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The Press

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Locally Owned & Operated

Vol. 13 - Issue 40 | Wednesday, October 2, 2024



A summer to remember for a local mother and her son

A mother and son had the adventure of a lifetime when they recently travelled a world away to experience the culture and beauty of South Korea, thanks to their chosen sport, Taekwondo, and their local Whitecourt club. Evan and his mom, Anita, at Gyeongbokgung Palace. See story page 3.



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Youth partnership with a local non-profit is opening doors for those with disabilities one button push at a time



A teenager from Whitecourt's Youth Advisory Committee recently completed a project with ECHO Disability Services that is changing lives, one push at a time, thanks to grant funding tied to a youth partnership.

By Serena Lapointe

A life-changing project between the Youth Advisory Committee and ECHO Disability Services has people smiling from ear to ear thanks to the push of a button. Earlier in 2023, Emma Harper, the Youth Advisory Committee's director, brought an opportunity to the committee. It was a grant called the Enabling Accessibility Fund from Employment and Social Development Canada, which featured a youth innovation component, encouraging youth to find accessibility barriers in their communities.

Lucas Boudreau, who is in his fourth year on the committee, raised his hand and offered to be the one to apply for the grant and get the ball rolling. "She needed one youth

from the committee to apply for this grant, and I volunteered. She helped me reach out to businesses in the community, and that's how I found Louise," explained Boudreau.

Louise Meier, Executive Director of ECHO Disability Services, and Boudreau began working closely together on what the project could be. "He and I sat down and kicked around some ideas, and Lucas came up with the idea of the buttons, and that is a real accessibility issue for a building that houses people with disabilities. We walked around, and he was right. We didn't have any buttons for our doors to keep them open," explained Meier.

Boudreau said it was something he noticed right away. "When you

think of something that helps people with disabilities, you think of handicap buttons, and I noticed when I was coming in the door that there weren't any." So, off they went, writing the grant and explaining the project they wanted to undertake with grant funding. The pair hit send in early October of 2023, and on February 1 of this year, they got the news they were hoping for. The grant was given two thumbs up.

"We were fortunate to get nine thousand dollars to put the buttons on the doors of our building.

A couple of weeks ago, the hardware finally came in, and the fellow from Crystal Glass in Edson came up. Between them and the

continued on page 5



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A summer to remember for a local mother and her son



On the bus to the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea.



Group shot at Taekwondowon.

By Serena Lapointe

Evan Hicks is a typical twelve-year-old kid unless, of course, you count that he's a second-degree black belt in Taekwondo. He began the sport in High Prairie at age five, and when he moved to Whitecourt, he joined the club here and kept training. Though he is small, don't let his size fool you because this kid can move.

This past summer, Evan and his mom, Anita Hicks, took part in a trip to South Korea alongside members of the Whitecourt Taekwondo Club and those from other clubs who wanted to join in on the fun. Anita said she wanted to take her son to Korea as a reward for working as hard as he has.

"Watching him progress through the sport and seeing how much it has helped his confidence, leadership skills and overall character especially after going through so much with COVID, and still becoming a second-degree at eleven, I wanted this to be something special for him. I also wanted him to experience a different level of Taekwondo so he could see where it could lead him," she explained.

Getting to South Korea isn't cheap. Members who partake in trips work hard to raise the funds. Anita said she was very grateful to have support from back home. "My fami-

ly and our community, Peavine Metis Settlement near High Prairie, had a walk-a-thon fundraiser to help raise money for the trip, and we raised more than we needed. They were really supportive."

She said that Evan did a demonstration during the walk-a-thon, and now residents from the settlement are joining the sport, too. "The club back home in High Prairie gained a few more students because of the fundraiser and demonstration," said Anita. Evan even brought a Metis sash with him. A picture of Evan holding the sash in Kukkiwon was shared by the Metis Nations, inspiring even more people to look into it.

With both of his communities behind him, Evan attended every single training session he could while in Korea, using the experience to its full potential. Evan trained and practiced at Taekwondowon, which houses the world's largest training space for Taekwondo, and at the daily practices at Yonsei University under the tutelage of Grandmaster Kim. "Evan was one of the youngest attending the daily training at the University. All the students were university-age," said Anita.

Evan said being in Korea was "really cool" and different. "It was hot. It is more of a



Beautiful architecture at Taekwondowon.



Training in the mountains.

dry hot here, but there it is humid. The training was a little harder and longer there and they didn't have AC," he laughed. "Most of the stuff I didn't know was the way they did warmups. They would do new things, so I would need to get them to show me how to do it. It was fun to learn that." he said. Getting to train with Grandmaster Kim wasn't something Evan

thought he would ever do, let alone getting to fly across the world. "When we tried to call our family, it was either really early or late for them because of the time zone. So, that was interesting. I didn't think I would get to do anything like this."

Anita said one thing that was unexpected about visiting Korea was how safe she felt being there. "They live

the five tenants of Taekwondo that we learn here; courtesy, integrity, self-control, perseverance and indomitable spirit. We saw it in action every single day that we were there. You could leave your valuables in the mall on a table to claim your seat so you can go and get food from the food court. I watched them do it. They would come back, and their stuff

was still there. Everything is untouched. You can do that at the beach. No one would touch it.

You felt so safe over there," she explained. "Evan found a wallet outside the University on a bench, and we didn't know what to do. Naturally, we picked it up and took it to someone who works there, and they said to

continued on page 11



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LAND USE BYLAW

HIGHLIGHTS

Woodlands County is exploring updates to its Land Use Bylaw. Woodlands County residents and business owners are encouraged to attend public information sessions. These meetings provide an opportunity for County residents to review and provide feedback on the proposed new/revised sections of the bylaw. For those who were unable to attend the sessions in June, the information is available on the County website <https://woodlands.ab.ca/p/lub-update>

Feedback Survey:

An online survey will be available the week of September 23 for residents to provide feedback on the proposed land use bylaw. A link to the survey will be available on the Woodlands County website <https://woodlands.ab.ca/p/lub-update>
The survey closes October 18.

Scan the QR code for more information about the land use bylaw update



INFORMATION SESSIONS

Tuesday, October 8, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Fort Legion (Memorial) Hall
32 State Ave, Fort Assiniboine

Wednesday, October 9, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Woodlands County Council Chambers
1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt

Thursday, October 10, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Anselmo Hall
AB-647, Woodlands County

Why Attend an Information Session?

- The session will provide residents with an opportunity to review and give feedback on proposed new/revised bylaw sections.
- Residents have an opportunity to discuss any concerns with staff.
- Access the online survey to submit your feedback on the available sections.



Details and additional information will be provided at the Land Use Bylaw Public Information Session and on the website noted below for those unable to attend.

More online: <https://woodlands.ab.ca/p/lub-update>

Email: planning@woodlands.ab.ca

Visit www.whitecourtpress.com

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As the colours of autumn paint our forests, we remind you to take necessary precautions to make this a safe season. From the last days of camping and hiking to the start of hunting season and the inevitable snow that follows, take a moment to make sure you and yours are best prepared. For all open career opportunities, please check out our website at albertanewsprint.com → Careers.

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Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email wctpress@gmail.com

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continued from page 2

electrician, the buttons are now in," explained Meier.

When asked what happened the first day she came to the office and saw the buttons ready to go, Meier said she didn't think twice. "Did I hit them? Oh yes, I did! Then I invited Lucas to come down to push the buttons, too. We videotaped it, and it was awesome," laughed Meier.

"They are used every day. It doesn't matter if it's the guy in the wheelchair, the gal with the cane or a staff member with a load of whatever in their arms. They just hit the button and open the door. It's awesome. It was a huge win-win. Huge," she added. "It's all thanks to Lucas. It was absolutely his project. I just did a little bit of writing, which is easy for me. It's been great

working with him. It really has been. It's like I found a new friend! I see him at the Fresh Community

Market every Saturday morning and say hello, and we talk about the grant, it's awesome," smiled Meier.

Buttons might not be the most exciting thing for a sixteen-year-old, but Boudreau said the impact is. "It's hard to be excited about buttons because it's just a handicap button, but when you think about how many lives it will change; it really makes me happy. I'm so fortunate to have this opportunity to help better the community. It was a fun project that I got to do, like a pet project almost. It was great."

Members of the Youth Advisory Committee are Town Council-appointed following an application process, which is now open. Boudreau said he really

likes being on it. "You get connected with a lot of volunteer opportunities. We do the Night at the North Pole, Trade Fair and those kinds of events, and you get to meet lots of wonderful people. We meet as a committee once a month and talk about stuff on the agenda and organize small events around town."

For Meier, the committee is an asset. "I think that the Youth Advisory Committee has a huge benefit in bridging the gap between the youth and what is good about this community, and it's really nice to see." She added that working with Boudreau and applying for the grant with him was a great experience. "Working with this young man was exceptional. For me, it gave me faith in the youth in our country, especially those that are so engaged in

their community."

As for the ECHO's clients, Meier said they are happy with the upgrade. "Oh, they are happy. It's great, especially the young man in the wheelchair. He just pushes the button and wheels himself in. It has been a huge asset to our building."

ECHO, a charitable non-profit society which provides support services to those with disabilities, enhancing their quality of life, is what Meier calls a "niche" in the community. "This is a bit of a marginalized population. They are well accepted in the community, but we've done a lot of work to do that. This project says that we're there and a part of this community, and people recognize that we need to be part of it. It's been a great project, and I love seeing it come to fruition," said Meier. "Thank you, Lucas."

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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.
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WHITECOURT GROUP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

All meetings are in person and online (hybrid)


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

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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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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

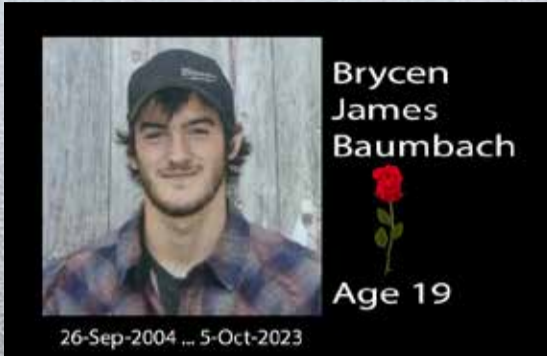
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WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE LINE OR PASSAGE FROM THE BOOK YOU JUST READ, FRAZ?

"THE END"

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PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15



SUDOKU

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

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

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14					15								16	
17					18								19	
20						21							22	
23					24			25				26		
			27			28	29	30						
31	32	33			34					35			36	37
38				39					40				41	
42			43			44					45			
				46			47				48			
49	50								51			52	53	54
55					56	57	58	59		60				
61					62					63				
64					65							66		
67					68								69	

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. Separate with an instrument
5. State clearly
11. One-time MLB speedster Gordon
14. Broad in scope
15. Lacking social polish
16. Amount of time
17. Frame
19. Automobile
20. Caps
21. High school dances
22. Utilize
23. Checked
25. One-sided
27. Having an extreme greed for wealth
31. Potted plants
34. We all have one
35. Lake north of the Kalahari
38. Unidentified flying

object

39. Aging persons
41. Small amount
42. Mother of Perseus
44. Ornamental waist box
45. Officials
46. Uncertain
49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
51. Extensive, treeless plains
55. Your consciousness of your own identity
56. Consumer advocate
- Ralph
60. Notable Spanish sports club
61. Body part
62. One's responsiveness
64. Woman (French)
65. Ready and willing to be taught
66. Muslim ruler title

67. Unhappy
68. Gradually disappeared
69. Able to think clearly

CLUES DOWN

1. Brushed
2. Water sprite
3. Ones to look up to
4. Monetary units
5. We all have one
6. Marine invertebrate
7. One who institutes a legal proceeding
8. Outer
9. Parallelograms
10. Uncomfortable feelings
11. Cross to form an X
12. Remove
13. Some pages are dog-__
18. Capital of Ukraine
24. A citizen of Denmark
26. Eighth month (abbr.)
28. Hindu queens
29. Acids structurally related to amino acids
30. Rider of Rohan in Tolkien
31. Wet dirt
32. Russian city
33. Observed
36. Irrate
37. Travelers need them
39. Musical composition
40. Auction
43. Form of "to be"
45. Women
47. Inspire with love
48. Think Japanese ankle sock
49. Appears
50. Old World lizard
52. The lead dancer: __ ballerina
53. Protein involved in motion
54. Rosalind Franklin biographer
57. Popular 1920s style art __
58. __ Blyton, children's author
59. Abnormal breathing
63. A place to rest

HOROSCOPE

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Even though you told yourself you'll just suck it up and get through the week, you're having a change of heart, Aries. Some modifications are necessary to navigate the waters.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Taurus, all bets are off this week, especially if you've been smoothing over your emotions to get along with someone close by. All true feelings are bound to come to the surface.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



This week you may not be feeling like yourself, Gemini. Low energy have you feeling out of sorts. Spend some time with a close friend to get things back on track.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Cancer, your friends always have your back, but this week there is a disruption in your crew. Someone isn't playing nice, but a few words from you will smooth things over quickly.

LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



You are anxious to get started on an exciting project, Leo. Others on your team may need a dose of inspiration. It could be up to you to motivate the troops.

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



Virgo, you made a commitment to keep things toned down. Enjoy the slower pace and take note of how the lack of hustle and bustle suits you.

LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



Normally you're satisfied to let someone else take the lead and make all of the decisions, Libra. This week you might need to be the one taking a leadership role.

SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



A surprising bit of information may be brought to your attention, Scorpio. You might be up for a promotion or an exciting change could be coming in your personal life.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



Don't stop now when you are so close to the finish line, Sagittarius. It may be a busy week ahead, but you will reap the rewards of your labors. Remain patient.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Take inventory of your romantic relationship, Capricorn. You might need to put in a little extra effort if things haven't been as smooth as you would like. Don't give up on this.

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



Aquarius, you are working at keeping everyone on the same page. Continue to emphasize the importance of teamwork. Others notice and appreciate your efforts.

PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



It is not possible to make it all the way through your to-do list this week, so plan on some carryover to the next, Pisces. Space out your work so you don't get too overwhelmed.

FALL SEASON WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- APPLES
- AUTUMNAL
- CHESTNUT
- CHILLY
- COOLER
- CORN
- CORNUCOPIA
- COZY
- CRISP
- EQUINOX
- FALL
- FIREPLACE
- FOGGY
- FOLIAGE
- GOURD
- HARVEST
- HARVESTING
- HAY
- LEAF
- OCTOBER
- PUMPKIN
- RAKE
- SCARECROW
- SWEATER

WORDS

- APPLES
- AUTUMNAL
- CHESTNUT
- CHILLY
- COOLER
- CORN
- CORNUCOPIA
- COZY
- CRISP
- EQUINOX
- FALL
- FIREPLACE
- FOGGY
- FOLIAGE
- GOURD
- HARVEST
- HARVESTING
- HAY
- LEAF
- OCTOBER
- PUMPKIN
- RAKE
- SCARECROW
- SWEATER

PUBLIC NOTICE

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



TAKE PART! GIVE BACK!

Opportunity for Public Participation

Every fall, the Town of Whitecourt recruits citizens to fill volunteer positions on 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. Get involved! It's your town. Share your knowledge and meet new colleagues.

Community Services Advisory Board

"To create a healthy, strong community by meeting the leisure and social needs of the community."

(2) Members – terms to expire in October 2027

Applications will be accepted from residents of Whitecourt or the Woodlands County agreement area.

Economic Development Committee

"To set up and establish an economic development program to further the interests of the Town of Whitecourt in the areas of economic development and tourism."

(2) Members – terms to expire in October 2027

Municipal Planning Commission

"To deal with land use planning matters with particular emphasis on the Land Use Bylaw."

(1) Member – Alternate Position – term to expire in October 2027

Protective Services Committee

"To ensure that police needs of the community are met."

(1) Member – term to expire October 2027

Applications will be accepted from both Town of Whitecourt and Woodlands County residents. Please note that members will be required to submit a criminal record check with their application. This document will be used to consider the suitability of the candidate.

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board

"To make decisions on appeals of subdivision or development decisions made by the Development Officer or Municipal Planning Commission."

(2) Members – terms to expire in October 2027

Town of Whitecourt Library Board

"To work towards maintaining the vibrancy of our library and meeting the social needs of community members through the creation of policies and planning."

(2) Members – term to expire in October 2027

Applications will be accepted from Town of Whitecourt residents.

If being on a Council Committee interests you, please complete an application form which can be found on the Whitecourt website at <https://www.whitecourt.ca/your-town/mayor-council/public-participation> or picked up at the Town Office. Applications must be received before 12:00 noon, Monday, October 21, 2024 to:

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



You can also scan the QR code for a direct link to the application form:

Applications are also being accepted for the:

Youth Advisory Committee

"To work collectively to ensure the needs of Whitecourt's youth are met."

(10) Members – term to expire September 2025

Youth between the ages of 13 and 18 years old (as of December 31, 2024) from Percy Baxter Middle School, Hilltop High School, École St. Joseph School, and the community at large are eligible to apply. New applicants are required to complete a Youth Advisory Committee Application Form and submit two signed reference forms. Students currently on the committee only need to complete the application form. Applications for the Youth Advisory Committee must be submitted to administration@whitecourt.ca before noon on Tuesday, October 15.

Applications for all committees will be presented to Town Council at the October 28, 2024 Regular Meeting.

Questions?

Contact our Administration Department at 780.778.2273 or email administration@whitecourt.ca.

If you want to find out more about our Council Committees, attend our Council Committee Information Session at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre, on October 9 from 7:00 – 8:00pm.

FRANCHISE FEE INCREASE NOTICE

Please be advised that the Town of Whitecourt is proposing to increase the local access fee, which is charged to FortisAlberta Inc. (FortisAlberta) for use of municipal lands for its power lines effective **January 1, 2025**.

The fee is recovered by FortisAlberta from its customers as the local municipal access fee on electric billings of all customers that receive electric service in the Town of Whitecourt. This local access fee will be increased from \$3.62 (4.47%) to \$4.46 (5.34%) of the delivery charge of FortisAlberta, excluding energy related riders. This calculation is based on 640 kWh consumption in 30 days.

Questions or concerns should be directed to Judy Barney, Director of Corporate Services at (780) 778-2273.

Thank you.

CANADIAN Kids Corner

“How they say that in...”

English: Tent (circus)
Spanish: Carpa
Italian: Tendone
French: Chapiteau
German: Zirkuszelt

Did You Know?

Bavarian pretzels are typically enjoyed at Oktoberfest celebrations, in addition to other traditional German foods.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Oktoberfest hall

Woodlands County Council recap

Courtney Koopmans and Tina Prodaniuk, representatives for P.O.W.E.R. (People of Whitecourt Encouraging Resiliency), was in attendance to discuss their upcoming Community Poverty Simulation event and the Elephant in the Room awareness campaign.

The community poverty simulation event promotes awareness of challenges faced in the community, increasing empathy and understanding in the community, inspiring change, and transforming perspectives. During the simulation, participants will be given roles as either a resource provider such as a social worker, grocer or teacher, or a person facing hardships such as homeless, recently unemployed, or a sudden change in responsibility. Participants will simulate what daily life is like for people facing hardships while trying to maintain their basic needs. The event is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Whitecourt Seniors Circle. Volunteers interested in being a resource provider for the simula-

tion can register here, and participants can register through United Way.

The Elephant in the Room awareness campaign focuses on difficult topics that everyone is aware of, but do not discuss such as poverty, gender, race, mental health, or addiction. By taking part in the campaign, organizations can display an elephant promoting open and honest dialogue and the focus is on the well-being of anyone that enters their doors.

Dale Rocks and Dawn Garret with the Whitecourt Woodlands Winter Recreation Park Society provided an update on the operations and upcoming initiatives for Eastlink Park. The Society is entering its ninth year of running the park with several events planned for the year including school group visits, an alpine ski team and several sponsorship nights allowing visitors to enjoy the park for free. In March of 2021, Woodlands County and the Whitecourt Woodlands Winter Recreation Park Society entered into a five-year sponsorship agreement for

\$25,000 per year. For more information on the upcoming season, visit the Eastlink Park website.

Council authorized the Fort Assiniboine Parent Society to retain the surplus fund of \$10,167 for the breakfast program for the 2024-2025 school year. In December 2024, Council

approved a one-time grant of \$11,581 to the Fort Assiniboine Parent Society for the breakfast program for the 2023-2024 school year.

Council approved the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework with the Town of Whitecourt, and a joint signing will be held officially adopting the

agreement.

The regular Council meeting on Wednesday, October 9, was rescheduled to a start time at 9:30 am.

Upcoming scheduled meetings:

- Regular Council – Wednesday, October 9, 9:30 am
- Governance and Priorities – Wednesday, October 16, 5:00 pm

- Organizational & Regular Council – Wednesday, October 23, 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.



Grade four students at Pat Hardy School used their math skills while collaborating to bake a delicious apple crisp as they welcomed the fall season. Some family members joined in to help, making it a wonderful way to ease into autumn.

continued from page 3

give it to Grandmaster Kim. So, Evan did, and Grandmaster Kim said to leave it there, on the bench," said Anita.

From July 13-27, Evan and his mom traversed the area with the group, visiting cultural and historical sites in and around Seoul, including Jeju Island, Muju Park, Kukkiwon (World Taekwondo Headquarters) and the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea. "I wanted him to experience the culture. As a mom, I love watching my kid grow, and I thought it would be a cool experience for me, too. I love to travel, so I joined him.

I hope he gets a travel bug so we can go on more trips," laughed Anita. "My experience was getting to see just how far he's come and where he's at. It was a proud moment for me," she added.

For Evan, his favourite part of the trip might not be what one would expect. "It wasn't the places we went, but it was the journey there, like walking and the trails. Sometimes, we



Beach time practice on Jeju Island.

would have to climb uphill or downhill. Sometimes, we took a bus or the subway. It was cool. With the transportation there, everyone is fast, so you have like five seconds to get in or out before the doors close," he chuckled.

He will also never forget the food. "One time we went to a restaurant, and they had like raw beef (maybe, sashimi or tataki?), and a lot of people liked it for some

reason, but when I put it in my mouth, I spit it out right away. Everyone made it look like it tasted good, but then I tried it," laughed Evan. "It was gross." He also said that everything was spicy but liked most of what he tried.

Through his Taekwondo training, Evan knows a few words in Korean, which he used when ordering food or dealing with staff at the hotel. "I liked that

I could chat with them and surprise the workers. One time, we were eating, and this older man passed me a spoon and fork when we were eating with chopsticks, I said thank you in Korean, and he was surprised."

Anita said she was proud of her son for being so polite. "When we passed by a housekeeper at our hotel, Evan said hello to her in Korean, and she

took a second look to see that it had come from him. She had a big smile hearing Korean spoken by Evan, a foreigner and a kid. It was the same in taxi cabs. He was very polite, saying hello and thank you." Evan said next time, he plans on learning a new phrase. "It would have been better if I had learned to say excuse me because there's so many people around, and you're

bumping into people," he laughed.

Anita said she is grateful to Master Jim Rennie at Whitecourt Taekwondo for organizing the trip and for everything Evan is learning at the club. "It was great to experience a whole different world. It was overwhelming, but a good overwhelming with happiness and joy. I loved being able to share it with Evan."

ATTENTION LAND DEVELOPERS!

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780-779-8002

\$1,111,000.00

2.24 Acres - Land downtown Whitecourt, situated between Microtel Hotel and Holiday Inn, Zoned C1/C2 Downtown Commercial & Service Commercial.

This is a fully serviced lot - ready to be built on.

LIVE AUCTION FOR: NEAL KENNET

LOCATED: FROM WESTLOCK INN- GO S ON HWY 44 FOR 3 1/2 MI TO CURVE IN ROAD AT HWY 44 SALES YARD SITE

DATE: SAT OCT 19 AT 1PM

ACREAGE EQ * Kubota L 5740 Tractor w cab, FWA, 3pt, LA 854 FE Loader, (2235hr)* Sove-ma 80 inch 3pt Rototiller* Kioti CR 35 HST Tractor w 3pt, FWA, Low Hours* Kubota TG 2542 Snow Blower AH* 3 Pt Eq J7' FK Mower (Bale Fork) (Ball Hitch for Moving Trailers) (Land Leveller* 8ft Land Roller/Needs Hitch

INDUSTRIAL EQ * JCB 330 Eco Power Boom Skid Steer c/w Dirt Bucket, Pallet Fork* Large JCB 96in Snow Bucket* Cat R80-4WD Hyd Fork Lift w 4,000 lb Lift* Nicee HD Alum Grill Guard for Hwy Truck*10 ft HD Levelling Blade* 8' and 10' Gravel Levellers* 2 Checker Plate Truck Tool Boxes, Nice* 1000gl Fuel Tank on High Pipe Stand* 500 gl in Shed* Salvage Items

FARM EQ AND GRAINARIES * JD 7810 Tractor w (5820 hr), cab, 16.9x2.8 FWA, 38 Duals* JD 3600 6 Btm, Sp Return Plow * 36' CCIL 279 Field Cult, AS IS * 24' Morris Cult w Tine Harrows * 50ft Vers Tine Harrow Bar* JD 566 Baler, Needs Tying Repair * 18' Vers 400 SP Swather w PU Reels* 73 IHC Truck w 15' Metal Box* Older WF 51x8 pto Auger* Like New WF STx2 51x8 Auger w 32.5 Kohler, Self Moving* GRAINARIES (2 WR 4 Ring on New 2 Ring HD Metal Hoppers) (2 New 14 ft 2 Ring HD Metal Hopper Bottoms) (5 Ring Butlar w No Bottom) (5 Ring Twister on Wood)

YARD EQ AND BUILDINGS * Kioti Mechron 2200 Side by Side w Winch, Dump Bucket* Yard Sprayer, Rototiller, Wheel Barrows, JD 314 Ride Mower w Rototiller* Yard Sheds (24x 11.5) (20x12) (2 of 12x8) (14x10) OSB* Other Building Material* Windows, Scaffold* Pea Sheller *Dog Kennel Panels* Pipe Racks

LIVESTOCK AND HORSE ITEMS * Approx 30 of Free Stand- Wind Breaks, Panels, Fates * 20x8 Pipe Frame Calf Shed* Cattle Squeeze, Alley Way, Sorting Pens, Mineral Feeder Systems* Stock Waterer and Tanks* 4x4 Plastic Calf Saddle, Britching Harness, Other Tack*Antique Sleigh + Horse Items* 100 Plus Sucker Rod* New 30ftx1ft Culvert

SHOP EQUIP * 5ft HD Hyd Press* Millermatic 250 CV/DC Arc Welder* Miller Syncrowave 350 LX Welder* 2 Drill Press* 2 Rolling Tool Boxes w contents* HD Weld/ Prep Table* Many Tools Sold in Big Quantities on Wall* Much More Soldin Quantities



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780-674-7704

PARSONS AUCTIONS

www.parsonsauctions.com



JEFF PARSONS:
780-305-4328

Aurora on display



A mid-September light show from the heavens.



A unique family picture with the moon and aurora.

So far, 2024 has been a great year for enjoying the northern lights. Recently, the sky above the region was lit up by two very bright displays, one from the aurora borealis and the other from the moon. To commemorate the rare occurrence, a local family took a unique group picture with the moon backlighting them, casting dark shadows on the ground and the bedazzling aurora in front, dancing above a fog-wrapped Graham Acres. Another photo showed how vibrant the aurora was in town, even amongst the light pollution.

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, October 16 at 4:00 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 pm., October 9, 2024** 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. NE 20-59-12-W5M Lot 5 Plan 002-2787	15-048-2024	Garden Suite

Information regarding this application may be obtained by inquiring prior to **4:30 pm., October 9, 2024**.

Attention: Peter McKay, Development Officer
peter.mckay@woodlands.ab.ca

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

MEMBERS AT LARGE REQUIRED

BECOME INVOLVED IN THE DECISIONS THAT AFFECT YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY!

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

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

Positions are held for a **two-year period from November 1, 2024, to October 31, 2026**, (unless otherwise stated).

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

Application Deadline: Wednesday, 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
Mayor
Councillor for Assiniboine
Division 1
dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-9337



JOHN BURROWS
Councillor for Whitecourt West
Division 2
john.burrows@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-706-4747



ALAN DEANE
Councillor for Whitecourt
Central Division 3
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-0954



JEREMY WILHELM
Councillor for
Whitecourt East Division 4
jeremy.wilhelm@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-6564



BRUCE PRESTIDGE
Councillor for Blue Ridge
Division 5
bruce.prestidge@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-3217



PETER KUELKEN
Councillor for Goose Lake/
Friesman River Division 6
peter.kuelken@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-264-2425



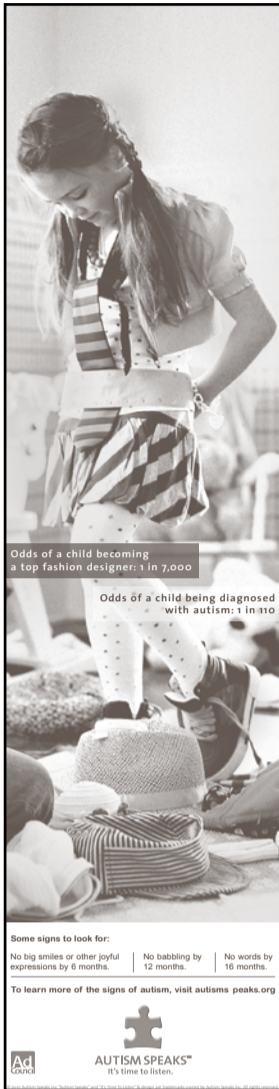
DEVIN WILLIAMS
Councillor for Fort Assiniboine/
Teresa Division 7
devin.williams@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-305-1825





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.



Business Opportunities

OWNERS OF A WELL-ESTABLISHED print shop in Rocky Mountain House are retiring and would like to see the business continue. Call 403-845-4146 for details.

Buildings For Sale

INTEGRITY POST FRAME BUILDINGS since 2008 BUILT WITH CONCRETE POSTS. Barns, Shops, Riding Arenas, Machine Sheds and more, sales@integritybuilt.com 1-866-974-7678 www.integritybuilt.com.

Career Training

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

Farm Machinery

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 80 Weekly Community Newspapers. Call THIS NEWSPAPER now or email classifieds@awna.com for details. 1-800-282-6903, 780-434-8746 www.awna.com.

Feed and Seed

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.

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.

For Sale

WHITE SPRUCE TREES: 5' average \$50. Installation ONLY \$19. Includes: hole augered, Wurzel Dip enzyme injection, bark mulch application, staking. Minimum order 20. One-time fuel charge: \$150 - 200. Crystal Springs. 403-820-0961. Quality guaranteed. www.albertasprucetrees.com.

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.

PRIVATE MORTGAGE LENDER. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. Toll free 1-866-405-1228; www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca.

Wanted

COLLECTOR/ ENTREPRENEUR PURCHASING COINS & COLLECTIONS! CASH PAID! ROYAL

CANADIAN MINT COINS, collections, rare & old coins, silver & gold coins, jewelry, nuggets, bullion, sterling, gold & silver! 306-774-2420.

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.

Career ads, online at:
www.whitecourtpress.com

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#: 24-051, Infrastructure Services Engineer, Permanent, Full-time Position.

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

Do You Suffer from Foot or Ankle Pain?

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Call Now To Book Your Consultation!

Phone: 587-328-0743
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Medical and Surgical Services or Treatments Provided:

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

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

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Evolution Foot and Ankle Clinic

www.bensefcikdpm.com

A look at the local weather	Wed., Oct. 2	Thu., Oct. 3	Fri., Oct. 4	Sat., Oct. 5	Sun., Oct. 6
P.O.P. High Low Wind 24-Hr Rain / Snow	 Showers 40% 8°C 2°C W 16 km/h	 Mainly sunny 30% 10°C 3°C SW 5 km/h	 Mix of sun and clouds 30% 12°C 6°C SE 10 km/h	 Chance of a shower 60% 14°C 5°C W 17 km/h ~1mm	 Sunny 10% 15°C 6°C W 18 km/h

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = **0.74 US Dollar** at an exchange rate of **0.7423** (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of October 2, 2024

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

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 | 4216 Elko Drive
Whitecourt, AB | Whitecourt, AB

Letter to the Editor policy

The Press welcomes readers to write letters to the Editor. A maximum of 300 words is preferred but not necessary. Letters must carry a first name or two initials with surname and include an address and daytime telephone number. All letters are subject to editing. Please email letters to wctpress@gmail.com.



A locally owned and family operated newspaper serving Whitecourt

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Contact

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



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

Whitecourt Town Council updates

Whitecourt Town Council has proclaimed November 2024 as Family Violence Prevention Month. Events and activities planned throughout the month aim to encourage Albertans to work together to promote healthy relationships and safe communities throughout our province. Albertans are encouraged to show their support by wearing purple throughout the month. For information on events scheduled in Whitecourt, including the Pub Foods with the Dudes (October 18); Shine A Light event (November 1); and Family Violence Initiative Gala (November 2), visit www.whitecourtfvi.ca.

Council has approved the updated Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan.

Whitecourt has submitted an application to the Housing Accelerator Fund – Round 2, and if approved will provide grants to homeowners, non-profits, housing bodies and developers to increase the housing supply in Whitecourt, and undertake other initiatives to cut red tape and speed up housing approvals.

Tru-West Company Ltd. has been awarded the contract to complete the McLeod Arena Roof Upgrade at a cost of \$347,800.

Council has adopted an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw to allow changes to The Meadows Manufactured Home Park Land Use District.

Council has approved a 0.87% increase to the franchise fee rate for 2025. The new Power Franchise

Fee Rate is set at 5.34% which equates to an annual change of \$10.08 for the average resident.

Whitecourt Town Council has approved the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement with Woodlands County, and will be scheduling a joint signing in the first week of October.

Council has adopted a new Code of Conduct Bylaw. Bylaw 1579 establishes standards of conduct for both Council and Council Committee Members in their duties as representatives of the municipality.

Street closures in the downtown core have been approved for November 16 for the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce's Santa Claus Parade. Reminders of the road closures will be posted closer to the event date; and information on the event can be found on the Chamber of Commerce's Facebook

page.

Whitecourt Town Council is currently recruiting for members on the following Council Committees:

- Community Services Advisory Board;
- Economic Development Committee;
- Municipal Planning Commission;
- Protective Services Committee;
- Subdivision and Development Appeal Board;
- Town of Whitecourt Library Board;
- Youth Advisory Board (deadline to apply to this Board is October 15, 2024).

For details and a copy of the application form visit our website. Deadline to apply is October 21, 2024. Council will be hosting its annual Planning Session January 23-25, 2025.

Councillor McAree will serve as Deputy Mayor from November 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025.

The Press **Got a news tip?**
Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email wctpress@gmail.com

Construction season in Whitecourt

A building rising behind the market.



The Fresh Community Market had a new backdrop last week. The development beside Staples kicked into full gear this month with steel beams in place for the roof and walls. From one week to the next, the vendors on the back wall went from having light activity behind them to the makings of one of Whitecourt's newest buildings.

FOR RENT IN FOX CREEK



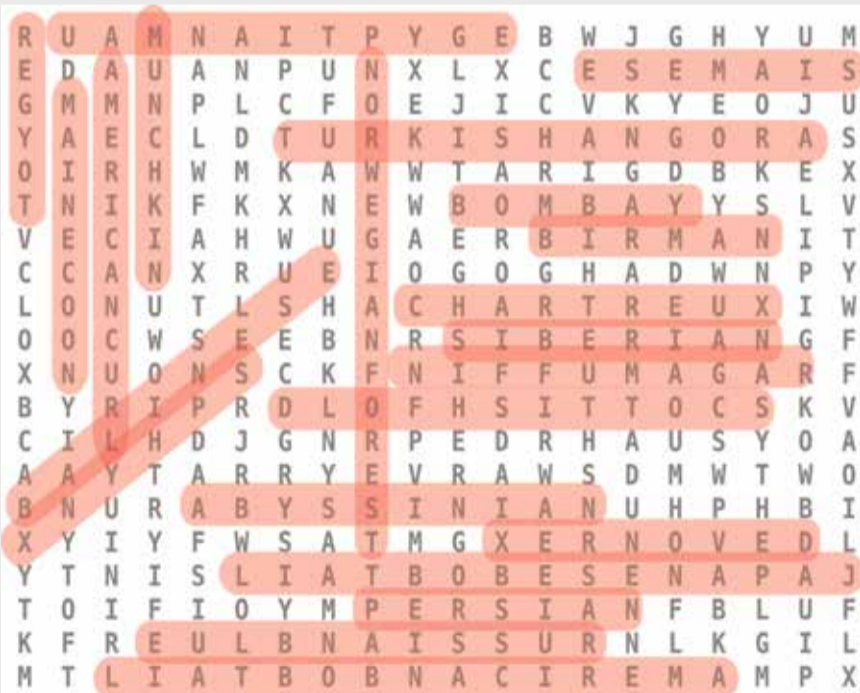
\$1300
per month

DD SAME

For rent in Fox Creek, 3 bed mobile, large addition, on own, fully fenced lot, pets welcome, 2 wood stoves, new bathroom, ample parking, prefer outdoor enthusiasts or responsible people, appliances.

Please phone **306 896 3133**

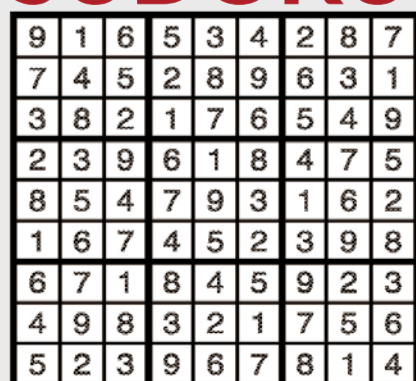
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SELL YOUR STANDING CONIFER, SPRUCE AND PINE!

(Minimum of 50 – 80 acres)



CONTACT: JOEL MELANSON

587-335-0322

joel@larrmanagementcorp.ca

Alberta bound continues: Province leads in population growth

By Mark Parsons
ATB ECONOMICS

'Alberta bound, Alberta bound'

It's good to be Alberta bound'

—Gordon Lightfoot

Hot off the demographic data presses, we are sending a second Twenty-Four today summarizing today's release of the latest population estimates from Statistics Canada.

Population growth continues to run red hot. Alberta's population is quickly closing in on the 5 million

mark. It stood at 4.89 million as of July 1, 2024, up 46,200 in the second quarter for a nation-leading increase of 1.0%.

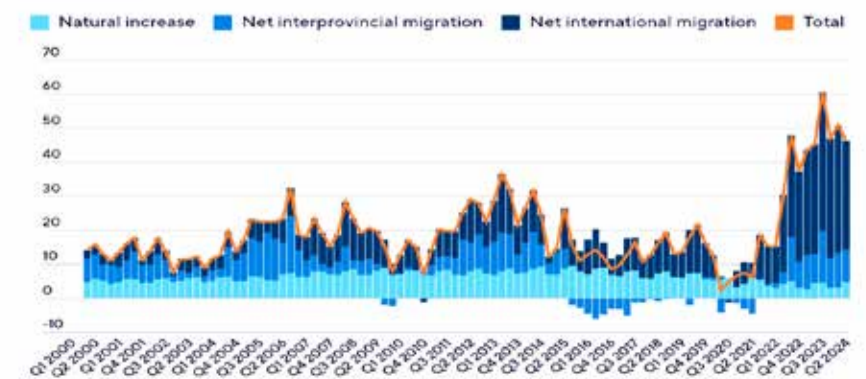
Over the last four quarters, an astonishing 204,209 people have been added to the province (the equivalent of about two Red Deers), representing a growth rate of 4.4%. Alberta's population grew faster than any other province over this period, far exceeding the national growth rate of 3%.

The differentiator is

interprovincial migration, which shows few signs of slowing as people continue to flock to Alberta from the rest of Canada. Alberta gained 9,654 people (on a net basis) from other provinces and territories in the second quarter of 2024. This was the 12th quarter in a row in which Alberta's population grew from interprovincial migration, a turnaround from the quarterly losses during the period between mid-2015 and mid-2021.

Population growth in Alberta

Thousands



Q1 = January to March; Q2 = April to June; Q3 = July to September; Q4 = October to December
Source: Statistics Canada Table 17-10-0059-01, 17-10-0020-01, 17-10-0040-01 and ATB Economics

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