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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



The Press

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Vol. 12 - Issue 39 | Wednesday, September 27, 2023

First in-person career expo in three years, an excellent experience for job seekers and students



Whitecourt EcDev Officer Rhonda Woods (left) with Mayerthorpe Mayor Janet Jabush. See story page 8.

Onway-based artist shares tremendous talent with Whitecourt residents with a guest appearance at the local library

By Serena Lapointe

On Friday evening, in the Whitecourt & District Public Library parking lot, Library Assistant Lisa Daye held her first soapstone

carving class of the fall season. The incredibly talented staff member has been sharing her love of art since she joined the library years ago and has grown a following of residents

who join her adult classes.

With a dreamy forecast of beautiful fall weather, Daye decided to bring the class out-

continued on page 10



Hogg said his connection to the earth guides his art.



Patrick Carew

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PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15



SUDOKU

	3	8		9		6		
			7	8				
		4	1		6			5
		5				9		
8	6							
	9							7
			9	8		3		
3								5
2	4			3	1			

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Crossword Clues

CLUES ACROSS

- Type of cat
- Weaponry
- Western Christian Church service
- Significant eruption of pustules
- Baltic nation
- Start of American holiday season
- Unhappy
- Maintains possession of
- Metrical foot of one long and three short syllables
- Mountain pass
- Vestments
- Type of dish
- Escaped quickly
- Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
- Wings

- Political action committee
- Touches lightly
- Stood back from
- Philippine Island
- Popular winter activity
- Type of amine
- Small freshwater duck
- Filled with love
- Without (French)
- Vetch
- Swiss river
- Describes a sound
- Sign language
- Hair product
- Have surgery
- Quality of being imaginary
- Far-right German party
- Drove
- Former French coin of low value
- Hard, durable timbers

CLUES DOWN

- Body art
- Middle East military title
- Actor Pitt
- Container
- Speak incessantly
- Relating to algae
- Jacob __, journalist
- Rock TV channel
- Boat's cargo
- Most wise
- Within
- Chinese industrial city
- Scotland's longest river
- Not capable
- Footwear
- Savings account
- Capable
- Vaccine developer
- Tax collector
- Fencing swords
- Native religion in China
- Promotional materials
- A shot in a film production
- Afflict in mind or body
- A passage with access only at one end
- Breathing devices
- Employ for wages
- Kids' TV channel (abbr.)
- Popular Boston song
- Made amends
- Selling at specially reduced prices
- Atomic #18
- With fireplace residue
- Unleavened combread
- Draw out
- Southwestern Alaska island
- Where the Pyramids are
- People of Nigeria
- Smaller quantity
- Destroy the inside of
- City
- Chivalrous figure (abbr.)
- No (Scottish)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14						15			16			
17					18							
19					20			21				
				22			23					
24	25					26			27	28		
29	30					31			32	33		
34					35	36			37			
38				39					40			
41		42					43	44				
		45					46					
47	48					49				50	51	52
53						54			55	56		
57									58			
59						60			61			

HOROSCOPE

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Your compassion takes you many places, Aries. This week you may be compelled to reach out and do more volunteer work for a nonprofit that you hold dear.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Taurus, your friends need you to be steady this week, and that's just what you will give them. You like being in a leadership role and some-one others can depend on.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



Right now your to-do list is very small, which means you have loads of free time for recreational activities if you choose. Otherwise, you can simply bask in having nothing to do.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Cancer, you are in a frame of mind to learn some new skills, and this is just the week to get started. Begin slowly with a hobby or something that interests you.

LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



Leo, it can be challenging to remain low-key when others are excited all around you, but you must be serious with this new venture you are considering. There will be time to celebrate later.

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



Virgo, while others may want the spotlight, you are content to work behind the scenes for the time being. There is nothing wrong with being a supporting character.

LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



Take a few moments this week to go over spending, as you may determine that you have to reel in your budget a little more than you had expected, Libra.

SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



Scorpio, family responsibilities may continue to weigh you down a bit more than usual, leaving little time for romance. Try to make time when you can.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



You are interested in changing your living space in the days to come, and redecorating is at the top of the list, Sagittarius. Find out ways you can do it without breaking the bank.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Capricorn, you may be holding back on conversations for fear of not getting the answers you desire. Everything won't go your way, but failing to act is not the way to go.

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



You are ready to make some solid choices for your family and future, Aquarius. They may not align with what others feel is necessary, but stay true to your beliefs and needs.

PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



While you are prone to giving all of your energy away to others most of the time, this week you focus mostly on you, Pisces. It's a welcomed change that you deserve.

POULTRY WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|--------------|---------|------------|-------------|
| BREED | CHICK | DOMESTICATED | FOWL | PLUMAGE | ROASTER |
| BROILER | CHICKEN | EXHIBITION | HATCHED | POULTRY | TEMPERAMENT |
| CAPON | COLOR | FEATHERS | HEN | PRODUCTION | TURKEY |
| | COMB | FINISH | LAYER | PULLET | VARIETY |
| | | | | | WEIGHT |

Gray, Irma



With profound sadness the family announces the passing of Irma Gray of Whitecourt, AB, who went to be with Jesus on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at the age of 86 years.

Irma will be cherished and lovingly remembered by her children, Colleen (Claude) Philippet of St. Claude, MB, Debbie Gray, Shannon (Darcy) Cornock, Darrel (Penny), Kelly Gray (Frank Capello), all of Whitecourt, AB, Maureen Gray of Portage la Prairie, MB; daughter-in-law, Doris; grandchildren, Dawn, Lindsay, Bailey, Cory, Jason, Chantal, Mathew, Candace, Crystal, Francis, Thomas, Mitch, Kyle, Renee, Kylie, Kelsey, Adelle, and Shelby; 20 great-grandchildren; brother, Allen (Pat); sisters, Grace and Eva; numerous relatives; her dear friend, Cassie; and the countless friends who have known and loved "Mama Gray".

Irma was predeceased by her husband, Allan (2005); son, Allan Jr. (2016); parents, Len and Inez; brothers, Bobby and Floyd; sister, Jean (Ken); and brothers-in-law, Jack, Vernon and Alex.

The family wishes to thank the doctors and staff of Whitecourt Healthcare Centre who were involved in Mama Gray's care, giving from their hearts with great compassion and the utmost empathy – in particular, Dr. Beyers Jr. and Dr. Uzo; Whitecourt Homecare Staff, Cindy; and the staff of Spruce View Lodge.

A Celebration of Irma's Life will be held Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 1 p.m. at Allan & Jean Millar Centre, 58 Sunset Boulevard, Whitecourt. Pastor Dallas Bidell officiating with private interment in Whitecourt Cemetery.

In lieu of other tributes, donations may be made to Tennille's Hope Kommunity Kitchen, Box 1684, Whitecourt, AB T7S 1P5.

Photos, memories and condolences may be shared through www.parkmemorial.com



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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.

NEED HELP? CALL ANYTIME! (24-7)

Mental Health Helpline 1-877-303-2642

- Addiction Helpline 1-866-332-2322
- Health Link 811

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Sunset Car Show

Lit up by a gorgeously golden setting sun, a handful of sweet rides took part in one of the season's last remaining Coffee & Cars events. Most of these beauties will be put away for winter hibernation at the first signs of winter weather in the forecast, so owners are getting in as much time behind the wheel as possible. Each Wednesday, members of the Whitecourt Wheels Car Club meet up at a predetermined spot for comradery, coffee and conversation, both with club members and members of the public who attend. Wednesday's event was held at Whitecourt's A&W and the backdrop of the sun setting in the trees behind the lineup made for a snapshot worth sharing.

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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

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 BYLAW 602/23 – AMENDING WOODLANDS
 COUNTY LAND USE BYLAW 490/17**

PLACE	DATE	TIME
Woodlands County Municipal Office Council Chambers Whitecourt, AB	Wednesday, October 11, 2023	10:00 a.m.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 692 of the Municipal Government Act the Council of Woodlands County is considering an application for amendment to Land Use Bylaw 490/17, by making the following amendments through proposed Bylaw;

Re-zoning of pt S 31-59-12-W5M and Plan 082-5617, Block 5, Lot 1, from LC – Limited Commercial to DC LC – Direct Control Limited Commercial district for the purpose of accommodating the existing structure and use.

Woodlands County Council, at the same time, will consider Development Permit Application 15-053-2023 for As-built private hanger with accessory use: office within existing building, private fueling for aircraft use on the lands only and aircraft rental space.

Written comments or concerns on the above proposals may be provided prior to 12:00 noon on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023**, to:

Woodlands County, Box 60, Whitecourt AB T7S 1N3
 Attention: Joan Slootweg, Manager Community & Planning Services
 or by email at planning@woodlands.ab.ca ATTN: Joan Slootweg



Written comments are preferred; however, this is a public hearing and interested individuals may attend in person to voice any comment or concern. The meeting may be viewed via YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3boRlkn>

The proposed land use amendment documents may be viewed during regular business hours at the Woodlands County Municipal office in Whitecourt located at #1 Woodlands Lane.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 BYLAW 606/23 – AMENDING WOODLANDS
 COUNTY LAND USE BYLAW 490/17**

PLACE	DATE	TIME
Woodlands County Municipal Office Council Chambers Whitecourt, AB	Wednesday, October 11, 2023	9:35 am

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 692 of the Municipal Government Act the Council of Woodlands County is considering an application for amendment to Land Use Bylaw 490/17, by making the following amendments through proposed Bylaw;

Re-zoning of Plan 972-4048 Lot 1, from A1 – Agricultural One to CR – Country Residential district for the purpose of residential use.

Written comments or concerns on the above proposals may be provided prior to 12:00 noon on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023**, to:

Woodlands County, Box 60, Whitecourt AB T7S 1N3
 Attention: Joan Slootweg, Manager Community & Planning Services
 or by email at planning@woodlands.ab.ca ATTN: Joan Slootweg



The proposed land use amendment documents may be viewed during regular business hours at the Woodlands County Municipal office in Whitecourt located at #1 Woodlands Lane.

NOTICE OF DECISION

The following development permit has been conditionally approved under the provisions of the Land Use Bylaw.

PERMIT	LOCATION	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	DATE OF DECISION	APPEAL DEADLINE
15-056-2023	PT NE 10-59-10-W5M Lot 1 Block 1, Plan 102-2222	Accessory Building: addition to existing home	19-Sept-23	10-Oct-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. of the appeal date noted above.**

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

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

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.

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.

- 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)**

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

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



DAVE KUSCH
 Councilor for Assiniboine Division 1
dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
 Phone: 780-778-9337



JOHN BURROWS
 Councilor for Assiniboine Division 2
john.burrows@woodlands.ab.ca
 Phone: 780-726-4747



ALAN DEANE
 Councilor for Whitecourt Central Division 3
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
 Phone: 780-778-0634



JEREMY WILHELM
 Councilor for Whitecourt East Division 4
jeremy.wilhelm@woodlands.ab.ca
 Phone: 780-778-6264



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



PETER KUELKEN
 Councilor for Goose Lake Freeman River Division 6
peter.kuelken@woodlands.ab.ca
 Phone: 780-234-2425



DEVIN WILLIAMS
 Councilor for Fort Assiniboine Timna Division 7
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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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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*

24/7 CRISIS LINE
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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

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

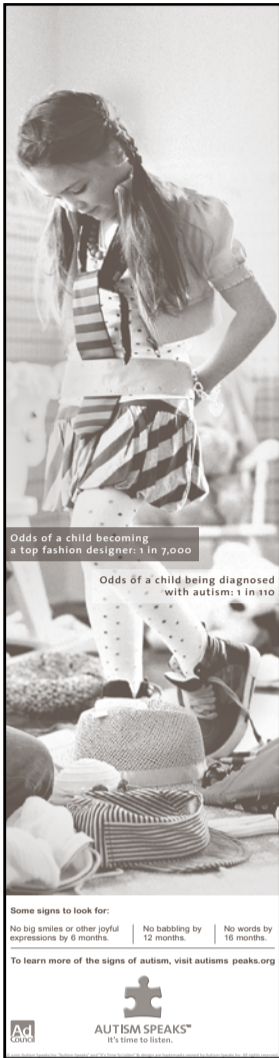
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Auctions

HOUSE TO BE MOVED: Updated bungalow in Lougheed AB. Must be moved by 2025. Includes triple car garage. Ritchie Bros Auction Oct 25-27. <https://rb.gy/7u7au>.

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The Press

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- Flatfoot
- Hammertoes
- Warts

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



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A look at the local weather

	Wed., Sept 27	Thu., Sept 28	Fri., Sept 29	Sat., Sept 30	Sun., Oct 1
	Mix of sun and clouds	Mix of sun and clouds	Mainly sunny	Cloudy	Cloudy with sunny breaks
P.O.P.	30%	20%	10%	40%	30%
High	16°C	12°C	10°C	7°C	11°C
Low	7°C	4°C	4°C	2°C	4°C
Wind	S 7 km/h	W 19 km/h	W 10 km/h	NW 8 km/h	S 12 km/h
24-Hr Rain / Snow	-	-	~1mm	<1mm	-

First in-person career expo in three years, an excellent experience for job seekers and students

By Serena Lapointe

The Career & Education Expo and Job Fair occurred on Thursday last week with just under 50 vendors set up in the Fieldhouse at the Allan & Jean Millar. Rhonda Woods, Economic Development Officer for the Town of Whitecourt, said the event highlights the availability within the region. "It's a great opportunity for employers to attend and have a booth and have a captive audience with over 1,000 youth from various school divisions across the region. It's our future workforce learning about the career opportunities in our own backyards, and is a great time for employers to connect. Many of our local businesses are offering apprenticeship programs, and students have the opportunity to start their careers early while they are attending high school. It's a

win-win!" She said students attended from the Living Waters School Division, Northern Gateway School Division and the Pembina Hills School Division.

Not only could students speak to potential employers, but they could also speak to post-secondary institutions and those offering trade opportunities in different sectors. There was even a truck driving simulator on site.

One of the post-secondary groups on hand was the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). Julie Watton, Chair of the Electrical Engineering Technology Program at NAIT, had a simulation of how lights are powered into homes. "Of course, there's a lot more equipment involved, but I wanted to showcase a little bit of a generator versus

continued on page 9



After a few years of being online and making things work in the virtual world, the Career and Education Expo returned to in-person attendance last Thursday. The event brought together industry and education and was an excellent way for students and prospective employees to chat with program leads and employers. Pictured is Julie Watton from NAIT and her power simulation.





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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.

continued from page 8

a transformer and add more voltage to get the lights to go dim or bright or get the motor to run. It's an easy concept for younger students to understand and explain what we do in our program."

She said speaking with students about the program always opens their eyes. "At first, they think it's an electrician program, but it's not. So, explaining the gap that a technologist does between an engineer and a tradesperson was very interesting, and it also opened up a lot of students for another opportunity they didn't know existed. You don't have to go to university, and you don't have to be a tradesman; you can be that in-between person."

After three virtual years, the 2023 expo was the first in-person event since 2019. Woods said getting people back to chatting face-to-face was terrific. "It's amazing to have people back in person and walking amongst the booths. It was busy this morning, and it was nice to see that."

She said the event also brought in people from outside the region. "We've had people from the surrounding communities in the region visit but also had a few people from Calgary and one gentleman from Grande Prairie." Woods said a family from Calgary travelled up to take in the event and learn about the opportunities in Whitecourt. "They said that since COVID, they wanted a community with a lot of the programming and services they are used

to in the city but in a smaller and tighter-knit package. It was a great conversation," she recounted.

She said getting to introduce visitors to the community and introduce them to businesses at the expo, sparking immediate conversations about job opportunities, showed just one facet of the value of having the expo. "When you don't know where to go, and you don't know where to start, these events kick that off. People leave here thinking that they know their next step. If you're looking for a career or maybe even looking to change careers, this is where you can get started to find those opportunities. It allows you to speak one-on-one with various company representatives in the same place."

Presentations occurred at the back of the Fieldhouse throughout the day, allowing attendees to hear more about different companies and programming opportunities. Other municipalities were also at the event, sharing what's possible as a career working under the umbrella of a municipal government. Along with Whitecourt, Woodlands County, Barrhead, and Mayerthorpe had booths on display.

Mayerthorpe Mayor Janet Jabush said the event was "regionalism at its finest." This year was the first time they attended, and Jabush said they would return. "It gives us a chance to showcase our town, which is always something we like to do. It's all about community and making sure the job opportunities in our communities are poten-

tially filled by people who live there already."

Booths on site included those from Canfor, Work Wild, Flint Corp, Fortis Alberta, Northern Lakes College, Norquest College, Service Canada, Whitecourt Employment Services, Rupertsland Institute, Millar Western Forest Products, Trican Well Services, Hendrickson Black LLP and West Fraser, to name a few.

Brittany Schuurman, Director of Marketing and Member Relations for Pembina West Co-op, said the conversations had at their booth were fantastic. "We are very focused on the future growth and sustainability of our Co-op and community. We've been working on being more proactive in succession planning and making people aware of the various career opportunities within the Co-Op. Because we are locally owned, we are invested in the community, but we are also part of a larger network of retail cooperatives, so there are some really unique opportunities to grow a career from the ground up."

She said it was interesting to speak to students and let them know that having a job at the Co-op after school could turn into something bigger thanks to the neat options available for growth within the company. "A few careers are struggling with finding up-and-coming talent, including pharmacies with pharmacists and technicians," explained Schuurman, adding that the Co-Op could help get people into a career path like that.

The planning partners for the expo in-



Students chatting with West Fraser Ranger Board staff.



A pit stop at the Work Wild booth.

cluded the Town of Whitecourt, Woodlands County, Northern Gateway Public Schools, Living Waters Catholic School, Community Futures Yellowhead East, CAREERS, and the Government of Alberta – Alberta Jobs, Economy, and Trade.

Two new partners this year included the Town of Mayerthorpe and the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce.

Information from the expo, including job descriptions for companies hiring, will be added to the Whitecourt.

ca website. Woods said anyone with questions about this year's event or next year's is encouraged to email ecdev@whitecourt.ca. "We are collecting information on employers and organizations that want to be part of it as we want to help grow it."



One hammer swing at a time.



Daye's soapstone class.

Dave Hogg is a local artist based in Onoway who has attended several classes at the Whitecourt Library as a guest. Sharing his love and self-taught talent of soapstone carving with class attendees, Hogg also shares his deeply rooted connection to the earth and how it steers his art.

continued from page 1

side into the back corner of the parking lot so that attendees could enjoy the sunny evening while creating. "We set up outside today because the weather is gorgeous, and we don't get many of these days to do it out here, so we take advantage when we can."

A unique perk of doing her class outside, and a bonus of being a small-town library with some outside space, is the inclusion of an artist from Onoway, a personal friend of Daye's. "When we have the class outside, my friend Dave Hogg likes to join us. He brings his sturdy little table and works outside with us. He can't join us inside for class because it makes a mess as he works."

Hogg has been working with soapstone, off and on, for twenty years. He also works with wood and bone. When he joins Daye's

classes, he brings a current piece in progress and allows class attendees to see a different way of working with soapstone. "The way I do it, and the way I teach the class, is with little tools. His process is with bigger tools and is a completely different thing. It's fascinating to watch, and you can see things happen so much quicker because he's moving bigger pieces of stone rather than just shaving off little bits of dust like we are," explained Daye.

Daye and Hogg have shown their pieces in galleries, including the Gossamer Gallery in Wabamum, and are looking for another spot to share their creations. Daye said seeing something in process gives budding artists an appreciation for the steps required to go from beginning to end. "You walk into a gallery, and you see this glossy thing, and

it's shaped and completed, and you think, oh that's so nice, but after you've put some blood, sweat and tears into something like that, and you know the hours and hours and hours of sanding and grinding that it took to get it to that point, they have a much better appreciation of the whole process. It's not just the visual art appeal; it's also getting to appreciate the process of it."

Over the two hours of the class, attendees went from working on their pieces to walking over to Hogg's work area and watching him. "It sparks interesting conversations, and we learn from each other. Your art grows, and their art grows," said Daye. Hogg agreed. "I like being around people that carve. When I see everyone's work, I learn stuff and see how different people see things differently. Art is pretty universal. There's no right or

wrong way to do it, and I think it's cool to see other people's perspectives."

Hogg has guested four or five of Daye's classes in the last couple of years when the weather cooperates for an outdoor session. One of the things about his process that stood out for the class was that, unlike many artists, he doesn't go into his with a plan and doesn't draw out a stencil to follow. His process is deeply rooted to the earth, a nod to his upbringing.

"We were raised to know that everything on earth has a spirit, be it stone, trees, or grass. So, when I come along, I bang the stone with my hammer, and it makes a ringing noise and sends a vibration through it. A spirit trapped inside that stone starts to wake up. I don't try to make it anything. I just follow the lines that are already there. For me to come along and say that the spirit has to dis-

play itself in a certain way would be arrogant, so I just let it do its own thing, and whatever happens, happens," explained Hogg.

His grounded approach is intriguing to watch, and Hogg said it's as exciting for him to see a piece come together as it is for those who watch him because the piece takes shape before his eyes just the same. "Lots of folks can look at a piece and see what to turn it into. I can't do that because I don't see things that way."

The self-taught artist made his process seem effortless as he progressed through the large stone. A couple of faces quickly emerged from it as if they were pushing their way through the large centuries-old metamorphic rock. "I've never taken any classes, so I don't really understand what I'm doing. I just swing the hammer, and whatever happens, hap-

pens," smiled Hogg. He said many people are drawn to stone, often collecting rocks that appeal to them when they go for a walk.

Daye said she's honoured to have him join her class as a special guest and hopes attendees enjoyed the opportunity. Her soapstone classes happen once a month. Those interested in joining are encouraged to call the library to be added to the list. "I'm so grateful for the library for letting me do my favourite thing and share it with others. It's a joy for me. I love it so much."

Hogg's Facebook page, Hogg Originals Sculpture, features images of his work through the different mediums he uses. He has shared updates of completed pieces and those in progress, including an intricately sculptured octopus holding a bottle, which he named "Message in a Bottle."



Faces in Hogg's piece emerging.



Hogg chatting with a class attendee.



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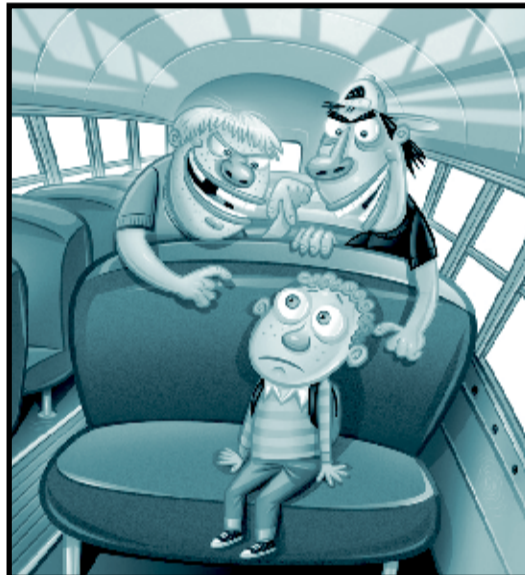


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Putting a face on suicide



Todd Loik

Age 15

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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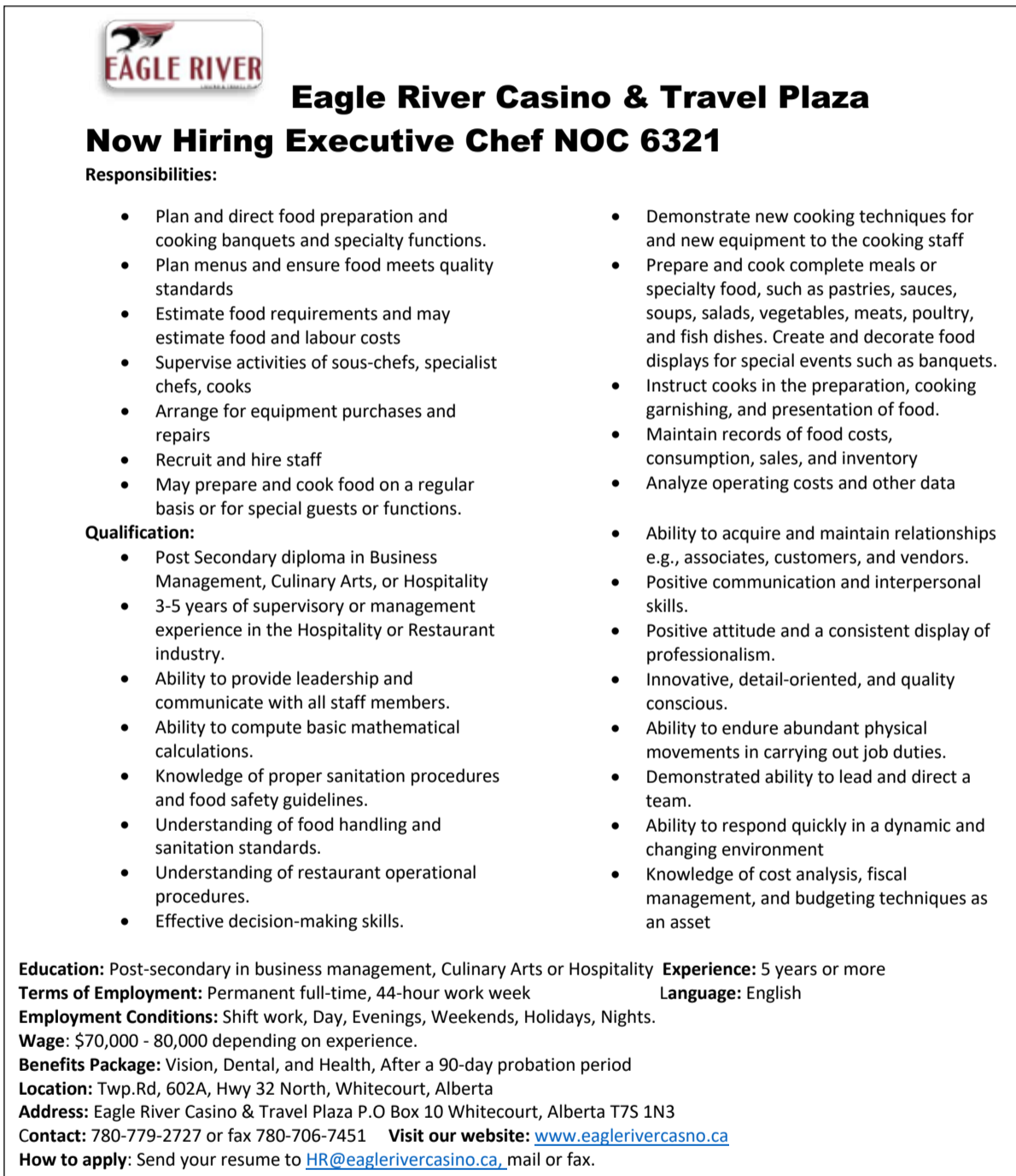
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EAGLE RIVER

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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
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Money Matters

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Dollar Values as of September 27, 2023

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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.

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by PETER MARINACCI



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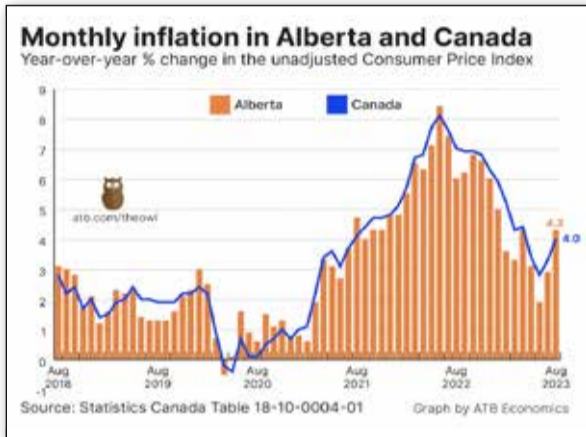
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Hotter summer prices - inflation picks up in August



By ATB Financial's Economics & Research Team

Canada's annual inflation rate accelerated to 4.0% last month (vs. 3.3% in July), fueled by gasoline prices. While an uptick was expected, the reading still came in 0.2 points higher than the consensus estimate.

The Bank of Canada has been focused on 'core' inflation readings that strip out the impacts of more volatile items. Two of the measures (trim and median) went in the wrong direction, nudging up on a year over year basis to around 4%.

Mortgage costs continued to add to inflation, rising 30.9% year-over-year.

On a more positive note, food inflation eased to the lowest it has been since February 2022 (albeit still high at 6.8%).

In Alberta, higher energy prices pushed inflation from 2.9% to 4.3%—its first move above the national average since June 2022 (see chart). Gasoline added to Alberta's inflation rate, along with a much smaller decline in natural gas prices. For the second straight month, electricity prices

more than doubled year-over-year, reflecting strong demand and the impact of rebates lowering prices in August 2022. Excluding energy prices, annual inflation was a milder 3.5%, down from 3.8% in July. Outside the energy basket, there was a notable increase in prices for rented accommodation while food inflation eased.

So far this year, Alberta's annual inflation rate has averaged 3.5% compared to 4.2% nationally.

The Bank of Canada has repeated its resolve to get inflation back to 2%, and this latest report provides little comfort. However, it will be considered alongside other data points, including another inflation reading and jobs report before the October announcement. The Bank will also weigh the uptick in inflation against signs that past rate hikes are cooling the economy, which is expected to translate into weaker inflationary pressures. While risks of another hike have increased, we lean towards the Bank remaining on the sidelines next month.



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.

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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.

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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

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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.

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Highway 43 Construction



A pair of buses navigated uneven lanes and pylons on Wednesday afternoon.



A long string of pylons stretched from one end of town to the other.

To the delight of local traffic, the bumpy, backroad-like condition of Highway 43 through town is finally getting the attention it deserves. After countless phone calls to local and provincial officials, the announcement residents were waiting for came through on the Town of Whitecourt's social media bright and early on the morning of September 6. "Thank you to the Alberta Ministry of Transportation and Economic Corridors, the Alberta Ministry of Transportation and West Yellowhead MLA Martin Long for attending to our community's concerns regarding Highway 43," read the post. When work began last week, MLA Long took to his social media. "I've heard loud and clear from residents with concerns over the condition of Highway 43 near Whitecourt, and I am pleased that I was able to successfully advocate for the timely paving of this important route." Drivers carefully maneuvered the pylons and uneven surfaces as construction crews worked diligently to complete the project.

Long announces Highway 43 paving near Whitecourt

West Yellowhead MLA Martin Long has announced that the paving of a 10 kilometre stretch of Highway 43, near and through Whitecourt, is about to get underway.

Beginning on September 19, 2023, three sections of Highway 43 will be paved to increase safety and efficiency of travel near Whitecourt.

Weather permitting, work is expected to be complete by the second week of October.

Traffic will be reduced to a single lane through the work area, and motorists are asked to watch for equipment, speed reductions, traffic controls, and flag persons.

"I've heard loud and clear from residents

with concerns over the condition of Highway 43 near Whitecourt. I am pleased that I was able to successfully advocate for the timely paving of this important route. I also want to thank the Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors, Devin Dreeshen, for taking immediate action to fix this Highway."

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