one more goal before the period ended, closing the first period of the 2023/2024 season

with the Wolverines down by two.

In the second period, fans were whipped into a frenzy at exactly the five-minute mark thanks to second-year favourite Colby Browne. The Evergreen, Colorado native received assists from Matthew Sutter and Braden Keeble, with all three nabbing their first points of the season. Aside from three Kodiak penalties, the second period ended without much fanfare.

In the third, newcomer #92 Jaxon Priddle, who hails from Sarnia, Ontario, scored his first goal as a Wolverine thanks to assists from Caleb MacDonald and Jalen Bianchet. The goal scored early in the period, tied things up at three a piece. Fans were ecstatic and ready

for their first overtime of the season.

The Wolverines had two close calls thanks to two penalties to the Kodiaks, hooking and high-sticking, but couldn't get past the visitor's goalie, Charlie Zolin. After an excruciating extra frame, the Kodiaks and Wolverines had only one thing left to do: a shootout.

The Kodiaks chose #18 Alexander Bryson and #88 Rhett Miller as their shooters, while the Wolverines chose #91 Colby Browne and #71 Kaiden Wiltsie. The Kodiaks scored on both attempts, and their goalie kept the cage shut when the Wolverines attempted. Camrose took the game 4-3.

The next night, on Saturday, September 16, the Brooks Bandits rolled into town,

hoping to steal a game away from the Wolverines. After a hard-fought loss the night before, the home team was eager to give their local fans a big win. With 677 in attendance, the Wolverines had work to do, given the Bandits were the reigning champs from last season's AJHL playoffs and bound to be one tough cookie.

The game's first whistle came just one minute and thirty-three seconds in when Wolverine Elijah Brown was called for tripping. As he sat for two in the sin bin, the Bandits scored and took an early lead. Nearly halfway through the period, Spencer Rheume, who took countless hits throughout the game, was called for holding. The Wolverines

worked hard to kill off the penalty, knock the puck off several sticks, and survive the two minutes. Unfortunately for the home team, twenty-two seconds after the successful penalty kill, the Bandits scored, increasing their lead to 2-0.

Neither team added to the scoreboard in the second period, but there were five penalties. The Brooks Bandits sat twice, once for interference and once for tripping, while the Whitecourt Wolverines sat three times. Tatarenko took two penalties, one for checking from behind and the other for game misconduct.

Things didn't get any better in the third. Two goals from the Brooks Bandits doubled the lead to 4-0, creating a

deep hole for the Wolverines to try and climb out of. Though they fought valiantly against the refs and the Bandits, the Wolverines couldn't break through the impenetrable wall at the other end of the ice.

Following the challenging weekend opener, the Wolverines will hit the road and look to right the ship by slotting games into the win column. The team will head down south for five games, including two AJHL Showcase games at the Max Bell Centre in Calgary. The Wolverines will be back in Whitecourt at JDA Place on Thursday, October 5, to take on the Blackfalds Bulldogs, and on Monday, October 9, they will take on the Drayton Valley Thunder.



A convergence of players after the faceoff.



Ref calling off what looked like a goal, to the relief of fans.



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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

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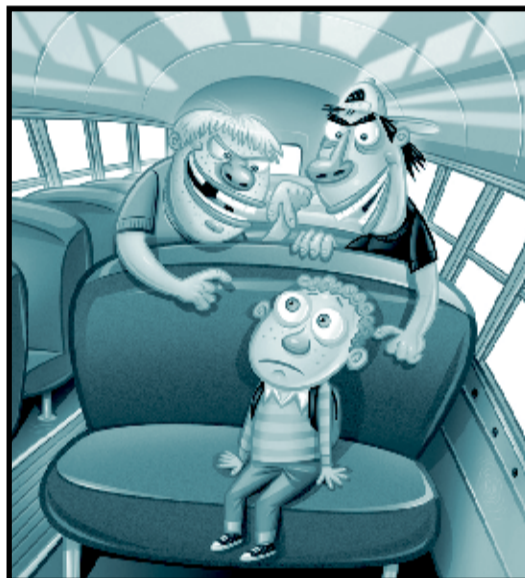


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Putting a face on suicide



Daniel Paul Karr

Age - 25

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.

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The Press



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 **Experience:** 5 years or more
Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time, 44-hour work week **Language:** English
Employment Conditions: Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.
Wage: \$70,000 - 80,000 depending on experience.
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.

RCMP ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Evansburg RCMP arrests two males after break and enter to a lease site in Yellowhead County


On Sept. 13, 2023, at approximately 7:30 a.m., Evansburg RCMP received a complaint of two male suspects, seen breaking and entering into a lease site in Yellowhead County and stealing several batteries.

Police made immediate patrols in the area and were able to locate two adult males who were in possession of the stolen batteries. The adult males were arrested without incident. Upon further investigation, police located several machete type weapons, along with tools commonly used during break and enters.

As a result of the investigation, Dean Brendel (33), a resident of Evansburg, and Jason Pelletier (45), a resident of Onoway, have been charged with:

- Break and enter;
- Possession of break and enter instruments; and
- Possession of weapons dangerous to the public.

Brendel and Pelletier are well known to police, with a history of similar types of property offences. The accused were brought before a Justice of the Peace and were remanded into custody, with a next court date of Sept. 18, 2023, at the Alberta Court of Justice in St. Albert.



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by PETER MARINACCI



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Woodlands County Council Recap

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

Margaret Osborne, Anna Swan, and Jocelyn McKinnon of the Barrhead Community Victim Services Unit Association were in attendance to provide an update on their association. The association saw a high demand for their services in 2022 with their case files nearly doubling from the previous year. Council approved a \$3,000 contribution in support of their services.

A public hearing for Bylaw 606/23 – 2023LUA03 - Land Use Amendment for PT NE 28-59-12-W5M Plan 972-4048 Lot 1 was scheduled for 9:35 am, October 11, 2023, and Bylaw 602/23 – 2023LUA02 – Land Use Amendment for PT S 31-59-12-W5M Plan 082-5617 Block 5 Lot 1 was scheduled for 10 am, October 11, 2023. Both public hearings will be held at the Whitecourt Municipal Office.

Council will bring a proposed Floodway Development Regulation Bill 27 resolution to the next regional Pembina Zone 3 meeting. The resolution calls for the provincial government to expedite the implementation of an Alberta Flood Regulation to support improved floodway development, land-use planning, emergency response, and address other flood-related issues and risks.

Woodlands County is

forwarding an interim \$1.5 million payment to the Town of Whitecourt towards 2023 cost-share services.

Since 2020, the County has contributed \$3.5 million to Whitecourt for cost-share services, while the Intermunicipal Collaboration Agreement is finalized.

Council adopted amended Policy 6204 – Emergency Relief Assistance for Catastrophic Events. Woodlands County will provide \$1,000 to a resident that experiences an event that causes a total loss or uninhabitable conditions to their residence and/or total loss of a person's personal belongings, i.e., house fire, landslide.

Council adopted amended Policy 5103 – Youth Enrichment Subsidy (YES). It provides Woodlands County children and youth with up to a maximum of \$600 per year in funding to be able to participate in recreation, sports, arts, and culture programs. Funding will be issued throughout the year on a first come first serve basis.

The next scheduled meetings are Governance & Priorities meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 4 pm. The next regular Council meeting is Wednesday, September 27, 5:30 pm. Meetings are 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 Surveillance Supervisor NOC 62029

Responsibilities:

- Completes routine surveillance of the gaming floor identifying potential problems, such as poor game protection, suspicious individuals, and acting as a support unit to other departments in relation to the protection of company assets.
- Maintains accurate logs of all procedure violations or completing reviews of all material that is pertinent to site operations.
- Always maintain awareness of gaming operation and comply with security policies and procedures to secure company assets.
- This position requires the ability to communicate clearly, deal tactfully and work effectively with Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza, staff, and management.
- Ensure smooth operation of computer systems, equipment, and machinery, and arrange for maintenance and repair work.
- Monitor quality and production levels.
- Resolve work-related problems and prepare and submit progress and other reports
- May perform the same duties as workers supervised.
- Handle emergency situations.
- Monitor quality and production levels.

Qualifications:

- Completion of college courses related to the area supervised may be required.
- Completion of secondary school is usually required.
- Possesses detailed knowledge of casino table games, slots, poker policies, cash/slot cage, and count room policies and procedures.
- For this position you will be required to sit for long periods with computer monitors.
- 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

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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.

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Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.73 US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7387** (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of September 20, 2023

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.





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



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.

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This position is located in the town of Whitecourt, a vibrant community 170 kilometers northwest of Edmonton, offering excellent housing, educational and recreation opportunities.




Bus Contractor Needed

Northern Gateway Public Schools is currently accepting applications to provide school bus service for a five year contract agreement, commencing with the 2023-24 school year calendar, for the following routes:

Whitecourt Area

- Route 128 is an urban route. A 72-passenger bus is required. Contract amount is approximately \$47, 140.80 for the school year, excluding GST.

For complete information on this contract opportunity, please visit ngps.ca or contact Rhett Czaban at 780.778.2800 or 780.524.8331.

Applications will be accepted until noon on September 29, 2023; with service to commence immediately. Applications may be emailed to rhett.czaban@ngps.ca.

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Remnants of Summer



Passing the midpoint of September means that the dreaded "s" word could potentially appear any day. Given that, make sure you stop and enjoy the remnants of summer before it's too late. This beautiful stretch of flowers adorns the walkway leading up to the cenotaph and the Seniors Circle and is certainly worth a stop and a stare. Vibrant shades of purple, yellow, orange, pink and red, perfectly planted on both sides of the pathway, beg any passerby to notice them.

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