



Affinity
Funeral Service

780.778.3330

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

FREE TAKE ONE!

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



The Press

Locally Owned & Operated

Find us on

Vol. 13 - Issue 2 | Wednesday, January 10, 2024

The claws are out, and teeth are bared as the Wolverines battle to hold a top-five spot in the AJHL



A flick of the wrist for Hunter Motley as he lifted the puck to pass two Dragons. See story page 4.



Patrick Carew

780-778-0053
pdcarew@telus.net

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



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



VERHAEGHE LAW OFFICE

780-778-6644

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

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



Heroes in the Sky

An update from STARS Air Ambulance for the area

By Serena Lapointe

STARS Air Ambulance, founded by Dr. Gregory Powell, has been a staple in the province for 38 years. There are six bases from which STARS operates: Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Saskatoon, Regina, and Winnipeg. During a recent presentation to Woodlands County Council, Glenda Farden, the Senior Municipal Relations Liaison for STARS, shared statistics from 2023 and a comparison from 2010 on how STARS has impacted residents.

“STARS is fueled by generosity,” she explained. “Previously, we had a ten-year affiliation agreement with Alberta Health Services for twenty percent government funding, which expired in 2020. We have been year to year since then. Last year, they made an announcement that they would look at higher funding

for STARS.” Farden explained that STARS received a funding top-up from AHS, covering 50 percent of operational costs. “It’s about ten million dollars per base, with three bases in Alberta, (which is) 30 million dollars. This (funding) does not include our emer-

gency link centre, which is our dispatch center, and does not include education and training or administration costs. It’s strictly anything operationally related.”

She said they are now having “high-level discussions” with AHS to secure another ten-year affiliation agreement at the increased funding level of 50 percent and said she would report back once they know more. As a not-for-profit organization,

STARS relies heavily on the communities it supports. Numerous fundraising programs and events make the program possible, including the STARS Lottery and STARS calendar initiatives.

Another way STARS is supported is through direct

partnerships with municipalities. Woodlands County has provided per capita funding for several years. During the 2022 budget deliberations, Woodlands County Council approved a support request of \$3/capita, totalling \$14,250.00 per year for 2022-2024. Community funding

gives STARS a stable income source to rely on, roughly two million yearly. Ninety percent of Alberta helps fund STARS through either municipal or regional partnerships. New municipalities, including those

in the Peace River Regional District in BC, continue to join. “You can very much see that we are starting to really unite the entire province. We just added five new rural municipalities, six more urban municipalities and we have several pending that have asks on the table.”

Within Woodlands County, STARS dealt with three incidents near Fort Assiniboine and six critical inter-facility transfers with the Whitecourt Hospital. “It’s really important to understand that the

majority of all critical inter-facility transfers are occurrences of scene calls in the rural areas. They’ve been taken by ground ambulance to the nearest hospital, and of course, because it is of a critical nature, STARS is called. That really does impact what is happening throughout your rural areas,” explained Farden.

When comparing 2019-2023 numbers,

Woodlands County sees approximately thirteen missions yearly. The highest year was 2021, when STARS flew sixteen missions. Thanks to the geographical location of Woodlands County, Farden noted that two bases, Edmonton and Grande Prairie, service the area. “That is also a key aspect for your residents (to know) is that there is a dual coverage and service,” she said.

From 2010 to 2023, 176 patients flew by STARS in Woodlands County. A further breakdown, using patient postal codes of where they lived at the time of the flight, showed that 152 were from Whitecourt, 12 were from Fort Assiniboine, eleven were from Blue Ridge, and one was from Lone Pine. She clarified that residents from Woodlands County with a Whitecourt postal code

continued on page 12



STARS presentation

In the air and off to help.

When comparing 2019-2023 numbers,

continued on page 12



Woodlands County Council members shared praise and gratitude for STARS.

In a rural-based emergency, STARS Air Ambulance is who those needing help want to see landing nearby. For nearly 40 years, STARS has saved thousands of Canadians from across Western Canada since it first began in Alberta in 1985.



Glenda Farden from STARS.



STARS video

A new H145 in flight.

Mayerthorpe RCMP conduct arrest for drug trafficking pursuant to traffic stop

On Dec. 24, 2023, Mayerthorpe RCMP responded to a call of a suspicious and possibly impaired vehicle in the Lac Ste Anne area. Mayerthorpe RCMP located the vehicle and conducted a roadside stop. After speaking with the female driver and noting several suspicious items in plain view, officers detained and subsequently arrested the driver for drug-related offences and searched the vehicle.

The following items, for an approximate total value of \$15,000-

\$20,000, were seized from the vehicle:

- 252g of suspected methamphetamine;
- 1.7g of suspect cocaine;
- 1.6g of suspected fentanyl;
- \$2,715 in cash in multiple denominations;
- Break and enter tools;
- Bear mace; and
- Ammunition.

As a result of the investigation, Jamie Lynn Day (31) was charged with the following nine offences:

- Possession of methamphetamine for the

purpose of trafficking;

- Possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking;
- Possession of fentanyl for the purpose of trafficking;
- Possession of break-in tools;
- Possession of a weapon for dangerous purpose; and
- Fail to comply with a Release Order (x4).

Day was brought before a justice of the peace and released on conditions. She is to appear at the Alberta Court of Justice in Mayerthorpe on Jan. 25, 2024.



START HEALTHY. STAY HEALTHY. GET IMMUNIZED.

If you haven't been immunized yet this season, it's not too late. Immunizations are still available.

Start your year healthy and stay that way.

To book an appointment, visit ahs.ca/vaccine or call 811.

Questions about immunization? Call 811, your primary care provider or your local pharmacy.



Career ads, online at: www.whitecourtpress.com



\$13,500

5272 51 Street
Mayerthorpe, Alberta T0E1N0
Two lots, first one sold

MLS® Number: A2057894

SERVICED RESIDENTIAL LOT WITH BACK ALLEY, CAN ACCOMMODATE A MOBILE HOME. NICE QUIET RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD.
(27771977)

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



Patrick Carew

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

780-778-0053

pdcarew@telus.net



Page sponsored by



Alberta Newsprint Company wishes you and yours a Merry Christmas and all the very best in 2024!

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

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

The claws are out, and teeth are bared as the Wolverines battle to hold a top-five spot in the AJHL



A big, thundering slapshot from Franklin (#77) at center ice.



A big grin on Franklin's face (#77) following a big goal by #71 Wiltsie.

The claws are out for the Whitecourt Wolverines as they showed their ferocious side in two recent matchups against division rivals. One matchup was a four-point game, given the teams' proximity to each other in the standings.

By Serena Lapointe

The Whitecourt Wolverines took lessons from their namesake during two big games last week against close competitors on the stats board. With a declining number of regular season games left to play, the local squad is working hard to add as many points to their total as possible as soon as possible.

The first game came mid-week against the Drumheller Dragons. With only one point between the two rivals going into the game, both knew how im-

portant a win would be. A crowd of 433 fans were in the seats for the Wednesday night game at JDA Place.

Much of the first period went by without a fuss, with just one penalty call in the first three minutes against Drumheller. The period went by fast as the puck flew from one end to the other. The Dragons goalie, Jameson Kaine, was spotted grooving to the music between the few stoppages in play as he kept himself loose.

After some skirmishes behind the net fol-

lowing great chances by the Wolverines and two significant impacts, one involving a member of both teams colliding at the blue line and another involving a ref who was taking out between the benches, the puck finally did what the hometown fans wanted. At 17:47, less than three minutes left in the period, Colby Browne, assisted by Jalen Bianchet and Kaiden Wiltsie, put the Wolverines up by one.

Less than two minutes later, the fans would get another reason to cheer. With an

incredible two-on-one play, Spencer Rheume, assisted by Dylan Leslie and Jarred Feist, snuck in past the Drumheller goaltender, giving the Whitecourt Wolverines a 2-0 lead to end the first.

In the second, things started earlier. Drumheller scored a quick one at 2:32 of the period, bringing them within one goal of tying it up. Just over three minutes later, Spencer Rheume scored his second of the game and gave his team another two-goal lead. What made this one special

was that Wolverine Travis Verbeek was in the penalty box, but being shorthanded didn't stop the Wolverines from increasing their lead.

The Drumheller Dragons then took three back-to-back penalties over a four-minute stretch for tripping, holding the stick and interference, and the Wolverines took full advantage. Freshly freed from the penalty box, Travis Verbeek scored his 19th goal of the season, with assists from Matthew Ronn and Dylan Leslie, his 17th assist of the sea-

son and third of the night. The Wolverines now had a solid lead.

Still on the powerplay, the Wolverines pushed forward, looking for another. Fifty seconds into their third-man advantage of the period, Colby Browne notched in his second of the night and 19th goal of the season, assisted by Jalen Bianchet and Braden Keeble.

Try as they might, the Dragons could not dig themselves out of the hole of three un-

continued on page 5

continued from page 4

answered Wolverine goals. They did manage to score one before the second ended, but that was it. The Wolverines won 5-2 and snatched two big points away from their rivals.

The second home game of the week came on Friday night against the Sherwood Park Crusaders. The Crusaders are the second-place team in the AJHL standings, and as of Friday, January

5, the Wolverines were in fifth place, with the Bonnyville Pontiacs and Drumheller Dragons hot on their tails. Getting at least one point out of the game was a must.

In the first period, almost halfway through, the Sherwood Park Crusaders struck first, taking a 1-0 lead over the Wolverines. Before the period ended, the Wolverines tied things up thanks to an unassisted marker from Spencer Rheau-

me. The Crusaders had two penalties, while the Wolverines had one. Neither goal was on the powerplay.

In the second, Sherwood Park once again stepped ahead first, making it 2-1 at 11:44. Precisely one minute later, at 12:44, Jarred Feist scored his ninth goal of the season assisted by Jalen Bianchet and Colby Browne, his 25th assist of the season. Things were once again tied up. Before the period

ended, Sherwood Park tipped one in, giving themselves the lead for the third time.

For the game's final twenty minutes, the Wolverines had one mission: score a goal. Each line that hopped the boards worked hard, pushing to get the puck in their possession and tie the game. Their hard work was rewarded quickly as Colby Browne passed a beauty to Spencer Rheume, who popped it into the Crusader's

net. The 488 fans in attendance were in for a treat with some extra hockey time.

In overtime, players from both teams were hungry. The Crusaders wanted the extra point as they continued to climb towards first place in the league, and the Wolverines wanted it to add space between themselves and the teams just below them in the standings, but only one could get their way. With just over a minute left to play, the Crusad-

ers scored a heartbreaker, stealing the win from the Wolverines, 4-3.

Fans can catch their team in action this weekend on Friday or Saturday night. The Wolverines take on the Olds Grizzlys on Friday, January 12, and the Canmore Eagles the next night. After that, the Wolverines hit the road for a long stretch of away games and won't return to JDA Place until February 2 against the Okotoks Oilers.

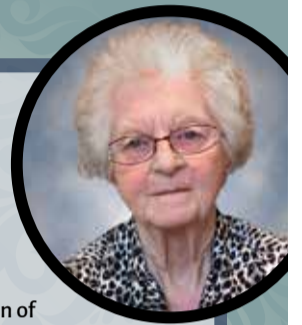


Fans near the glass had a close up look at a kerfuffle behind the net.



Coming in hot!

Mclvor, Olga Marie



It is with heavy, but peaceful hearts that our family announces Olga Mclvor (nee Fonkalsrud) was called to be with her Heavenly Father on January 1, 2024.

Olga is lovingly remembered by her sons, Kevin (Linda) of Calgary, Loren (Cinda) of Sicamous BC, Brian of Grande Prairie; daughter, Sheila (Barry) McNaughton of Whitecourt; dearly loved grandchildren, Janessa (Dennis) Killeen, Bailey and Brodie Mclvor, Cara and Samantha McNaughton; precious great grandchildren, Lochlan, Lonny and Elle Killeen; sister in law, Vera Fonkalsrud; brother, Arvid (Donna) Fonkalsrud; and numerous nieces, nephews and their families.

Olga was born in Elk Point, AB in 1930 and her childhood years were spent on the family farm in Glendon. She graduated valedictorian of her high school class and went on to study nursing at the University of Alberta, graduating in 1953. She blessed the UofA, Drayton Valley and Whitecourt hospitals with her selfless compassion for 22 years. Following her nursing career, Olga worked for 19 years alongside Gerry in their family business, finally retiring in 1994.

Olga served our Lord in many roles over the years at the Lutheran churches in Drayton Valley and Whitecourt. Her greatest pride was her family. Olga enjoyed travelling and was blessed with the many trips she was able to take; her fondest being to Norway where she shared her Scandinavian roots and treasured her extended family. Olga will be remembered for her loving kindness and her ability for forgiveness, which showed no boundaries.

Olga is predeceased by her husband of 54 years, Gerald (Gerry); infant grandson, Ryleigh; and her brother, "Red".

Our family thanks the staff of Spruce View Lodge in Whitecourt and Good Samaritan Pembina Village in Evansburg who touched our hearts with their compassionate care and many kindnesses shown to Olga. Honouring our wishes will forever bring us peace.

A Celebration of Olga's Life will be held Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 11:00 am at Skyview Alliance Church, 112061 Twp Rd 591, Whitecourt AB, with Pastor Dan Hansard of the Rochfort Lutheran Church officiating.

To honour Olga's kind spirit the family invites you to perform acts of kindness for others around you. In lieu of flowers please consider donating to the charity of your choice.

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



Park Memorial Ltd. Whitecourt · 780-779-2533

Proud to be Family Owned and Operated since 1941.

WOODLANDS COUNTY RFQS AND TENDERS AVAILABLE

Woodlands County is seeking quotations for the following projects:

- Four (4) New Extra Cab Regular Box 1/2 Ton 4x4 Trucks
- Two (2) New Extra Cab Long Box 3/4 Ton 4x4 Trucks

Detailed information on the proposals are available on the Woodlands County website: <https://woodlands.ab.ca/p/rfps-and-tenders>

Woodlands County reserves the right to waive informalities in, or reject any or all tenders, or accept the tender deemed most favourable in the interest of the County.



DAVE KUSICH
Councilor for Area 10
Division 1
dave.kusich@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-5337



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



ALAN DEANE
Councilor for Whitecourt
Central Division 3
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-0804



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



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



PETER KUELKEN
Councilor for Green Lake
Freeman River Division 6
peter.kuelken@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-284-2425



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



PUBLIC NOTICE

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



**PUBLIC NOTICE
TO ELECTORS OF THE TOWN OF
WHITECOURT, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA**

SECTION 251 - THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Whitecourt, in the Province of Alberta, has given first reading to borrowing By-law No. 1574 which will, upon final passage and approval, authorize the proper officers of the said Town to borrow monies from the Province of Alberta by way of debenture issue, to pay for the cost of the following municipal purpose(s), namely the construction of the Culture & Event Centre that includes an Administration Office, Library and Arts, Culture and Convention Centre;

The total cost of the aforesaid project amounts to \$48,406,365. After deducting from this cost the amount of \$42,810,525 to be received by way of grants, reserves, sponsorship and sale of assets the net amount to be borrowed on the credit and security of the municipality at large by the issue of debentures is \$5,595,840. The debentures are to be repayable to the Province of Alberta up to fifty (50) equal consecutive semi-annual instalments of combined principal and interest, the semi annual interest not to exceed eight per centum (8.0%), or the interest rate as fixed from time to time by the Province of Alberta;

NOW THEREFORE NOTICE is hereby given by the Council of the Town of Whitecourt that, unless a petition of the owners for a vote on By-law No. 1574 is demanded, as provided for by the terms of Section 231 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the said Council may pass the said borrowing by-law.

All persons interested are hereby notified and they are required to govern themselves accordingly.

DATED at the Town of Whitecourt, in the Province of Alberta, this 18th day of December, 2023.

Town of Whitecourt
PER:
Judy Barney
Director of Corporate Services

INFORMATION FOR ELECTORS

Pursuant to Section 1(i) of the *Municipal Government Act* an "elector" means:

1. A person who is eligible to vote in the election for a councillor under the Local Authorities Election Act.

Pursuant to section 47(1) of the Local Authorities Election Act a person is eligible to vote in an election if he:

- a) is at least 18 years old,
- b) is a Canadian citizen, and
- c) has resided in Alberta for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding election day and is resident in the area on election day.

A poll may be demanded in the Town of Whitecourt by electors equal in number to at least

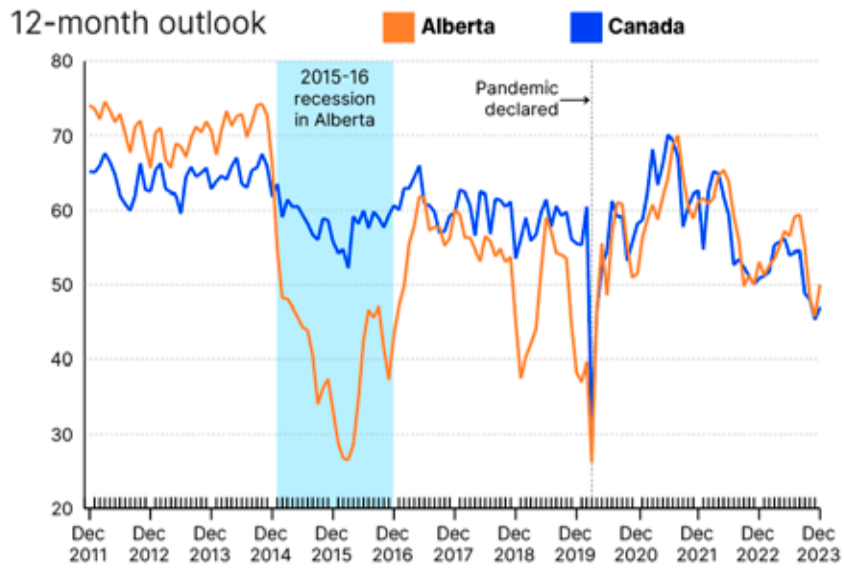
- a) in the case of a municipality other than a summer village, by electors of the municipality equal in number to at least 10% of the population and
- b) in the case of a summer village, by 10% of the electors of the summer village

in accordance with the provisions of section 223 of the *Municipal Government Act* and in accordance with the provisions of section 251 of the *Municipal Government Act*.

The petition for a vote must be received by the Chief Administrative Officer within 15 days of the last publication of this notice and shall contain on each page "an accurate and identical statement of the purpose of the petition". (Further requirements of the petition are provided in section 224 of the *Municipal Government Act*.)

DATE of the last publication of this notice is the 16th day of January, 2024.

CFIB Business Barometer for Alberta



Source: Canadian Federation of Independent Business, Business Barometer® Data Table

**Evenly split:
Small business
confidence in
Alberta**

By ATB Financial's Economics & Research Team

After a bit of a stumble in November, the latest Business Barometer® published by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) shows that business confidence in Alberta improved in December* and remains above the national average.

The long-term optimism index is based on how businesses expect to be performing in 12 months while the short-term optimism index is based on a 3-month

outlook.

The long-term index for Alberta rose 4.3 points to an even 50 in December, down from the recent high of 59.4 in August and below last year's average of 53.6.

December's reading means half of Alberta's small business owners are expecting their business's performance to be stronger in 2024 with the other half expecting it to be weaker.

Sentiment over the shorter term is weaker at 42.0 as of December, down from 55.0 back

in May and well below the 2023 average of 48.3.

A shortage of skilled labour and insufficient domestic demand were the top two limitations on sales/production growth mentioned by Alberta small business owners.

Nationally, the long-term index improved to 47.0 in December from 45.4 in November while the national short-term index rose to 39.8 from 37.3.

*Data reflect responses received from December 5 to the 8.



BOOK YOUR AD NOW
Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858
or email wctpress@gmail.com



This page is sponsored by:

YOUR ONLY LOCAL CARRIER SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1950



Proud supporter of our local Organizations
780-778-2226



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

Millar Western Forest Products Ltd.
a resourceful company



Soaring Eagle Support Society

Offering support services for marginalized individuals

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

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



WHITECOURT GROUP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

All meetings are in person and online (hybrid)

- Mondays 7:00pm
- Wednesdays 7:30pm

Meetings held at the Family Worship Center upstairs.

ZOOM ID: **818 413 483** PASSWORD: **gratitude**



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):

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*



"Serving the community for over 30 years"
The Food Bank relies on donations of cash or food in order to help families in need.

Open Mon, Wed & Fri 11:00am to 2:00 pm
Phone: 780-778-2341

Located within the Carlan Services Community Centre
The Whitecourt Food Bank is operated by the Town of Whitecourt Food Bank Coordinator and dependent on volunteers to operate. The Food Bank relies on donations of cash or food from individuals and organizations. Local grocery stores drop off baked goods including bread and pastries weekly. Other corporations and schools schedule food drives throughout the year.

Open: Mon, Wed, & Fri 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Phone: 780-778-2341

LORNE'S BLANKET

is transitional housing for men.

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

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



24/7 CRISIS LINE
780.778.6209
1.800.467.4049



WELLSPRING FAMILY RESOURCE & CRISIS CENTRE



@whitecourt_shelter

Shelter:

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

Outreach Support Program:

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

Child Support Program:

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

Preventative Education:

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



Family Resource & Crisis Centre

www.whitecourtshester.ca



Support group on Tuesdays 6:30pm - 8:30 pm, starting February 13, 2024 at Crossroads Community Church, 4419 44 Ave, Mayerthorpe.

\$35 includes 12 weekly sessions.

Pre-register by calling 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

New Women's AA Group on Saturdays @11 am

Located at the United Church Basement 5201 - 50 St

Please Leave a Message for AA member (780)424-5900

or **Contact Addictions Helpline @1(866)332-2322**

Healthy aging:

Three common illnesses older Canadians should know about

(NC) Our golden years can be the best time of our lives, but your body may need a little more care than it did in years past. Regardless of how young you may feel at heart, there are illnesses that are more common at an older age.

Here are three conditions to be aware of that can significantly affect older adults:

1. **Shingles Herpes Zoster**, typically referred to as shingles, is caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox. If you had chickenpox in the past, the virus remains dormant in your body and can reactivate later in life as shingles. Shingles often shows up as a painful rash or blisters that can last for weeks and can lead to nerve pain lasting for months or even years. It's estimated that one in three Canadians will get shingles in their lifetime, and with ninety per cent of adults over the age of 50 thought to have had chickenpox, shingles is a concern for older Canadians.

Treatment may have limited impact, but shingles can be prevented. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization and the Comité sur l'immunisation du Québec (CIQ) recommend vaccination for people aged 50 and over to help prevent shingles. The CIQ also recommends vaccination for people aged 18 years and older who are im-

munocompromised.

2. **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)** RSV is a common and highly contagious virus that affects the lungs and breathing passages. Despite commonly being associated with infants and young children, adults aged 60 and older are also at increased risk for serious infection from RSV.

The natural decline in immune function as we age makes the older-adult crowd more vulnerable to infections and health complications, including RSV. Additionally, immunity against RSV is short-lived, so you can catch it again even if you've already had it. Getting vaccinated, washing your hands frequently, disinfecting surfaces around you, and avoiding time spent close to anyone who is ill are a few steps to help avoid contracting the virus.

3. **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)** COPD is a lung disease that includes

chronic bronchitis or emphysema. It causes a narrowing of the airways and can progress slowly over a number of years. Its typically diagnosed in those over age 40, and many people may not realize they have the condition. Symptoms can include a cough lasting longer than three months, wheezing or whistling when breathing, long-lasting colds and shortness of breath during everyday activities. Feeling short of breath is not a normal sign of aging, and those experiencing it should seek medical guidance. Those with the disease are also at higher risk of developing heart conditions, diabetes and low bone density. The good news is COPD is manageable with treatment.

There are all sorts of ways to enjoy life well into our golden years, but it can be helpful to know what you might be up against.



Ring in the new year with a healthy relationship with food

Consuming a varied diet can provide our bodies with essential nutrients needed to function optimally. Proper nutrition can also lower our risk of chronic disease and support our overall physical health, including the development and maintenance of strong bones, a robust immune system, and efficient organ function.

We know that food plays a central role in our customs, traditions, and celebrations. What we eat is also influenced by education, income, and access to food.

Having a healthy connection with food can also impact our physical and mental well-being.

What does a healthy relationship with food look like?

A healthy relationship with food and eating is an important part of a healthy eating pattern. It can be different for everyone. Some ways you can develop a healthy relationship with food are:

- Enjoying the taste, social, traditional, and cultural aspects of food
- Being aware of how, why, and where you eat.
- Listening to your body signals for hunger and fullness.
- Welcoming all foods without fear or guilt
- Looking at food as a source of energy, nourishment, and enjoyment.
- Knowing that eating will change based on appetite, emotions, routines, and many other factors.

- Slowing down and taking time to eat. Our lives are busy and often we have places to go, activities to do, or errands to run. When building a connection with food, it's important to pay attention to textures and flavours of the food you are eating, which can be hard to do when you are rushing your meals and snacks.

- Limiting the use of phones, devices, televisions, or distractions while you are eating. Mindless eating is easy to do when we have a screen in front of us!

- Noticing when you are hungry or full, and reconnecting to the eating experience by creating awareness of your thoughts, feelings, emotions and behaviours.

- Planning what you would like to eat and involving others in planning and preparing.

Healthy relationships with food start at a young age

Classrooms and school lunchrooms are locations where teachers have an opportunity to promote a healthy relationship with food amongst students. Parents and caregivers can also provide an environment to foster healthy relationships with food.

For this reason, public health dietitians at AHS have created resources to support an inclusive learning environment that is sensitive to diverse backgrounds. Some tips for teachers, parents, caregivers, or mentors include:

- Emphasizing the positive aspects of eating while helping children and teens recognize that food supports our physical, social, cognitive, and mental well-being.

- Referring to foods by their name or their type, such as a fruit or a protein or a dessert, instead of labelling them as "good," "bad," "clean," or "junk." Referring to foods with negative or positive connotations can lead to shame and stress around eating which can contribute to unhealthy relationships with food, which may be harmful to health.

If you are a teacher, parent, or care provider and want to learn more about supporting a healthy relationship with food, please visit ahs.ca and search healthy relationship with food.

Start slow and celebrate progress!

If you are thinking about making changes to the way you eat and improve your relationship with food, the new year can be a good time to start.

- Take a look at where you are now. Reflect on how you think and talk about food. Choose a small goal that is important to you. For example, maybe you often think about foods as good or bad. It may help to reframe how you think about or refer to food.

For more information including nutrition educations, workshops and classes, visit albertahealthservices.ca/nutrition.

WOMBANIA™

by PETER MARINACCI



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

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

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

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

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

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

Email wctpress@telus.net All submissions remain confidential

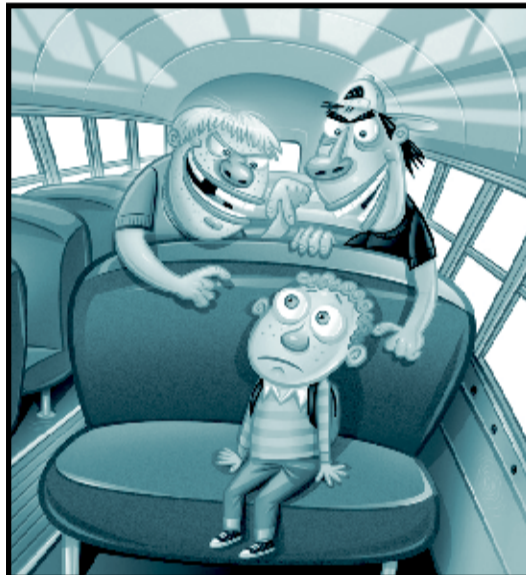


When you keep criticizing your kids, they don't stop loving you, they stop loving themselves.
Let that sink in.



Are you or someone you know being bullied?

Call the Bullying Helpline (Confidential)



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

1-888-456-2323

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

Putting a face on suicide



Mallory Richards

Age 18

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

SPONSORED BY

The Press
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS
Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email wctpress@gmail.com

Tri-Logging Ltd.
Tri-Logging is against bullying
Robert Brown
Owner
3507 37th Avenue
Whitecourt, AB T7S 0C3
Phone 780-778-0699
Fax 780-778-8431

 **FLINT™**
A Division of ClearStream
780-778-5000
• Electrical & Instrumentation
• Fabrication & Modularization
• Maintenance & Turnarounds
• Insulation
• Facility Construction
• Pipeline Integrity Digs
• 24/7 Callout Services



Waving Flags

There are several flag poles at Canfor's head office located near RBC. Flanked by a provincial flag and Canfor's own company flag are two national flags. Though both share the same basic design, one features beautiful Indigenous artwork within each red portion of the flag, including the center maple leaf. The person behind the design of Canada's Indigenous flag is Kwakwaka'wakw artist Curtis Wilson. The two designs on each side are of salmon, and the center leaf features the head of a killer whale. In an interview before his sudden passing in 2019, Wilson said he chose salmon because there are as many different types of people living in Canada as there are types of salmon. It's great to see the flag on display in the community. Wilson's flag is the second one from the left.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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



CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP

Starting on Monday, January 8, crews will be picking up trees from across the community on a weekly basis throughout the month of January as time permits. There will be no set schedule, and pick up may be delayed due to snow or other higher priority tasks.

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

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

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

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, January 17, 2024 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 January 22, 2024 Regular Meeting.

The Government of Alberta has approved Whitecourt for Disaster Recovery Program funding to rebuild from the severe flooding experienced earlier this year due to heavy rainfall and spring runoff.

Whitecourt residents who had uninsurable costs from flood damage this year can now apply for disaster financial assistance. Information on who is eligible and how to apply can be found online at www.alberta.ca/disaster-recovery-programs
 Applications must be made by February 26, 2024. <https://www.alberta.ca/disaster-recovery-programs>

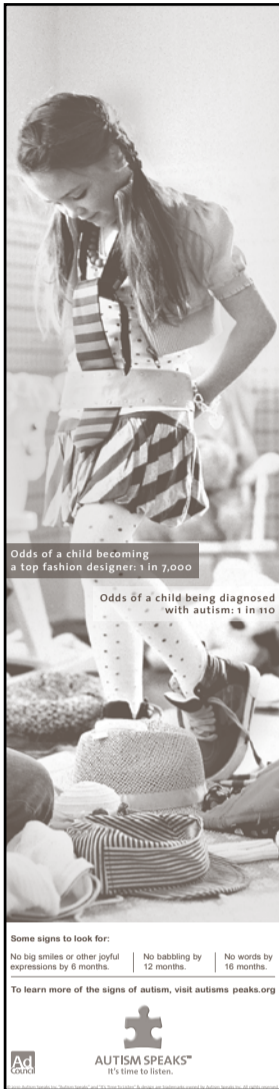
As this is a Government of Alberta program, all applications must be submitted to the provincial government directly. Questions can be directed to the Alberta Emergency Management Agency: Phone: 1-888-671-1111, Email: drp.info@gov.ab.ca



Blanket Classified Ads

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

Visit www.whitecourtpress.com



Career Training

BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only \$269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach almost 80 weekly newspapers. Call NOW for details. 1-800-282-6903 Ext 225; www.awna.com.

Coming Events

GET YOUR MESSAGE SEEN ACROSS Alberta. The Blanket Classifieds or Value Ads reach over 600,000 Alberta readers weekly. Two options starting at \$269 or \$799 to get your message out! Business changes, hiring, items for sale, cancellations, tenders, etc. People are increasingly staying home and rely on their local newspapers for information. KEEP people in the loop with our 90 Weekly Community Newspapers. Call THIS NEWSPAPER now or email classifieds@awna.com for details. 1-800-282-6903, 780-434-8746

X225. www.awna.com.

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2024 AUCTION PROGRAM: Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, Antiques, Militaria, Collections, Estates, Single Items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Toll-Free 1-800-694-2609, Email Us at sales@switzersauction.com or Visit Us @ www.switzersauction.com.

Employment Opportunities

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: Until a suitable candidate is found.

Feed and Seed

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

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

Health

HIP/KNEE REPLACEMENT. Other medical

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

Services

CRIMINAL RECORD? Why suffer employment/licensing loss? Travel/business opportunities?

Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon. US entry waiver. Record purge. File destruction. Free consultation. 1-800-347-2540. www.accesslegalmjf.com.

Wanted

CASH PAID FOR GOLD, SILVER & PLATINUM! Buying coins, collections, 999 bullion, bars, ingots, jewelry, nuggets, sterling, old money. PURCHASING ENTIRE COIN COLLECTIONS! Call Todd 1-250-864-3521.



Do You Suffer from Foot or Ankle Pain?

Our Specialist Can Help!



Call Now To Book Your Consultation!

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

Medical and Surgical Services or Treatments Provided:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Achilles Tendon Pain | Arch Pain | Athlete's Foot |
| Athletic Injuries | Arthritis | Ankle Sprains |
| Bunions | Corns and Calluses | Diabetic Foot Care |
| Fungal Toenails | Flatfoot | Forefoot Pain |
| Heel Pain | Hammertoes | Ingrown Toenails |
| Prescription Custom Orthotics | Warts | |



Dr. Ben Sefcik, DPM Podiatrist

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

Evolution Foot and Ankle Clinic
www.bensefcikdpm.com

Whitecourt
Advanced Health
Pharmasave
5112 50 St.
Whitecourt, AB

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

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

A look at the local weather	Wed., Jan 10	Thu., Jan 11	Fri., Jan 12	Sat., Jan 13	Sun., Jan 14
P.O.P.	Scattered flurries	Mainly cloudy	Sunny	Mix of sun and clouds	Scattered flurries
High	40%	30%	10%	30%	40%
Low	-22°C	-25°C	-26°C	-23°C	-17°C
Wind	-28°C	-33°C	-29°C	-26°C	-22°C
24-Hr Rain / Snow	NW 10 km/h ~1cm	NW 12 km/h	W 8 km/h	E 6 km/h	W 9 km/h <1cm



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.

continued from page 2

(for mail purposes) would come up under Whitecourt in the graph.

Of the 176 residents flown, 104 were flown out from the Woodlands boundary. The remaining 72 were flown out from 24 other municipalities. "Accidents and illness do not happen just because you are close to home. This is a testament to our partnership that your residents have access to STARS all across Western Canada from Manitoba West," said Farden.

One shared program update was a pilot project to help provide critical care virtually. Farden explained that rural doctors don't often see the types of things that STARS sees and that having a secure link on an iPad at rural hospitals can give other doctors a virtual way to support rural doctors and provide procedural guidance without being in person.

The Emergency Link Centre, the call centre for STARS, receives over 36,000 emergency requests per year, roughly 100 per day. She said STARS is seeing a 30 to 35 percent increase in mission call volume. Farden explained that being connected to industry gives everyone access to more resources. "If there's an incident in a rural area, but there's an industry paramedic a kilometre down the road, we can contact them because we know where these sites are and what level of medical expertise they have at the site. We can contact them while other local resources are en route. Another safety net, if you will."

In October, STARS received its tenth and final helicopter to round out the updated fleet

of H145s. Thanks to significant fundraising efforts and selling off the older fleet, all ten helicopters are paid for and include top-of-the-line technology. "As an innovative leader, we were the very first medical organization to be able to fly at night more than twenty years ago. Fifty percent of our call volume occurs at night. In the last twenty years, we've flown over 55,000 missions, and tens of thousands of lives have been saved because we were able to fly at night. We are very proud of that fact."

STARS air ambulances have numerous things on board, featuring small but powerful technology, including a handheld I-stat Lab, which measures hemoglobin, blood gasses and electrolytes, a ventilator, a video laryngoscope, handheld ultrasound, and units of universal blood. STARS was North America's first Helicopter Emergency Medical Service program to bring blood onboard.

Councillor Alan Deane asked what the replacement schedule would be for the new fleet. Farden explained that the replaced fleet had supported them for decades and expected the same from the new birds. "I would say that anywhere from 20-30 years again, for this current fleet. We maintain our fleet meticulously, which is why the previous fleet lasted so long."

Reeve Dave Kusch called STARS a "fantastic partner to be aligned with" and called their work "second to none." Following the presentation, Farden was presented with a check for the 2024 funding allotment of \$14,250.00.

BOOK YOUR AD NOW

The Press

24/7/365

Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858
or email 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.

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

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.



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#: 24-001, Mechanic I – Permanent, Full Time Position.

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





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

Visit our Website: www.eaglerivercasino.ca

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

NEED HELP? CALL ANYTIME! (24-7)

Mental Health Helpline 1-877-303-2642

• Addiction Helpline 1-866-332-2322

• Health Link 811

BROAD REACH at an AFFORDABLE PRICE

Advertise Province-wide

with a combined circulation of over 650,000 for only...

\$799

plus GST

Ask about the

Value Ad Network

Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association

toll free 1-800-282-6903 x225

email classifieds@awna.com

or visit your community newspaper



Mayerthorpe RCMP arrest three in attempted theft of bank ATM

On Jan. 3, 2024, just after midnight, Mayerthorpe RCMP, assisted by Parkland RCMP, Parkland RCMP Crime Reduction Unit and RCMP Police Dog Services (PDS), responded to a break and enter in progress at the Servus Credit Union in Sangudo, Alta. Suspects were attaching chains from a stolen truck to the ATM in an attempt to steal it. Upon police arrival, suspects fled in a second stolen truck. RCMP followed the vehicle and deployed several tire deflation devices. Once the vehicle was disabled, four suspects fled on foot, followed by RCMP officers and PDS. Three of the four suspects were arrested without incident.

As a result of the investigation, Durrant Kenneth Thomas Shale (24), a resident of Edmonton, Jolayna Nancee Grace Bearhead (23), a resident of Stony Plain, and Keisha Latka (29), a resident of Edmonton, were charged with 11 offences, including:

- Break and enter;
- Theft over \$5000;
- Possession of proceeds of crime over \$5000;
- Possession of proceeds of crime under \$5000;
- Firearms-related offences (x2);
- Obstruct police;
- Mischief over \$5000;
- Assault on police officer; and

• Possession of break and enter instruments.

Furthermore, Shale was charged an additional 12 offences, including:

- Driving a motor vehicle while prohibited;
- Dangerous driving;
- Failure to stop for police;
- Failure to comply with release order (x6); and
- Possession of methamphetamine.

All three accused were brought before a justice of the peace. Shale and Bearhead were remanded into custody and are to appear at the Alberta Court of Justice in Mayerthorpe on Jan. 11, 2024. Latka was released on conditions and will appear before the same court on Feb. 8, 2024.

One suspect has yet to be identified or arrested. If anyone has any information regarding the final suspect, please contact the Mayerthorpe RCMP Detachment at 780-786-2800. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store. To report a crime online, or for access to RCMP news and information, download the Alberta RCMP app through Apple or Google Play.



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

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

CONSUMER CHOICE AWARD 2023
NORTHERN ALBERTA
13 YEAR

We will help you with:

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

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

Wheelchair Accessible 

Winter Wonderland

After a milder-than-normal November and December, January is getting things back on track, dipping the thermostat way down. Rather than complain about frozen fingers, iced-up eyelashes and frigid winds, here's some beauty accompanying our first real cold snap. Late last week, Whitecourt transformed into a frosty winter wonderland as almost everything exposed to the elements was dressed with a sparkling white coat of frost. It sure looks like winter's here now, and though she's chilly, she's also really pretty.



A completely frosted chainlink fence.



The Highway 43 intersection by the AJMC with fully frosted trees.



The memorial in front of the RCMP station surrounded by hoar frost.



Mother Nature's version of frosted tips.



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



The Press

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS

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



Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.74 US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7478** (using nominal rate).

Dollar Values as of January 10, 2024

Sales & Service Directory

The Press
ADVERTISE
YOUR
BUSINESS

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

Busted Knuckle Technical Service Inc.

GENERAL AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOP

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

Call Des: **780-779-8546**

Providing Traffic Control and Piloting

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

780-865-5815

We're there where you need us most!

Road Monitoring & Radar Services

Servicing Woodlands and Yellowhead Counties

DEBT PROBLEMS???
780-424-9944

Foreclosure Fear? Bank Loan Recalled?
Wage Garnishment? Mortgage/Rent Arrears?

Call Us. Talk to Us. We can help you NOW.

FREE Consultation
www.DEBTFREE.ca

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

Find the Press on X

ATS APPLIANCE AND REFRIGERATION
Whitecourt, AB.

(780) 779-0673

WOK BOX

we deliver!
CALL 780-778-3348 TO ORDER

Hours: Mon to Sun 11am-10pm

Whitecourt
3722 Kenler Street

RF RESCHKE FRITZ LLP
PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

MARK R. RESCHKE, CPA, CA
PARTNER

Tax planning
Corporate & Personal Tax Preparation
Full Accounting Services

Box 569, #101, 5011 - 51 Ave
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N6

780-778-3981 mreschke@rflp.ca

Leanne Gould
Mortgage Associate

toll free 1.866.235.9906
www.mortgagegroup.com

403.505.9906
leanne.gould@mortgagegroup.com

THE MORTGAGE GROUP
The Mortgage Group Alberta Ltd.
304 - 3018 50th Ave. NE, Calgary AB T2A 6K4

LOCAL BUSINESS *The Press*

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

METRIX GROUP LLP
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

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

Accounting	Tax	Estates and Trusts	Consulting	Contract Controllership	Audit and Review Engagements
MICHAEL EPP Partner CPA, CA, CMA		TERRY ST. LAURENT Partner CPA, CGA, CA			
Edmonton T: 780-489-9606	Lloydminster T: 780-875-7433	Fox Creek/Whitecourt/La Crete T: 780-778-3091 T: 780-928-9525			
Fort Saskatchewan T: 780-992-0266		Evansburg T: 780-727-2017			

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

Whitecourt Veterinary Clinic 4439 - 52 Ave

...where pets are family...

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

Get The Press App at iTunes AppStore and Google play

Home hardware building centre

Garden Sheds • Custom or Pre-built • Delivery Available
780-778-4404

Help is close to home®