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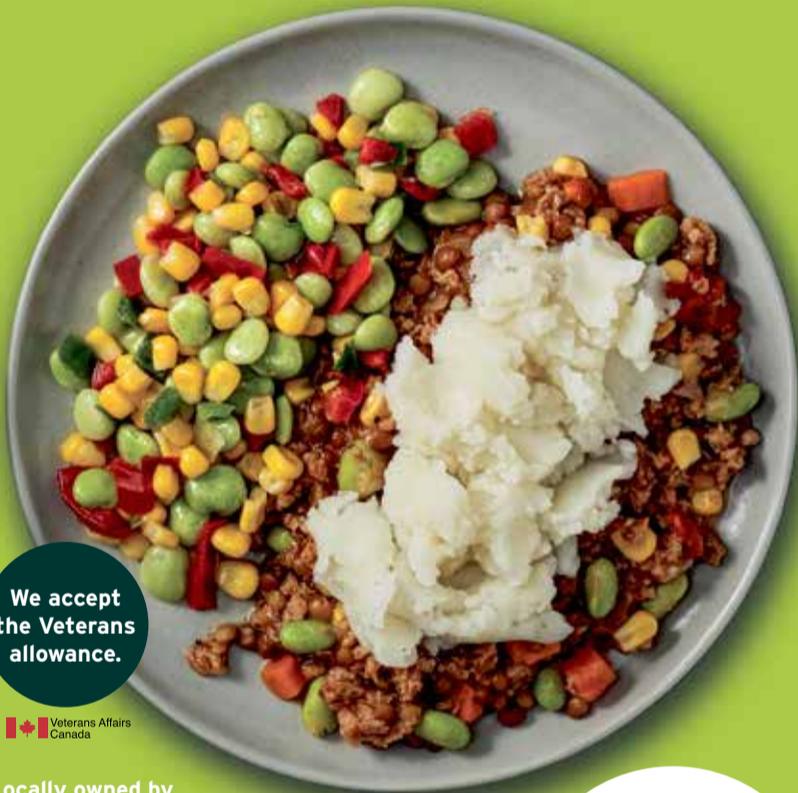
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Vol. 14 - Issue 39 | Wednesday, October 15, 2025

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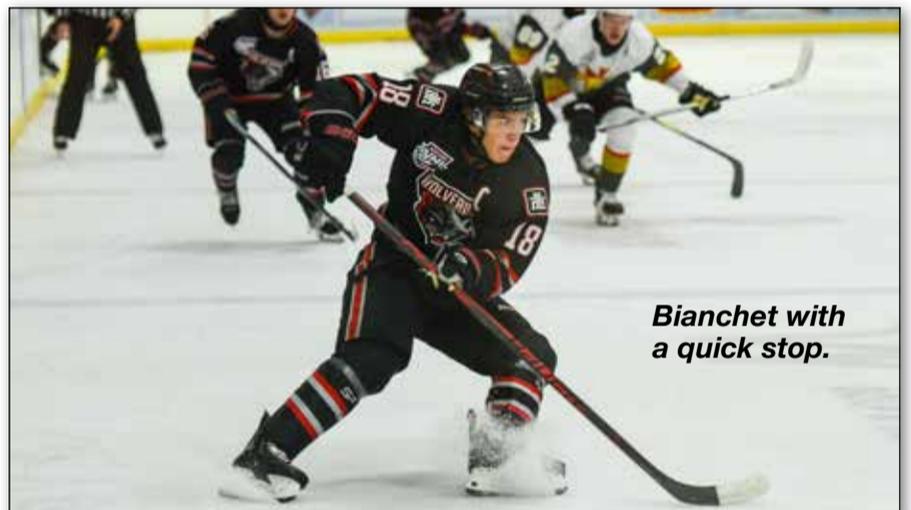


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Huge start to the season for the Whitecourt Wolverines



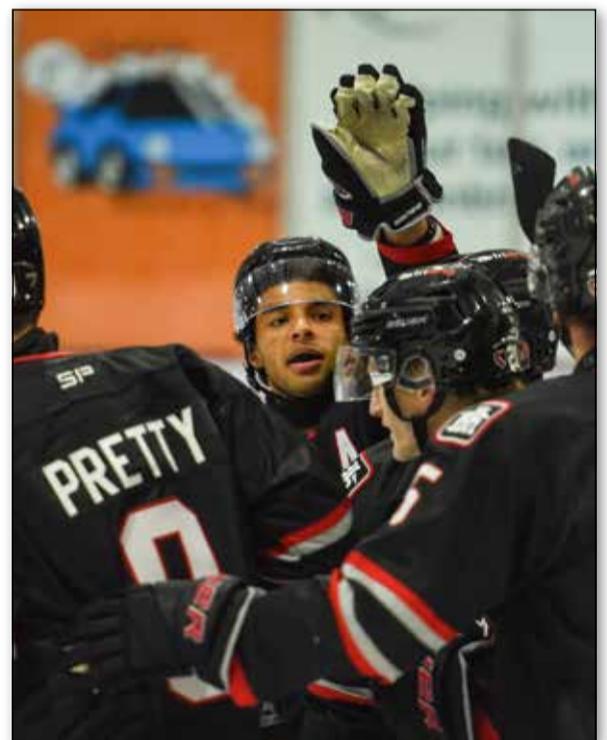
Bianchet with a quick stop.

The Whitecourt Wolverines have had an exceptional start to the season, and the fans love it. Attendance at the first four home games reached over 600, with the first two nearly hitting 700 fans each.

| By Serena Lapointe

Since the season started on Friday, September 19, the Whitecourt Wolverines have held onto an exceptional streak, winning six of their last seven games up to Wednesday's blowout win against the Bonnyville Pontiacs at JDA Place. The team is fresh with new faces and led by veteran players who have their sights set on being the leaders of the pack.

Their first game, on September 19, against the Grande Prairie Storm, had nearly two



High five after a great goal.

continued on page 2



Patrick Carew

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Sticks up
by the
boards.

continued from page 1

thousand fans in attendance at the Bonnetts Energy Centre in GP. The Wolverines struck first with two goals, Kyle Tucker (#16) and Short, and both were assisted by Tyler Pretty (#9) and Jalen Bianchet (#18). The Wolverines managed to tally five more goals in the game, including two more off the stick of Captain Bianchet and two from Mason Russell (#21), taking the win 7-4.

The next night, the Wolverines welcomed the Pontiacs to Whitecourt. The Storm would no doubt be after some retribution following their big loss in front of their fans and were likely hoping to give the Wolverines the same treatment. Although the game was much tighter than the night before, it did not work out in favour of the visiting team.

Over the three periods, each team scored two goals. Goal scorers for the Wolverines were Justus Chyld (#4) and Jalen Bianchet (#18). When the third period buzzer sounded, the teams were tied with two apiece. Overtime didn't crown a champ, resulting in a shootout. The only player to score was Quentin Bourne (#8), giving the Wolverines a 3-2 win.

On September 27, the Wolverines were back at home, this time taking on the Fort McMurray Oil Barons. As with the game on the 19th, Kyle Tucker (#16) kick-started the scoring, potting one in just before the ten-minute mark of the first period, assisted by Tyler Pretty (#9) and Alex Symes (#12). Tucker

started the second period in the same way, this time assisted by Bianchet and Pretty. By the end of the third period, the Wolverines had amassed six goals on the scoreboard, taking the win 6-2.

The next afternoon, the action moved to Devon, where the Wolver-

ines took on the Xtreme. The first period was anything but extreme, with only one goal to speak of and no penalties. Devon was on the board and in the lead, but would they keep it? The short answer is no. In the second period, Tucker, doing what he does best, tied the game 1-1, followed by a power-play goal from Spencer Clareth (#6) to make it 2-1. In the third, Bianchet nabbed a pair of goals

to bring the final score to 4-1 for Whitecourt.

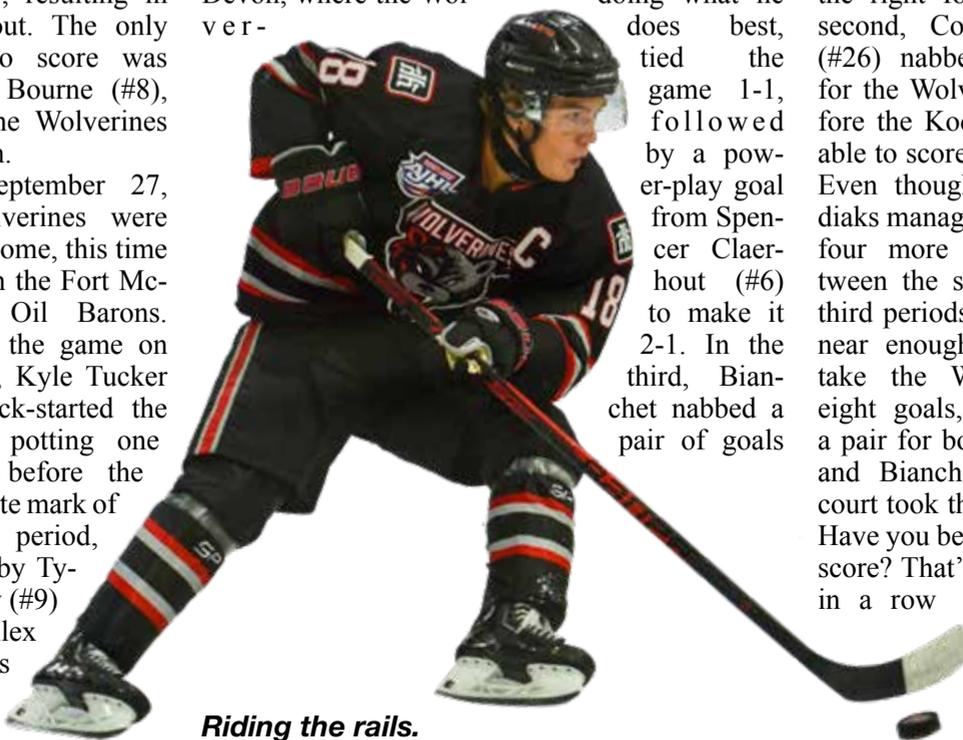
On Friday, October 3, the Whitecourt Wolverines hit the highway for a game in Camrose against the Kodiaks. Two Wolverine goals in the first period, Bianchet and Russell, got things started on the right foot. In the second, Cole Barrett (#26) nabbed a third for the Wolverines before the Kodiaks were able to score their first. Even though the Kodiaks managed to score four more goals between the second and third periods, it wasn't near enough to overtake the Wolverines' eight goals, including a pair for both Russell and Bianchet. Whitecourt took the win 8-5. Have you been keeping score? That's five wins in a row to kick off the season!

On Saturday,

October 4, the Wolverines welcomed the Canmore Eagles to JDA Place. The southern nemesis was looking to stop the winning streak and leave Whitecourt with a win in their pocket. After a scoreless first period, Whitecourt's Brendan Ruskowski (#11) got the home team on the scoreboard in the second. Aside from a few penalties, including one against Canmore for illegal equipment, the period was relatively quiet.

In the third, Canmore opened up, scoring four goals in a row, silencing the Whitecourt crowd. Ruskowski managed to pocket his second of the night and third on the season, but it wasn't enough to get back to even. The Whitecourt Wolverines suffered their first loss of the season, 4-2.

continued on page 3



Riding the rails.

continued from page 2

And that brings us to one of the most recent games played last week on Wednesday, October 8, at JDA Place, where the Wolverines took on the Bonnyville Pontiacs. Even though the Pontiacs weren't the ones who ended the Wolverines' streak, they were about to feel

all the pain as if they had. The Wolverines scored twice in the first, three times in the second and twice in the third, racking seven goals and letting in none. Try as they might, even with 30 shots on net, the Pontiacs could not break through Whitecourt goaltender El-

liot Pratt's (#32) iron-clad grip, rendering the net impenetrable, and were shut out 7-0. Captain Jalen Bichanet nabbed two in the win and, as of October 8, has ten goals on the season. He also reached a big milestone, his 100th point. Congratulations, Jalen. Let's Go, Wolverines!



Snatched from the air.



I'm coming through!



Inflatables galore



The corner of Skaggs Crossing and Sparrow Crescent is looking mighty festive these days. Over twenty different inflatables are set up on the lawn from skeletons to vampires, pumpkins to unicorns, Snoopy to Mickey Mouse, cats to bats and even a giant, blue dragon.

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by PETER MARINACCI

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THE DRIVEWAY?



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AND SOME BAD NEWS . . .
WELL, ACTUALLY, JUST
SOME BAD NEWS . . .



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T2P 0G5

Notice of application to be filed for approval to amend franchise fee for Town of Whitecourt and FortisAlberta Inc.

Application summary

FortisAlberta Inc. will file an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission, requesting acknowledgement of the new franchise fee of 7.09 per cent for the Town of Whitecourt.

The current franchise fee of 5.34 per cent will change to 7.09 per cent, effective **January 1, 2026**. The franchise fee percentage is applied to the distribution tariff, typically consisting of both distribution and transmission charges. Based on the typical monthly consumption of 625 kilowatt hours, the average monthly franchise fee paid by an average residential customer is expected to increase to \$1.42.

The franchise fee is charged in accordance with the franchise agreement between the Town of Whitecourt and FortisAlberta Inc., approved by the Commission in Decision 2014-152.

You may send your objections, concerns about, or support for the application in writing to FortisAlberta or the Town of Whitecourt on or before October 29, 2025, at:

FortisAlberta Inc.
Mr. Ralph Leriger, Manager, Stakeholder Engagement
100 Chippewa Road, Sherwood Park, Alberta, T8A 4H4
email: stakeholderrelations@fortisalberta.com

Town of Whitecourt
Judy Barney, Director of Corporate Services
5004 – 52 Avenue, Box 509, Whitecourt, Alberta, T7S 1N6
Judybarney@whitecourt.ca

Except for information designated confidential by the Commission, any information or materials, including personal information, that are provided as part of a Commission proceeding will become part of the public record.

If no submissions are received, or if submissions are received from a party not directly affected, or if submissions are frivolous, vexatious or of little merit, the Commission may render a decision on the application without further notice or without a public hearing.

For more information

For more information on how to file a submission, please contact the Commission directly at 310 4282 (in Alberta) or 1 833 511 4282 (outside Alberta), or by email at info@auc.ab.ca. An information package, providing an explanation of the process and assistance on how to participate in the proceeding, will be immediately provided to any person who inquires with the Commission.

For a paper copy of the franchise agreement, please contact either the applicant or the municipality at:

FortisAlberta Inc.
Mr. Ralph Leriger, Manager, Stakeholder Engagement
100 Chippewa Road, Sherwood Park, Alberta, T8A 4H4
email: stakeholderrelations@fortisalberta.com

Town of Whitecourt
Judy Barney, Director of Corporate Services
5004 – 52 Avenue, Box 509
Whitecourt, Alberta
T7S 1N6
Judybarney@whitecourt.ca

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial regulatory body responsible for making decisions about utility-related applications.

Issued on October 15, 2025.

Alberta Utilities Commission

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If you enjoy a fast-paced, progressive work environment and you have a passion for serving the local community, then this may be the opportunity for you! We believe that our values of diversity, collaboration, innovation and mutual respect bring out the best in our team, and we are currently looking to fill the following position:

Job#: 25-056, Custodian – Casual Position

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



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Bud is an approximately 2-year-old Pyrenees cross who is neutered and up to date on all vaccinations.

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For more information or to arrange a meet-and-greet, please contact the **Whitecourt Pound** at: **780-778-5767**

Career ads, online at:
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Alberta**

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- safety
- community engagement
- partnerships
- common sense

Vote

A look at the local weather	Wed., Oct. 15	Thu., Oct. 16	Fri., Oct. 17	Sat., Oct. 18	Sun., Oct. 19
P.O.P. High Low Wind 24-Hr Rain / Snow	 Mainly sunny 20% 13°C -1°C S 10 km/h	 Mainly sunny 40% 13°C 4°C SE 7 km/h	 Mainly sunny 20% 10°C 2°C W 26 km/h	 Mainly sunny 10% 8°C 3°C W 14 km/h <1mm	 Showers 60% 5°C 1°C NE 16 km/h ~5mm



PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15

SUDOKU

4						5		
			6	5		4		
							2	
5	4			2	9			7
			1	6				
	2							1
8		5		3	6			
		8	7					
1	5							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		
								71				

- 1. Ate quickly
- 2. Peyton Manning's alma mater
- 3. Moves through water
- 4. Run away from
- 5. Utah resident
- 6. Natural objects
- 7. Children's game
- 8. Obligation to prove
- 9. Ancient Greek building for performances
- 10. Soldier
- 11. Decorated
- 12. Catches
- 13. Russell __, author
- 14. Speak indistinctly
- 15. Students get them
- 26. Dessert
- 27. Doleful
- 29. Most cushy
- 31. Moon crater
- 33. Small evergreen Arabian tree
- 36. Something fugitives are "on"
- 38. 007's creator
- 39. Paintings on hinged panels
- 41. Type of bomb
- 42. Japanese classical theater
- 43. U.S. gov't department
- 46. Flightless bird
- 47. One who cuts wood or stone
- 49. Buttock and thigh together
- 51. A way to gather
- 53. Body part
- 54. Argentinian city
- 55. Undergarments
- 58. Jai __, sport
- 60. Container for shipping
- 64. Type of screen
- 65. Get free of
- 68. Indicates position
- 69. Business department

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. Martial arts in China
- 6. The butt of jokes
- 12. Nevertheless
- 16. Sportscaster Michaels
- 17. A firm believer
- 18. Atomic #18
- 19. One's bestie
- 20. Of I
- 21. Hamburger accessory
- 22. Thus
- 23. Partner to Pa
- 24. Scottish tax
- 26. Cuts away
- 28. Require
- 30. Government lawyer
- 31. Own (Scottish)
- 32. Body cavity
- 34. Brew
- 35. Young woman (French)
- 37. Platforms
- 39. Pair of points in mathematics

- 40. Attack suddenly
- 41. Aviators
- 43. Make perfect
- 44. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 45. Neither
- 47. The center of a city
- 48. Sacrifice hit in baseball
- 50. Singer Redding
- 52. Dragged forcibly
- 54. Puncture with a knife
- 56. Belonging to me
- 57. Expresses surprise
- 59. Haul
- 60. The Golden State
- 61. Biblical Sumerian city
- 62. Integrated circuit
- 63. Opposed to certain principles
- 66. Sodium
- 67. Qualities
- 70. Walk
- 71. It awaits us all

CLUES DOWN

HEARING TEST

WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- ACOUSTICS
- AUDIOLOGY
- AUDITORY
- COCHLEA
- CORTEX
- DECIBEL
- EUSTACHIAN TUBE
- FREQUENCY
- HEARING AID
- HEARING LOSS
- INNER
- MIDDLE
- NERVE
- OSSICLES
- OTOLARYNGOLOGIST
- OUTER
- PITCH
- PROCESS
- SOUND
- TINNITUS
- TYMPANIC
- MEMBRANE
- VOLUME

HOROSCOPE

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



You are seeing things more clearly this week, Aries. Conversations that felt stuck a little while ago are now moving along more smoothly. A bold decision comes up midweek.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Taurus, you are craving stability, both financially and emotionally. Use midweek to reevaluate your spending or a relationship that may be ready to be taken to the next level.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



Gemini, you are in your element this week. Communication flows easily, especially by Thursday. A short trip or spontaneous plan could spark something bigger than expected.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Cancer, a quieter energy surrounds you right now. You are being called to pause and reflect. It's a good time to tend to your emotional needs and reflect on what's ahead.

LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



The spotlight is on you right now and you are glowing, Leo. You may attract attention and admiration without even putting in extra effort. Use this week to push forward on personal goals.

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



This week is all about you, Virgo. Focus on personal goals and self-improvement. Set strong goals for the year ahead.

LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



Libra, this is a great week to get things done. You're focused, detail-oriented and motivated. Use every burst of energy to sort through the clutter in your life.

SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



Scorpio, your social life is buzzing right now, but don't lose sight of bigger goals. A fresh connection or idea could lead to a long-term opportunity if you stay focused.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



You may feel pushed to take a risk or explore new ideas this week, Sagittarius. Trust your curiosity to take you where you need to be to find satisfaction.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Capricorn, even if no one sees you doing all of the hard work, you know how much effort you have been putting in. The effort will pay off soon enough.

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



This week asks you to look at how you are showing up and helping others, Aquarius. An old friend or partner resurfaces and a current connection could deepen.

PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



Your mind-body connection is strong this week, Pisces. If you have been ignoring rest or intuition, now is the time to focus on your priorities again.

Sawmill Lake or Walker Lake – an area lake might see a name change if the province backs application

| By Serena Lapointe

A small lake in Woodlands County might see a name change. Sawmill Lake is located approximately twelve kilometres north of Whitecourt, just off Highway 32. When driving towards Carson Pegasus Provincial Park from Whitecourt, the remote lake is on the right-hand side of the highway, off in the forest, approximately across from the Huestis Demonstration Forest site, but is not visible from the road.

The Alberta Government officially named it Sawmill Lake in December 2000, although not everyone agreed with that decision. In the 1990s, a local family requested that the lake be named Walker Lake, after the Walker Family, because they had traplines in the area for many years. Woodlands County and several community organizations supported the change, but the province ultimately decided to go in a different direction.

Now, twenty-five years later, Walker family members have applied to the province to see about getting the name changed, hop-

ing the result lands in their favour this time. During a Woodlands County Council meeting last month, CAO Matthew Ferris gave some of the history of the original application.

At the time, Woodlands County was a Municipal District, the M.D. of Woodlands. It didn't become Woodlands County until January 1, 1999. "The M.D. of the time put in a letter of support and then withdrew the letter of support. The Town of Whitecourt objected to naming the lake Walker Lake. There's a whole lot of history there that, unfortunately, isn't fully documented in our files. However, the individuals who put in the naming request with the province have reached back out to name it Walker Lake again," explained Ferris.

The meeting agenda outlined that the M.D. of Woodlands pulled back its letter of support because of political involvement and the growing controversy surrounding the issue. At one point, it was even recommended to leave the lake unnamed

due to equal support on both sides.

In the end, the Alberta Government decided to approve the name Sawmill Lake, reflecting the forestry industry in the area, though there is no evidence that a sawmill ever existed at the lake, specifically.

Before deciding on this new application, the Alberta Government reached out to Woodlands County to see if they had a preference. "As part of their process, the Alberta Geographical Names Program asks the municipality that the waterbody is in if they have a preference and if they would like to recommend a name. Our recommendation to you is that we don't have a position on this. Administratively, we have no preference whether it is named Sawmill Lake or after the trapper individual that it was proposed to be named after," explained Ferris.

The Alberta Geographical Names Program (AGNP) falls under the Minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women. The program evaluates geographical naming proposals. Depending on the circumstance, the AGNP will research the origin of existing or proposed names, collect information on unofficial names so they can be considered for adoption in the future, and work with provincial and federal government departments to ensure the official names are being used.

When an application is sent in, the AGNP researches the historical use of the current name and any suggested for replacement, and they compile a report. The AGNP then provides the report to the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation. From there, the foundation reviews the data and decides whether it is in favour of the name change or not. That de-



A discussion that started twenty-five years ago is back in the forefront as an area family seeks to change the name of a small lake to represent their family's history. Pictured is councillor John Burrows.

cision then reaches the minister's desk and becomes official.

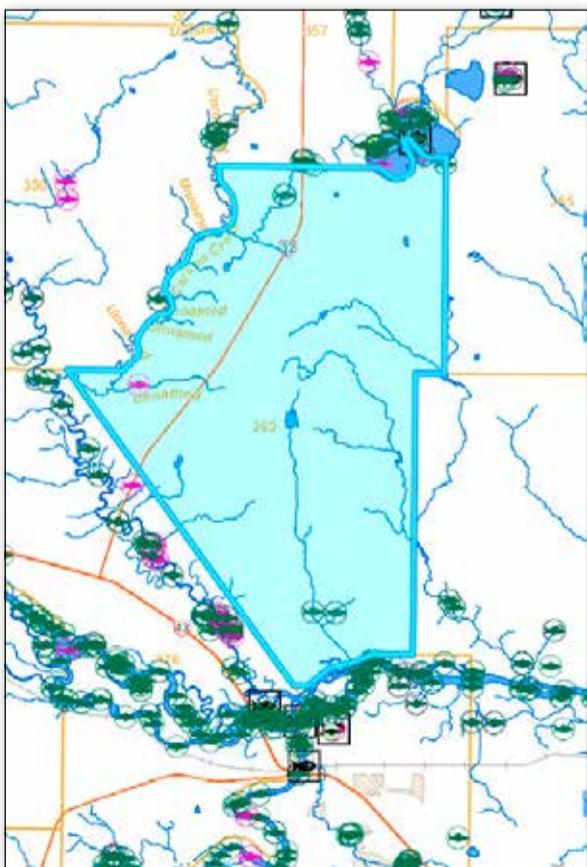
Ferris asked if anyone from the council had a position on the situation or the history, and said he would take any feedback given. Councillor John Burrows asked for clarity on what would happen if the municipality decided not to have a position on the name change. "Is this our decision to name or rename this, or will

the province do it if we don't?"

Ferris said it was all up to the province. "By default, the decision is (up to) the province. Our county maps themselves, from my understanding, from reviewing the historical ones I've been able to find, is that we've never actually named the lake on any of our maps anyway. The province would take our recommendation under serious advisement, but it

is ultimately their decision."

Woodlands County Council voted in favour of not providing a position on the renaming of Sawmill Lake, leaving the decision entirely up to the province, with no stance, one way or another. Once the province makes its decision, whether to rename the lake or keep it named as is, it will be published in the Alberta Gazette (as per the AGNP) and shared locally.



The Walker Trapline runs all around the small lake, seen centered in the highlighted shape.



Spooky sights and glowing lights: Halloween decorations shine bright in Whitecourt, showcasing the community's awesome Halloween spirit.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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FORM 7 - NOTICE OF ELECTION and REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTER IDENTIFICATION Local Authorities Election Act, (Sections 12, 35, 46, 53)

LOCAL JURISDICTION: TOWN OF WHITECOURT, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held for the filling of the following offices:

Office(s)	Number of Vacancies
Mayor	1
Councillor	6

Voting will take place on the 20 day of October, 2025, between the hours of 10:00am and 8:00pm. The Voting Station will be located at:

St. Joseph Parish Hall
5538 Mink Creek Road, Whitecourt, AB

If you are unable to attend the Voting Station on October 20, you can attend an Advance Vote on either October 14, 2025 or October 18, 2025. Advance Voting Stations have been scheduled from 10:00am to 7:00pm at:

St. Joseph Parish Hall
5538 Mink Creek Road, Whitecourt, AB

To vote, you **MUST** produce for inspection one or more of the acceptable forms of identification required by Section 53 of the Local Authorities Election Act.

DATED at the Town of Whitecourt, in the Province of Alberta, this 23 day of September, 2025.

Marlene Kellier-Pinchbeck
Returning Officer

GONE ON ELECTION DAY? Apply for Your Special Ballot!

Are you a student attending school outside of Whitecourt? Are you a snowbird, or do you have a vacation planned in October?

If you are unable to attend either of the Town's Advance Votes on October 14 or 18; or the General Municipal Election on October 20, you may be eligible to receive a SPECIAL BALLOT.

Voter identification must be submitted as set out in the instructions which will be included in the Special Ballot package.

Requests for Special Ballots **MUST** be made **before 12 Noon on Friday, October 17** and can be made in person, in writing, or by email:

Town of Whitecourt,
5004 – 52 Avenue, Box 509,
WHITECOURT, AB T7S 1N6
Email: election@whitecourt.ca

Special Ballots MUST be delivered to the Town Office by 12 Noon on Monday, October 20, 2025 to be deemed valid.

For more information on Special Ballots, contact Tara Gallant at the Town Office at 780.778.2273 or by email at election@whitecourt.ca.

For further information on the 2025 Election, visit www.whitecourt.ca.

NOTICE OF DECISION

The following decision was made by the Municipal Planning Commission:

Application No. 25-097 – Discretionary Use Application for Commercial School for Massage Therapy at 3808 38 Avenue – Was refused.

The reasons for refusal are listed as follows:

1. A Commercial School for massage therapy does not meet the purpose or intent of the M-1 Service Industrial land use district as per Section 10.20.2 in Land Use Bylaw 1577 for the following reasons:
 - a. it does not provide services to the adjacent industrial area, and
 - b. It would be more appropriately located in a C-1 or C-5 district.
2. A Commercial School for massage therapy is a better fit within a commercial district due to the client visit portion of the business that aligns with the Health Services definition under Land Use Bylaw 1577.
3. One of the industrial goals of the Municipal Development Plan Bylaw 1576 is to maintain the integrity of industrial nodes by limiting non-industrial activities in this area to those which are compatible with industrial uses. Prescribed uses within the M-1 Service Industrial land use district may not be compatible with a commercial school for massage therapy.
4. As per Policy 8.2.7 within Municipal Development Plan Bylaw 1576, Whitecourt should maintain the service industrial nature of Hilltop Industrial and should restrict nonindustrial uses in the area to only those that can readily coexist with industrial activities. Prescribed uses within the M-1 Service Industrial land use district may not be able to coexist with a commercial school for massage therapy.

Date of Decision: October 9, 2025

Appeal Closes at 4:00pm: October 30, 2025

An Appeal of the above decision(s) may be made by submitting a written appeal and appeal fee (\$310.00) to the Office of the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, Town of Whitecourt Administration Building, Box 509, Whitecourt, Alberta, T7S 1N6 prior to 4:00pm on the above noted date. Any person(s) affected by the said proposal(s), has the right to appeal prior to the above date.

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.

Communities in Bloom Committee

"To work collectively to foster civic pride, environmental responsibility, and beautification in Whitecourt."

Interested community members are welcome to apply throughout the year to be a part of this hands-on committee. For more information, or to apply to this committee, please contact Kelly Sadoway at kellysadoway@whitecourt.ca.

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 2028

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."

(1) Member – term to expire in October 2027

(1) Member – term to expire in October 2028

Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee

"To develop and support a sustainable and collaborative system for health professionals' attraction and retention that will support ongoing health care services to the community and provide a welcoming environment for health care providers and their families."

(1) Member – term to expire in October 2028

Municipal Planning Commission Committee

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

(2) Members – terms to expire in October 2028

Protective Services Committee

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

(1) Member – term to expire in October 2028

Applicants must submit a criminal record check with their application (an authorization letter will be provided upon request). The successful candidate will be required to undergo an enhanced security check.

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."

(1) Member – term to expire in October 2026

(2) Members – term to expire in October 2028

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

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 20, 2025 to:

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

Applications for all committees will be presented to Town Council at the October 27, 2025 Regular Meeting.

Questions?

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

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



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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

- Project Number 2025-01-10: **Utilities Master Plan**. Closes: November 3, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. MST.

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

BOOK YOUR AD

The Press

Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email wctpress@gmail.com

Help Needed!

The Whitecourt Legion is in need of a trumpet player for the Remembrance Day service at the Allan and Jean Millar centre, November 11th, 2025

To play "Last Post" and "Rouse". Sheet music is available.

Anyone who might be interested or if you know of anyone who might be interested, please make contact with Ian McDermid, Poppy Chairman, 780-778-2711. You can leave a message if necessary.

Mom and daughter duo bring fresh baking to the roadside

Kat's Roadside Farm Stand photos



Katrina Shorter stands proudly outside her roadside farm stand where she and her daughter Madison share their homemade treats with the community.

| By Haylee Winger

Just two kilometers southeast of Mayerthorpe, nestled off Highway 43 and Range Road 83, sits a charming roadside stand offering homemade baking with a heartfelt touch. What began as a small set-up in Whitecourt has grown into a beloved local treasure, thanks to the hard work and passion of Katrina Shorter and her young daughter, Madison.

"I'm a young mom who enjoys country living," Katrina says. "Ever since I experienced my first farm stand on a trip to B.C. years ago, I knew I wanted to have my own."

Katrina started her first stand in Whitecourt, but after moving her family to Mayerthorpe, she saw an opportunity to grow the

idea into something bigger.

"Our stand started off small. When we moved from Whitecourt to Mayerthorpe, we decided to make it bigger and better," she explains. "We really love the joy it brings to our community and surrounding areas."

Now, Katrina and her eight-year-old daughter Madison work together to fill the stand with freshly baked goods that reflect both their love of baking and their connection to the land.

"My daughter and I enjoy baking together and thought we'd love to share that with the community," she says.

Their offerings include homemade pies, cheesecakes, cookies, dessert cups, and candy or caramel apples — and over time, some clear favorites have emerged.

"All of our pies and cheesecakes are our best sellers," Katrina shares.

Many of the recipes come from years of experience and inspiration from friends and family, while others are Ka-

trina's own creations, developed through trial, error, and a passion for trying new things.

The stand operates entirely on the honour system, and Katrina bakes daily to keep the stock fresh and rotating.

Customers can pay with cash or e-transfer, and the stand is open 24/7, making it easy for anyone to stop by and enjoy a homemade treat.

The response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive.

"We've had nothing but amazing feedback and support from the community and even surrounding communities," Katrina says. "We've had people from all over visit the stand — and without that, we wouldn't be able to continue to run daily like we do."

And for Katrina, the most meaningful part isn't just the baking — it's sharing the experience with Madison and seeing the impact it has on others.

The stand also features seasonal treats and holiday-themed

specials throughout the year.

"People can look forward to hot chocolate to-go cups, pies, cookies, and soup during the fall and winter."

She's always open to new ideas and expanding the stand's offerings.

"I'm always looking to try new things and finding new ways to expand."

In addition to the ready-made goods, the stand also accepts custom orders and pre-orders.

Located 2 km southeast of Mayerthorpe, Alberta, off Highway 43 and Range Road 83, the stand is clearly marked with signs and sits at the first driveway on the left-hand side.

Before wrapping up, Katrina adds a heartfelt thank-you to the many people who've helped her dream flourish.

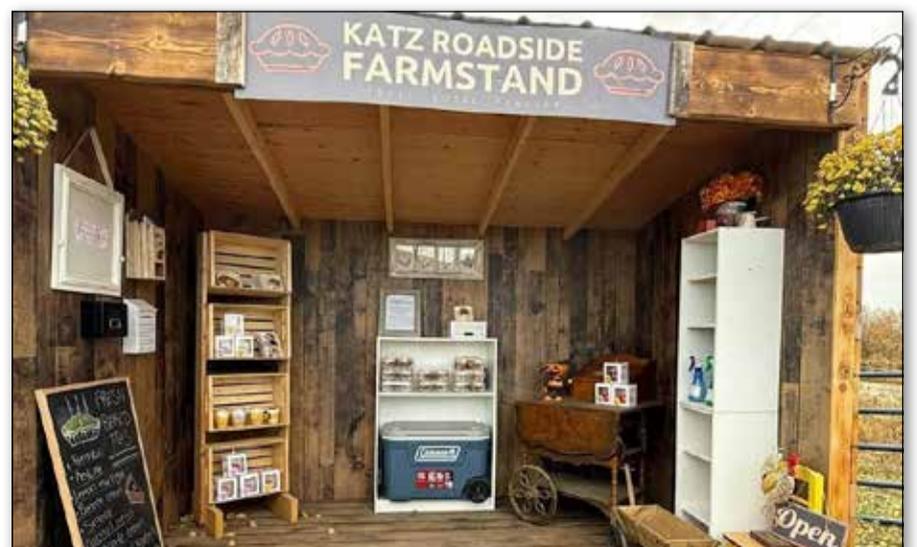
"We'd love to say a huge thank you to everyone for the love and support we get from you all," she says. "Without all of you amazing and honest people, our stand would not be able to run daily."



A fresh assortment of homemade pies available at Kat's Roadside Farm Stand.



A variety of homemade candy apples at Kat's Roadside Farm Stand.



Kat's Roadside Farm Stand, located 2 km southeast of Mayerthorpe, offering a variety of homemade baked goods and treats

The Press

Grab your weekly copy of The Press at the following locations:



Cookieful owner and baker, Isabel Nielson, hosted a fall-themed cookie decorating class at the Forest Interpretive Centre on October 11. The Whitecourt-based business, now nearing its third year, offers a wide range of nut-free cookie creations including custom sets, DIY kits, paint-your-own cookies, and seasonal presales. Cookieful can be found on Facebook at Cookieful and on Instagram at cookieful.wct – keep an eye out for upcoming holiday classes.



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Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.71 US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7138** (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of October 15, 2025

NEED HELP? CALL ANYTIME! (24-7)

- Mental Health Helpline
1-877-303-2642
- Addiction Helpline
1-866-332-2322 • Health Link **811**



A fog-filled valley.

Foggy lake

Heavy fog last week made for an interesting sight for those looking down on the valley from the hilltop area. The lower portion of Whitecourt looked to be consumed by the mist, reminiscent of a frozen lake, as no buildings or infrastructure was visible through it.

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 TEXT 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**

Putting a face on suicide



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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The Press

Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email wctpress@gmail.com

Notice of Election and Requirements For Voter Identification

Local Authorities Election Act (Sections 12, 35, 46, 53)

Northern Gateway Public Schools

LOCAL JURISDICTION: **The Northern Gateway School Division**, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held for the filling of the following offices:

Office(s)	Number of Vacancies	Ward or Electoral Division Number (if applicable)
School Board Trustee	2	Ward 2

Voting will take place on the **20th day of October, 2025**, between the hours of **10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.** Voting stations will be located at:

Woodlands County Municipal Office, #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt
St. Joseph Parish Hall, 5538 Mink Creek Road, Whitecourt

In order to vote, you must produce for inspection one or more of the acceptable forms of identification required by section 53 of the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

DATED at the Town of Whitecourt, in the Province of Alberta, this 23rd day of September, 2025.

Original Signed

Returning Officer

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2025
2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION – CANDIDATE OFFICIAL RESULTS**

Woodlands County received the following official candidates for the 2025 Municipal Election:

Division 2:	Whitecourt West	Burrows, John Michael	Division 5	Blue Ridge	Exley, Chris	
		MacNeil, Patricia Ray			Haydock, Robert William	
Division 4	Whitecourt East	Burgoyne, Andrew	Division 7	Fort Assiniboine/Timeu	Wright, Jenna	
		Edney, Deb			Kluin, Dale	
		Sergeew, Jeremy James	Division 1:	Anselmo	Whitten, Benny	Acclaimed
		St. Martin, Karen	Division 3:	Whitecourt Central	Dave Kusch	Acclaimed
			Division 6:	Goose Lake/Freeman River	Alan Deane	Acclaimed
					Peter Kuelken	Acclaimed

Information on special ballots and dates and times for the advance and general vote will be posted on www.woodlands.ab.ca/p/2025-election.

**NOTICE OF ELECTION AND
REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTER IDENTIFICATION
FORM 7 - LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTION ACT (SECTIONS 12, 35, 46, 53)**

LOCAL JURISDICTION: WOODLANDS COUNTY
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

ELECTION DAY: MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held for the filling of the following offices:

Office(s)	Number of Vacancies	Division Number
COUNCILLOR, WHITECOURT WEST	1	2
Councillor, Whitecourt East	1	4
Councillor, Blue Ridge	1	5
Councillor, Fort Assiniboine/ Timeu	1	7

Voting will take place on the 20th of October 2025 between the hours of 10:00 am and 8:00 pm. Voting stations will be located at:

DIVISION 2 Whitecourt West DIVISION 4 Whitecourt East	DIVISION 5 Blue Ridge	DIVISION 7 Fort Assiniboine/Timeu
WOODLANDS COUNTY MUNICIPAL OFFICE #1 WOODLANDS LANE WHITECOURT, ALBERTA	BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY HALL 304 VETERANS AVENUE BLUE RIDGE, ALBERTA	Fort Assiniboine Regional Municipal Office 61053A Hwy 33 Fort Assiniboine, Alberta

Advance Vote Dates are as follows:

Thursday, October 16th, 2025 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 18th, 2025 from 12 noon to 4 p.m.

Divisions and Locations for the Advance Vote:

DIVISION 2, Whitecourt West`
DIVISION 4 Whitecourt East
DIVISION 5 Blue Ridge
Woodlands County
Municipal Office
#1 Woodlands Lane
Whitecourt, Alberta

DIVISION 7 Fort Assiniboine/Timeu
Fort Assiniboine Regional Municipal Office
61053A Hwy. 33
Fort Assiniboine, Alberta

In order to vote, you must produce identification for inspection. The identification must be one government issued photo identification with name and address such as driver's license, or any of the following with name and address: bank/credit card statement or personal cheque, tax assessment notice, insurance policy or coverage card, pension plan statement, residential lease or mortgage statement, utility bill and vehicle ownership, registration, or insurance certificate. **For a more complete list visit our website at: woodlands.ab.ca**

DATED AT THE TOWN OF WHITECOURT, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA THIS 24TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

Returning Officer, Tracy Mindus

**NOTICE OF COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2025, 9:30 AM

Notice is hereby given that the **2025 Organizational Meeting** for the Council of Woodlands County will be held on **Wednesday, October 29, 2025**, in the Council Chambers, **Woodlands County Municipal Office, #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt, Alberta**, commencing at 9:30 a.m.

October 8, 2025
Tracy Mindus
Legislative & Communications
Coordinator



**NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED
COUNCIL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the October 22, 2025, regular scheduled Council meeting is **rescheduled to Wednesday, October 29, 2025**, at 9:30 am in the Woodlands County Council Chambers located at #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt, Alberta.

October 8, 2025
Tracy Mindus,
Legislative & Communications
Coordinator



DAVE KUSCH
Councillor for Anselmo
Division 1
dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-5337



JOHN BURROWS
Councillor for Whitecourt West
Division 2
john.burrows@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-4747



ALAN DEANE
Councillor for Whitecourt
Central Division 3
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-0804



JEREMY WILHELM
Councillor for
Whitecourt East Division 4
jeremy.wilhelm@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-6254



BRUCE PRESTIDGE
Councillor for Blue Ridge
Division 5
bruce.prestidge@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-3917



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



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



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Soaring Eagle Support Society

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- 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/>



General Meeting notice, Thursday October 9th at 7:00 in the Legion Hall. All members are welcome to attend. Many interesting items on the agenda!



Support group on Tuesdays 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, September 16 – December 2, Crossroads Community Church, 4719 44 Avenue Mayerthorpe, Pre-registration is required

CALL Ruth 780-674-7182



"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



24/7 CRISIS LINE
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1.800.467.4049



WELLSPRING FAMILY RESOURCE & CRISIS CENTRE



@whitecourt_shelter

Shelter:

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

Outreach Support Program:

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

Child Support Program:

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

Preventative Education:

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



Family Resource & Crisis Centre

www.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



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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.

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Odds of a child becoming a top fashion designer: 1 in 7,000

Odds of a child being diagnosed with autism: 1 in 150

Some signs to look for:

No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months.	No babbling by 12 months.	No words by 18 months.
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To learn more of the signs of autism, visit autismspeaks.org

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Mya Vanderwolf of Anytime Fitness Whitecourt (left) presents a \$6,000 cheque to the Whitecourt Food Bank following the annual Bubble Run fundraiser. The event brought together runners of all ages, raising \$5,300 through sponsorships and participation, with an additional \$700 contributed by the Anytime Fitness team.

Town of Whitecourt photo

PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

WORD SEARCH

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

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

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PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

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