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The Press

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Lemonade is to summer like honey is to tea; they pair perfectly. On June 13, youths from across the region will take part in Lemonade Day through Community Futures Yellowhead East with the hope of selling their creations to happy customers. Pictured are Pembina volunteers with last year's Best Stand winners, Charlotte and Evie.

Let the lemonade tasting begin!

| By Serena Lapointe

Summertime brings with it certain sights, sounds, smells, and experiences that people have come to expect. From basking in the warm sunshine to the colourful flowers, Saturday morning garage sales, the smell of freshly cut grass, icy treats, bike rides, floating down the river, and roasting marshmallows on an open campfire. But there's another popular sight that has been a kind of rite of passage for many youths for years and still rings true today:

selling sweet lemonade at a corner stand.

Whether at one of the many garage sales that will happen over the next few months or on especially hot days, there's sure to be a lemonade stand set up with a couple of eager kids waving at passing motorists and pedestrians, encouraging them to stop over to try their creations. It's honestly part of the fabric that makes summer special.

It's also a great way for kids to learn about what it means to be an entrepreneur. Enter

Community Futures: as a small business supporter and resource stronghold, helping new and existing entrepreneurs find their footing, access loans, craft their business plans, navigate ups and downs and plan for the future, Community Futures was the perfect entity to utilize something like a lemonade stand to give youth insight into creating and running their own businesses, and hopefully giving encouragement to

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A fun-filled Seniors' Week is coming soon

| By Serena Lapointe

It has been forty years since the province of Alberta officially marked the first week of June as Seniors' Week. The proclamation invites municipalities to celebrate their older adults and the many impacts they have had in creating, growing, and nurturing their communities, often leading the charge in various volunteer efforts. Without them, many current community-based organizations and non-profits would likely cease to exist.

The week was first celebrated in 1986. A woman named Alice Modin, who lived in Strathcona County, wanted to put on a Seniors' Day event and campaigned relentlessly for it. Her determi-

nation inspired not only her community, but the province to officially adopt what ended up being a full week to celebrate and thank seniors for the impact they had and continue to have within their communities.

For her efforts, Modin was honoured with the Minister's Provincial Seniors Service Award in 1999. In 2017, three years after her passing at 97 years of age, an award in her name was officially added to the Minister's Provincial Seniors Service Awards. Each year, the Alice Modin Award is presented to individuals or couples who are 65 years of age or older, have been volunteering in their community for at least 20 years, have actively promoted volunteerism, and have

had a provincial impact through their volunteer efforts.

While not every municipality in the province actively celebrates the week, many do, including the Town of Whitecourt and Woodlands County. From June 1 to 6, there is at least one event scheduled each day, ranging from learning opportunities, games, trips, and meals to enjoy together.

The week starts in one of the best ways possible: PANCAKES! The Rotary Club of Whitecourt is holding a pancake breakfast at the Whitecourt Seniors Circle on Monday, June 1. No registration needed, and it is free for those 60+. Later that afternoon, there is a tabletop curling oppor-

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Whitecourt photo

Anne Lenko sharing life advice during a 2020 Seniors' Week social media segment.



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Putting a face on suicide



Sara Johnston
Age 19

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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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.



Whitecourt Town Council Update

Town of Whitecourt release

The Whitecourt FireSmart Annual Report has been published. The report outlines activities and accomplishments achieved throughout 2025 and is available to download at www.whitecourt.ca/live/public-safety/firesmart

- The Community Fireguard project was completed in June 2025. The fireguard is located on the eastern boundary of Whitecourt and will help to break the path of wildfire that could potentially move towards property, infrastructure and other values at risk in the community.
- 29 FireSmart Home Assessments were completed in 2025. To book your FireSmart Assessment, go to our website. www.whitecourt.ca/live/public-safety/firesmart
- Vegetation management activities were conducted on 24.5 hectares of land within Whitecourt

in 2025.

Party In the Park is scheduled for June 19 and 20 and will feature Carolyn Dawn Johnson and Prism. For details on the event visit the Whitecourt Woodlands Performing Arts Society's website at whitecourtlive.ca.

A Pride Celebration and BBQ event, hosted in partnership with Pembina, Whitecourt & District Library, Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre, Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society and other community partners, is scheduled on June 5 at Festival Park. The event will include crafts and activities to celebrate the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Whitecourt.

Whitecourt Town Council has declared June 1-7, 2026 as Seniors' Week. Seniors' Week honours seniors for their contributions to our community and province. A variety of activities are planned during the week to celebrate local seniors. For details visit www.whitecourt.ca.

Whitecourt has awarded the contract for audiovisual equipment at the Canfor Culture & Events Centre to Matrix Video Communications Corp. for \$840,457.25, plus GST.

The Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society is hosting a National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration at the Blue Ridge Recreational Area on Sunday, June 21. Whitecourt has contributed \$1,500 in support of the celebration. For information on the event, follow the Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society on Facebook.

Whitecourt Town Council's Strategic Plan has been adopted. The Plan identifies Council's key priorities and areas of focus for the term. A copy of the Plan is available at www.whitecourt.ca.

Council will be hosting a series of workshops to receive background information and/or status updates on a variety of topics. The workshops will be held in June and September 2026. Council-

lor Serena Lapointe will serve as Deputy Mayor from June 1 to November 30, 2026.

Whitecourt received a request to participate in an advocacy effort to institute a Northern Alberta Living Allowance within the Northern Alberta Development Council area, which includes our community. Council requested further information and has tabled discussion on the item to the May 25, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council.

Whitecourt Town Council has recognized May 25-29, 2026 as Alberta Rural Health Week. The week acknowledges the importance of rural health providers and their role in maintaining a healthy community.

Council has directed Administration to draft terms of reference for an Ad Hoc CT Scanner Advocacy Committee. It is proposed that the Committee would support efforts currently underway in the community to acquire a CT Scanner for the Whitecourt Healthcare Centre.

continued from page 1

the next generation of movers and shakers.

In 2018, one Community Futures office in Alberta's north brought Lemonade Day to the communities in its region. Eight years later, Lemonade Day is now in thirteen Alberta regions, with roughly 60 communities taking part, with youth from kindergarten through high school joining the free event and learning valuable lessons on making a plan and seeing it through.

Michelle Jones, Community Futures Yellowhead East Executive Director, brought Lemonade Day to Whitecourt's office in 2019. "I think it's one of the best programs we offer. A goal of any lemonade stand is to have fun and make some money, but this program takes it a little deeper. Each year, I see kids get excited as we do the training lessons on the business plan, and I love that."

She said youth get to pull apart the project and look at things piece by piece, having real autonomy over their goal. "We have them thinking about the different products that go into it and the work

they need to do. They are coming up with an idea of what they want to get out of their stand and planning how they are going to spend what they make."

One part of the project allows participants to decide who they want to share some of their dollars with, whether a fundraiser, a non-profit, an initiative or an individual in need. "I think that's a tremendous lesson to teach these kids about being a citizen of the community, and wanting to support something," said Jones.

Growth in the program continues to show that youth see a real benefit in taking part. Last year, enrolment was up, and this year, it is up again. Some kids are even choosing to come back. "I love seeing that many of these kids are coming back. And every year, after Lemonade Day, you see lots of stands pop up. Some of them are the same kids who took part on the day and are then doing it all year long, and some are new to it and want to give it a try," said Jones.

Lemonade is obviously the most important part of a lemonade stand, but so is the service provided,

which includes everything from greeting customers to the final product. Jones said they encourage youth to sell more than just a delicious, refreshing cup of lemonade. "We are encouraging them to take a look at their own talents and what they might be able to do, whether they make or create something, so they can take advantage of maybe making a bit more money." In past years, participants have sold handmade bracelets, bags of candy, homemade cookies, stickers and themed products that matched their stands. Creativity knows no bounds. "Kids get very excited about seeing what they can add to it," said Jones.

One of the biggest pieces that Jones said she loves to see is growth in confidence. "You really do see it. Part of the training and experience is to prepare for questions when the judges come around and being comfortable standing up and answering them. We see sometimes where parents want to jump in and help answer questions if they see their child struggling a bit, but we discourage that. We want the



Last year's Best Tasting Lemonade prize was awarded to Strawberry Shortcake Lemonade owners Alaya and Keyson.

kids to know they can speak for themselves, and they really do take pride in that once they see that they can do it."

As of Friday afternoon, 83 kids had signed up within the CFYE region, which includes Barrhead, Barrhead County, Onoway, Lac Ste. Anne County, Swan Hills, Mayerthorpe, Alberta Beach, Fox Creek, Woodlands County, and Whitecourt. The due date for signing up is Friday, May 22. Lemonade Day is Saturday, June 13, with booths opening at 10 am. Training is required to take part and be eligible for prizes. Jones said they try their best to work with those who reach out after the deadline, so there is some wiggle room to

work with. Don't let the date passing be the reason to skip out.

For parents unsure if their younger child can handle it, Jones said they have young children participate each year, including kindergarten-aged, and they do very well, especially when they are encouraged to be a big part of the process. "What kind of lemonade do you want to make? What flavours do you want? Do you want to come up with a silly name for it? What colour do you want your stand to be, or do you want to have a theme? Those are all things that youth at any age can help come up with and be involved in, and they can help make the stand too," explained Jones.

"We don't expect the youth to do from A-Z by themselves, but we have to make sure we give the appropriate amount of capacity to those kids based on what they can do and not do too much for them. Let them do as much as they can!"

Jones encourages the community to mark June 13th on the calendar and make a point to check out one or two (or all, if you are up for it!) of the stands that will be taking part. The full map of lemonade stand locations will be shared closer to the date on the Community Futures Yellowhead East Facebook page. "I hope to see everyone get out and support them and see what they come up with. They deserve it!"

Emergency Health Services—Alberta transitions to ALTA Paramedic Health Modernization of services strengthens and expands care provided by paramedics

| Acute Care Alberta release

Emergency Health Services—Alberta (EHS—Alberta) is now ALTA Paramedic Health (APH), Alberta's publicly funded provider of Emergency Health Services (EHS) across Alberta.

"The transformation of EHS—Alberta into ALTA Paramedic Health signals a renewed commitment to modernization, stronger accountability to Albertans, and delivering high-quality, timely emergency care," says Matt Jones, Minister of Hospital and Surgical Health Services.

As ALTA Paramedic Health, the organization will continue to manage all aspects of Alberta's EHS sector, including air and ground ambulance services, interfacility patient transfers, and province-wide

dispatch operations. This includes services previously delivered by EHS—Alberta and contracted and system partners across the province, while also expanding and evolving the type of care delivered such as using alternative transportation methods.

"This is our opportunity to not only continue to deliver reliable, high-quality emergency health services to Albertans where they are, but also to expand and enhance those services, bringing more care options to patients and matching the care delivered to what the patient actually needs," says Les Fisher, Managing Director and Chief, ALTA Paramedic Health.

The transition to ALTA Paramedic Health supports a broader modernization effort aimed at ensur-

ing the right level of care is delivered at the right time and in the right setting. Key areas of focus include:

- Modernizing dispatch processes by adding Advanced Care Paramedic clinicians in dispatch to conduct clinical evaluations over the phone to improve responsiveness and system coordination
- Smarter resource utilization such as adding six non-transport Health Evaluation and Linkage Paramedic Units (HELP-U), matching patient needs with the appropriate level of practitioner
- Piloting alternative transport and destination models, such as using taxis to take low acuity patients to appropriate care settings, freeing ambulances

for emergencies and improving patient pathways

These initiatives are designed to improve efficiency, enhance patient and provider safety, and ensure emergency health resources are deployed where they make the greatest difference for communities across Alberta.

Ambulance response and emergency services remain unchanged for the public during the transition. Modernization of services aims to improve and enhance how we respond to low acuity patients by adding more options for delivery of care.

A key focus of this transition is also workforce sustainability, including prioritizing the health, safety, and mental well-being of both staff and patients.

"Caring for Albertans starts with caring for the people who serve

them," said Anne MacDonald, Chief, Operations, ALTA Paramedic Health. "Supporting practitioner wellness, professional development, and pride in public service are essential to delivering reliable, high-quality emergency care across the province and they are things that we, as ALTA Paramedic Health, will focus on."

The ALTA Paramedic Health name and identity were developed through a structured process that included consultation with front-line staff, support teams, and leaders from across the province. Feedback gathered through virtual engagement and in-person focus groups helped shape and refine name options. The name and identity position the organization for the future, reflecting the evolution of a modern paramedic health service for all Albertans.

Through purposeful modernization, strong public service values, and shared accountability, ALTA Paramedic Health is strengthening Alberta's emergency health sector and continuing its commitment to serve Albertans now and into the future.

ALTA Paramedic Health is the operating name of the Provincial Health Corporation that oversees and delivers timely, safe, and compassionate paramedic health services throughout the province. As Alberta's publicly funded emergency and urgent care responder, ALTA Paramedic Health, along with its contracted partners, delivers air and ground ambulance services, interfacility transfers and dispatch operations, and focuses on system improvement, workforce sustainability and staff well-being.



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WOODLANDS COUNTY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Woodlands County extends its sincere thanks to residents, responders, volunteers, partner municipalities, and Alberta Wildfire for their cooperation and support throughout the wildfire and evacuation response.

We recognize that this was a challenging and uncertain time for many in our community. The patience, resilience, and care shown by residents during evacuations and while awaiting updates did not go unnoticed. Your willingness to act quickly and follow direction helped ensure the safety of our community.

We are deeply grateful to the firefighters, emergency personnel, enforcement agencies, municipal staff, and mutual aid partners who worked tirelessly, often in demanding conditions, to protect lives

and property. We also extend appreciation to local businesses, community organizations, and volunteers who stepped forward to provide assistance, supplies, and encouragement when it was needed most.

Events like these remind us of the strength and unity of Woodlands County. In the face of adversity, our community demonstrated cooperation, generosity, and a shared commitment to one another.

Thank you for your continued vigilance and support as recovery efforts move forward. Together, we remain strong, prepared, and committed to the safety and well-being of our residents.

~ Woodlands County Council & Administration



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Whitecourt area residents re-enter after major wildfire response



By Haylee
Winger

A wildfire south of Whitecourt prompted a large-scale emergency response as firefighters, helicopters, and airtankers worked to contain a fast-moving blaze.

According to Alberta Wildfire, fire WWF017 was classified as out of

control and located in the West Ridge area, approximately 3.5 kilometres south of Whitecourt and about one kilometre from Highway 43. Officials initially estimated the fire at about one hectare.

Woodlands County issued an evacuation order for areas east of Range Road 114 and south of Highway 43, including the West Ridge subdivision.

The order prompted

a rapid response from residents, who were seen quickly gathering belongings, loading boats and trailers, and relocating livestock as smoke spread across the area.

Residents were instructed to evacuate immediately and bring pets, important documents, and medication with them.

Throughout the incident, bystanders gathered along nearby

roads as helicopters and airtankers made repeated water drops over the fire while crews worked on suppression efforts. Evacuees were directed to register at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre in Whitecourt, which served as the evacuation reception centre.

Later updates from Alberta Wildfire indicated the fire had grown to approximately 55 hectares and was mov-

ing east, away from the Town of Whitecourt, while remaining south of Highway 43. Firefighters, supported by helicopters, airtankers, heavy equipment, and municipal fire departments, continued aggressive suppression efforts, with periods of extreme fire behaviour reported.

Re-entry for all evacuation zones began on May 15 after officials determined conditions

were safe for residents to return.

Officials urged returning residents to remain cautious and watch for potential hot spots in the area, noting that while the fire is considered under control, flare-ups are still possible. Residents were also advised to avoid unnecessary travel in affected areas and continue monitoring updates from emergency officials.

Health Link 811 expands access

| PCA release

Albertans looking for non-urgent health advice or information now have more flexible ways to connect with a nurse through Primary Care Alberta's Health Link 811 service. Patients can now chat live online with a nurse, and those who prefer to speak with a nurse by phone can request a callback through primarycarealberta.ca.

These new options make accessing trusted health advice more accessible and conve-

nient, especially for patients who prefer using technology or want to avoid waiting on the phone.

"People want reliable health advice in ways that fit their lives," says Kim Simmonds, CEO for Primary Care Alberta. "By offering online chats and callbacks, we're removing barriers and giving patients more control over how and when they connect in with us about their health concerns."

To get started, patients open the new

Contact Health Link widget on the primarycarealberta.ca home screen. They then choose Health Information Chat or Nurse Callback.

- **Health Information Chat** - Connects patients in real time with a health information nurse Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. via computer, tablet or mobile device, where they can ask questions about immunizations, medications, symp-

toms, healthcare coverage and finding a family doctor. On May 20, 2026, Health Information Chat will be extended to seven days a week and available from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

- **Nurse Callback** - Patients do not need to remain on hold and can continue their day while waiting for a registered nurse to call them back when it is their turn in the queue. Health Information

Chat and Nurse Callback are intended for non urgent or emergency patients. If a patient's concerns are urgent or emergent, they should call a different service (e.g., Poison Control Centre), visit an urgent care centre, call 911 or go to an emergency department.

Health Link 811 received more than one million calls in 2025. To start using the new Health Link 811 tools, visit primarycarealberta.ca

Primary Care Alberta is a made-in-Alberta solution to improve access to the primary

care services Albertans rely on. By delivering coordinated services, Primary Care Alberta enables healthcare providers to do what they do best -- care for Albertans. We meet Albertans wherever they live, work, play and learn, promoting prevention, supporting lifelong health journeys, and serving as a vital entry point to a complex network of care. Together, we are creating a future where compassionate, timely and effective healthcare is available to every Albertan at every stage of life.



Pictured left to right: Holly Astill, Rotary Chairperson of Lobsterfest; Annette Kay, Rotary Club President-Elect; Trudy Dorward, Chairperson of the Friends of Whitecourt CT Scanner Fundraiser; and Mike Stark, Rotary Club President, presenting a \$50,000 donation cheque from the Rotary Club of Whitecourt to the Friends of Whitecourt CT Scanner fundraiser. The funds were raised through the Rotary Club of Whitecourt's Lobsterfest 2026 event.

Residents urged to compare energy rates before renewing

| By Valerie Winger

Every year, thousands of local homeowners receive energy renewal notices in the mail and automatically sign them without shopping around. Many are unknowingly locking themselves into higher rates for years.

But Alberta residents have more power than they realize.

A free, easy-to-use online tool is helping homeowners in Alberta find significantly better electricity and natural gas deals — often saving hundreds of dollars per year.

One local resident recently received a 5-year renewal offer with electricity priced at 10.25 cents per kilowatt-hour. Using the free comparison tool, they discovered multiple better options, including 2-year plans with electricity rates around 7.47 ¢/kWh and competitive natural gas rates.

Free tool empowers residents

The Utilities Con-

sumer Advocate Cost Comparison Tool, available at ucahelps.alberta.ca/cost-comparison-tool, allows anyone to compare real-time offers from dozens of licensed energy retailers.

Users simply enter their postal code, choose their usage level, and the tool instantly shows personalized estimated monthly bills, rates, and contract terms.

“Many people think the renewal offer from their current provider is their only or best option,” said a local energy advocate. “In reality, the competitive market often has much better rates available — especially when your contract is up for renewal and there are no cancellation fees.”

Simple Advice for Homeowners

- Always compare plans using the UCA tool before signing any renewal.
- Pay attention to the total estimated

monthly bill, not just the advertised rate.

- Consider shorter contract terms (1 or 2 years) for more flexibility.
- Watch for admin fees and daily charges that can add up.
- Take advantage of the standard 10-day cooling-off period after signing.

Alberta's energy market is designed to give consumers choice, yet many households continue to overpay by simply accepting the first renewal letter they receive.

With energy costs being a major monthly expense, taking just a few minutes to compare plans can lead to meaningful savings for families across Alberta.

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Town of Whitecourt photos



Construction of the Canfor Culture & Events Centre is now 89 per cent complete and remains both on budget and on schedule. Interior and exterior finishing work is currently underway, with flooring being installed. Landscaping is also expected to begin this month. The facility has been designed with community use in mind, featuring a range of purposeful spaces intended to support connection and learning. It includes gathering areas to encourage community engagement, as well as gallery spaces for art exhibitions. The theatre within the centre is planned to accommodate a wide variety of programming, including performances, events, conferences, festivals, and ceremonies.



Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society photo

Participants walk through Festival Park in Whitecourt on May 5 during an event honouring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit people (MMIWG2S). Organizers thanked everyone who took part in the walk, along with Ginny Turner and the team at Champion X, now known as SLB, for providing bison burgers for participants following the event.

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Whitecourt photo

Each year, communities across the province celebrate their seniors during the first week of June, thanks to an admirable lady who sought out a senior-focused event that grew into something even bigger than she could have imagined. Pictured is a bus trip adventure from the 2023 Seniors' Week.

continued from page 1

tunity with the Whitecourt Curling League. Again, no registration needed.

On Tuesday, June 2, seniors will be taken for a spin around the community. Since seats are limited, registration is a must. Those on the tour will get to see some scenic spots and local landmarks. Also on the second, there will be Community Bingo.

The next day, on June 3, there will be two information sessions at the Seniors Circle. The first one will be focused on using smartphones. The workshop will help attendees become familiar with their phones, learn about key features they might not know about, navigate their settings, and learn the ins and outs of taking and sharing pictures.

In the afternoon, there will be a Resource Trade Fair featuring a ton of useful information, including financial advice, health-related resources, senior-friendly activities available locally and services and programs that could be of use.

After a day of learning, Thursday, June 4, will be all about horse racing! But don't worry, no seniors will be galloping down a horse track with the breeze in their hair, heading for the finish line. The Gallop and Gather Derby will be a chance to socialize while playing a dice game, complete with friendly betting, that will bring excitement and laughs to participants. Organizers encourage derby attire for some extra fun. Registration is required for this one.

On Friday, June 5, the morning kicks off with a walk in one of the area's most beautiful spots, Carson Pegasus Provincial Park. Organizers will lead guests through the expansive trail system. The walk is expected to be approximately two kilometres and will be on uneven ground, as a note. There's no cost, but registration is needed due to travel.

That afternoon, seniors will take part in one of the week's highlights, the Intergeneration Lego Cart Races. Students will be bused to the Seniors' Circle

to team up with seniors to build and then race their Lego carts. With prizes and bragging rights on the line, this is one event that receives rave reviews each year, both from students and seniors.

The last day of Seniors' Week will end with a morning corn-

hole tournament with the Whitecourt Woodchuckers Cornhole League and a dinner/dance event in the evening featuring music from the Bromantics. Thank you, seniors, for all you've done and continue to do for the community. Enjoy your extra special week!



Whitecourt photo

Seniors exploring the trails at the FIC on a rainy June day in 2022.



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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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

Job#: 26-034 – Mechanic II – Permanent – Full-Time – Closes May 19, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Job#: 26-035 – Utility Plant Operator I – Permanent – Full-Time – Closes May 21, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Job#: 26-036 – Utility Plant Operator II – Permanent – Full-Time – Closes May 21, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Job#: 26-037 – Community Peace Officer I – Permanent – Full-Time – Closes May 27, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

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



SCHOOL NEWS



Grade 3 students joined members of the Whitecourt Fish and Game Association on May 11 to help release fish into the pond at Festival Park as part of a local conservation and education initiative.

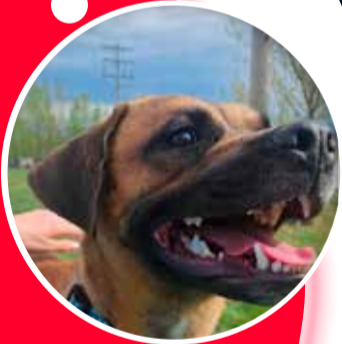
Meet Maverick

Maverick is a handsome one-year-old Rottweiler/German Shepherd cross looking for his forever home.

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his sweet boy loves attention, belly rubs, and being by your side. He appears calm around other dogs and has a playful, affectionate personality.

Maverick is up to date on vaccinations and awaiting neuter surgery. Applications are being accepted now.



To learn more or book a meet-and-greet, call Whitecourt Pound at: **780-778-5767**

PUBLIC NOTICE

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



Community Disability Services Professional Appreciation Week May 18 - 24, 2026

Whitecourt Town Council encourages the citizens of Whitecourt to recognize May 18 - 24 as Community Disability Service Professionals Week. Support workers provide care for cognitively or developmentally challenged in our community with care, compassion and positivity. With the aid of Support Workers, our challenged community members are able to develop life skills and be accepted as a full and thriving part of our community.

During Community Disability Service Professionals Week, we encourage you to take the time to appreciate and acknowledge the efforts of those workers who provide this vital service in Whitecourt and area.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

- 2026-05-01: Canfor Culture & Events Centre Furniture. Closes: May 25, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.
- 2026-04-30: Pembina Gas Infrastructure Aquatic Centre Water Feature/Pool Toy Replacement. Closes: May 27, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

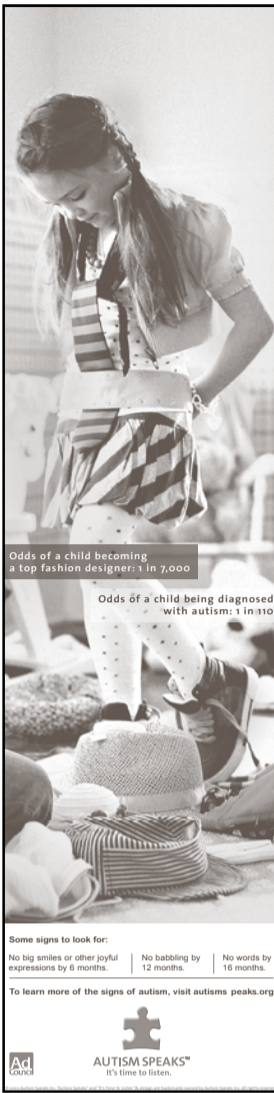
For further details on any of these opportunities visit www.whitecourt.ca and search the project title.



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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 50

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

To learn more of the signs of autism, visit autismspeaks.org

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FIREARMS AUCTION: June 27th: Ward's and Bud Haynes Auctions in Edmonton. Consign Now! Firearms, Ammo, Optics, Accessories, etc. Call Brad Ward,

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Coming Events

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2026 AUCTION PROGRAM: Firearms, Ammunition, Accessories, or Militaria. Collections, Estates or single items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Contact us: 1-800-694-2609, Email: sales@switzersauction.com or Visit us @ www.switzersauction.com for Auction Dates & Details.

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Children and families take part in Kids Fishing Day at Whitecourt Pond during a previous event hosted by the Whitecourt Fish and Game Association. Volunteers were on hand throughout the day to help young anglers learn the basics of fishing and enjoy time outdoors in Festival Park.

Young anglers invited to free fishing event

By Haylee Winger

Families in Whitecourt will have an opportunity to introduce children to fishing later this month during Kids Fishing Day at Whitecourt Pond in Festival Park.

Hosted by the Whitecourt Fish and Game Association, the event is scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 2026, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Association members will be available throughout the day to help youth learn basic fishing skills and enjoy time on the water.

Participants may bring their own fishing gear, but equipment will also be available to borrow at no cost. Or-

ganizers say the event is open to everyone, with no registration required.

Visitors are reminded that provincial sportfishing regulations remain in effect at Whitecourt Pond. Anyone aged 16 or older must carry a valid Alberta Sportfishing Licence unless exempt, including seniors over 65 years of age. Adults may fish only when accompanied by someone under the age of 16.

Additional information about the event is available by contacting Greg Gilbertson at 780-778-6791.



Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.72 US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7273** (using nominal rate).

Dollar Values as of May 20, 2026

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www.whitecourtshester.ca



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 - Fridays 7:30pm at the Whitecourt Baptist Church in person only.
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CALL Ruth
780-674-7182

Support group on Tuesdays, February 17 to May 5.
Crossroads Community Church, 4719 44 Avenue
Mayerthorpe, Pre-registration is required

Whitecourt Alcoholics Anonymous Group



Meetings are three times each week

- Monday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Wednesday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Friday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

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P.O.P.
High
Low
Wind
24-Hr Rain / Snow



Wed., May 20
Mix of sun and clouds
30%
16°C
6°C
W 19 km/h



Thu., May 21
Showers
60%
14°C
6°C
NW 17 km/h
~1mm



Fri., May 22
Chance of showers
30%
16°C
4°C
W 19 km/h
<1mm



Fri., May 23
Mainly sunny
20%
19°C
7°C
NW 19 km/h



Sun., May 24
Sunny
10%
19°C
8°C
W 23 km/h

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CANFOR

White Area Open House

Canfor along with its partners Millar Western, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation and the Alexander First Nation will be holding two open houses at: MacKay Community Hall in MacKay, Alberta on May 27th from 4PM - 8PM and one at Goose Lake Community Hall in Lone Pine, Alberta May 28th from 4PM - 8PM. The general public and stakeholders will have the opportunity to review our planned activities for block and road development, harvesting, reforestation and herbicide treatment in the Hattanford, NoJack, Chip Lake, Hard Luck and Lone Pine areas. Public and stakeholder input is gathered and utilized to influence operations where site specific concerns are identified such as trails, camping areas, recreational areas etc.

Canfor would like to invite you to visit the MacKay and Goose Lake Community halls between 4PM - 8PM on May 27th and 28th for more information. Alternately, should you wish to visit the on-line forum please visit the Canfor website at <https://www.canforforestmanagement.ca/whitecourt>