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The Press

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Locally Owned & Operated

Vol. 13 - Issue 37 | Wednesday, September 11, 2024

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Stories, cars and good ole local comradery



A busy A&W parking lot.



A striking yellow number.

If you can appreciate the beauty of an automobile, new or old, then adding the Whitecourt Wheels Car Club's Wednesday night meet-up at A&W to your calendar might be worth doing. Though the cars are a big draw, attendees love chatting, and you never know what stories you might hear.

By Serena Lapointe

Many residents have heard of the Whitecourt Wheels Car Club or have attended shows either at the weekly meetups in the summer

or the rodeo, but what people might not know is that there is only one person behind the scenes posting in the club's Facebook group and bringing vehicle

enthusiasts together for theirs and the public's enjoyment.

That person is Lana Miller, and she's been

continued on page 4



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Woodlands County is seeking applications and letters of interest from residents to serve as members on the municipality's Council Committees.

Learn more about each committee and apply online at woodlands.civicweb.net or submit letters of interest and/or resume and experience to either of our municipal offices.

- Agriculture Services Board - 2 vacancies**
- Economic Development Committee - 2 vacancies**
- Municipal Planning Commission - 1 vacancy**
- Community Services Committee - 2 vacancies (2-year term)**
- Community Services Committee - 1 adult and 1 youth vacancy (1-year term)**
- Subdivision and Development Appeal Board - 3 vacancies**
- Woodlands County Library Board - 1 vacancy (3-year term)**

Application Deadline: Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 4:30pm

Submit Applications to:

Email: communications@woodlands.ab.ca

In-Person:
Woodlands County
Municipal Office, #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt, AB
Regional Municipal Office, 61053A Highway 33, Fort Assiniboine, AB



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



JOHN BURROWS
Councillor for Whitecourt West
Division 2
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ALAN DEANE
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For More Information Contact Daryl at (403) 507-0107



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- 32" Bucket for a Hoe
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- 16' T/A Stock Trailer
- MH 2 Bottom Plow
- 3 pth Harrows
- 3 pth Bale Spear
- Bunch Rake
- 3 pth Rototiller
- 5' 3 pth Mower
- JD Zero Turn Riding Lawn Mower

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- 2 - Honda Quads

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Real Estate Terms & Conditions: 10 % Down on Sale Day. Balance & Possession on or before November 7th, 2024. If Balance is NOT RECEIVED by November 7th, 2024 the Deposit will be Forfeited as Liquidation Damages. All measurements are approximate and need to be verified by the purchaser.



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Harvest time



Local gardeners who utilized Whitecourt's Community Garden this growing season have quite the bounty on their hands. Plants of all kinds, from flowers to vegetables were grown in the garden this year. The community space enables residents to tend to a garden that they may not be able to do at home. Whether they live in an apartment or a rented spot, or maybe they just like the idea of gardening in a shared space with others, the garden lets them do it. Next time you're out and about near Festival Park, look towards the blue Cadets building to appreciate the bounty for yourself.

World Teachers' Day, October 5th

You could win a cash prize, and your teacher could win a grand prize!



Which teacher had the greatest impact on you?

The Alberta Teachers' Association wants to know, which teacher had the greatest impact on you? In celebration of World Teachers' Day on October 5th, let's acknowledge those amazing educators. Share your story and **you could win a cash prize, and your teacher could walk away with a grand prize!** Simply upload a selfie video expressing your thanks to your most inspiring teacher. This is an open contest for Albertans of all ages. Visit www.teachers.ab.ca



The Alberta Teachers' Association

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Enjoying the visit is what it's all about.



Lana Miller (left) and Ken Vanderburg (right), beside their rides.

continued from page 1

the solo lead for several years. "We used to have a club with meetings, we had positions, we voted on things, and everybody paid a membership fee," explained Miller. "I want to say it's been probably fifteen years already since we've done it that way. Most of that original group has left town."

Once things dwindled, Miller picked up the reigns and kept things going. "I wanted to keep it going, so I did. I don't have an official club where I charge a membership fee or anything. We just get together." Miller hosts weekly meetups at a local coffee shop, and this year's chosen stop was one of their favourites, A&W. Along with the rodeo, she has also hosted car shows at local air shows in the past.

Miller said that the way clubs run really changed over the last five years. "There aren't a lot of paid clubs anymore. Mayerthorpe doesn't have a mem-

bership club anymore. It's a business that hosts their Show and Shine every summer. It seems to be working for them."

Miller said she's happy that people still come to the Wednesday night get-together and hopes to see the attendance grow next year. "I love having the public come and having club members talk about their vehicles and seeing the public come out and reminisce about what it was like to have these cars back in the day. I love the comradery of it."

Ken Vanderburg is one of the vehicle owners who frequents the car show circuit. He said though there are beautiful cars in garages across the area, some owners won't bring them out for fear of the vehicles being touched or damaged. Vanderburg spoke about one local car owner who, years ago, brought a newly purchased vehicle out for an event only to suffer a costly scratch.

"There are some expensive old cars in town, but they won't

take them out in public because they don't want them touched," he explained. Miller said it's a perfect reminder for those who attend the Coffee and Cars events or any other event where vehicles are on display to look with your eyes, not your hands. "It's about getting that awareness out there and understanding what it means to respect a person's vehicle. I've seen people come up and grab trinkets off the vehicle that weren't meant to be touched or lean on a vehicle." They both said that etiquette needs to be top of mind for youth and adults. She said it's nice when people appreciate the vehicles and enjoy seeing them. She also said that anything is welcome to join the show. Whether something is newer, older, rusty or shiny, completely done or still a work in progress, with four or more wheels or just two, it's welcome. "I like people that take pride in almost anything. I don't discriminate. Everyone

is welcome!"

Miller said she wants people to know that being together and chatting makes the event what it is. "It's about the visit, really. The vehicles are fantastic to see, but it's about getting together, visiting and having some town comradery," she said. To add to the conversation, Miller brought eight tracks to display in her trunk. "People will ask their kids if they know what it is and point it out to them," she said.

Vanderburg displayed a few of his prized collectibles, including working drive-in movie speakers from Whitecourt's old outdoor theatre, where he once worked. He now has them connected to bluetooth in his 1957 Chevy. "They are hooked up and working. The last couple of car shows, people loved it," he said. "A lot of people under 40 don't know what they are. People came up to me in Peers and asked what they were. I said they were from the

drive-in movie theatre in Whitecourt." Miller chimed in. "Then they ask, what's a drive-in movie theatre?" For Vanderburg, getting to share stories is part of the fun. "I like to talk to people that have had their cars for a long time and find out what they've done to it and what it means to them. I like hearing how long they've been in the area and where the car came from and things like that."

One of his favourite stories to share is how he got his hands on his 57 Chevy.

"My wife went to a yard sale in Niton Junction to buy vegetables, and she called me at home and said you better come with your car trailer. I bought you a car. I asked her what it was, and she told me to just come," chuckled Vanderburg. "So, I go get my son, who apparently already knew about it, and we go there and here's this four-door 57 Chevy that they had had since 1969. They bought it from the original

owners in Mayerthorpe, whose grandson I know. Within a month, I had it all going and have been coming to car shows."

Vanderburg didn't have his Chevy with him at Wednesday's meet-up, opting for his bike instead, thanks to Alberta's unpredictable weather. "My insurance ran out two days ago. I only put it on for six months, and last year at this time, I had parked it because we had lousy weather. And now, this September, we've got some sunshine. So, I might put the insurance back on it," he laughed.

To keep up to date on the Wednesday night meetups, join the Whitecourt Wheels Car Club Facebook page. If the weather is favourable, the club meets at A&W starting at 6 pm. "It's nice to be on the highway and to have the public stop by because they see us," said Miller. She hopes to get the club at more events next year. "Any local events we can partner with would be awesome."



Pretty in pink.



Car talk.

Page sponsored by



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Temporarily shutting off power in high-risk areas is part of AltaLink's evolving Wildfire Mitigation Plan

By Serena Lapointe

During a recent Woodlands County Council meeting, representatives from AltaLink provided information on a newer program meant to mitigate the risk of wildfires impacting the power supply in the province. Collin Harvey, AltaLink's RPF Municipal and Community Relations Manager, was at the meeting. AltaLink is Alberta's largest transmission facility operator, servicing roughly 85 percent of Albertans. They have over 13,000 km of transmission lines and over 300 substations.

AltaLink provides infrastructure that allows power generators using gas, hydro, solar or wind to send their power along the transmission lines, which moves into AltaLink substations before be-

ing handled by distribution companies like Fortis, who distribute it to retailers who then sell it to consumers.

The infrastructure owned by AltaLink enables many Albertans to access power. Growing concerns over wildfire events have pushed forward proactive practices to help mitigate the risks posed by powerlines starting fires and fires destroying infrastructure such as wooden power poles, something seen during the fire activity last year.

Harvey explained that in 2019, AltaLink created a Wildfire Mitigation Plan. "Wildfires have become a significant feature on the landscape over the last few years. It was sad to see what happened in Jasper, and last year was obviously a very bad fire year across the



With increased wildfire activities across the province, different industries are looking at how they can mitigate their risks. AltaLink, Alberta's largest transmission facility operator, recently shared with Woodlands County Council how it plans to mitigate wildfire risks. Collin Harvey (left), RPF Municipal and Community Relations Manager.

province," said Harvey. "With the number of fires lit, about 85 were caused by power lines. None of those power line-caused fires ended up being significant,

but a lot of the significant fires did have a significant impact on our transmission infrastructure," he said.

"When we get into those situations, the

line stays de-energized until we can get it back up and running," said Harvey. "AltaLink has been taking wildfire mitigation seriously.

We are a leader in Can-

ada in that realm. We can't get our risk right down to zero, but we can do what we can to reduce the risk to the

continued on page 11



A crew checks the status of a line from the air.



A damaged power pole.

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Located within the Carlan Services Community Centre
The Whitecourt Food Bank is operated by the Town of Whitecourt Food Bank Coordinator and dependent on volunteers to operate. The Food Bank relies on donations of cash or food from individuals and organizations. Local grocery stores drop off baked goods including bread and pastries weekly. Other corporations and schools schedule food drives throughout the year.
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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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Kim Nendsa (President of Whitecourt Cancer & Wellness Society) **780-778-0932**
Aimee Grierson 780-262-0222

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

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

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

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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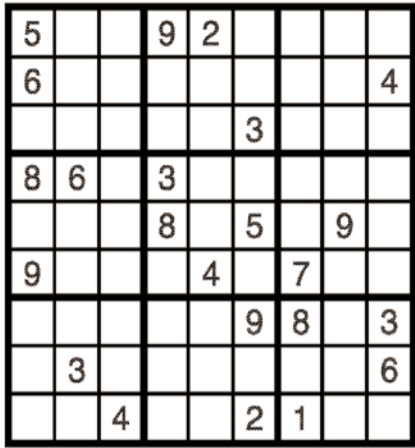


PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15



SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Crossword Clues

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Engine additive
- 4. A type of test
- 8. Curtail
- 10. Irish surname
- 11. The opposite of good
- 12. Got rid of
- 13. Central parts of a church building
- 15. Stylistically
- 16. Intestinal
- 17. Negative potential outcomes
- 18. Lived up to a standard
- 21. Snag
- 22. Time units (abbr.)
- 23. Ad __

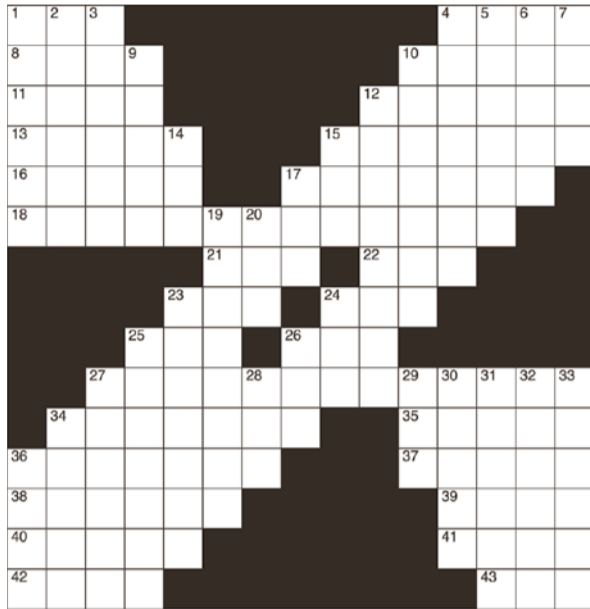
- 24. "Partridge" actress Susan
- 25. For each
- 26. __ Paulo, city
- 27. League titles
- 34. More intensely black
- 35. Slang for lovely
- 36. Petrarch is known for them
- 37. Old Eurasian wheat
- 38. Body part
- 39. Swedish rock group
- 40. They're worth avoiding
- 41. Rising and falling of the voice

- 42. Wings
- 43. Enzyme import for respiration

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Idyllic
- 2. South Pacific island nations
- 3. Shrub of the olive family
- 4. Boundaries
- 5. Encircle
- 6. Weights
- 7. Samberg is one
- 9. Sheep sound
- 10. European country
- 12. Respected group of people
- 14. Trigraph
- 15. Prosecutors
- 17. Assign a nickname
- 19. Huge size
- 20. Partner to cheese

- 23. Fastballs
- 24. Principle underlying the universe
- 25. Distinct units of sound
- 26. Title of respect
- 27. Against
- 28. Foot (Latin)
- 29. One point east of due south
- 30. Concerning the blood
- 31. Type of pentameter
- 32. North American peoples
- 33. Layers of rock
- 34. Georges __, French philosopher
- 36. Lengthy tale



HOROSCOPE

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Aries, you are quick to spend money lately, and that can prove problematic in the long run. It may be a good idea to sit down with a financial planner and sort out spending habits.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Taurus, this week you have free rein to follow your intuition and express your emotions to those around you. It's beneficial to get in touch with how you are feeling and explore things further.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



There is some unfinished business you need to clear up before you can fully focus on the week or even month ahead, Gemini. It may be scary, but you need to put it behind you.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Cancer, it is time to rally the troops, as many hands will make much faster work of something you need to get done. Ask your friends or family to pitch in as much as possible.

LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



Leo, you're finally ready to take a sizeable step toward completing a goal that has been on your list for what seems like an eternity. It will feel so great when it is far behind you.

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



Do you have an appetite for adventure this week, Virgo? You may not have to travel too far for all of the thrills and chills you desire. Look around for options close to home.

LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



You may not be feeling like yourself, Libra. There's something rumbling beneath the surface that you don't want to share with others just yet. There's time to be patient.

SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



Scorpio, as you move through the week, a certain relationship could begin weighing heavily on you. You're not sure if you should commit further or move on.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



Sagittarius, you're not just ready to hit the ground running, you have the stamina to sail through at a rocket's pace. This renewed sense of urgency can help.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Capricorn, the week may start off on a good note with plenty of entertaining distractions. Keep the fun going throughout the week.

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



Your attention span is limited this week, Aquarius. You may need to work from home or block out as many distractions as possible if you hope to get a single thing finished.

PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



Make a point of delegating if your to-do list gets a little long over the next few days, Pisces. Your phone will be pinging constantly with alerts, so a little help can go a long way.

ENJOY YOGA WORD SEARCH



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

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

WORDS

- | | | | | | |
|--------|------------|--------------|---------|---------|----------|
| ASANA | BREATH | CORE | MANTRA | POSE | STRENGTH |
| BANDHA | CENTER | ENERGY | MIND | POSTURE | STRETCH |
| BODY | CHAKRA | FUNDAMENTALS | MUDRA | PRANA | STYLE |
| | CHATURANGA | HATHA | NAMASTE | SACRUM | UJJAYI |
| | | | | | YOGA |

PUBLIC NOTICE

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WHITECOURT LAUNCHES 2025 BUDGET CONSULTATION

Let us know where you would like to see your tax dollars invested for the 2025 budget.

Town Council encourages you to share your thoughts on projects and plans at the 2025 Budget Public Input Session. The session is scheduled during the Regular Meeting of Council at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, September 23 at 4:00 p.m.
Forest Interpretive Centre – Council Chambers
3002 – 33 Street, Whitecourt

Community members that are unable to attend the Public Input session are encouraged

to submit comments. Complete the online form on our website, call the Office, or submit an email to the following address by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, September 18:

Town of Whitecourt
Box 509, 5004 52 Avenue
Whitecourt AB T7S 1N6
780-778-2273 ext. 227
administration@whitecourt.ca

All comments received regarding the 2025 Budget will be considered by Council during budget deliberations.

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 opportunity:

- 2024-08-27: **Graphic Design and Printing Services for Whitecourt's Community Spectrum.** Closes: September 20, 2024 at 12:00PM MST.
- 2024-09-04: **Transportation Master Plan.** Closes: September 30, 2024 at 4:00PM MST.

For further details on this opportunity, visit www.whitecourt.ca and search the project title.

Karson retires



One of Karson's comfy spots at the RCMP detachment.



Karson visiting with RCMP Officer Lajeunesse.

After five years of service to Eagle Tower Victims Services, Karson has retired. In an official post on Wednesday last week, the unit shared that Karson would live out the remainder of his years "with an amazing family that will allow him to live his best puppy life." Karson has supported officers and victims over the years by calming them. After a difficult day, officers would be visited by Karson upon their return to the station, as he could tell they needed some love. He also supported victims by providing a calming, reassuring presence, especially for children. Karson received training through the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides in the Facility Support Dog Guide Program. It's time to put your paws up, Karson. Thank you for your service!

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CANADA

MONTH



HISTORY

1839

The Albion Mines Railway opens in Nova Scotia. It is an early Canadian steam-driven mining railway.

Pet FACT:

This device is placed around a dog's body instead of just the neck, which can make walking more comfortable.

Answer: Harness

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

EWONR

--	--	--	--	--	--

TEP

--	--	--

DPTOA

--	--	--	--	--	--

CAER

--	--	--	--

I	L	V	M	Y			G
---	---	---	---	---	--	--	---

Answer: I Love My Dog

NEW WORD

HEEL

a command for a dog to have him walk close behind you

How they say that in...

- English:** Bark
- Spanish:** Ladrar
- Italian:** Abbaiare
- French:** Aboyer
- German:** Bellen

Did You Know?

A dog's sense of smell is amazing. A dog has as many as 300 million scent receptors. By comparison, a human nose has about 5 million receptors.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Dog collar



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continued from page 5

greatest extent possible.” Harvey explained that the tricky part was finding a balance between protecting customers and communities by having resilient power lines that can handle events while at the same time, not putting undue cost onto ratepayers. Some of the key aspects of the plan include fire threat maps. “We’ve used third-party fire experts who have mapped out our transmission lines and looked for areas where in the event a fire did ignite along one of our lines, those areas may have a higher impact than in other areas,” he explained.

Another step is Facility Wildfire Risk Reduction Programs. Harvey explained that they are upgrading their wood pole structures in high-risk areas. “We are trying to fire-harden our equipment as we move forward. That includes replacing the insulators, those cone-shaped strings that hang the wire up to the structure. We’re replacing those to make sure they are in the best condition possible. We are also replacing wood cross arms on those

lines with steel cross arms. If we get (power) leakage up there, sometimes that wood cross arm can be a source of ignition. Steel reduces that risk.”

Enhanced Situational Awareness Monitoring is also in the program and includes adding more cameras and weather stations to their network. “We are using a third party that provides a daily report on fire weather in our service territory and geographical areas. It helps show us the trend of how the weather is progressing and if we are getting into extremely hot, dry factors and how that will change our operating behaviours.” Harvey said in the last quarter, they added seventeen new weather stations.

Similar to FireSmart, Harvey said AltaLink had also increased vegetation management activities. “We are making sure that vegetation is maintained, and we’ve also increased the number of times we do inspections. When we start getting into more extreme risk days where the fire weather looks concerning, we have enhanced operational practices,” he explained.



Photo altalink.ca

Some poles will be replaced with steel components.

One of those practices is to no longer re-energize a line that suffered a fault if the area has risky weather, like hot and dry conditions. “Typically, when a fault happens on the line, auto-reclosers will attempt to energize the line immediately so that we don’t have a disruption in power.” He explained that instead, they would send a crew to inspect it.

Should a fire come close to a community, like Woodlands County or the Town of Whitecourt, Harvey said they have a final resort option called a Public

Safety Power Shutoff. “If the conditions are concerning, we (could) proactively shut off the power to some of our transmission lines in those areas until conditions clear,” eliminating the risk of a power-line igniting a fire in a very dry area.

Harvey said turning off the power to an area and leaving residents in the dark isn’t something they take lightly. “We are a power company. We take a lot of pride in providing service, so it’s not something we want to do, but if it’s a matter of public safety versus providing that service,

public safety is number one, so we will do that.” Multiple factors could lead to a power shutoff, including high winds, low humidity, dry vegetation, close fire activity and real-time observation from boots on the ground.

Harvey said the proactive approach would remove power from an already risky scenario. “We don’t want to further advance a fire.” He said once off, it wouldn’t be as simple as flicking back on the switch. “It will take some time for us to get that line energized again. With us having

the line off, we won’t know what condition the line is in because we won’t have any data to tell us about any faults or trips that have happened. We would have to access the line.”

Woodlands County will be looking to see if there is an opportunity for synergies within AltaLink’s Wildfire Mitigation Plan, including within its extensive camera network. For more information on what a Public Safety Power Shutoff could entail for residents and how to be prepared, visit www.altalink.ca/wildfiresafety.

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The Press COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Vol. 12 - Issue 15 | Wednesday, April 10, 2024

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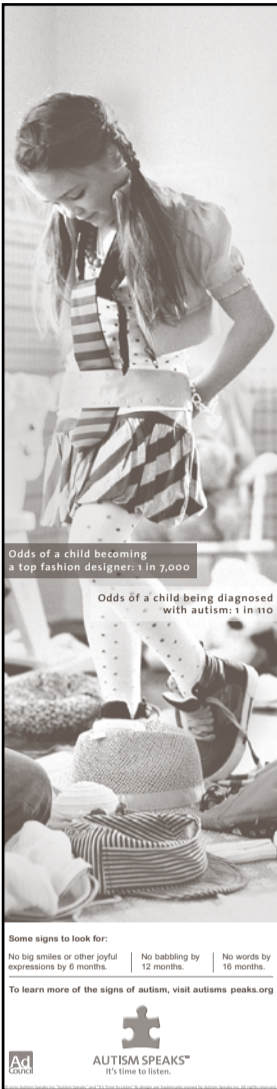


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A look at the local weather	Wed., Sep. 11	Thu., Sep. 12	Fri., Sep. 13	Sat., Sep. 14	Sun., Sep. 15
P.O.P. High Low Wind 24-Hr Rain / Snow	Mainly sunny 30% 16°C 8°C E 10 km/h	Mainly sunny 20% 19°C 9°C NW 6 km/h	Chance of a shower 40% 18°C 7°C W 14 km/h	Mix of sun and clouds 30% 16°C 7°C NW 15 km/h	Mainly sunny 10% 18°C 7°C W 7 km/h

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = **0.73 US Dollar** at an exchange rate of **0.737** (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of September 11, 2024

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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.



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PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Contact

Valerie Winger at 780-706-1858
Email: wctpress@telus.net

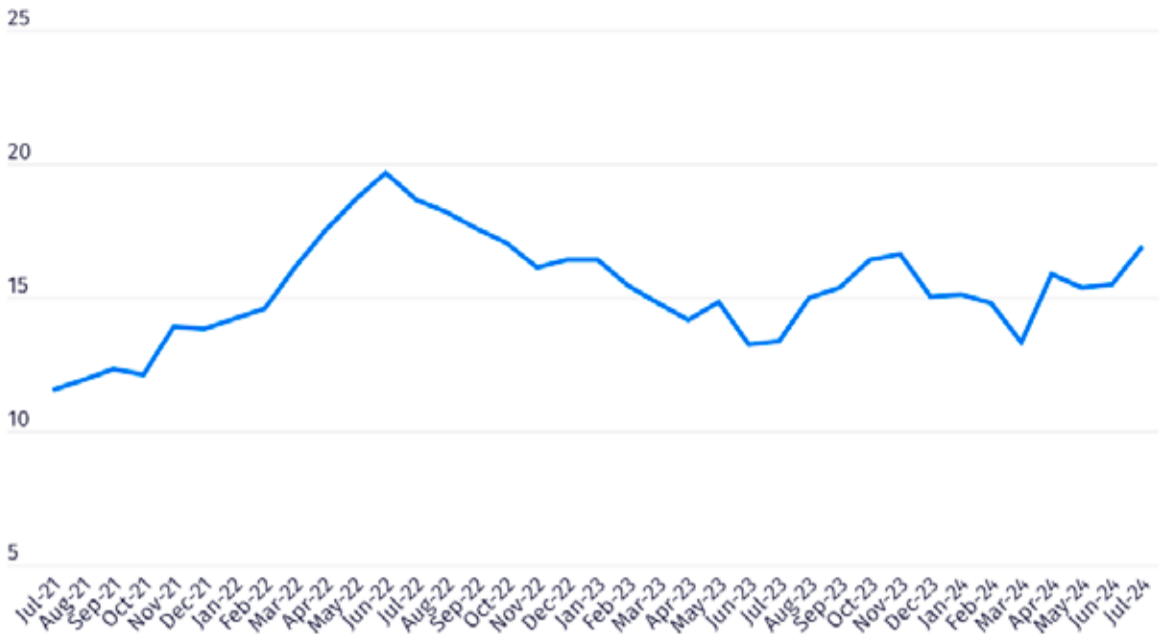


The Press is printed on high quality newsprint using vegetable based ink. We encourage you to share, save, reuse, rehash & recycle.

Alberta's international exports

ATB Economics

Merchandise only, customs basis, seasonally adjusted



Source: Statistics Canada Table 12-10-0175-01 and ATB Economics

It's an energy story: Alberta exports jump in July

By Siddhartha Bhattacharya, ATB ECONOMICS

Buoyed by rising crude oil output, Alberta exports reached a 21-month high in July.

According to new Statistics Canada data, the value of Alberta's international merchandise exports reached \$16.9 billion in July, 26% higher than the same month last year. Adjusted for seasonality*, the monthly value

spiked to the highest level since October 2022.

On a year-to-date (YTD) basis, export revenues were up by 4.4% from the first seven months of 2023.

Energy exports (+6.7%) are the main driver of the YTD increase. This is not surprising given that production of crude oil is at a record high this year, with prices also trending higher. Crude

oil accounts for roughly two-thirds of Alberta's total exports.

The story, however, is a bit different for non-energy commodities as they posted a 2.3% YTD decline during the same time-frame. Farm, fishing and intermediate food products drove the majority of the pullback. According to Statistics Canada, higher processing activity of canola within the coun-

try tempered volumes sold internationally while canola prices also edged lower in July.

National exports ticked up by 1.3% YTD with Alberta responsible for over 80% of the increase.

We expect oil and gas export volumes to rise almost 5% and be a key driver of Alberta's GDP growth this year.

*Seasonal adjustment by ATB Economics

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What is mortgage protection, and why might you want it?

(NC) Homeownership is a big step, whether you're a first-time buyer or not. Protecting your new home typically involves getting new locks, installing an alarm system and maybe even getting a "guard" dog. However, something you might not have considered is to help protect your mortgage.



TD Mortgage Protection, for example, offers optional coverage to help safeguard one of your biggest financial obligations. You've worked hard for your new home, and you likely want to help ensure you and your loved ones can stay in it as long as you want, whether it's your starter or forever home.

If you're not sure what mortgage protection is, here's a breakdown:

In the unfortunate event that something happens to you, like a serious injury, death or critical illness that is included in your insurance coverage, mortgage protection can step in to reduce or pay off the remainder of your mortgage, up to \$1 million. If your claim is approved, it could help ensure your loved ones can remain

in the family home and could lift your mortgage payment obligation from the shoulders of you and your family.

Mortgage protection can help homeowners protect their financial well-being by offering mortgage critical illness and life insurance. If you are enrolled with active coverage and subsequently suffer a covered serious injury

caused by an accident, are diagnosed with a covered critical illness such as a stroke, life-threatening cancer or acute heart attack, or if you pass away, your outstanding mortgage balance could be reduced or paid off, up to \$1 million.

Learn more about mortgage protection at td.com/mortgageprotection.

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- Job#: 24-047**, Guest Services Associate II, Permanent, Full-time Position.

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PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

WORD SEARCH

Word search grid with solutions highlighted in orange:

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

CROSSWORDS

Crossword grid with solutions filled in:

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

SUDOKU

Sudoku grid with solutions:

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

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