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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



The Press

Locally Owned & Operated



Vol. 12 - Issue 45 | Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Military Appreciation Night at JDA Place results in massive win for the Whitecourt Wolverines



The Whitecourt Wolverines took on a big competitor on Saturday night. The Blackfalds Bulldogs are one of Canada's top ten highest-ranked teams and put up an intense fight, but so did the Wolverines, much to the delight of fans. See story page 10.

In control of the puck.



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OPEN LETTER TO ALBERTANS AND HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Alberta is refocusing our health care system on patient-centred care

Alberta's government is taking significant action to make health care better for Albertans and frontline workers who work tirelessly every day to serve their patients.

We are at a critical time when it comes to health care in Alberta.

We have heard clearly from Albertans that the current system centred on Alberta Health Services (AHS) is not working. The AHS organization is shouldering a burden it was not intended to carry and, through no fault of our incredible front-line workers, Albertans are facing long wait times and delays to the care they desperately need.

Alberta's government has announced a significant refocusing of AHS and our health care system. The improvements we are making will provide more effective care and will improve frontline service delivery for Albertans.

This refocusing will centre around four priority areas: primary care, acute care, continuing care, and mental health and addiction to ensure Albertans get the health care system that actually works for them.

Additionally, we will focus on improving EMS wait times and the delivery of Indigenous health care services across the province.

Health care services will be accessed as they usually are during the system's transition period.

We know frontline health care workers provide exceptional care to patients and families and our priority is to protect frontline jobs during this transition and ensure all voices are heard.

To our health care workers, the work ahead will take time. We will partner with you to learn and find ways to best remove the many obstacles you face while working to serve Albertans and their families.

To all Albertans, we also want to hear from you: the patients, family members, caregivers and seniors who interact with our system day in and day out.

That's why we invite all Albertans to become involved in shaping a stronger provincial health care system. This starts now and will take many forms over the coming weeks and months.

For too long we have had to experience a health care system that is not operating as we all expect it should. It's time for that to change. Please join us on this journey!



Hon. Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta



Hon. Adriana LaGrange
Minister of Health



Hon. Dan Williams
Minister of Mental Health
and Addiction



Hon. Jason Nixon
Minister of Seniors,
Community and
Social Services

For more information, and to share your feedback, visit:

alberta.ca/healthcare





YOU'RE INVITED!

The Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund invites Albertans to learn more about our province's Heritage Fund.

Thursday, November 30 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Queen Elizabeth II Building
2nd Floor – 9820 - 107 Street, Edmonton

Attend in person, watch live on Alberta Assembly TV or online at assembly.ab.ca or visit the Legislative Assembly social media channels.

Join the conversation and ask a question regarding the Fund: #abheritagefund | 1.888.892.3255 code 764511 | Committee.Admin@assembly.ab.ca

Telephone line open only from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on November 30, 2023.



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assembly.ab.ca/assembly-business/committees/HS

Career ads, online at:
www.whitecourtpress.com

RCMP ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

On Nov. 9, 2023, at 4:15 p.m., Whitecourt RCMP received a report of a residential fire in the area of Wellwood Drive in Whitecourt. Upon arrival, two residents of the home had been evacuated with a 10-year-old male unaccounted for.

The Whitecourt Fire Department extinguished the fire, and upon further investigation, a deceased person was located inside. RCMP will be working closely with Fire Investigators. RCMP send their condolences to the family and friends of

the deceased.

Many individuals have expressed an interest in donating to the impacted families. The Whitecourt RCMP remind community members to be careful of who they are providing donations to.

No further updates are anticipated.

Due to the online news act and being blocked from Meta (Facebook)

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The Press (@ThePres99937993) / X (twitter.com)

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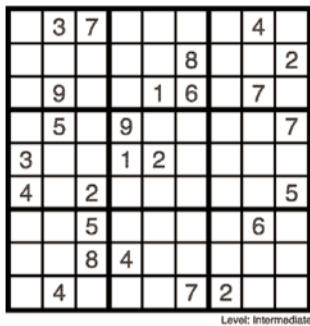
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SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15

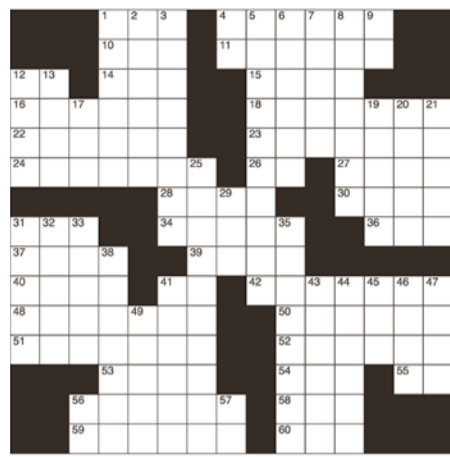
SUDOKU

CROSSWORDS



Fun By The Numbers

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



Here's How It Works:

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

Crossword Clues

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Beats per minute
- 4. Hindu deity
- 10. Polynesian garland of flowers
- 11. Not chained to
- 12. Metric ton
- 14. Tall, rounded vase
- 15. Musical composition
- 16. St. Francis of __
- 18. Discover the location of
- 22. Compact group of mountains
- 23. Mend
- 24. Not current
- 26. Atomic #64
- 27. Young hawk
- 28. Or __
- 30. Pouches
- 31. Southern Thailand isthmus
- 34. Mends with yarn
- 36. Downwinds
- 37. One of two equal parts of a divisible whole
- 39. Italian

- archaeological site
- 40. Cold appetizer
- 41. Yes
- 42. Peninsula
- 48. Of that
- 50. A way to divide
- 51. Relating to the physical senses
- 52. One who makes money
- 53. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 54. Inconvenience (abbr.)
- 55. South Dakota
- 56. Snow sport
- 58. The products of human creativity
- 59. Change mind
- 60. Born of

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Similar to the color of a clear unclouded sky
- 2. Former name of Iran
- 3. Made smaller
- 4. Type of meter
- 5. Revolt
- 6. Killed with rocks

- 7. Gregory __, US dancer
- 8. Nullifies
- 9. Home to the Flyers
- 12. Female parent
- 13. Pre-1917 Russian emperor
- 17. Outsourcing (abbr.)
- 19. Regal
- 20. Line
- 21. Hermann __, author of "Siddhartha"
- 25. Clearing up
- 29. No seats available
- 31. Leaves of an Arabian shrub
- 32. Groove in organ or tissue
- 33. Not of this world
- 35. Cooking device
- 38. Forget
- 41. Operational flight
- 43. Actress Danes
- 44. Poke holes in
- 45. A way to discolor
- 46. Shouts of welcome or farewell
- 47. Pharrell's group
- 49. Red fluorescent dye
- 56. Jr.'s dad
- 57. Electronics firm

Donation for Kids



Pembina West Co-op is a huge supporter of the Community Lunchbox Society. Staff recently dropped off their yearly granola bar donation, pictured, taking over a large portion of the society's waiting area. The mountain of yummy chocolate chip granola bar boxes will enable Community Lunchbox volunteers to drop off snacks as needed to area schools, which will help keep food in little hands, bellies full, and minds learning. "Your commitment to helping kids learn on a full stomach is amazing," read a statement from the Community Lunchbox. Great job, Pembina West Co-op!

VEGAN LINGO WORD SEARCH



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

WORDS

- ANIMAL
- AQUAFABA
- BUDDHA BOWL
- BYPRODUCT
- CAROB
- CASEIN
- CONSUMPTION
- ETHICAL
- FAUX
- FLEGG
- FLEXITARIAN
- GELATIN
- HARDLINE
- HEALTH
- JACKFRUIT
- LEGUMES
- MOCKMEAT
- NUTRITIONAL
- YEAST
- PAREVE
- RAW
- SEITAN
- TEMPEH
- VEGAN
- WELFARE

LISA BAKER DARREN FROST



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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.

“Bold” changes coming to Alberta Health Services after Premier announcement, Mayor Pickard shares his excitement



Big changes are on the way for Alberta Health Services. Premier Danielle Smith unveiled her government's vision for a four-pillar system that focuses each pillar on specific issues rather than keeping everything under one big umbrella. Pictured are Premier Danielle Smith with Ministers Dan Williams, Adriana Lagrange, Jason Nixon and West Yellowhead MLA Martin Long (far left).

By **Serena Lapointe**

On the morning of November 8, Premier Danielle Smith, flanked by Adriana Lagrange (Minister of Health), Dan Williams (Minister of Mental Health and Addiction), Jason Nixon (Minister of Seniors Community and Social Services) and MLA Martin Long (Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health), held a press conference to share her government's vision for Alberta's healthcare system.

Also part of the announcement were past Premier Ed Stelmach (Board Chair of Covenant Health), the President and Vice President of the Alberta Professional Firefighters and Paramedics Association, the President of

the Nurse Practitioner Association of Alberta, and the Membership Director of the Alberta Association of Nurses.

"Welcome to a new day for healthcare in Alberta," opened Premier Smith. "From the very beginning of our government's mandate, improving healthcare at every level has been the top of our list of priorities, and with delays affecting the whole system, the urgency of the challenge can't be overstated." Premier Smith pointed to wait times for life-saving surgeries, routine care appointments and mental health treatments as being too long.

Premier Smith explained that improvements needed to happen to Alberta Health

Services, the country's largest provincially integrated health system. She praised the front-line professionals and said Albertans should be proud of them. "Without a doubt, we have the best healthcare workers in the country. They're smart, skilled, endlessly compassionate people who understand their patients and their practice and yet they are sidelined when it comes to decision-making, even though they understand the problems and see obvious solutions. They try their best, but they end up being stalled and frustrated by a system that lacks focused leadership and governance."

She added that though Alberta spends

about the national average per person on provincial healthcare spending, outcomes do not match. Premier Smith pointed to service disruptions, temporary closures at rural hospitals, and thousands of Albertans without access to a primary care provider.

Premier Smith unveiled a four-tiered approach that would allow for a more streamlined and focused process. The system would focus on four organizations: Primary Care, Acute Care, Continuing Care, and Mental Health and Addiction. "We believe that by creating specialized organizations within one provincial system, we will enable each organization to look after

one area of healthcare only and avoid the scattered and uncoordinated approach of the more rigid centralized structure that exists now," explained Premier Smith.

She also reiterated that no Albertan would pay out of pocket to visit their doctor or receive hospital service. "These reforms have nothing to do with privatization. They are also not about cuts. Alberta's government will continue to grow the healthcare workforce, and we anticipate that there will be no job losses to AHS staff working in front-line positions who are directly delivering patient care."

Premier Smith said the changes weren't

happening for the sake of change. "It's a matter of redirecting Alberta's healthcare system, making it patient-centred, seamless, and effective. It's about giving healthcare workers a structure that supports their success and the opportunity to use solutions they know will work as quickly and effectively as possible. This is change that will mean the right forms of care are available for Albertans when and where they need them."

Minister of Health Adriana Lagrange said her ministry would listen to healthcare workers and Albertans through the transition process and that the

continued on page 15

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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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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):
Kim Nendsa (President of Whitecourt Cancer & Wellness Society) **780-778-0932**
Aimee Grierson **780-262-0222**

<https://wctcancerwellness.com/>
**Monthly meetings have been postponed due to COVID-19

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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

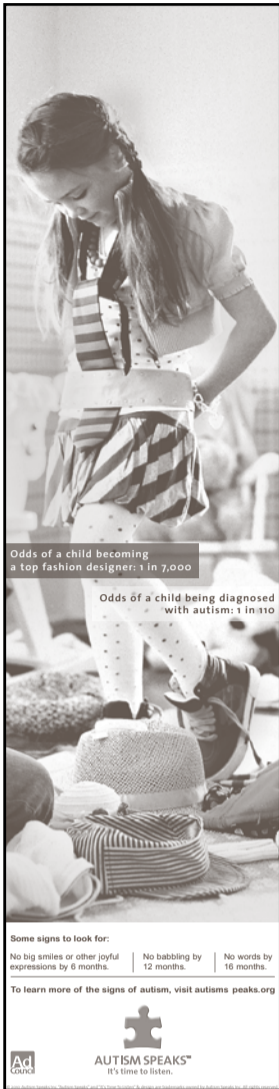
Located at the United Church Basement on Legion Street (formerly 5201 - 50 Street)
More info Contact: (780)286-5144. Please Leave a Message for Our AA member or Contact Addictions Helpline @1(866)332-2322



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MEIER LIVE UNRESERVED AUCTION Saturday, November 18 10AM, 4740 57 ST Wetaskiwin. Bakery, Restaurant, And Butcher Shop Equipment. For More Details; Pictures and Listing

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SPRUCE POINT PARK Association now accepting applications for the position of: PARK MANAGER, 2024 season, May 1st to September 15th (end date flexible). Spruce Point Park Campground and Marina

is located on Lesser Slave Lake approximately 285 kms northwest of Edmonton, AB near Hamlet of Kinuso. Manager must live on site in own RV unit. Full-service lot provided. For complete job description package please call 780-775-3805 or email sprucepointpark@gmail.com. Closing date: January 15th, 2024, or until suitable candidate is found.

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A look at the local weather

	Wed., Nov 15	Thu., Nov 16	Fri., Nov 17	Sat., Nov 18	Sun., Nov 19
P.O.P.	20%	40%	20%	20%	20%
High	3°C	7°C	6°C	6°C	1°C
Low	-5°C	2°C	0°C	-1°C	-4°C
Wind	W 15 km/h	SW 21 km/h	W 12 km/h	SW 15 km/h	W 25 km/h
24-Hr Rain / Snow	-	-	-	-	-

Stop bullying!

Wednesday, November 15, 2023
www.whitecourtpress.com



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

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

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

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

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

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

Email wctpress@telus.net All submissions remain confidential



Are you or someone you know being bullied?

Call the Bullying Helpline (Confidential)



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

1-888-456-2323

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

Putting a face on suicide



Jack Owen Dunaway
Age 13

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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RCMP ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Barrhead RCMP located missing hunter

On Nov. 4, at approximately 7:00 p.m., Barrhead RCMP were advised of a missing person. A 42-year-old male and a 47-year-old male, both residents of Edmonton, went hunting in the Fort Assiniboine Vega Sandhills area.

Their enclosed Side by Side got stuck in the terrain which caused one of the males to leave to go get help. When the male returned the next day, his friend was no longer with the Side by Side.

Barrhead RCMP and RCMP Police Dog Services along with the assistance of Parkland Search and Rescue, Klondike Search and Rescue, Barrhead Fish and Wildlife officer, Fort As-

siniboine, Goose Lake Fire Departments were all dispatched to the Vega Sandhill area to conduct coordinated searches for the missing male. A civilian drone with FLIR equipment was also utilized during the search.

On Nov. 5, at approximately 10:00 a.m. the male was located in good spirits. The male was taken to hospital for a precautionary measure.

“We would like to thank all the services that came together so quickly to help us find this missing person”, says Cpl. Filipe Vicente of the Barrhead RCMP, “Reminder to anyone going out this fall season to have an emergency kit with fire starting materials as it could save your life during this

time of year”.

Edson RCMP warns public of new scam

Edson RCMP have recently been made aware of a scam involving a group of people physically impersonating police officers.

In the most recent case, an Edson victim was called by a number listed as RCMP. When they answered the phone, the person on the other end of the line stated they were calling from the RCMP and that the victim was going to be arrested due to some outstanding “money laundering” scheme.

At the same time, two people, dressed as police officers, knocked on the door asking if the victim had gotten a call. The two suspects confirmed that the victim

would be arrested unless they pay a fee. The victim was instructed to empty their account and purchase gift cards and give the information to the person on the phone. The suspect on the phone said that the money would be given back if it was proven that they were not part of an ongoing investigation.

Edson RCMP are asking anyone who was in the area of 4th avenue, 63rd street and 56th street in Edson, on Nov. 3, 2023, between the hours of 10-11 a.m., and may have seen something or have access to dashcam or surveillance footage, to please call the Edson RCMP detachment.

Alberta RCMP would like to remind the public to always be aware of scammers:

• At no time will an RCMP officer request a fee, gift cards, or otherwise money in exchange of forgoing an arrest.

• If an arrest warrant is issued, the warrant will be executed as specified on the warrant. If a warrant to search a home or seize an account is granted, the warrant will be executed as specified and you are entitled to read the warrant.

• If ever you are in the presence of someone stating they are a police officer and you have doubts, you are allowed to ask for identification. Furthermore, you may call 911 or your local detachment or dispatch number to confirm that the officers before you are who they say they are.

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.

Airport Advisory Committee – 1 fixed wing and 1 rotary vacancy (*must be resident or facility user/owner*)

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, November 15, 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

DRAFT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OPEN HOUSE

Woodlands County would like to invite residents to provide feedback on our Draft Municipal Development Plan at our open house dates below. The document was last adopted in 2013 and some key updates include:

- Updates to align with legislation and outdated language.
- Ease of Reference
- Environmental with Development Strategies

- Reconciliation and Recognition of Treaty 6 & Treaty 8
- Vision and Principles
- Better Agriculture Land

More detailed information will be onsite at the open house sessions. The draft document is available for review on Woodlands County Website www.woodlands.ab.ca

PLACE: Fort Assiniboine Legion Hall
DATE: Tuesday, November 21st
TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

PLACE: Woodlands County Municipal Office Council Chambers, Whitecourt, AB
DATE: Wednesday, November 22nd
TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

For more information or questions on the open house sessions, please contact planning@woodlands.ab.ca or call 780-778-8400.



DAVE KUSCH
Mayor
Councillor for Assiniboine
Division 1
dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-9337



JOHN BURROWS
Councillor for Whitecourt West
Division 2
john.burrows@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-776-4747



ALAN DEANE
Councillor for Whitecourt
Central Division 3
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-775-0934



JEREMY WILHELM
Councillor for
Whitecourt East Division 4
jeremy.wilhelm@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-6254



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



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

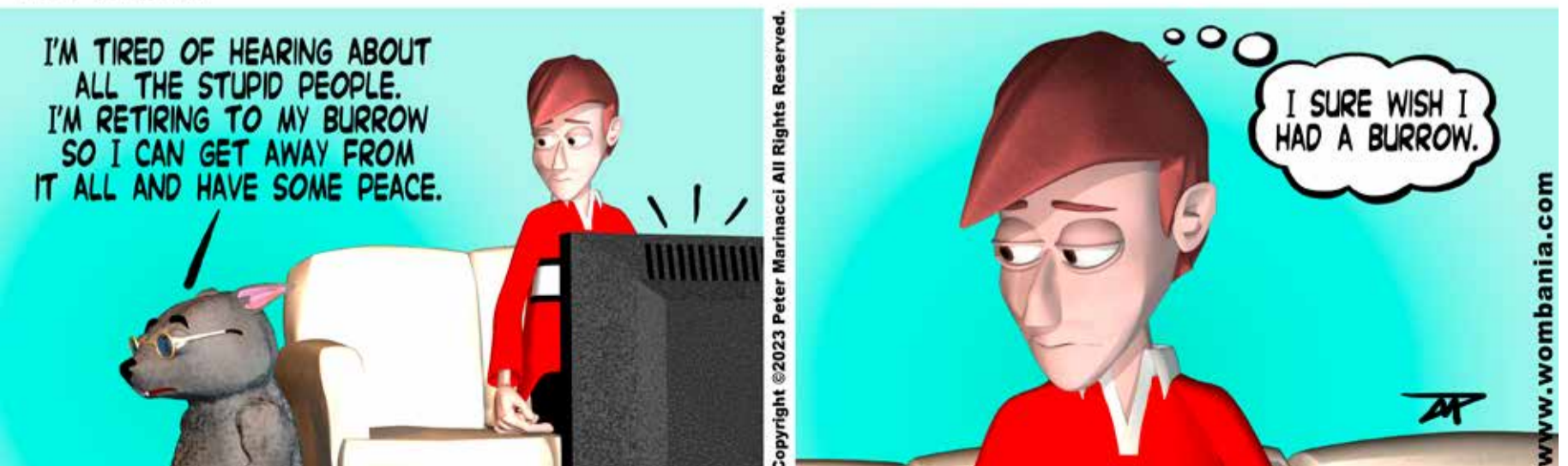


DEVIN WILLIAMS
Councillor for Fort Assiniboine/
Terra Division 7
devin.williams@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-305-1825



WOMBANIA™

by PETER MARINACCI



Military Appreciation Night at JDA Place results in massive win for the Whitecourt Wolverines



A new version of the hokey pokey perhaps?



Lest We Forget flashed on the screen throughout the game.

By Serena Lapointe

The Blackfalds Bulldogs are in the top three for point totals in the AJHL, with 35 in the bag as of November 11. Third place in the league means they're strong and are a hard group to line up against for any of the teams below them, including the Whitecourt Wolverines. The Bulldogs also happened to be the seventh-highest-ranked team in the Canadian Junior Hockey League standings.

After a challenging start to the year, the hometown Wolverines sat in tenth with twenty-two points to their name, thirteen less than the Bulldogs. A match-up between the two would either be a welcomed surprise or an expected result. On Saturday night at JDA Place, the 594 fans in attendance got a very welcomed surprise. The Remembrance Day game invited retired and active duty members to watch for free—a moment of silence before the puck drop honoured their sacrifice.

In the first period,

fan favourite #91 Colby Browne scored his tenth goal of the season thanks to a beautiful pass from his teammate, #7 Jack Franklin, his ninth. The goal nearly blew the roof off the arena as fans responded hugely, excited to see their team take the early lead against the Bulldogs. The goal stood firm through the rest of the period, ending the first with a 1-0 lead for the Wolverines.

In the second, there were two penalties, one to each team, for high sticking and holding. Aside from that, on paper, the game looked empty of action with no other penalties and no goals; however, it was far from empty. The action bouncing from end to end was electric.

The Wolverines goalie, Ben Charette, made a save after save. Whenever he batted a puck from midair or kicked one off his pads into the corner, his teammates took his energy and shot down to the other end of the ice. The fast-paced period was sacrifice.

continued on page 11



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza Now Hiring Cashiers NOC 65100

Responsibilities:

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

Qualifications:

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

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

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

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

Language: English

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

Wage: \$15.00 per hour.

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

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

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

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

Visit our Website: www.eaglerivercasino.ca

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

continued from page 10

a watch-it-or-you'll-miss-it type of thing and kept fans in their seats.

In the third, the Wolverines were still nursing their 1-0 lead and were hoping to grow it. The team had several great chances but couldn't get another one past the Bulldog's net-minder. Three penalties were called against the Wolverines early, making fans nervous, but Charette kept his team in it and didn't let in one powerplay goal.

Elijah Brown (#6, D) sat twice, once for hooking and another for boarding, and Kaiden Wiltsie did the same, sitting twice, including for a high-sticking double minor. Chance after chance was given to the Bulldogs to tie things up, but they just couldn't beat Charette. With about three and a half minutes left in the game, Jarred Feist received a perfect pass from Spencer Rheume. With a flick of the wrist, Feist managed to beat the Bulldogs goal-

ie and land the puck into the net. Cue the crowd! It was now 2-0 Wolverines!

Hoping to get back into the game and score two quick goals, the Blackfalds Bulldogs pulled their goalie. Charette buckled down and never took his eyes off the puck. He gave everything he had to keep his team in the lead. With a double minor penalty being served and the goalie pulled in the Bulldogs zone, the Wolverines were down by two with two minutes to go.

With just two seconds left in the period, Travis Verbeek, from Joey Melo and Jack Franklin, scored to make it 3-0. The shorthanded marker was the perfect ending to a fairytale game for the Wolverines, beating the seventh-highest-ranked team in the country. Go, Wolverines! The next two home games will be on Wednesday, November 15, against Bonnyville and Thursday, November 16, against Fort McMurray.



A rough moment in the game that led to a Wolverine penalty.



Upside down but still winning.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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



NOTICE OF DECISION

The following decisions were made by the Municipal Planning Commission:

Application W23-353: Lot R, Plan 4737KS; Lot L, Plan 4737KS; Lot M, Plan 2656TR; Lots 1 - 4, Block 15, Plan 4273KS; Lot 16, Plan 2637MC; Lot G, Plan 2027ET; Lot 9, Block 15, Plan 4273KS; Lot R, Plan 4273KS; Closed roads within Plan 4273KS – Subdivision to consolidate eleven (11) Town owned parcels and closed road plan 4273KS – Approved with conditions.

Application W23-354: Lot 29, Block 2, Plan 762 2305 31 Feero Drive – Subdivision to remove a portion of Lot 29, Block 2, Plan 762 2305 containing approximately 18m2 and consolidate it with the public roadway – Approved with conditions.

Date of Decisions: November 9, 2023

Appeal Closes at 4:00pm: November 24, 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.

GET INVOLVED....IT'S YOUR TOWN! OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Town has various boards and committees that provide Town Council with perspective and recommendations regarding important civic issues. Whitecourt is a diverse, growing town, and citizens are in the best position to provide input on our changing community needs.

The **Subdivision and Development Appeal Board** currently has openings available for people to serve as part of a quasi-judicial board, to make decisions on appeals of subdivision or development decisions made by the Development Officer or Municipal Planning Commission. The Board meets on an as need basis, and the successful appointees will also attend a mandatory training session. The Board typically meets less than twice a year.

If you are interested in serving on this Board, please complete an application form which can be found on the Whitecourt website at www.whitecourt.ca or picked up at the Town Office. Applications must be received before 12:00 noon, Wednesday, November 22, 2023 to:

Whitecourt Town Administration Office
Attention: Executive Assistant
5004 - 52 Avenue, Box 509
WHITECOURT, AB T7S 1N6
email: administration@whitecourt.ca

Applications will be presented to Town Council at the November 27, 2023 Regular Meeting.



Human Resources Manager

Reports To: General Manager

PURPOSE

A structured Human Resources Manager role is critical to the success of the Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza. The primary purpose of the Human Resources Manager is to provide guidance and coaching on all Human Resources matters to our property.

ROLES

Reporting to the General Manager, the Human Resources Manager oversee all aspects of human resources practices and processes.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Support departments in developing and delivering strategic HR plans that fit with the overall business direction
- Plan, monitor, and appraise HR activities by scheduling management conferences, resolving employee grievances, training managers in how to coach and discipline, and counseling employees and supervisors
- Champion the onboarding process by ensuring that it's high-quality and up to date, and provide clarity and connection for employees so their roles serve the overall business vision
- Maintain management guidelines by preparing, updating, and recommending human-resources policies and procedures
- Build strong relationships with external suppliers, fostering trust and promoting collaboration
- Handle confidential matters with discretion
- Lead the recruiting function at the property

IMPACT OF ACTION

The Human Resources Manager has a direct impact on the ability to provide Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza staff and management with a safe and suitable environment in which to visit and/or work.

KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

This position requires the ability to communicate clearly, deal tactfully and work effectively with Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza staff and management. The incumbent in this position will provide a primary interface to other Casino & Plaza departments.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- A minimum of 8 years of progress human resources experience in a medium to large organization with experience leading teams and assessing human resources services
- A minimum of 2 years in a senior role in and HR department
- An affinity for the service sector is essential
- Demonstrated success in HR systems and HR Policy/Practice
- Experience of negotiation and influencing at senior management levels
- A leadership style that will incite enthusiasm, provide vision, create a positive morale, role model standards of professionalism
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills are necessary to support diverse associate population
- Strong facilitation and interpersonal skills are essential
- Ability and willingness to develop presentation as required
- A track record effective human resources decision-making and an "urgency to execute" attitude is essential for the fast-paced environment

CANDIDATE PROFILE

- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to meet deadlines in a rapidly changing business environment.
- Ability to work independently.
- Developed writing skills sufficient to prepare written materials involving detailed descriptions and explanations requiring the accurate use of specialized terminology.
- Self-planning skills sufficient to schedule, organize, and carry out work assignments according to established work plans, adjusting work schedules according to changing priorities.
- Developed judgment and problem-solving skills sufficient to interpret and/or analyze factual and conceptual information with the ability to adapt general procedures or approaches when formulating responses to problems.
- Manages workload independently and works well in teams.
- Develops security and systems knowledge through on-the-job experience.
- Must display leadership skills, the ability to multi-task and adjust to multiple jurisdictions.
- Models company values at all times. Shows strong teamwork skills.
- Working knowledge of MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint.

HELP WANTED

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

Food Service Attendant
Full Time / Shift Work

Food Service Supervisor
Full Time / Shift Work

SHIFT INCENTIVE FOR OVERNIGHTS

Please apply in person at the restaurant.



4331-52 Ave Unit 1
Whitecourt, AB

4216 Elko Drive
Whitecourt, AB

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

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Tender deadline is **December 18, 2023**

Contact info@franciscolaw.ca for info package

Contact **Murray @ 306-304-1862** for viewing appointment

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.72 US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7247** (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of November 15, 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@gmail.com.





Front of House Manager

Reports To: General Manager

PURPOSE

A structured Front of House Manager role is critical to the success of the Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza. The primary purpose of the Front of House Manager is to provide leadership and oversight for the food and beverage service and sales.

ROLES

Reporting to the General Manager, the Front of House Manager will be responsible for the daily operations of the outlets (the restaurant and the bar, as well as banquets, catering and special events). The Manager must ensure that service standards, appearance and cleanliness are of the desired levels. The Manager is also directly responsible for ordering inventory, inventory controls, budgeting, and cash floats.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Actively promotes an environment conducive to high quality customer service and employee relations by being a positive leadership example.
- Must ensure that staff maintains prompt, efficient, friendly and knowledgeable service.
- Scheduling, payroll, disciplinary actions, training and mentoring for staff of food and beverage outlets.
- Work with Marketing to promote the food & beverage outlets.
- Create, manage and implement departmental policies & procedure.
- Maintain compliance with AGLC regulations.
- Ensure alcohol is served responsibly.
- Maintain effective inventory controls and practices.
- Ensure maintenance of safety and sanitation standards and policies
- Provide overall direction, coordination, and ongoing evaluation of outlets operations.
- Budgetary, projections, and cost-control skills to be applied to the daily operations of the Department as outlined by the Manager.
- Use a "hands-on" approach to management. Able to coach staff effectively.

IMPACT OF ACTION

The Front of House Manager has a direct impact on the ability to provide Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza guests, staff and management with a safe and suitable environment in which to visit and/or work.

KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

This position requires the ability to communicate clearly, deal tactfully and work effectively with Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza guests, staff and management. The incumbent in this position will provide a primary interface to other Casino & Plaza departments.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- 4-5 years' experience in the Food & Beverage Industry.
- 3-4 years' supervisory/management experience within the Food & Beverage Industry.
- Experience in a casino setting preferred.
- Post secondary education in a related field preferred but not required.
- Training in management and employee development preferred.
- Continuous training and education to keep abreast of changes in the industry and external environment.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to meet deadlines in a rapidly changing business environment.
- Ability to work independently.
- Extensive food & beverage knowledge and ability to develop and apply practices, procedures, and principles in a casino environment.
- Developed writing skills sufficient to prepare written materials involving detailed descriptions and explanations requiring the accurate use of specialized terminology.
- Self-planning skills sufficient to schedule, organize, and carry out work assignments according to established work plans, adjusting work schedules according to changing priorities.
- Developed judgment and problem-solving skills sufficient to interpret and/or analyze factual and conceptual information with the ability to adapt general procedures or approaches when formulating responses to problems.
- Manages workload independently and works well in teams.
- Develops security and systems knowledge through on-the-job experience.
- Must display leadership skills, the ability to multi-task and adjust to multiple jurisdictions.
- Models company values at all times. Shows strong teamwork skills.
- Working knowledge of MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The Schedule for this position may vary and would require the ability to work shift work, late nights, weekends and holidays.

Remembrance Day



Following the packed Remembrance Day ceremony at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre on Saturday, November 11, some attendees chose the Whitecourt Cenotaph, in front of the Whitecourt Seniors Circle, as the spot to lay their poppies. Numerous poppies were seen atop the cenotaph, on a wreath placed in front, and on the ground. When the ceremony ends, and people remove their poppies from their lapels, attaching the poppy to a wreath or laying it at the foot of a cenotaph is seen as an act of respect. Funds raised from the Poppy Campaign stay local and help support veterans with various needs. The Royal Canadian Legion estimates that roughly 20 million poppies were distributed across Canada.



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.

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

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

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The Press

A locally owned and family operated newspaper serving Whitecourt

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Contact

Valerie Winger at 780-706-1858

Email: wctpress@telus.net

Find us on:



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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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

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

- **Job#: 23-047**, Food Bank Coordinator, Permanent, Part-time Position.
- **Job#: 23-048**, Arena Labourers, Casual Positions.

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



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

continued from page 5

changes would gradually unfold over the next 18 to 24 months. The first of the four-tiered organizations to roll out will be the Continuing Care Organization, followed by Mental Health and Addiction. The last two are expected to be unveiled next fall. Under Continuing Care, part of the focus will be getting seniors currently in acute care beds into continuing care homes or at home with support, freeing up hospital beds.

One of the key parts of the Primary Care Organization will involve making sure every Albertan, regardless of where they live, can access a primary care provider. "I know how distressing it can be

when you don't have a healthcare professional to turn to, whether it's for immediate advice or a regular check-up. Primary care providers should be the first stop when health issues arise, but for the many Albertans who do not have one, it means their health will go unchecked, which could result in some very serious health implications later on," explained Lagrange.

Premier Smith added that without a primary care provider, all roads lead to the emergency room. When asked how she planned to make sure everyone had access, Premier Smith said more professionals would be given the ability to step forward. "We are going to let nurse practitioners set up their own practices

and bill the province directly. I don't think any province has that kind of model." She said pharmacists would also be able to provide more primary care and that doctor recruitment would continue, along with a funding model to help with overhead costs for practices.

A big piece of the change coming is the role feedback will play. "This is an exercise in really listening to our frontline workers and to every Albertan who wants to take part in the engagement sessions. This will give them an avenue to speak directly to the ministry, to myself as the Minister of Health, to influence change. I think it's very exciting to give them the opportunity, and it really is empowering the workforce," said

Minister Lagrange.

Past-Premier Ed Stelmach was asked how he felt seeing the AHS system consolidated during his time as Premier receive a major overhaul. "In 2008, it was a good decision to consolidate procurement, human resources, management of our hospitals across Alberta, for information systems to be the same across Alberta and at that time, the system worked well." He said issues focused on back then are not the same issues at the forefront today.

Stelmach pointed to Whitecourt Mayor Tom Pickard and the Mayor of Ponoka, both in attendance, speaking to the rising homelessness and mental health numbers growing outside of large centres.

"They have homeless people even in small rural communities. That requires a refocus. I'm fully supportive of the plan that was introduced today. It's bold, but it is strategic, and we will see better access for all Albertans."

Premier Smith said the biggest issue with AHS is that it "became all things." She said on top of policy making and funding decisions, AHS was also a service provider dealing with contracting services and evaluating its own performance, putting it in a conflicting position.

As changes roll out, Alberta Health Services will become focused as a service provider under the Acute Care Organization along with Covenant Health and doctor-run surgical

centres. It will remain the most significant acute care provider, with over 100 provincial facilities. Alongside the changes are twelve new Regional Advisory Councils and one Indigenous Advisory Council that will provide suggestions for change and have direct input to the ministry.

Whitecourt Mayor Tom Pickard said he is excited to see the initiative roll out for Alberta. "We need a healthcare system that can meet the needs of our growing province, and our current system can no longer address these needs." He said he applauded the plan. "As with any change, we will all experience growing pains, but a plan like this, that makes sense, is needed and welcomed."

PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

WORD SEARCH

A 15x15 word search grid with words highlighted in orange. The words are: LACI, UNAG, GEAR, VV, C, R, H, C, E, D, W, U, A, P, C, K, T, Y, A, F, C, C, M, W, K, G, L, Q, M, R, P, A, A, R, M, C, N, E, L, O, D, P, S, J, C, F, E, M, G, Y, O, F, W, O, U, A, O, E, N, L, C, F, A, R, C, K, G, T, G, R, I, D, C, D, I, I, N, S, N, P, I, C, U, W, A, E, U, T, E, T, E, K, O, R, U, I, U, X, O, N, K, I, E, P, S, Q, M, W, L, J, M, R, A, J, L, M, G, I, Y, F, B, L, M, A, E, O, E, J, F, E, P, T, D, D, P, K, M, F, R, V, F, W, E, R, I, C, S, I, A, Y, I, V, R, T, I, K, T, U, W, A, O, O, C, E, N, A, S, T, B, X, C, A, I, B, W, L, I, S, R, X, B, B, J, V, J, R, M, Q, E, V, H, O, H, B, S, T, L, E, G, F, I, A, E, E, A, O, C, L, E, V, N, U, E, D, A, N, I, M, A, L, B, H, W, X, Q, B, F, V, H, H, F, U, P, N, I, T, A, L, E, G, K, D, K, G, U, C, Y, Q, T, P, N, D, M, C, G, A, J, W, J, V, E, D, G, V, A, S, H, S, R, P, W, G, E, C, E, H, F, J, N, K, V, U, O, U, F, L, Q, K, A, X, A, Y, T, E, X, A, A, Q, L, Y, Q, B, B, P, A, P, K, C, J, U, R, Y, X, E, H, G, T, S, E, I, T, A, N, N, B, A, J, N, U, T, R, I, T, I, O, N, A, L, Y, E, A, S, T, A, A, P, S, I, H, E, A, L, T, H, G, H, G, L, Y, V, D, A, S, M, R, P

CROSSWORDS

A crossword puzzle grid with some words filled in. The words are: VIS, SH, NU, LEI, UNT, IED, MT, URN, SONG, ASS, ISI, UNE, AR, TH, MASS, IF, REST, ORE, ARCH, AIC, GD, EY, AS, ELSE, SACS, KRA, DARN, S, LEE, HAL, F, ROCA, API, O, SI, YUC, ATAN, THER, EOF, CLE, AVE, SENS, ORY, EARN, ER, ASTI, PIA, SD, SKI, ING, ART, RENE, GE, NEE

SUDOKU

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

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