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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



# The Press

Locally Owned & Operated

Vol. 13 - Issue 10 | Wednesday, March 6, 2024

## The Wolverines are kings atop the AJHL castle, waiting for playoffs to begin



Stacy Crossland presented Darrell Acker with a hat from the Wolverines.

Darrell Acker was named Whitecourt Minor Hockey's Coach of the Month in December. During Wednesday night's Wolverines' game at JDA Place, he was given a shout out for his dedication to the organization. Wolverines' game day coordinator Stacy Crossland presented Acker with a hat from the Whitecourt Wolverines to thank him for volunteering. Acker's WMH U18 team is currently number one in the league. See the story page 2

## Dolling out dollars for local groups for the betterment of the community

By Serena Lapointe

Every year, the Town of Whitecourt offers several grant opportunities for community organizations and groups to help fund things like programs, projects and events. Each grant has specific requirements and qualifications concerning who can apply, what they can apply for, when they can apply for it, and for how much.

At the February 26 Regular Meeting of Council, one of the grants, the Family Community Support Services (FCSS) Grant, was distributed. Before reaching the desks of

the Town Council, the Community Services Advisory Board reviewed the applications and gave their recommendation on which groups should receive funding and for how much.

Chelsea Grande, Director of Community Services, explained that four applications were received this year: the Daycare Centre of Edson, which services Whitecourt at the Carlan Services Community Resource Centre, Bear Necessities of Pat Hardy, Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre and the

Community Lunchbox.

"Three of the four were deemed eligible for the grant," said Grande. "The application from Bear Necessities of Pat Hardy, unfortunately, was deemed as primarily recreation in nature because it was for their playground to improve accessibility. That one was referred to the Enhancement Grant, which is our next grant that closes in March. So, you'll see them again when that comes forward."

The Enhancement Grant, which helps

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This year's funding allotment through the Family Community Support Services Grant from the Town of Whitecourt was recently divvied out. Projects for three community groups/non-profits were approved. The Community Lunchbox received funding for volunteer recruitment events like BBQs.



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The Wolverines are kings atop the AJHL castle, waiting for playoffs to begin



Crossing the blue line.



A mad dash for the puck.

The Whitecourt Wolverines are first in the AJHL and have their eyes set on the upcoming playoffs.

continued from page 1

After a season full of highs and lows, the Whitecourt Wolverines will enter the post-season in the highest spot, first place in the AJHL. It is the first time in franchise history that the Wolverines have entered playoffs in the league's top spot. Their last home game of the regular season was Wednesday night against the Grande Prairie Storm, with 470 fans in attendance. It was RBC Night at JDA Place. Staff from

the local RBC branch helped drop the puck and gave fans fun little hand clappers and pens. Whitecourt was first on the board in the first period for both penalties and scoring. Two minutes and thirty-four seconds into it, Jack Pollock scored his second of the season, assisted by Kyle Venneman, with his 15th helper. Two minutes later, Wolverines Reid Larson was caught tripping up a Storm player and sat for two. A little while later, Venneman was called for interference, giving

the visitors another chance with the man advantage, but the Storm could not capitalize on either opportunity. During the midway break of the first, Wolverines' Game Day Coordinator Stacy Crossland hopped onto the microphone at the Chuck-A-Puck table to thank a local coach. Darrell Acker was named Whitecourt Minor Hockey's Coach of the Month for December for his dedication to his U18 team, which is number one in the league. Acker has coached different

teams over the years and received loud applause from the audience as he accepted an appreciation gift, a Wolverine hat. In the second, the Storm answered back. At two minutes and thirty-five seconds in, just a second more than the first period's goal, the Storm scored to tie things up, 1-1. Just over three minutes later, the Wolverines pushed back and regained the lead, thanks to a goal by Jalen Bianchet, his fourteenth of the regular season. Colby Browne and Bra-

den Keeble assisted, pocketing their 39 and 35 assists, respectively. Before the end of the second period, the Grande Prairie Storm managed to tie things up again with a goal at 15:53. The lone penalty of the second went to Whitecourt's Jack Franklin for holding. In the final twenty minutes of regulation, things got heated as both teams pushed to take the W. The Wolverines had already established themselves as Kings of the AJHL, with over ten points

between them and the second-place team, and a loss or win would not change that. But every team wants to win their last home game of the regular season. It was clear that the Wolverines wanted this win for their fans. Three names already on the score/assist sheet earlier in the game found themselves together in the attacking zone: Browne, Franklin, and Keeble. After a pass or two between them, the puck landed

continued on page 3

## Thank You Whitecourt!

In 2023, the Whitecourt Food Bank was able to meet the growing demand of food insecurity because of the amazing support from the community. We are a community funded nonprofit and rely on the strong support of our local sponsors:

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A special thank you from the Whitecourt Food Bank to anyone else who supported our program that was not listed above. Please accept our apologies if you were missed.

Thank you to our hard working volunteers who dare to work for free! Every little bit makes a difference!





Melo in focus.



Nice stick work by Rheume.



Cruising in beside the Storm bench.



Lacoste and Franklin gave this Storm player the smoosh treatment.

continued from page 2

on Keeble's stick, and he managed to pot in his seventh goal of the season. Franklin got his 19th assist, and powerhouse Browne got his fortieth. The Wolverines won 3-2.

Speaking of Browne, after two considerable efforts saw him recently tally two four-point games, and after netting his 150th AJHL point in last week's win over Drayton Valley, he was rightfully crowned as the AJHL's Player of the Week.

Several Wolverines' players are up for AJHL awards this season. Goalie Ben Charette is nominated for two awards, MVP and Top Goaltender. Charette leads the league in both save percentage (.925) and goals against (2.40) and is the only goaltender nominated for MVP. Joey Melo, who set a new team record for most goals scored by a rookie (22), is in the running for Rookie of the Year, and Dylan Leslie is nominated for Most Dedicated. Leslie has been a Wolverine since entering the league in 2019, with over 175 regular season games under his belt and nearly 200 when counting playoff

games, the fourth highest in Wolverines' history. Leslie has reached a career-high for points this year with 38. Head Coach Shawn Martin is also on the list with his Coach of the Year nomination.

With all the chaos of the last month in the rearview mirror, the Whitecourt Wolverines are steadily focused on the playoffs coming their way. As the top team, the Wolverines snagged home-ice advantage, something fans will enjoy. "There has been a lot of stuff going on within our league, but we're just staying focused on what we can control, and that's going out every single night and playing to our best ability. Hopefully, we can have a long run to the end of April. Start of May is our main goal right now," said assistant coach Bryson Traptow, speaking recently about the post-season and beyond.

The Whitecourt Wolverines will soon start battling it out for the top prize in the AJHL, the Inter Pipeline Cup. To keep up to date on when the playoffs start, visit [www.whitecourt-wolverines.ca](http://www.whitecourt-wolverines.ca). Go, Wolverines, Go!

# Bringing home the gold



Saints defending.



Stretching for a basket.



A free throw attempt.



Taking a shot.

Photos Submitted

The Ecole St. Joseph's School home basketball tournament was held on Saturday. Teams played hard all day, vying to play in the gold medal game later in the afternoon. When the dust settled from the day's action, the Senior Girls Saints were set to battle it out in the day's final game and came out victorious, winning the gold medal!





The Town of Whitecourt offers numerous grant opportunities for local groups.

continued from page 1

groups enhance their programs and services with special events or equipment that wouldn't usually be funded through their annual budgets or other funding sources, is another yearly grant offered by the Town. Grant objectives are funding local recreation, arts and cultural development while promoting volunteer-

ism and community spirit. The Bear Necessities of Pat Hardy application will return to the Council when the 2024 Enhancement Grant applications are reviewed.

The FCSS Grant differs from the Enhancement Grant in that it is for preventative projects. To be eligible, projects must meet the FCSS mandates, which include helping people become self-re-

liant, build resiliency and function positively, help promote and develop positive social relationships, empower people to address social issues and support them in being socially engaged and active participants in their community.

"This grant can be used to fund operations, which is a little bit different from the grant you will see next month (Enhancement

Grant), and it can also be applied for repeatedly. It's not just a one-time thing. It can be applied for on a regular basis (yearly) for operations. It's never guaranteed as we only budget \$20,000 for all of the organizations," said Grande.

The Daycare Centre of Edson (same building as Whitecourt Food Bank) applied for \$3,023.03 to provide an outdoor learning

environment to support social, emotional and cognitive growth and overall well-being with a natural-themed setup. "This does support our developmental domains, which fit under FCSS," said Grande. Under the policy, any eligible application for funding under \$3,000 can receive total funding. The Community Services Advisory Board recommended they receive their full ask.

Wellspring Family Resources & Crisis Centre applied for \$2,000 to update and reprint its keychain resource guide, which gives contact information for various resources available in the community. "They had it previously, but they want it updated. They are also out of them as they were used well in the community. The Community Services Advisory Board is recommending that they be awarded the full two thousand that they requested," said Grande.

The Community Lunch Box applied for \$22,167 for four separate items under their application. The first

ask was for \$2,500 to assist with the development of volunteers through events like Lunch & Learns and through promotional materials and BBQs, which would help with volunteer recruitment. The second request was two thousand dollars for advertising and promotional costs, and the final ask was for \$10,000 for wages towards a volunteer coordinator. The position helps expand outreach and volunteer engagement.

The fourth ask under the Community Lunch Box application was \$7,667 for part-time meaningful employment. However, Grande said it was ineligible under the grant. "It is funded ordinarily through another government agency, employment services agencies, under Alberta Employment/Alberta Works funding. Usually, they can apply for different contracts for those positions because this is to provide wages for people with disabilities that are partici-

continued on page 5



Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre Director Rebecca Wells.

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The Press



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continued from page 4

pating in the recycling program.”

Though wage funding can be sought through the FCSS grant, which has a unique formula built-in, it can't be for positions that can be funded through a government agency, provincial or federal, as it would be a duplication of services. The volunteer coordinator funding counted for the grant because a government agency didn't already fund it. FCSS funding for wages does not cover the whole salary. “We don't pay for

the full coordinator at any time. We do have a formula that we look at. It's based on a certain wage amount, so every organization that applies for that position would only get funding for that certain wage amount,” explained Grande.

Combining the three asks, minus the one ineligible piece from the Lunchbox application, totalled \$19,523.03. The Town's 2024 Operating Budget included \$20,000 for the FCSS Grant Program. Whitecourt Town Council voted in favour of providing funding as the

Community Services Advisory Board recommended.

To learn more about the grants available from the Town of Whitecourt, visit [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca) and search “grants.” Some grants are closed at this time, but a couple of them are active now. Applications for funding through the Enhancement Grant are being accepted until Friday, March 15, at 4:00 pm, and applications for the Community Clean Up Program will be accepted until Friday, April 5, at noon.



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# PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15



## SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

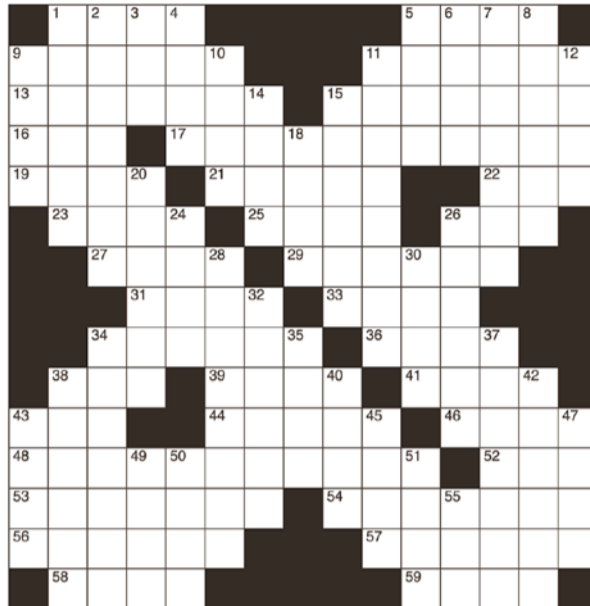
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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### 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!

## CROSSWORDS



## Crossword Clues

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Chaps
- 5. Currently fashionable
- 9. Collision
- 11. More slim
- 13. European city
- 15. Implicitly
- 16. The side of something that is sheltered from the wind
- 17. The Mount Rushmore State
- 19. Gold or silver wire cord
- 21. Muscles along insects' diaphragm
- 22. Trent Reznor's band
- 23. Sweet juicy gritty-textured fruit
- 25. Broken branch
- 26. Indicates ten

- 27. Expression of annoyance
- 29. Brings together
- 31. Ancient city in Thrace
- 33. Sailors' spirit
- 34. Looked into
- 36. Muckraking woman journalist Rheta
- 38. A type of cast
- 39. One's responsibility
- 41. Where golfers begin
- 43. Make a mistake
- 44. Semitic Sun god
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 48. Beheaded
- 52. A place to stay
- 53. Unwise
- 54. Most supernatural
- 56. "Dennis" is a famous

- one
  - 57. Ointments
  - 58. Exam
  - 59. Leaked blood
- ### CLUES DOWN
- 1. Baseball managers assemble it
  - 2. Revised
  - 3. Mountain is a popular kind
  - 4. Takes to civil court
  - 5. Pouches
  - 6. A type of veil
  - 7. Chants
  - 8. Boston hoopster
  - 9. Elongated appendage
  - 10. Sailboat
  - 11. 2017 Oscar-winning film
  - 12. Actor Gosling
  - 14. Monetary units
  - 15. Assembly
  - 18. Russian pop duo

- 20. Embellished with expressions
- 24. Infrequent
- 26. Temperature unit
- 28. Hydrophilic amino acid
- 30. Honk
- 32. Legislative body
- 34. Swinish
- 35. Russian assembly
- 37. Take over for
- 38. Put in advance
- 40. Satisfy
- 42. Felt
- 43. Dutch cheese
- 45. Witnesses
- 47. Strong insects
- 49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- 50. Ancient people of Scotland
- 51. Cheerless
- 55. Sick

## HOROSCOPE

### ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Aries, think about collaborating on a fun project with someone close to you. Find out if anyone needs help on something they may be working on if you don't have a project in mind.

### TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



An excitement concerning work goals or a business venture may compel you to take some action to get your ideas heard by higher-ups, Taurus. The audience will be receptive.

### GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



Gemini, trying to resolve issues in a relationship this week may leave you feeling unsettled. It might be that you are trying to avoid sensitive topics that you will have to address eventually.

### CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Cancer, if you are feeling content with yourself and life in general lately, that is excellent. Embrace this positive state of mind and take the necessary steps to continue the good feelings.

### LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



Leo, this week you may be feeling nostalgic or sentimental. Look over old photographs or watch family movies for a bit. If you want to take it further, reach out to childhood friends.

### VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



Find new activities that you can add to your daily routine, Virgo. This may be a sport, hobby or even a new club. Add a dose of creativity to each and every day for good effects.

### LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



Uncertainty regarding long-term plans may be driving emotions of shyness, Libra. If you are having trouble, plan excursions or events with friends you trust.

### SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



Scorpio, encouragement comes from people you may not feel are on your team. Take all of the support you can get as you start plowing through some long-term goals.

### SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



It's always the right time to tell others how much they mean to you, Sagittarius. It will not take grand gestures to do so, merely your loving words.

### CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Your busy schedule this week has everything feeling more hectic even if it really isn't, Capricorn. Carve out some time to sit quietly or enjoy some alone time to refresh.

### AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



This week you may be feeling especially charitable, Aquarius. Open your heart up to others who may need some extra support. This may be a stranger or someone you know.

### PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



Some news from a family member may catch you off-guard, Pisces. You'll soon recover when you learn that it is extremely happy news. You may even get good news of your own.

## MARCH MADNESS WORD SEARCH

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

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

### WORDS

- BANK
- BASKETBALL
- CENTER
- COURT
- DEFENSE
- DRIBBLE
- FORWARD
- FOUL
- FREE THROW
- GUARD
- HOOPS
- LAYUP
- LINEUP
- NET
- OFFENSE
- OPEN
- OVERHEAD
- PALMING
- PASS
- REBOUND
- SHOOTER
- SIDELINES
- TRAVELING
- WALKING



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2024 ANNUAL ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

Woodlands County is seeking interested volunteer groups to conduct roadside clean-up Saturday, May 4, 2024, with Saturday, May 11, 2024, being the alternate date. The roadways within Woodlands County are as follows:

Provincial Roads	County Managed Roads
Carson-Pegasus Provincial Park Road	Flats/Trestle Road
Secondary 661 - Esso to Gravel	Horse Creek Road
Secondary 661 - Gravel to Ferry	Pride Valley Road
Secondary 658 - Goose Lake to Hwy 33	
Secondary 658 - Christmas Creek to Goose Lake	Timeu (RR45)
Secondary 658 - Christmas Creek to Hwy 43	West Mountain Road
Secondary 751 - Hwy 43 to Secondary 647	East Mountain, Tower and Cutacross Road
Secondary 647 - RR100 and Secondary 751 south to TWP560A	Old Ferry Road
Hwy 32 South to TWP 580	Old Blue Ridge Highway Pavement
Hwy 32 North for 35 KM	Westridge
	Bison
	Robison
	Schuman Lake Campground

Woodlands County will donate \$100 per kilometer (includes both sides) of roadway cleaned.

Volunteer groups will be covered under Woodlands County general liability insurance policy.

A mandatory training session for "Road Managers" of participating organizations will be held at the Woodlands County Municipal Office in Whitecourt and at the Woodlands County Regional Municipal Office in Fort Assiniboine on Monday, April 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

Woodlands County reserves the right to assign roadway sections.

Deadline for letter of application:

**Friday, April 19, 2024**

Please send an email or letter of interest, which includes your contact phone number, to:

Wilma Harris, Infrastructure Services Secretary  
Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane  
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3  
Telephone: 780-778-8400, Facsimile: 780-778-8402  
e-mail: [wilma.harris@woodlands.ab.ca](mailto:wilma.harris@woodlands.ab.ca)



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**JOHN BURROWS**  
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Phone: 780-779-6554



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Phone: 780-779-3917



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



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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 7:00pm
- Wednesdays 7:30pm

Meetings held at the Family Worship Center upstairs.

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

**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**



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

**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](http://www.whitecourtshester.ca)



**GRIEF SHARE**

Support group on Tuesdays 6:30pm - 8:30 pm, starting February 20, 2024 at Crossroads Community Church, 4419 44 Ave, Mayerthorpe.

\$35 includes 12 weekly sessions.

**Pre-register by calling 780-786-2533.**

**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**





## 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](mailto:wctpress@telus.net) All submissions remain confidential

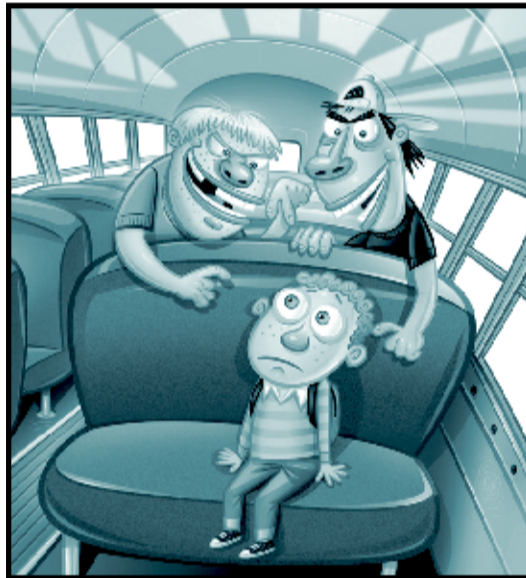


When you keep criticizing your kids, they don't stop loving you, they stop loving themselves.  
Let that sink in.



### 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



Gary Hansen

Age 16

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

## SPONSORED BY

The Press

**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS**

Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email [wctpress@gmail.com](mailto:wctpress@gmail.com)



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**Tri-Logging is against bullying**

Robert Brown  
Owner  
3507 37th Avenue  
Whitecourt, AB T7S 0C3  
Phone 780-778-0699  
Fax 780-778-8431



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# 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 24-013: 32 Allan Crescent– Home Occupation – Permanent Jewelry – Approved with Conditions.

**Date of Decision:** February 22, 2024    **Appeal Closes at 4:00pm:** March 15, 2024

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.

## ONLINE VEHICLE AUCTION

Current opportunities are posted through Government Surplus Auctions (GovDeals) on behalf of the Town of Whitecourt:

- Argo
- Champion Tractor Attachment Ice Resurfacers

The online auction on the aforementioned units will run from February 27 to March 7, 2024 at 4:00pm. For more information, visit our website [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca)

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

Current opportunities are posted on the Town's website and when required, opportunities are posted on [albertapurchasingconnection.ca](http://albertapurchasingconnection.ca). Currently, Whitecourt has the following opportunities:

- **2024 Street Improvement Program** – Closes March 14, 2024 at 2:00pm.

For further details on any of these opportunities visit [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca) and search the project title.

## VITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

The Vitalization Grant Program offers businesses located in the downtown core and along the Highway 43 corridor up to \$10,000.00 to enhance the exterior facade of their business or property to meet the Town's architectural theme of stone and wood. The stone and wood theme has been incorporated in Land Use Bylaw 1506 and is now an integral part of renovations. This grant helps us to build a vibrant and beautiful community for both residents and visitors alike.

Information and application forms can be obtained from [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca)

Applications will be accepted until **4:00 PM on Thursday May 2, 2024**, at the following location:

Town of Whitecourt - Planning & Development Department  
 Re: Vitalization Grant Program  
 5004 52nd Avenue, Box 509  
 Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N6  
 Phone: 780-778-2273  
[planning@whitecourt.ca](mailto:planning@whitecourt.ca)

## 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](http://www.whitecourt.ca) or picked up at the Town Office. Applications must be received before 12:00 noon, Wednesday, March 20, 2024 to:

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

Contact the Executive Assistant at 780-778-2273 if you have questions about this Board and the application process.

Applications will be presented to Town Council at the March 25, 2024 Regular Meeting.



# GOT A NEWS TIP?

Call Valerie Winger at **780.706.1858**  
 or email [wctpress@gmail.com](mailto:wctpress@gmail.com)



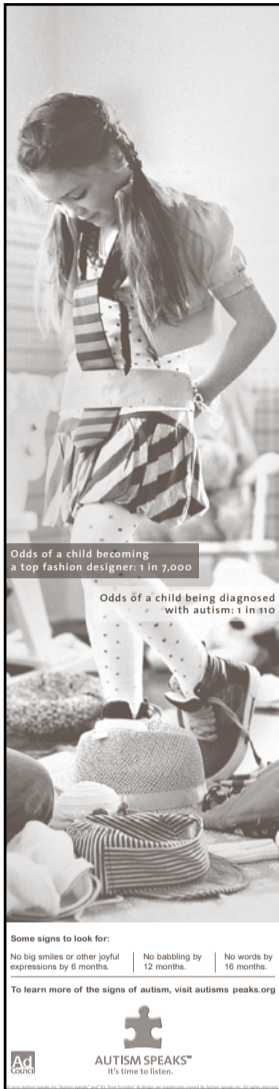




# Blanket Classified Ads

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](http://www.whitecourtpress.com)



### Auctions

Ward's & Bud Haynes FIREARMS AUCTION, Edmonton. Rifles, shotguns, handguns, antiques, ammo, accessories. Call Brad Ward 780-940-8378 to consign your items or collection. FirearmsAuction.ca.

### Building Supplies

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](http://www.awna.com).

### Business Opportunity

DIGITAL PRINTING EDMONTON. Over 25 years commercial printing/community publications. Selling due to retirement. No building; equipment, inventory, printing/advertising accounts involving large/medium businesses/organizations. Seriously

interested? Inquiries: [classifieds@awna.com](mailto:classifieds@awna.com).

### Coming Events

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](mailto:sales@switzersauction.com) or Visit Us @ [www.switzersauction.com](http://www.switzersauction.com).

### Employment Opportunities

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](mailto:classifieds@awna.com). 1-800-282-6903, 780-434-8746 X225. [www.awna.com](http://www.awna.com).

### 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](http://www.accesslegalmjf.com).

### Wanted

WANTED OLD ADVERTISING: Dealership signs, service station, gas pumps, globes, oil cans, Red Indian, White Rose, Buffalo, Husky, Ford, GM, Dodge, Tire signs, Coke, Pepsi, etc. Call 306-221-5908.

Local news printed on local newsprint

Alberta Newsprint Company



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Our Specialist Can Help!



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

### Medical and Surgical Services or Treatments Provided:

- |                               |                    |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
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| 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

**Whitecourt**  
 Advanced Health  
 Pharmasave  
 5112 50 St.  
 Whitecourt, AB

**Grande Prairie**  
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 Centre  
 #202, 10127 121 Ave  
 Grande Prairie, AB

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

**Evolution Foot and Ankle Clinic**  
[www.bensefcikdpm.com](http://www.bensefcikdpm.com)

### A look at the local weather

	Wed., March 6	Thu., March 7	Fri., March 8	Sat., March 9	Sun., March 10
P.O.P.	20%	20%	30%	10%	30%
High	-5°C	1°C	4°C	5°C	4°C
Low	-15°C	-11°C	-6°C	-5°C	-7°C
Wind	W 8 km/h	SW 10 km/h	SW 8 km/h	N 6 km/h	E 14 km/h
24-Hr Rain / Snow	-	-	-	~1cm	-



SCHOOL NEWS

# Central School scientists

On March 1st, Whitecourt Central School's Grade four/five students participated in an owl pellet analysis presentation with Scientists in School. They completed an extension activity where they reconstructed skeletons of prey found during a dissection of barn owl pellets. They then analyzed the data/number of prey found in each pellet to determine if a pair of owls would be a suitable organic alternative to using rodenticide as a means for farmers to control rodent populations. Thanks to their EPIC Society parent fundraising group for providing the students with the ability to become real-life scientists with Scientists in School!



## Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza Now Hiring 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.

**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.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

- 4-5 years' experience in the Food & Beverage Industry.
- 3-4 years' supervisory/management experience within the Food & Beverage Industry.
- Post secondary education in a related field preferred but not required.
- Training in management and employee development preferred.

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

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



## 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





Day one of the Kiskinohamakan Youth Program Metis Workshops was a remarkable success! Students from Whitecourt Central School delved deep into the rich tapestry of Metis culture and traditions.

From exploring the vibrant History and Colours of the Sash through finger weaving to engaging discussions on Beadwork and dot

art, our young learners were captivated every step of the way. They also gained profound insights into the significance of the Talking Stick and Circle Teachings, enriching their understanding of traditional Metis values and wisdom.

But the excitement didn't end there! Students embraced the rhythm and spirit of Traditional Metis

Dance, while also immersing themselves in the enchanting melodies of fiddle music.

A heartfelt thank you to Rupertsland Centre for Teaching & Learning for their invaluable partnership and generous funding, enabling this transformative experience for our students. Special appreciation goes to our outstanding facilitators Brianna Lizotte Alexa

Lizotte with Desert Métis and Logan for their dedication and expertise in guiding our youth on this incredible journey. Big shout out to @SashaMartin with the Whitecourt & District Public Library for supporting us today and in the following days as we roll out more workshops at Percy Baxter School and Pat Hardy Elementary School this week.

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#: 24-016 – Custodian – Casual Position.
- Job#: 24-017 – Transit Driver – Temporary Position.

Please visit [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca) for all employment opportunities and details on how to apply.



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



## Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

### Now Hiring 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.

**DUTIES AND REPONSIBILITIES**

- 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 humanresources 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

**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



## 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](http://www.eaglerivercasino.ca)
- How to Apply:** Send resume to [HR@eaglerivercasino.ca](mailto: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

### 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](mailto:wctpress@gmail.com).



# 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](mailto:wctpress@telus.net)



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

**Airdrie Dream Vacation Lottery Draw 2024**  AIRDRIE COUNCIL #8945

purchase tickets at [airdriedreamvacation.ca](http://airdriedreamvacation.ca)

All monies raised go to local charities. See website for more information <https://airdriedreamvacation.ca>

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**Money Matters**

One Canadian Dollar = 0.73 US Dollar at an exchange rate of 0.7363 (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of March 6, 2024

# Heritage Classic 2.0



A big smile for a fun day.



Harrison had a blast.



All lined up and getting ready.

You've likely heard of the Heritage Classic featuring the Edmonton Oilers and the Calgary Flames in late October, but what about the Heritage Classic 2.0? Last week, the Whitecourt Minor Hockey U9-1 Wolverines took on the Edson U9-1 Sabres in an epic outdoor game that they called the Heritage Classic 2.0. The Sabres hosted the event at an outdoor rink in Edson and supplied Gatorade and hot dogs for both teams. The game was the first event of its kind between the two teams and was a big success, bringing out the fun for players and parents alike.



Cheese!



A group of U9-1 Wolverines posed for a picture during intermission.



A team photo following the game.





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

## Woodlands County Council recap

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

HM Aero Aviation Consulting was awarded the CYZU Airport Runway 11-29 Rehabilitation project at a value of \$96,984. HM Aero Aviation Consulting will provide engineering and planning services for the rehabilitation of CYZU Airport Runway 11-29 pavement, drainage system, lighting, and signage.

Woodlands County is nominating the Fort Assiniboine Bicentennial Celebration for Economic Developers of Alberta Award of Excellence in the Regional Collaboration and Partnerships category. The Fort Assiniboine Friends of the Museum Society worked in collaboration with several non-profits, local busi-

nesses, First Nations groups, the Voyageur Brigade Society, and others to hold the celebrations in 2023.

Council approved the amended Policy 7002 – Community Organization Capital & Operating Grant. The policy was amended to remove the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies deduction from the operating grant. The change will assist agriculture societies within Woodlands County in maintaining their services to the community.

Woodlands County is providing a letter to the Government of Alberta requesting additional RCMP resources in the community and in the Province of Alberta. The National Police Federation is advocating for increased resources to keep pace with current and future needs. In 2021, the

Police Funding Model was changed where every municipality pays a portion for policing in the province, however recent policing investments were not in rural communities and have primarily gone towards policing services in Edmonton, Calgary, and the Alberta Sheriffs.

### Upcoming scheduled meetings:

- Regular Council – Wednesday, March 13, 5:00 pm
- Governance and Priorities – Wednesday, March 20, 5:00 pm
- Regular Council – Wednesday, March 27, 9:30 am

Meetings are held in-person at the Municipal Office in Whitecourt and streamed on the Woodlands County YouTube channel. Agenda packages are available on the Woodlands County CivicWeb Portal.

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## Whitecourt Town Council updates

The Community Services Department presented its 2023 Annual Report to Council at the February 26 Council meeting. A complete copy of the Report is available online.

- The Family Support Program had 3,378 participants attend Family Support Programs in 2023. (2,494 participants were recorded in 2022.)
- The Food Bank served 14% more clients in 2023 than 2022.
- Public Transit recorded its annual ridership at 35,468, up from 23,193 recorded in 2022.
- There were

184,422 scanned visits to the Allan & Jean Millar Centre in 2023.

- Almost 400 teens attended the 2023 Teen Halloween Dance at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre.
- Whitecourt has awarded \$19,523.03 in funding to community organizations as part of the 2024 Family & Community Support Services Grant Program. The program provides assistance to community groups that plan to provide social programs that are preventative in nature to the community. 2024 recipients include: Daycare Centre of Edson (servicing

Whitecourt at the Carlan Services Community Resource Centre) - \$3,023.03 to transform outdoor learning spaces

Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre - \$2,000 to update and reprint the Whitecourt Community Resource Guide

Community Lunch Box - \$14,500 for volunteer support and development

Council has renewed the Electric Distribution System Franchise Agreement with FortisAlberta Inc. for a five-year term. Council has authorized the write off of uncollectable utility accounts in the amount of \$8,669.98.



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