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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



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Canada

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Kick off to Youth Week at McDonalds.

It's Youth Week! The second annual celebration started on Thursday last week and continues until Friday, with chances to win prizes, attend fun events and hang out with peers.

It's Youth Week in Whitecourt until Friday

By Serena Lapointe

For the second year in a row, youth in Whitecourt have a week to be celebrated with fun events, prizes and camaraderie with their peers through the Town of Whitecourt's Youth Week initiative. From Thursday, May 1 to Friday, May 9,

youth can ride transit for free, attend free drop-in sports at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre and attend a whole host of events. The fun kicked off at McDonalds on May 1 with a free drop-in event where Emma Harper, Youth Development Coordinator

for the Town of Whitecourt, had a wheel set up for kids to spin and win prizes. "It's been great. The engagement has been fun. Every youth through the door has been interested in spinning our wheel. I think the wheel has

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Big dreams lead a talented local youth to Nashville


By Serena Lapointe

This time last year, after a friend shared a Facebook post about a fun singing competition she might be interested in, fourteen-year-old Addy Watson could never have imagined where it would lead her. The post was from Global Country Canada.

After sending in her audition, Watson found herself in the winner's circle, landing second place in the junior category and receiving an invite to Nashville for a trip of a lifetime with her mom, Rachel, and younger sister, Ainsley, where she would receive mentorship, learn about the industry, make connections and compete in the international portion of the competition, the

North American Country Music Associations International Awards (NACMAI). Artists who have come up through Global Country Canada (GCC) include Brett Kissel, who won when he was 13, Aaron Goodvin, and St. Albert's Hailey Benedict, all of whom now enjoy

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A grade ten student from Hilltop High School, who happens to be a talented singer, recently went on a trip of a lifetime with her family after she placed second in a Canada-wide competition. Addy Watson sat down with The Press to talk about her experience. Pictured are The Watson sisters.



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their songs on the radio and have awards on their shelves.

"Quite a few artists got a lot out of this. It was wild that she got the opportunity to do this. It is still crazy to me," exclaimed her mom, Rachel. As for Watson, the opportunity left her speechless. "It's crazy to think that the same people I'm working with in the organization have also worked with big, successful people. I don't know how to describe it."

The trip happened through the first half of March, roughly a year from her audition. In the months between the announcement and her getting to go, GCC helped Watson gain experience by inviting her to Edmonton to perform live, helping prepare her for the performances she would have to do in Nashville.

After a long red-eye flight to Music City, a now fifteen-year-old Watson and her cheering section arrived the morning of March 6. "We went to an event right away. I was tired but excited because we had just arrived in Nashville, and thirty minutes later, we were going to a songwriter's showcase. The venue was so cool," explained Watson.

As she experienced Backstage Nashville at 3rd & Lindsley, Watson got to put faces to the lyrics behind some of

the industry's biggest names and the songs that made them popular. "There's this one guy who played there called Marv Green. He just looked like a normal guy on the street, and you would've never guessed that he's written so many hit songs. He's written for Eric Church, Carrie Underwood, Jon Bon Jovi, George Strait, and the list goes on. He was incredible." Green also wrote for Willie Nelson, Tim McGraw and Morgan Wallen and co-wrote Amazed by Lonestar. "I think that's when she fell in love with Nashville because she realized it's beyond the singing and playing. It's about the people behind it all," added her mom.

After walking along Nashville's Broadway and popping into local hot spots for a couple of days, Watson attended a two-day boot camp held by Terri Clark's songwriter and her husband, who plays bass guitar in Clark's band, before heading to Pigeon Forge for the international competition, NACMAI.

The competition was strict, giving competitors eight minutes to perform two songs in each category they wanted to compete in. "The countdown starts when you step onto the stage and plug in your guitar and ends when you unplug it. You have eight minutes to sing two songs.



The three musketeers in Nashville, Addy, Ainsley and Rachel.

You must finish before the time ends, or you are disqualified from the competition. It's nerve-wracking," explained Watson.

The competition days were long. Watson said on one of the days, she sang at 9 am and then waited until 7 pm to sing another set in a different category. There were vocalist and entertainer categories in old and new country, gospel and folk, and age levels from youngsters to older adults. "It was fascinating watching people perform," said her mom.

After four days of competing, Watson received three awards in

her categories and age group: Most Promising Vocalist, Future Star Entertainer and New Horizon Country Song, for her hand-penned song Falling Bricks.

The trio returned to Nashville for the final few days of the trip and found their way back to 3rd & Lindsley. "We got to see the Time Jumpers. Those guys were awesome on their instruments. It was so cool to watch. They've collaborated with so many people. They played a song with Miranda Lambert called All That's Left. I like performing it. So, I already knew who they were, and I was excited

to see them."

Since returning to Whitecourt and getting back into her grade ten studies at Hilltop High School, Watson has been floating on the whirlwind excitement of her twelve days in Nashville and is waiting to hear back on something extra cool. "The folks that ran the boot camp asked her if they could meet on the phone and chat about mentoring her," explained her mom. "At some point, I might have to go back to Nashville for that," said Watson with a big smile.

The changes in her life have been swift,

having only started singing in public over the last two years. Her first live performance on stage happened in Sangudo on July 8, 2023, after her grandfather encouraged her to sing during SummerFest at Deep Creek Campground.

"The summer before (2022), I started singing around the campfire with my family. People would hear me and come to listen," explained Watson. As the crowd size around the fire grew, folks started suggesting she sing on the stage at the campground. "I nev-

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Addy singing at the international competition.



Addy with good company behind her.



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SCHOOL NEWS



Anything but a backpack day is always a hit for Pat Hardy School students.



Kindergarten students recently toured Central School during an Alphabet Parade.



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Cheering on the Oilers



Marc-Alain (right) and friends.



A fun group amongst the crowd.



Carolyn (left) beside a Leon Draisaitl bobblehead statue.



Kristofer Ames (middle) and David Cote (above him).

Fans were having a ball at Roger's Place on Thursday night, cheering on the Edmonton Oilers in game six of their first-round match-up against the LA Kings. After being down two games, the Oilers rallied back, winning four games unanswered, sending themselves to the second round to take on the Vegas Golden Knights. Amongst the screaming crowd of nearly 20,000 were plenty of Whitecourt fans, both past and present, including Marc-Alain Danis and friends. One group that fans watching from home might've seen on the TV feed happened to contain two born and-raised Whitecourt boys now living in Sherwood Park, Kristofer Ames and David Cote. The large group wore ski goggles, cut-off blue jean shorts, bandanas and sleeveless Oilers button-up tops. To say they stood out was an understatement! Also at the game was Carolyn Muschket (Snodgrass), who last attended a playoff game when the Oilers played at Rexall Place. She said that though both experiences mirror each other, the game at Roger's Place reached another level. "That was such a thrill to be there. Words can't even explain how crazy it was! My voice is half gone, and my ears still hurt, and we hit over 113 decibels!"

2025 MUNICIPAL CENSUS

This spring/summer, Woodlands County is conducting an online Census using a Secure Access Code (SAC) that will be mailed to County residents' current mailing address. This code will have instructions and a link to complete the census online.

Filling out your Census online is quick, secure, and eliminates the need for an in-person visit.

Visit censusalberta.ca/woodlands or scan the QR Code.

Complete the Census online by May 30 for a chance to win one of three \$500 Visa Gift Cards!

Early bird prizes include a load of gravel for two lucky winners, if completed by May 18.

Online responses are open from May 1 to May 30; however, if you are unable to complete it online, Census enumerators will be visiting door-to-door starting May 19 to collect information.

Other Participation Options:
You can also participate by calling the Fort Assiniboine Municipal Office at 780-584-3866 or toll-free at 1-866-584-3866.





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Watching the spinning wheel.



Another youth spinning for a prize.

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been a big hit,” she explained.

The wheel featured prizes like free ice cream coupons donated from McDonalds, Whitecourt Jibbitz (shoe charms for Crocs), lip balm and bags of candy. “I think this is something we would definitely look at doing again or more often, maybe even for other things to help promote things to the youth. It has been a great partnership with McDonald’s.”

One of the most popular events from last year’s week was a teen pool party, which incorporated fun games, prizes and a free swim. This year’s event took place on Friday last week. “The Youth Advisory Committee was highly involved. They run the pool party, which they also did last year, which was part of their initiative to increase youth events in our community,” explained Harper.

The Youth Advisory Committee consists of ten youth between grades eight and twelve, vetted through an application and interview process

and approved by the Town Council. “They get a bursary of \$500 for completing certain activities such as volunteering, attending a Town Council meeting, taking part in our committee meetings and depending on how involved they want to be, there is a whole bunch of stuff they can do, which has been the case this year,” said Harper. “There’s a lot of opportunities for leadership and volunteerism, getting outside of your comfort zone and exploring what you’re capable of doing,” she added.

Members of the Youth Advisory Committee have been advertising the week-long activities at their schools with their peers and volunteering at various events, including a basketball clinic on Wednesday, May 7. “We have some talented basketball players on the committee who are really into it.” The clinic runs from 4-5 pm and is free.

Also, on May 7, there is a Cookie Bake-Off at the Seniors Circle from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, where youth can register individually or as a team and bake their best cookies, which will be judged on-site. The last event of the week is a free drop-in Video Game Party at Ecole St. Joseph School from 3:30 to 5:30 pm, complete with prizes and pizza.

“We changed a few things based on attendance from our events last year and got more input from the youth. We are really excited about this year and what it will bring. We’ve been popping into the schools with the same setup as here today, with lots of freebies to give out and lots of fun prizes, while we promote the week’s activities and promote youth,” explained Harper.

“I think it’s important to recognize youth. I think sometimes they get overlooked, just generally in society. It’s nice to have something that showcases them and also focuses on what activities they want to do and what they want to see,” said Harper. She added that it’s also a way for them

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ANC Timber Ltd.
2025 HERBICIDE APPLICATION PROJECT

Please be advised that ANC Timber Ltd. is looking for input on their upcoming herbicide application program for 2025. ANC Timber Ltd. will be conducting both aerial and ground herbicide application programs between August 6th and September 20th, 2025. The application will treat approximately 1200 hectares of existing cutover area. The applications will be in portions of:

Township	Ranges	Meridian
48	14	W5M
58	18, 19, 20, 21, 25	W5M
59	17, 21, 23, 24	W5M
60	23, 24	W5M
61	22, 24	W5M
62	23, 24	W5M
63	23, 24	W5M

Both the aerial and ground herbicide applications will be done using VisionMax® silviculture herbicide. The purpose of the applications is to control grass and shrub species that are limiting the survival chances of our planted seedlings on recent harvested areas. Access to all areas will be posted with signs upon completion and all applications will be done in accordance with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry regulations and the Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticides. For more information, please contact an ANC Timber Ltd. representative at (780) 778-7967 or visit ANC’s website at <https://www.albertanewsprint.com/woodlands/>.

Confirmed case of measles prompts public alert to potential exposures in Whitecourt

Alberta Health Services (AHS) has been notified of an additional confirmed case of measles within the North Zone. This case has also been in public settings while infectious. Additional locations may be released if necessary.

Individuals who were in the following locations during the specified dates and times may have been exposed to measles:

April 27, 2025

Whitecourt Emergency Department
20 Sunset Boulevard,
Whitecourt, AB

Exposure time period: 4:43 a.m. to 8:36 p.m. (MST)

April 28-29, 2025

Whitecourt Emergency Department
20 Sunset Boulevard,
Whitecourt, AB

Exposure time period: 8:43 p.m. to 3:35 a.m. (MST)

Anyone who attended these locations at these times, who was born in or after 1970 and has fewer than two documented doses of measles-containing vaccine, is at risk for developing measles. These individuals should self-monitor themselves of symptoms of measles and are strongly encouraged to review their immunization records.

Measles is an extremely contagious disease and is spread easily through the air.

Symptoms of Measles include:

- Fever of 38.3° C or higher; and
- Cough, runny nose and/or red eyes; and
- A rash that appears three to seven days after fever starts, usually beginning behind the ears and on the face and spreading down to the body and then to the arms and legs. The rash appears red and blotchy on lighter skin colours. On darker skin colours, it can appear purple or darker than the skin around it, or

it might be hard to see.

Complications of measles can include ear infections, pneumonia, inflammation of the brain, premature delivery, and rarely death. Persons who are pregnant, less than one year of age, or have weakened immune systems are at greatest risk.

If symptoms of measles do develop, individuals are advised to stay home and call Health Link at 811 before visiting any healthcare facility or provider, including a family physician clinic or pharmacy.

Measles vaccine is highly effective at

preventing infection and complications. In Alberta, measles vaccine is offered, free of charge, through Alberta's publicly funded immunization program.

The recommended schedule for measles vaccination is two doses, the first at one year of age and the second at 18 months.

However, with measles currently circulating in North Zone, those who live in the area are also currently recommended and eligible for additional immunizations:

- Infants who are 6 months up to and including 11 months of age are recom-

mended to receive an early dose of vaccine. However, they should still receive their routine two doses after they reach one year of age.

- If you were born before 1970 and have not been immunized, you can discuss with your healthcare provider about receiving a single dose of measles vaccine.

Following a measles exposure, vaccine given within 72 hours can prevent infection. Immune globulin (antibodies) given within six days can also prevent infection in high-risk susceptible persons who cannot safely receive vaccine or in whom it may not be effective due to age or time from exposure, as is the case for persons who are pregnant or have weakened immune systems (immunocompromised), and some infants less than 12 months of age.

Contact Health Link at 811 for more information if these situations apply to you or your family.

Albertans uncertain of their immunization history, or their child's immunization history, can text 'vaccine record' to 88111 or call Health Link (811) or their local public health or community health

centre.

Individuals who are 14 years of age and older can check their My Health Record account immunization record. To check eligibility and/or to book an immunization, contact your local public health or community health centre.

Albertans can also text 'Measles' to 88111 to get measles health information texted to your mobile device. For further information on routine childhood immunization, visit ahs.ca/immunization. You can also learn more from MyHealthAlberta about the risks of measles here and find frequently asked questions here.

For the latest information on measles in Alberta, visit ahs.ca/measles

Alberta Health Services provides a range of healthcare services for more than four million adults and children living in Alberta. Our mission is to provide excellent, patient-focused healthcare 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.



Whitecourt Town Council update

Whitecourt Town Council passed Tax Rate Bylaw 1584 at the April 28, 2025 Regular Meeting, and property owners can expect to receive combined assessment and taxation notices next month. For details on how property taxes are calculated, and how tax dollars have been allocated in the 2025 Budget, please read through the 2025 Budget Report. The report is available on the Whitecourt website at www.whitecourt.ca/your-town. If you have questions about your tax notice or the 2025 Budget, please email administration@whitecourt.ca.

Town Council re-

ceive an overview of 2025 assessment figures by the municipal assessor at the April 28 Council Meeting.

- The valuation date for 2025 taxation of properties is July 1, 2024.
- Assessment values for single family homes have increased by 3.15%. The average house value in Whitecourt is \$344,500.
- Property owners can view the assessment report for their property online. Visit the Whitecourt website at www.whitecourt.ca/live/taxes-payments/taxes-payments under the section titled "Assessment Reports" and

follow the link and instructions to view assessment reports.

- Property owners will receive a combined assessment and tax notice in May.

Whitecourt approved the 2024 Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2024. A presentation was made by the Town's auditor, Curtis Friesen from Metrix Group, who reported that the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Town of Whitecourt as of the end of 2024.

Whitecourt Town Council has approved

a number of amendments to the Policy Manual. A complete copy of the manual can be downloaded from www.whitecourt.ca.

Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw 1551-15 has been adopted. A review of all facility and service fees for the Community Services Department was recently conducted, and the new Bylaw includes updates based on this review, as well as the addition of a Fire Safety Plan Review charge for residential properties and a credit card processing fee. Please refer to the website for a copy of the Bylaw.

Procedure Bylaw

1583 has been adopted and includes updates to Council and Council Committee meeting processes to align with changes the Government of Alberta made to the Municipal Government Act.

Council members have been authorized to attend the Whitecourt Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament on June 20, 2025.

A portion of Sunset Boulevard will be closed on June 7 from 7:45 to 11:45am for the Run 4 Fun event. Registration for the event is open, and details can be found on our website.

Whitecourt Town

Council has recognized May 12 to 16, 2025 as Economic Development Week.

Council has authorized a request from the Whitecourt Wolverines for the defer of its dressing room contribution payments for June, July and August for the remainder of the agreement term.

Council has authorized entering into a licence agreement for the purpose of disposing digested biosolids from the Whitecourt wastewater treatment plant.

Council has authorized entering into a lease agreement for the Mountain Bike access road project.

continued from page 5

to connect in a fun way outside of school and without competitiveness.

The event is billed as for teens, by teens, thanks to insight from the age groups taking part. Harper said the Youth Advisory Committee members have been deeply involved and that seeing them be keen to volunteer and take on roles in the community is amazing.

“They are always eager to be involved in the activities, including helping me at the schools. It was abso-

lutely fantastic. I’m excited to see where the committee goes over the next few years. I think we’ve done a lot of really cool stuff. They’ve taken on a leadership role with this event, and I think that’s something that’s only going to grow,” she said.

For Harper, seeing the youthful enthusiasm has been rewarding. “This is my second year with this committee, and seeing how involved they want to be from a young age is amazing. From volunteering at events that are already happening

to organizing their own events like the pool party or the Anti-Vaping Awareness Campaign this year, which has been completely youth-led. It’s an amazing initiative for me to see them take on and want to do.”

Parents can sign their grade 6-12 children up for events by contacting the Allan & Jean Millar Centre. Though all the events are free, some require registration (basketball clinic/cookie bake-off) so that volunteers know how many attendees to expect. Transit is free for youth until May 9.



Handing out prizes.

continued from page 2

er thought in a million years that she would be singing,” said her mom. “She didn’t have confidence and was very anxious, and singing pulled her through it. We thought, “Who is this kid? It was a relief as a parent to see her do it and for people to be so supportive.”

Watson even has a new hobby her friends and boyfriend, Emmett, have jumped onto. “We sing karaoke at the Ritz Cafe & Motor Inn. We try to go every time because it’s so much fun. Our group is called Emmett and Friends because every time we write down a song on paper, it says Emmett and Addy or Emmett and Dallas, so they started calling us Emmett and Friends,” laughed Watson.

Watson will play at Whitecourt’s Party In The Park again this year (June 13-14) and hit the stage at SummerFest in Sangudo (July 4-6), where everything started for her. She can also be seen on stage this month at the Dance In The Dirt

event featuring Drew Gregory by the Whitecourt Ag Society.

Watson said she credits Andrew Malmquist, Arts and Culture Coordinator, with the Town of Whitecourt, for helping her get on different stages, including recently opening for Rum Ragged. “If I didn’t have community support, I wouldn’t be where I am now. It feels good having

people come out and watch and support you. I wouldn’t be as confident if no one came to watch,” said Watson.

As to any negativity she might face, Watson spoke like someone wise beyond her years. “If people say good things, you say thank you, and if people say bad things, you have to say thank you too.” Congratulations on your awards, Addy!



Three more awards to be proud of.

Carnival fun



Faye and her beautifully face painted grand daughter, Evelyn.



Two young ladies feeling the squeeze from the Squeeze Machine.



A big group ready to have lots of fun!



Hands up on the Spider ride.


It’s always fun when the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce brings the carnival to town, especially when the weather is as beautiful as it was on the weekend. Almost nothing beats the sounds of the midway, as people play games and win prizes, or the screams and laughter from those on the rides as they spin, whip and fly high. At +26 outside, event goers and those walking the grounds taking in the sights couldn’t have asked for a better evening on Friday to enjoy what has become an unofficial kickoff to summer.



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Personals

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Services

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Airdrie
Apple Wellness Center
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Airdrie, AB

A look at the local weather		Wed., May 7	Thu., May 8	Fri., May 9	Sat., May 10	Sun., May 11
	P.O.P.	Mainly sunny	Chance of a shower	Sunny	Mainly sunny	Mainly sunny
	High	30%	40%	40%	30%	20%
	Low	19°C	13°C	15°C	15°C	18°C
	Wind	5°C	2°C	3°C	3°C	4°C
	24-Hr Rain / Snow	SW 16 km/h	SW 19 km/h	NE 7 km/h	NW 20 km/h	E 15 km/h
		-	<1mm	<1mm	-	-

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

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

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

in Canada by texting TALK to 686868 to reach an English speaking Crisis Responder and TEXT0 to 686868 to reach a French-speaking Crisis Responder on any text/ SMS enabled cell phone.
KidsHelpPhone Ages 20 Years and Under

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

Have you been bullied, and want to share your story?
Email wctpress@telus.net All submissions remain confidential

Putting a face
on suicide



Michael
Murdock
Age 18

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

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Soaring Eagle Support Society

Offering support services for marginalized individuals

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

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



Recover Out Loud

- Mondays are in person, at the Family Worship Center upstairs, and online (hybrid) at 7:30pm
- Fridays 7:30pm at the Whitecourt Baptist Church in person only.

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



WHITECOURT
**CANCER &
WELLNESS
SOCIETY**

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

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

Aimee Grierson 780-262-0222
<https://wctcancerwellness.com/>



Support group on Tuesdays 6:30pm - 8:30 pm. Our next series starts Tuesday, February 4 at Crossroads Community Church, 4419 44 Ave, Mayerthorpe. \$35 includes 12 weekly sessions.

Pre-register by calling 780-786-2533.



scan me
for info.

Whitecourt Legion presents The 80th
Anniversary of the Liberation of the
Netherlands!

family events, meat draws, pot luck.

Starts 2:30 p.m. Saturday May 3, 2025 at the Legion
Lounge, 4928-51 Avenue. More information? Contact
Malcolm Pugh mpughedm@gmail.com or Legion
780-778-3666 Thurs-Sat from 2:30 p.m.



"Serving the community for over 30 years"
The Food Bank relies on donations of cash or food
in order to help families in need.
Open Mon, Wed & Fri 11:00am to 2:00 pm
Phone: 780-778-2341

Located within the Carlan Services Community Centre

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

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

LORNE'S BLANKET

is transitional housing for men.

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

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



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@whitecourt_shelter

Shelter:

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

Outreach Support Program:

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

Child Support Program:

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

Preventative Education:

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



Family Resource & Crisis Centre

www.whitecourtshelter.ca

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

Located at the United Church Basement on Legion Street (formerly 5201 - 50 Street)

Please Leave a Message for Our AA member or
Contact Addictions Helpline @1(866)332-2322

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = **0.72** US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7238** (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of May 07, 2025

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

The Press

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.



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.

RCMP ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Whitecourt RCMP investigate two suspected arson incidents

Whitecourt RCMP is seeking public assistance with two suspected arson investigations. The first fire occurred on April 17, 2025, at approximately 6 p.m. The second was on April

25, 2025, at approximately 11:00 p.m. Both fires occurred in the same general area, in the Town of Whitecourt limits, east of the industrial park, specifically south of 41 Avenue and east of 30 Street.

The Town of Whitecourt Fire Department and Whitecourt RCMP

responded to both, and both fires were put out within hours. Alberta Wildfire provided assistance. At no time were lives or private property structures threatened, however, approximately 19 acres was burned.

If you have any information regarding these fires, please

contact the Whitecourt RCMP at 780-779-5900. 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.

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please check out our website at
albertanewsprint.com → Careers.



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

Executive Chef NOC 62200

Responsibilities:

- Plan and direct food preparation and cooking activities of several restaurants in an establishment, restaurant chains, hospitals or other establishments with food services
- Consult with clients regarding weddings, banquets and specialty functions
- Plan menus and ensure food meets quality standards
- Estimate food requirements and may estimate food and labour costs
- Supervise activities of sous-chefs, specialist chefs, chefs and cooks
- Arrange for equipment purchases and repairs
- Recruit and hire staff
- May prepare and cook food on a regular basis, or for special guests or functions.

Employment requirements

- Cook's trade certification or equivalent credentials, training and experience are required.
- The certifications of Certified Working Chef (CWC) and Certified Chef de Cuisine (CCC), administered by the Canadian Culinary Institute (CCI) of the Canadian Culinary Federation (CCF) preferred.
- Several years of experience in commercial food preparation, including two years in a supervisory capacity and experience as a sous-chef, specialist chef or chef.
- Red Seal endorsement preferred.
- Management training preferred.

Experience: 3-4 years
Education: Completion of secondary school preferred
Language: English
Terms of Employment: Permanent, full-time (44 hours/week)
Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, and Health after 90-day probation period.

Visit our website www.eaglerivercasino.ca
Address: Twp Rd 602A, HWY 32N Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3
Phone: 780.779.2727
Fax: 780.706.7451
How to Apply: Send resume to hr@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail, or fax.



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

Sous Chef NOC 62200

Primary Responsibilities

- Supervise activities of specialist chefs, chefs, cooks and other kitchen workers
- Demonstrate new cooking techniques and new equipment to cooking staff
- Prepare and cook complete meals or specialty foods, such as pastries, sauces, soups, salads, vegetables and meat, poultry and fish dishes, and create decorative food displays for special events such as banquets
- Instruct cooks in preparation, cooking, garnishing and presentation of food
- Create new recipes
- May plan menus and requisition food and kitchen supplies
- May prepare and cook meals or specialty foods.
- May requisition food and kitchen supplies.
- Supervise cooks and other kitchen staff

Employment requirements

- Cook's trade certification or equivalent credentials, training and experience are required.
- The certifications of Certified Working Chef (CWC) and Certified Chef de Cuisine (CCC), administered by the Canadian Culinary Institute (CCI) of the Canadian Culinary Federation (CCF) preferred.
- Red Seal endorsement preferred.
- Sous-chefs, specialist chefs and chefs require several years of experience in commercial food preparation.
- Completion of secondary school preferred.

Experience: 3-4 years
Education: Completion of secondary school preferred
Language: English
Terms of Employment: Permanent, full-time (44 hours/week)
Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, and Health after 90-day probation period.

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Mon-Fri 10am-8pm
Sat 12pm-4pm
Sun Closed

MAY 2025

EVENT CALENDER



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
All Afterschool Programs: Free, Drop-In at the Library, Designed for all school ages.		 <u>Baby Animals Scavenger Hunt.</u>		1 Story Time 10:30-11:30 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30 French Homework Help 4:00-5:00 Scrabble Night 6.00pm-7:30	2 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	3 Family Movie: Up 1:00 Conversational Spanish 1:00-2:00	
	4	5 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30 Adult Book Club 2:00	6 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	7 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	8 Story Time 10:30-11:30am Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30 French Homework Help 4:00-5:00 Spiritual Designs 4:00-5:00	9 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	10 Family Movie: Mrs. Doubtfire 1:00 Soapstone Carving 1:00-3:00
	11	12 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	13 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	14 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30 Yap & Yarn 6:00-7:30	15 Story Time 10:30-11:30 Spiritual Designs 4:00-5:00	16	17 Family Movie: Spirit 1:00 Conversational Spanish 1:00-2:00
	18	19 Victoria Day Afternoon Tea 1:00-3:00	20 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	21 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	22 Story Time 10:30-11:30 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30 French Homework Help 4:00-5:00 Spiritual Designs 4:00-5:00	23 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	24 Family Movie: Rio 2 1:00 Adult Art Therapy 1:00
25	26 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	27 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30	28 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30 Beading Circle of Friends 6:00-8:00	29 Story Time 10:30-11:30 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30 French Homework Help 4:00-5:00 Spiritual Designs 4:00-5:00	30 Afterschool Program 3:30-5:30 Crib Night 6:00-7:30	31 Family Movie: Jumanji 1:00 Conversational Spanish 1:00-2:00	

For more Library information check our Facebook page, or call (780) 778-2900
(www.facebook.com/whitecourtlibrary/)



Canfor (Whitecourt) Forest
Management Plan Open House

This spring, Canfor Whitecourt will be holding an in-person open house on May 13th at the Forest Interpretative Centre from 4-7PM. The general public and stakeholders will have the opportunity to review and participate in the development of our 2027 Forest Management Plan (FMP). This provides the general public and stakeholders an opportunity to review the values, objectives, indicators and targets (VOIT's) that guide the FMP process. Join us to be a part of Canfor Whitecourt FMP development at the Forest Interpretive Centre on May 13th from 4-7PM.

Alternatively, you can visit us at www.canforforestmanagement.ca to view information on our upcoming plans. This is your opportunity to influence our plans, so we would appreciate any comments and concerns that you may have.

For more information, contact:
Ken Anderson
wctplans@canfor.com



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

Now Hiring Food & Beverage Supervisor

DUTIES AND REPONSIBILITIES

- Actively promotes an environment conducive to high quality customer service and employee relations by being a positive leadership example.
- Assist for scheduling, disciplinary actions, training and mentoring for staff of food and beverage outlets.
- Inventory each month
- Work with Marketing & Advertising to promote the food & beverage outlets.
- Understand security requirements.
- Ensure maintenance of safety and sanitation standards and policies
- Provide overall direction, coordination, and ongoing evaluation of operations.
- Understand basic asset management.
- Must be able to work other duties assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- 4-5 years' experience in the Food & Beverage Industry.
- 3-4 years demonstrated experience in supervisory within the Food & Beverage Industry.
- Experience in a casino setting preferred.
- Post secondary education in a related field preferred but not required.
- Training in management and employee development preferred but not required.
- Continuous training and education to keep abreast of changes in the industry and external environment.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to meet deadlines in a rapidly changing business environment.
- Ability to work independently.
- Extensive food & beverage knowledge and ability to develop and apply practices, procedures, and principles in a casino environment.
- Developed writing skills sufficient to prepare written materials involving detailed descriptions and explanations requiring the accurate use of

- We are in the people business and therefore it is part of everyone's job to actively provide customer service. This means that for every customer that comes in, you will attempt to make eye contact, greet and welcome to our business. This also means that you must always be attentive to the customer's needs so there are no undue delays and we will serve our customers in a cheerful and efficient manner. Our service attitude also implies and obligation to each other. We must greet and acknowledge each other in a sincere professional way. And seek to assist each other wherever practical, thereby demonstrating that success is a shared experience among our teams. Excellent customer relations and team work are essential part of every job in this environment.
- specialized terminology.
- Self-planning skills sufficient to schedule, organize, and carry out work assignments according to established work plans, adjusting work schedules according to changing priorities.
- Developed judgment and problem solving skills sufficient to interpret and/or analyze factual and conceptual information with the ability to adapt general procedures or approaches when formulating responses to problems.
- Manages workload independently, and works well in teams.
- Develops security and systems knowledge through on the job experience.
- Must display leadership skills, the ability to multi-task and adjust to multiple jurisdictions.
- Smart Training course, preserve, deal US in phase 1, 2.
- Must be able to provide RCMP security clearance check.
- Working knowledge of MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint.

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



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EAGLE RIVER
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Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

Restaurant Assistant Manager NOC 60030

REPSONSIBILITIES

- Plan, organize, direct, control and evaluate the operations of a restaurant, bar, or other food or beverage service
- Determine type of services to be offered and implement operational procedures
- Recruit staff and oversee staff training
- Set staff work schedules and monitor staff performance
- Control inventory, monitor revenues and modify procedures and prices
- Resolve customer complaints and ensure health and safety regulations are followed
- Negotiate arrangements with suppliers for food and other supplies
- Negotiate arrangements with clients for catering or use of facilities for banquets or receptions.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Completion of a college or other program related to hospitality or food and beverage service management is usually required.
- Responsible beverage service certification is usually required
- for managers of establishments serving alcoholic beverages.
- Several years of experience in the food service sector, including supervisory experience, are required.

Experience:

Education:

Language:

Employment Conditions:

Benefits Package:

Address:

Visit our Website:


How to Apply:

3 – 4 years.

Completion of secondary school is usually required. Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time 44-hour work week.

English

Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights. Wage: \$26.00/hour Vision, Dental, and Health after a 90-day probation period. Location: Twp.Rd.602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, AB Canada. Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta Canada T7S-1N3. Contact: 780-779-2727 or Fax 780-706-7451 www.eaglerivercasino.ca Send resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax.



EAGLE RIVER
RESORT & CASINO

Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

Now Hiring Cashiers NOC 65100

REPSONSIBILITIES

- Greet customers
- Receive and process payments by cash, cheque, credit card, or automatic debit
- Provide information to customers
- Calculate foreign currency exchange
- Calculate total payments received at end of work shift and reconcile with total sales
- Verify the age of customers when selling lottery tickets, alcohol or tobacco products
- Operate cash register
- Process money, cheques, and credit/debit card payments
- Scan Items
- Tabulate total payment for goods or services required
- Receive payment for goods or services
- Calculate daily/shift payments received and reconcile them with total sales
- Suggestive selling
- Provide excellent customer service
- Assist customers with self-service items
- Participate in promotional activities

QUALIFICATIONS

- Some secondary school education is usually required. High school graduation may be required by some employers.
- Eligibility for bonding may be required.
- A casino gaming license may be required for cashiers working in gambling casinos.
- Must be able to complete Smart training courses
- Must be able to complete AML

Experience:

Education:

Terms of Employment:

Language:

Employment Conditions:

Wage:

Benefits Package:

Location:

Address:

Contact:

Visit our Website:

How to Apply:

2 – 3 years, or we will train.

Some post-secondary, high school may require.

Permanent full-time 40-hour work week.

English

Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.

\$15.00 per hour.

Vision, Dental, Health after 90-day probation period.

Twp.Rd.602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, AB Canada.

Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta Canada T7S-1N3 780-779-2727 or Fax 780-706-7451 www.eaglerivercasino.ca Send resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax



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