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The Press

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Locally Owned & Operated

Vol. 13 - Issue 33 | Wednesday, August 14, 2024

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Taking it to the streets for Summer Street Fest 2024



RCMP officers Bullied and Lajeunesse, with the butterfly roving performer.



Lots of foot traffic along 51 Ave.

Another exceptional Summer Street Fest is in the books! The second year for the event happened on Saturday and brought out large crowds. See story page 4.



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Removing online accessibility barriers for people with disabilities

March of Dimes Canada is integrating an online accessibility tool into its national operations that allows people with disabilities to personalize their online experiences according to their accessibility needs.

The TD Accessibility Adapter is a browser plug-in designed to co-exist with other assistive technologies and helps address accessibility barriers by enabling users with disabilities such as dyslexia, epilepsy and ADHD to make the websites they visit more user-friendly.

“Our vision is to create an inclusive, barrier-free society for people with disabilities. But, as technology moves at an increasingly rapid pace,

we’re seeing more and more barriers like cost and accessibility concerns appear,” says the March of Dimes Canada’s Lesley Smith. “The TD Accessibility Adapter helps address some of those barriers, which is why we’re so excited to leverage the tool with our network – including our employees – to help level the playing field.”

Only three per cent of the internet is currently accessible for people with disabilities, according to WebAIM. And at a time when everyday experiences continue to shift online, people with disabilities are three times more likely than those without to never use the internet, according to a 2021 Pew Research Center survey.

For users with dyslexia, the tool can swap out all the text online and replace it with text that is more spaced out and easily identifiable. Those with ADHD can black out everything on their screens except for the single sentence they’re reading to help them concentrate. Font size and saturation, the vibrancy of the colours on screen, can also be adjusted for users with low vision.

This is one of many accessible technology programs that March of Dimes Canada offers its communities. Its Hi, Tech!, SkillingUp and Tech for Good programs, for example, help people with disabilities build their digital skills and become actively engaged digital citizens.



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The Press

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Failing cold mix in County subdivisions sparks lengthy conversation about how best to deal with it



One of several large potholes in Westridge.



A bumpy, deteriorating stretch in the Westridge Subdivision.

Westridge Subdivision residents should hopefully have a smoother road to drive on by the end of this month. Several other areas remain in limbo, but a plan to get things on track is on the way.

By Serena Lapointe

A discussion on four subdivisions in Woodlands County and what could be done to improve the road conditions turned into a lengthy portion of a recent Woodlands County Council meeting as councillors wrangled with the options before them and how to use limited funds to get the best bang for the resident's bucks.

The four areas in question were the Westridge and Gibson subdivisions and access points for Sagitawah Estates, Pine Meadows and Woodlands Estates. Director of Infrastructure Jeff Zhang explained at the outset that past practices at Woodlands County had been to lay cold mix over subdivision gravel to lower dust. "This methodology may be cost-effective when cold mix was relatively cheap. However, since cold mix was placed over subgrade without a structural layer to support it, the cold mix surface tends to reach its end of life in approximately five years," he explained.

In 2021, County staff began pulverizing cold mix subdivisions that couldn't effectively be managed, returning them to a gravel sur-

face. Township Road 592, leading into the Pine Meadows Subdivision, is one example of that practice. This year, the Westridge and Gibson Subdivisions were identified as candidates for pulverization and work was supposed to start last month, but the Council asked for more options instead.

In mid-July, Zhang provided those options. "When cold mix subdivisions roads are manageable, there are several strategies that can be deployed to manage their level of service. Given the financial constraint, a pilot program is necessary to evaluate the efficacy of proposed strategies and costs in providing a reasonable level of service," said Zhang.

In Westridge, Zhang said many large potholes were making the driving surface rough. He said there were also soft spots, and the road base appeared weak. "An option to increase the strength of the road structure is preferred as that will be a necessary future expenditure with any option we select," said Zhang, adding that Westridge roads were in rougher shape than Gibson roads and that the Gibson base ap-

peared stable by comparison.

Woodlands County hired a consultant to review the areas and provide options, of which ten were provided for the nearly three kilometres in both subdivisions. The options were very similar between the two subdivisions, with prices averaging ten percent higher in Westridge than in Gibson. Options ranged from under \$100,000 to over one million, depending on how big of a project Woodlands County Council wanted.

On the low end, the Council could choose to pulverize the roads down to gravel, with no dust control, for \$74,000 (Gibson) to \$98,000 (Westridge), with a yearly cost of about \$26,000. Adding in dust control would increase both by about \$18,000. On the high end, pulverization and building a base with hot mix would set Woodlands County back about 1.1 million for Westridge, or one million for Gibson, and cost around \$100,000 per year to maintain, lasting twenty years. Pulverization and building a base with cold mix was just under, coming in at

\$940,740 (Westridge) or \$858,620 (Gibson), with a similar yearly cost and a lifespan of fifteen years. Most of the options would require Woodlands County to borrow money. "Therefore, these options are not recommended at this time," said Zhang.

For Westridge, Zhang recommended doing Cold in-Place Recycling as it would provide a hard surface with a reasonable life span (eight years). The cost was estimated at just over \$300,000 and \$51,000 annually. Cold in-Place Recycling is a no-heat option that removes a thin layer of the surface, pul-

verizes it down to a smaller particle, mixes it with a binding material, and places it back on the road where it is compacted, creating a thicker layer than what was on it before. "That's where it's going to gain a little bit more strength, and that's why I'm estimating that it's going to last a few more years than the current," said Zhang.

For Gibson, however, the administration recommended pulverizing it to gravel with the option for dust control for \$90,000, plus \$41,000/year, because the rest of the options were higher than the 2024 Cold Mix Budget of \$650,000. A

chunk of the budget, just under \$200,000, was previously set aside from the budget for hiring a consultant, leaving \$458,000 for projects. The total of the two was \$395,000.

As for the other two stretches, the cost was much lower as the distances were shorter. The area of concern on Township Road 592, leading into Pine Meadows and Woodlands Estates, was just shy of a kilometre, and the administration recommended asphalt stabilization and cold mix placement to be completed by County staff for \$83,200.

continued on page 15



Infrastructure Director Jeff Zhang.

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Taking it to the streets for Summer Street Fest 2024



Sidewalk sales.



Kristy Lovdahl's handmade pretties.

By Serena Lapointe

The weather on Saturday afternoon couldn't have been any better for holding an outdoor event. The sun was shining, and a light breeze kept things from getting too hot, perfect for the Town of Whitecourt's second annual Summer Street Fest.

From 2 pm until 7 pm, the streets in downtown Whitecourt were filled with activities galore. "We had a great turnout last year and wanted to bring it back and see how things go this time around," said Andrew Malmquist, Arts and Culture Co-ordinator for the Town of Whitecourt. "We got perfect weather for it."

Malmquist said the event was a plan for several years ahead of last year's inaugural event. "The concept of Summer Street Fest

came up a few years before we held the first one, but COVID put a halt on it. The Economic Development department was looking to do something, and the Arts and Culture department was also looking to do something, so we collaborated to bring this event forward."

The diversity of the downtown business sector was on full display as businesses opened their doors for sidewalk sales, with many offering sales during the event. Several shops outside the downtown area also joined the fun by popping up a tent. "It's great seeing everybody come out and get together and unify downtown," said Malmquist.

Summer Street Fest featured roving performers, including a butterfly on stilts

who posed with two of Whitecourt's finest RCMP officers (Bullied and Lajeunesse) as the pair strolled through the event. The Whitecourt Farmer's Market took over the Legion and spilled out over the surrounding sidewalk, creating a massive shopping opportunity for visitors.

Local creator Kristy Lovdahl, selling her hair pretties and tutus, said she was glad the town put on the event. "It's wonderful. So many local vendors, talent and all the amazing shops downtown have come together. It's great to see the community coming down to support everyone, plus the weather is fantastic, and the smell of mini donuts is in the air."

continued on page 5



Chalk sidewalk challenge.



Local musician Nic Melnychuk

continued from page 4

The event also featured face painting, glitter tattoos, and booths from the Whitecourt Mountain Bike Association and Alberta Wildfire. There was also an artistic opportunity for anyone who wanted to do it. “We have an art workshop where people can come and drop into it and learn from a professional instructor and create something,” said Malmquist.

“We also have the sidewalk art challenge. All of our youth categories filled up quickly. They have until six to draw their designs, and then people will vote,” he said. Winners received \$100 in Whitecourt Bucks. “It’s nice to see the youth get out and get involved in art and for us to be able to offer something for them where they can

participate. There’s a lot of recreational-focused stuff for them in town, so it’s nice that we can offer these art-related things,” added Malmquist.

Throughout the afternoon, live entertainment took to the stage. Local acts Nic Melnychuk, Addy Watson, Beauty and The Beats, and Analog Smoke show rocked the mic. Seconds into Watson’s set, her guitar string snapped, bringing her show to an immediate halt. From behind the crowd, Melnychuk, who had just finished his set, came running, guitar in hand.

“I thought right away that she could use my guitar for her set because I hope someone would do that for me if my string broke or something happened,” explained Melnychuk, showing how things

roll in a small town. “I love coming to these community events and playing for everybody. Events like this bring people together. People who might not see each other very often can see each other at these events. It’s good to see that happening. I love these events so much.” Thanks to his act of kindness, Watson completed her set, giving the crowd a great show.

Malmquist said there’s been growth musically on the local scene over the last few years, making it easier to find acts. “We definitely aren’t struggling to find local talent, which is great. It’s nice to be able to provide them with a venue where they can express their art and talent.” Other performers included a Bag Piper with a Dhol drummer and Mariachi Loco,

both from Edmonton.

The Whitecourt Cornhole League had a large play area in front of Pharmasave, inviting passersby to stop and give it a try. League treasurer Leeanne Stark said lots of people stopped by. “We’ve had lots of interest. We’ve had people give it a go and throw some bags. It’s awesome. We try to support different ac-

tivities that the town is offering so we can get out information about the league and how fun it is.” The league starts in September and will be on Tuesdays at St. Joseph’s Hall at 6:30 pm. “No registrations. No long-term commitment. Come for one night or the whole season. Anyone 12+ can play,” said Stark as a group walked up, eager

to try the game.

Malmquist said the goal was to show people the possibilities in downtown Whitecourt. “We wanted to bring people downtown and offer another fun summer event. It showcases something else Whitecourt has to offer outside of the parks. Downtown Whitecourt can be a fun place. We have lots to offer!”



Cornhole games.

DISCRETIONARY USE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

The Municipal Planning Commission will be making a decision on the following development permit application as per the Woodlands County Land Use Bylaw, at their regular meeting on **Wednesday, August 21st, at 4:30 p.m. at the Whitecourt Municipal Office**, downstairs.

Section 19 of the Woodlands County Land Use Bylaw provides opportunity for any person who may have comments on the proposed development to deliver to the Development Officer, a written statement of their concerns indicating: their full name and address and the reasons for their comments to the proposed use.

If you have any comment or concern regarding this proposal you may provide a written statement via email to planning@woodlands.ab.ca prior to **4:30 p.m., August 15th** or you may attend the meeting to voice any comments.

Comments received will be taken into consideration by the Municipal Planning Commission.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION	DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION NUMBER	PROPOSAL
PT. NW 18-59-11-W5M Lot 12 Block 2 Plan 062-6222	15-042-2024	Variance – Accessory Building prior to Dwelling & Side Yard setback from 6m to 3.66m

Information regarding this application may be obtained by inquiring prior to **4:30 pm, August 15th, 2024**.

Attention: Peter McKay, Development Officer, planning@woodlands.ab.ca
Woodlands County

Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt AB T7S 1N3
Telephone: 780-778-8400, Toll-Free: 1-888-870-6315



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Mayor
Councillor for Area 1
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Phone: 780-778-9337



JOHN BURROWS
Councillor for Whitecourt West
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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**

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Providing timely and easily accessible financial support for Whitecourt patients and their families who are dealing with a cancer diagnosis.

This can include help with parking costs for hospital visits, living expenses and unforeseen medical expenses. Applications can be made through the Drs at both Whitecourt Medical Clinics or (office hours, can leave a message):
Kim Nendsa (President of Whitecourt Cancer & Wellness Society) **780-778-0932**
Aimee Grierson **780-262-0222**

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

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Preventative Education:
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Wellspring
Family Resource & Crisis Centre
www.whitecourtshester.ca

GRIEF SHARE



Support group on Tuesdays 6:30pm - 8:30 pm, starting September 17, 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**



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

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by PETER MARINACCI

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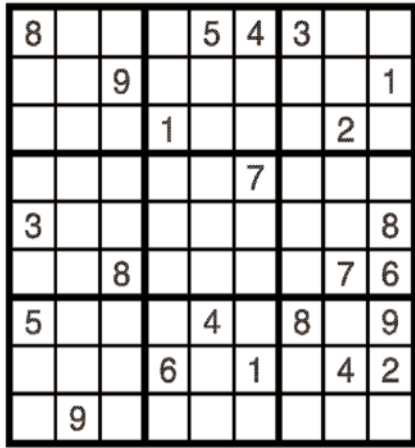
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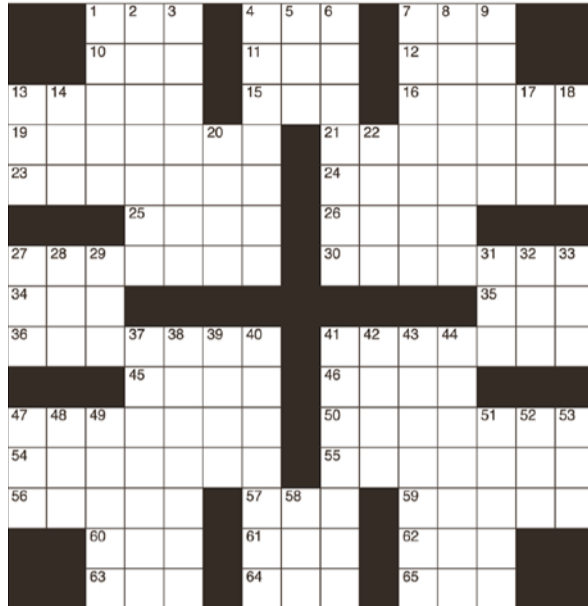


Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

CROSSWORDS



64. They __

65. Sea eagle

CLUES DOWN

1. Policemen (French)
2. Toy dog
3. Inflamed colon disease
4. Can't move
5. Helps little firms
6. Lists of names, subjects, etc.
7. Takes down
8. Makes possible
9. Wife of Julius Constantius
13. Engine additive
14. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
17. Written account
18. Consumed
20. Something the first shall be
22. No (slang)
27. Gov't lawyers
28. Peyton's little brother
29. Small amount

31. Investment vehicle

32. Fall behind

33. Midway between northeast and east

37. Head pain

38. Popular sport in England and India

39. King Charles's sister

40. Boat race

41. About fish

42. Maidservant

43. Able to be marketed

44. Tinier

47. Parts per billion (abbr.)

48. Paddle

4.9 Oneness

51. Bitter chemical

52. Not around

53. Very fast airplane

58. Swiss river

HOROSCOPE

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Aries, you hold the key to success right now, so everyone wants to be in your corner. Take things in stride and maintain your focus while accepting all the support.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Taurus, it is important that you streamline your workflow this week; otherwise, you may not meet the deadlines imposed upon you. Start implementing a new strategy.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



This is the week to take the road less traveled, Gemini. Blaze your own trail, get out into the wilderness and possibly expand your horizons. A spontaneous idea like this can pay dividends.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Cancer, someone in your social circle could be shielding the truth and it may frustrate you. But you can't come out and accuse this person without proof. Step back for the time being.

LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



An important relationship could be coming to an end for you, Leo. You could try to salvage things, but you have to look at the bigger picture and determine if it is good to move on.

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



Virgo, you have been coasting along without a firm direction for too long at this point. While it may have been working for you, you will soon fare better with a more concrete plan.

LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



Be mindful of other people's situations before you engage with them, Libra. What may be a good time for you will not necessarily be ideal for those around you.

SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



Scorpio, someone in your life has proven worthy of more attention. Give this person a little extra love in the days to come, and direct your focus to having a good time.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



Social activities seemingly bloom around you this week, Sagittarius. There could be so much going on that you don't know where to get started.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Remember, Capricorn, others are not just listening to what you say, they are reading into your actions. Make sure you are genuine in both your words and gestures this week.

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



This week you may have to take the first step in rekindling an important relationship, Aquarius. Are you ready to be the catalyst?

PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



There is not much you can do about financial issues, Pisces. Make an effort to start spending less, which may be the catalyst for a real examination of your budget.

Crossword Clues

CLUES ACROSS

1. Major American automaker (abbr.)
4. Pressure measurement
7. Two-year-old sheep
10. Indigenous person from Laos or Thailand
11. Up in the air (abbr.)
12. Actress de Armas
13. Not moving
15. Cool!
16. Bog arum genus
19. Perceptible by touch
21. Type of test
23. Monetary units
24. Collection of various things
25. Sum of five and one
26. Type of sword
27. Hates
30. Immobile

34. Pie __ mode
35. Moved quickly
36. Passenger's place on a motorbike
41. A way through
45. Former US Secretary of Education Duncan
46. Leader
47. Flowing
50. Greetings
54. Remedy
55. Soft lightweight fabric
56. Building material
57. Sea bream
59. A way to cause to be swollen
60. One and only
61. People get one in summer
62. Wreath
63. Thus far

DOWN TO BIZ WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

ACCOUNTING
ALLOCATION
ASSETS

BALANCE
BOND
CAPITAL
CASHFLOW

COST
EARNINGS
ECONOMICS
EMPLOYEE

ENTREPRENEUR
EQUITY
EXPENSE
FINANCE

INPUT
LIABILITIES
LOAN
MANAGEMENT

MARGIN
NET
OUTPUT
PAYROLL

Stalling in July: Canadian jobs report

By Mark Parsons
ATB ECONOMICS

More signs of a cooling labour market, reinforcing our call for September rate cut

After the jarring market response to last week's U.S. jobs report, everyone was on high alert for the Canadian numbers delivered today.

The Bank of Canada has indicated that, with inflation cooperating, it is becoming more focused on downside risks. That means watching the jobs data closely.

The report points to further signs of softening. The economy isn't growing enough to con-

sistently add jobs and absorb people looking for work.

Employment was largely unchanged (-2,800) for the second straight month. That's well shy of market consensus (Bloomberg survey) of +25K.

The only reason the unemployment rate

held steady at 6.4% was due to a decline in the labour force—the number of people (15+) working or looking for work.

The details show all the net new jobs were full-time, but entirely in the public sector. Over the last 12 months, part time employment (up 3.4%) has far outpaced full-time (1.4%). Meanwhile, the public sector (+4.8%) has outpaced private gains (+0.6%).

A falling job vacancy rate (latest from May) points to further signs of a cooling labour market.

Newcomers and youth are in particular finding it harder to find work. The youth (aged 15 to 24) unemployment rate rose to 14.2%, the highest since September 2012 (outside the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021).

Statistics Canada points to "a much more difficult summer job market for young returning students in 2024 compared with previous years."

Among newcomers to Canada (landed in Canada within the previous five years) the unemployment rate was 12.6% (not seasonally adjusted, three-month moving average), up 3.1 percentage points from the same time last year.

The Bank of Canada has been watching wages closely—one of the main pressure points in the inflation battle. Average hourly

earnings remain sticky, up 5.2% year-over-year.

Bottom line: This report reinforces our call for another 25 basis point interest rate cut in September. Slack has built up in the labour market and the economy is clearly in excess supply. It's only a matter of time before persistent wage pressures start to relax. For the Bank to hold in our view, the upcoming inflation reports would need to show a reversal of inflation progress.

Alberta - Jobs, unemployment rate hold steady

Alberta employment was largely unchanged (-0.6K) last month, following a 8.1K gain in June.

Digging into the details, a sizable gain in full time jobs (+46.4K) was offset by a dip in part-time positions (-47K), while small gains in the private and public sector were offset by lower self-employment.

At the industry level, modest gains in goods-producing industries mostly offset service sector declines.

There has been a notable pick-up in oil and gas, mining and forestry employment, reaching its highest level since January 2015. This coincides with stronger oil production in the province, lifted by new market access brought by the Trans Mountain Expansion.

Compared to last July, new private sector

(+59K) and full-time (+43K) positions have accounted for the majority of net new employment (+54K).

Alberta's year-over-year pace of job gains (2.2%) remains higher than the national average, but has slowed. Alberta has been adding jobs at a faster annual pace than the rest of the country since March 2022. But it needs to - just to keep pace with even faster labour force growth. New entrants to the labour market have come not only internationally, but from other provinces.

The unemployment rate held steady at 7.1% on a decline in the labour force participation rate which fell to its lowest since September 2023. Alberta's youth unemployment rate was 14.3%, roughly at national average, and up 1.5 percentage points from the same time last year.

Bottom line: Employment growth has slowed in Alberta, and strong labour force entry continues to put upward pressure on the unemployment rate. However, the composition of annual job gains (mostly full-time and private sector) remains more favourable than national trends. With today's report, we are now tracking 2.8-3% average annual employment growth for 2024 with an annual average unemployment rate of 6.8-7%. Our next forecast comes out in September.



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Water Safety: Stay safe with AHS' summer tips

Alberta Health Services (AHS) wants Albertans to stay safe while enjoying the province's lakes and rivers this summer. Following these safety tips will help you avoid serious injury and illness during recreational water activities.

There is always a risk of injury when swimming, especially in unmonitored bodies of water. Here are a few ways you can prevent water-related injuries and illness:

- Wear a proper fitting Canadian-approved lifejacket or Personal Flotation Device (PFD) in a boat, kayak, canoe or other water sports and make sure it fits.
- Make sure young

children wear lifejackets when they are in, on, or around the water and be aware of fast-moving water. Stay right beside your child.

- Swim with others when there is no lifeguard present.
- Avoid alcohol, cannabis and any other substance that may affect your judgment before and during water activities.
- Lakes, rivers and streams may contain illness-causing microorganisms.
- Check for recreational water advisories or look for posted advisory signs at public beaches. Not all beaches are monitored for biological, chemical, and

physical hazards.

- Do not swim or wade and keep pets out of water in areas where cyanobacterial (blue-green algae) blooms are visible.
- Never drink or cook with untreated water directly from any lake or reservoir, at any time. Water-borne organisms, including fecal bacteria, can cause vomiting and diarrhea.

Swimmer's itch is a rash caused by an allergic reaction to the larvae of certain parasites. The parasites can get under your skin when you swim in lakes, ponds, creeks, streams and rivers. You can't get swimmer's itch from swimming pools that are treated with chlorine.

- Shower and dry yourself off with a towel as soon as you leave the water.
- Stay away from swimming areas that have weeds. Do not wade or swim in those areas.

Alberta Health Services is the provincial health authority responsible for planning and delivering health supports and services for more than four million adults and children living in Alberta. Our mission is to provide a patient-focused, quality

health system that is accessible and sustainable for all Albertans. Our current focus is on reducing emergency department wait-times, improving EMS response times, increasing access to surgeries, and improving patient flow.



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If you're in the mood for a new spot to eat lunch this summer or to have a picnic, the Heritage Park beside the Forest Interpretive Centre is a great pick. Carefully curated and lovingly cared for by the Whitecourt Communities in Bloom committee volunteers, the park features a welcoming arbour, beautiful flowers, and several places to sit.



This purple flower looks like a firework.



Give these a sniff. They smell like passionfruit.



A pretty hue.



Out For a Float

Woyewoda's "boardroom" view.



Slowly floating along.

The McLeod River is a favourite spot when it's hot for residents and community visitors to inflate their tubes, make their way down the bank, relax into their inflatables and slowly meander their way to the pickup point just before the Highway 43 bridge, letting the river take control as they peacefully drift. Going for a float is a must-do summer bucket list item in Whitecourt. On Saturday afternoon, resident Stacey Woyewoda, with family in tow, checked it off her list and had a blast doing it.

RCMP ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Whitecourt RCMP respond to break and enter at oil lease site

On the evening July 28 2024, Whitecourt RCMP received a report of a break and enter in progress at an oil lease site, located in the area of Windfall Road. Upon arrival, officers identified and located a vehicle matching the description of a vehicle used to access the site, a traffic stop was initiated and as a result two individuals have been arrested.

Theresa Savard, a 38-year-old resident of Sturgeon County, Alta., has been charged with the following offences:

- Break and entering with intent
- Possess break-in instruments

Jesse Rudichuk, a 36-year-old resident of Sturgeon County, Alta., has been charged with the following offences:

- Break and entering with intent
- Possess break-in in-

struments
Both Theresa and Jesse were taken before a Justice of the Peace and were released with conditions. They are scheduled to appear in court on August 17 2024, at the Whitecourt Provincial Courthouse in Whitecourt.

Your Whitecourt RCMP are committed to keeping our community safe. If you have information regarding this incident or any illegal activity within Whitecourt and surrounding areas please contact Whitecourt RCMP at 780-778-5454. 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 crime online, or for access to RCMP news and information, download the Alberta RCMP app through Apple or Google Play.

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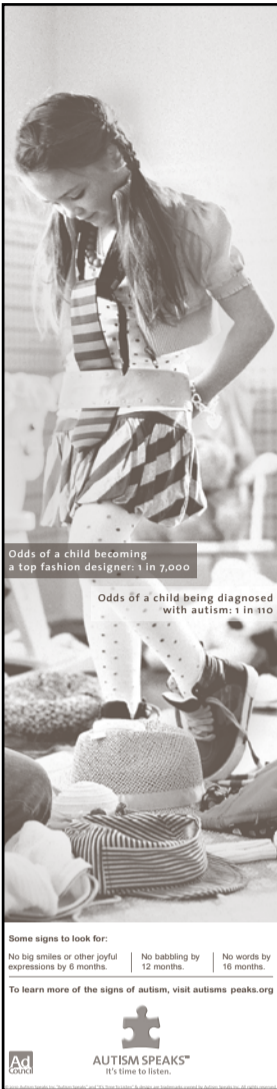
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High
Low
Wind
24-Hr Rain / Snow



Wed., Aug. 14
Chance of a shower
40%
23°C
14°C
W 12 km/h
-



Thu., Aug. 15
Chance of a shower
70%
23°C
11°C
W 9 km/h
1-3mm



Fri., Aug. 16
Chance of a shower
70%
20°C
12°C
E 15 km/h
5-10mm



Sat., Aug. 17
Partly cloudy
50%
21°C
12°C
E 9 km/h
-



Sun., Aug. 18
Sunny
10%
21°C
13°C
E 8 km/h
--

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.



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



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

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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#: 24-042, Lifeguard and/or Instructor I, Casual Position.

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



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Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.72 US Dollar at an exchange rate of 0.7279 (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of August 14, 2024



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.



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.
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continued from page 3

Township Road 592A, the access point for Sagitawah Estates, had the smallest area (0.3 km) and was recommended to be pulverized to gravel with dust abatement for just under \$16,000. Zhang explained that they expected to save \$50,000 from the consultant's review, giving them enough cash to complete all four projects

as recommended.

Council members quickly agreed on the work needed for the Westridge Subdivision, motioning to approve it. However, the recommendations for the other three roads didn't sit well, especially for the Gibson Subdivision. Councillor John Burrows was concerned that the pilot project didn't provide a start and end date, which could give residents

the impression that a now-gravel road was a permanent fix rather than a step in a larger project. He said that residents have been very patient already and that they need to be able to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

"I don't think they're going to have a problem with their road being ground up because at least it's smooth, because in a lot of the conversations I'm hav-

ing, (they say) there are so many potholes that they can't dodge them and it's wrecking their car. (They) want a surface (they) can drive on. So, that's a step in the right direction, but it's certainly not a step that gets us back to a hard surface, which is what they had," he explained.

Zhang said they were awaiting an engineering report on all the County's cold mix

roads, which they expect in early September. He said they would present it to the Council in mid-October, along with options for how to fund it. Councillor Bruce Prestidge said the detailed plan was important, agreeing with Burrows. "This is not going to be the 'end all' to fix these roads. It's going to be temporary. It might last two years, three years, four years. What we have

to do is have a plan to bring our roads up to where they are going to last ten, fifteen years."

In the end, Woodlands County Council decided to have its administration bring back more options for the Gibson Subdivision and table the work on Township Road 592 and 592A pending the engineer's report. The work approved for Westridge will take place through August.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Current opportunities are posted on the Town's website and when required, opportunities are posted on purchasingconnection.ca. Currently, Whitecourt has the following opportunities:

- Project Number: 08-01-2024 – **Gravel Pit Contouring**. Closes: August 31, 2024 at 2:00pm MST.

For further details on any of these opportunities visit www.whitecourt.ca and search the project title.

NOTICE OF DECISION

The following decisions were made by the Municipal Planning Commission:

Application 24-038: 3710 33 Street (Lot 13, Block 16, Plan 052 4252) – Discretionary Use – Equipment Sales, Rental, and Repair (Heavy) – Approved with Conditions.

Date of Decision(s): August 8, 2024 **Appeal Closes at 4:00pm:** August 29, 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.



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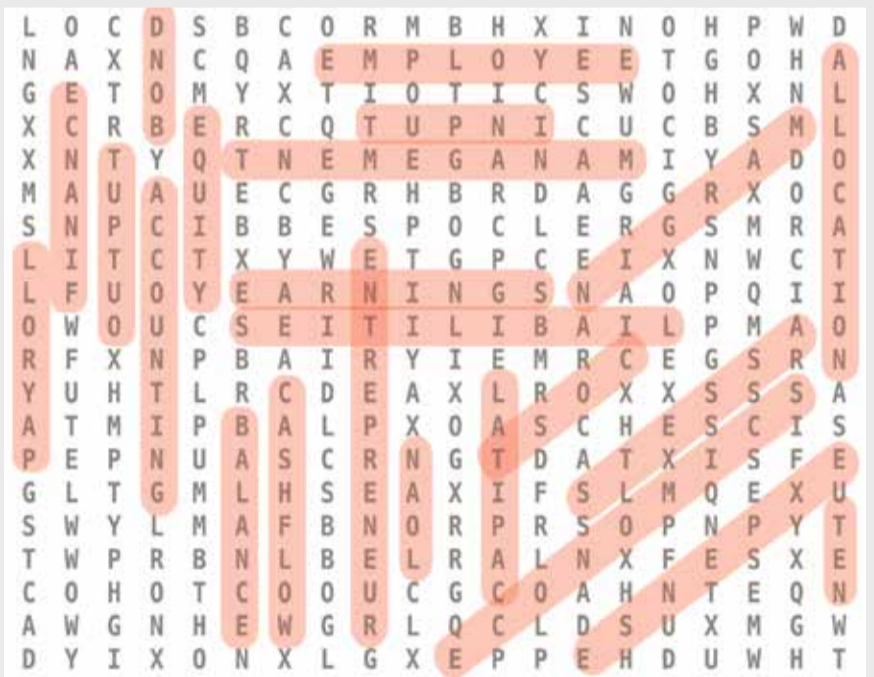
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3	7	6	4	1	2	9	5	8
1	4	8	9	3	5	2	7	6
5	1	2	7	4	3	8	6	9
7	8	3	6	9	1	5	4	2
6	9	4	5	2	8	7	1	3

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