



Affinity
Funeral Service

780.778.3330

Unit #1, 4105 41 Avenue
www.affinityfuneralservice.ca



WHITECOURT DENTURE CENTRE

- Upper & Lower Dentures • Partial Dentures • Repairs
- Specializing in Mobile Services - Home & Hospital

Alberta Works & Dental Plans Welcome*

*Some Conditions & Restrictions Apply. Enhancements Extra.

#210 MID TOWN MALL 5115-49 ST WHITECOURT AB • 780-803-5640

SENIORS!

SENIORS AND ADULTS 18 TO 64, GOV'T PROGRAMS MAY PAY FOR YOUR NEW DENTURES

Call For Details!



The Press

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Locally Owned & Operated

Canada

Vol. 15 - Issue 23 | Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Easy

is always on hand

Open your freezer to many easy meals made especially for seniors, delivered for free*.

*Some conditions may apply.



We accept the Veterans allowance.



Give the gift of comfort this season — Heart to Home Meals delivered hot and ready.

Locally owned by Chetan & Roshni Bahl
Get your FREE Menu
780-666-2336 | HeartToHomeMeals.ca



Alberta & Canada MOU and what it means for Albertans



Image - Gov of Alberta

An agreement between Alberta and Canada, signed in November and implemented with details in mid-May, looks promising for Albertans. Touching on oil and gas productions, eased caps and reduced carbon costs, MLA Martin Long recently discussed his thoughts on the announcement. Pictured is MLA Martin Long on a job site as Minister of Infrastructure (centre right). See article page 6.



Patrick Carew

780-778-0053

pdcarew@telus.net

Just a phone call away from your home buying and selling needs.

RE/MAX advantage (Whitecourt)

5114-50 Street, Whitecourt AB 780-778-6678
Each office independently owned and operated



VERHAEGHE
LAW OFFICE

780-778-6644

Real Estate, Wills & Estates, Family Law, Corporate & Commercial Law

5011-51 Ave, Whitecourt, AB. T7S 1P7 info@freedomlaw.ca www.freedomlaw.ca



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 TEXTO 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



Adrien
Levi
Hernandez
Age - 14

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.

SPONSORED BY



Tri-Logging Ltd.

Tri-Logging is against bullying

Robert Brown
Owner
3507 37th Avenue
Whitecourt, AB T7S 0C3
Phone 780-778-0699
Fax 780-778-8431



FLINT™

A Division of ClearStream

780-778-5000

- Electrical & Instrumentation
- Fabrication & Modularization
- Maintenance & Turnarounds
- Insulation
- Facility Construction
- Pipeline Integrity Digs
- 24/7 Callout Services

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.

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.



Since I was 11 years old, I have been a victim of bullying. People at school go out of their way to make my life difficult. The exclusion, name calling and teasing hit me hard and there is nothing I can do to stop it. It gets worse as I get older. My parents tell me that these people won't matter to me when I am out of school but I am having a hard time believing that. They WILL matter because they have completely shaped who I am and how I see myself. Thanks to them, I will never treat anyone badly, but thanks to them, I will remember the way I have been treated for the rest of my life. I will always feel judged and unworthy wherever I go. Please people, be kind. Spread love- not hate.



Whitecourt Skating Club members participate in the club's first community cleanup event on May 29. A total of 33 volunteers, including skaters and family members, helped collect litter while promoting teamwork, community spirit and environmental stewardship.

The long game: Unpacking the rise in long-term borrowing rates

| By Carol Kamel
ATB ECONOMICS

Long-term government borrowing costs have been moving higher across advanced economies—in some cases sharply. The U.S. 30-year Treasury yield briefly touched 5.2% in May, its highest level since 2007, while Canada's 10-year yield rose to 3.7% in May, a two-year high. Though both have since pulled back, they remain elevated compared to the year prior. The instinct is to attribute this to the war in Iran and its effect on oil prices with investors demanding an “inflation premium”—and that's part of the story. But the data suggests the picture is more layered, and that even a meaningful de-escalation of the war may provide only partial relief on this front.

Understanding what drives long-term yields

To make sense of the current environment, it helps to unpack what actually moves long-term borrowing costs. Economists decompose long-term government bond yields into a few broad components: First, the expected path of short-term real interest rates, which reflects where investors believe the central bank will steer policy based on future economic growth. Second, the term premium—the additional compensation investors require for the risk and uncertainty of locking up their capital over a

multi-year horizon rather than rolling over safer, short-term bonds.

The term premium itself reflects several concerns: uncertainty about future inflation that shorter-dated bonds may be underestimating, uncertainty about real economic growth, the credibility of central banks' inflation-fighting abilities, and the ability of markets to absorb the volume of government debt being issued.

The trend predates the conflict

Before the war in Iran began in late February 2026, long-term yields were already drifting higher. Canada's yield curve had been steepening through 2025, primarily through short-term yields falling as the Bank of Canada cut rates, while long-term yields moved in the opposite direction, consistent with the experience of other advanced economies.

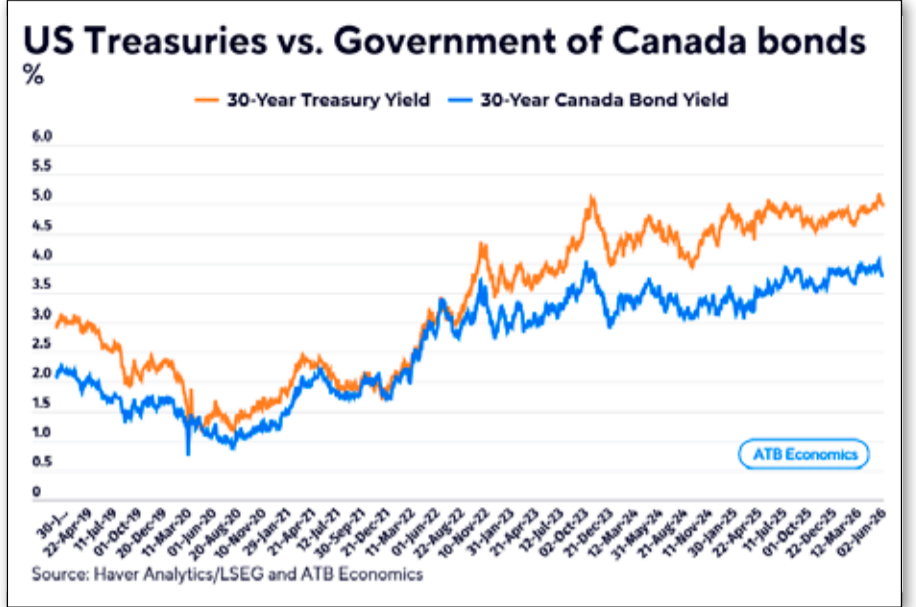
The Bank of Canada's own researchers documented this divergence in a March 2026 article, finding that the Canadian term premium had risen to levels not seen in over a decade, and that this increase has been a global phenomenon.

What's driving it? A key factor identified by Bank of Canada researchers was a growing unease about the market's ability to absorb the large volume of government debt being issued globally. Pandemic-era borrowing raised public debt

levels substantially, and new spending pressures—most notably higher defence commitments—have kept issuance elevated. At the same time, central banks have taken a step back from purchasing government bonds and, in some cases, are actively reducing their balance sheets, leaving private investors to absorb a much larger share of government debt. As we've touched on in a previous Twenty-Four, in 2025, gold displaced U.S. Treasuries as the primary reserve asset, signalling yet another shift in how central banks view global risk.

The Iran shock: real, but concentrated

The war has added a layer of complexity, primarily through energy markets. The Bank of Canada's Governing Council explicitly warned that energy price volatility and the potential closure of the Strait of Hormuz represent ongoing upside inflation risks. Canadian headline inflation rose to 2.8% in April, with gasoline prices jumping 29%. However, a key distinction is worth noting. The Bank of Canada's preferred core inflation gauges—which strip out volatile categories like gasoline—showed that prices excluding gasoline rose 2%, slower than the 2.2% recorded in March, suggesting that knock-on effects from the war have not yet spread broadly.



That has implications for how durable any de-escalation relief might be. A ceasefire or reopening of the Strait of Hormuz would likely ease the inflation expectations component of long-term yields—the part of the term premium reflecting concerns that energy costs bleed into broader prices. Oil markets are sensitive to geopolitical risk, and they tend to respond quickly when those risks recede.

But that would leave the fiscal and debt-absorption concerns intact. Those pre-date the conflict, are shared across advanced economies, and are unlikely to be resolved by a change in Middle East conditions.

Canada in a global context

The Bank of Canada's research confirms that Canadian term premiums track those of other advanced economies closely—a reflection of Canada's status as a small open econo-

my where global forces heavily influence domestic financial conditions.

Domestically, Canada is projected to have the lowest net debt-to-GDP ratio compared to the other G7 countries. However, Canada's 2026-27 fiscal estimates project \$502.8 billion in spending, including over \$50 billion for national defence—adding supply-side pressure to long-term yields in line with what other G7 governments are experiencing.

The Bank of Canada finds itself navigating a difficult environment: ongoing geopolitical tensions continue to generate uncertainty, core inflation is well-behaved but headline inflation is elevated, a technical recession, and long-term borrowing costs rising independently of its policy rate decisions. Overall, the transmission of monetary policy to the broader economy has become more

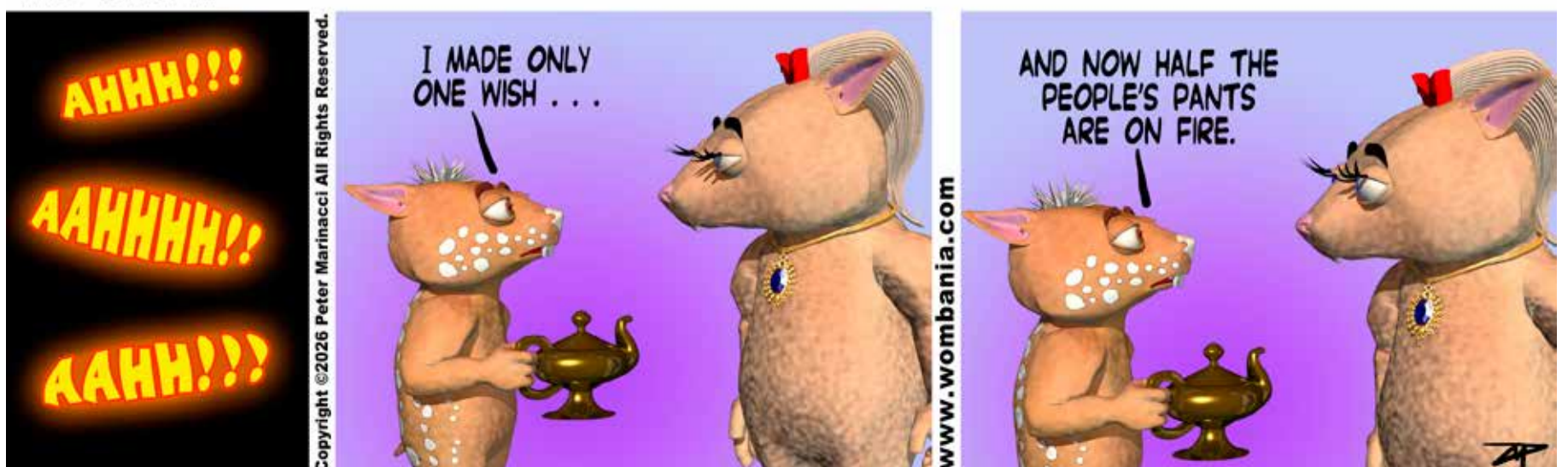
complicated. The Bank of Canada will have to balance managing inflation, and its recent shocks, amidst a stagnating economy.

Observations going forward

What the current episode illustrates is that long-term borrowing costs respond to more than just the near-term inflation or growth outlook—they reflect investor assessments of fiscal trajectories, debt sustainability, and the capacity of markets to absorb government borrowing over long horizons. The Iran conflict has intensified an existing trend, but the underlying dynamic was already in place. Should tensions ease, the durability of the relief to come will depend more on how governments across advanced economies—Canada included—address the fiscal pressures that were accumulating well before this conflict began.

WOMBANIA™


by PETER MARINACCI



Copyright ©2026 Peter Marinacci All Rights Reserved.

www.wombania.com

AP



Compassionately serving families in Whitecourt, Mayerthorpe, and surrounding communities since 1941.

WHITECOURT: 780-779-2533 | MAYERTHORPE: 780-786-2533

CONSUMER CHOICE AWARD 2024 NORTHERN ALBERTA 14 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

We will help you with:

- Personalized Ceremonies
- Pre-arranged Funeral Plans
- Clergy / Church and Halls
- Obituary Notices
- Reception Catering / Flowers
- Monument Tributes
- Grief Support
- Assistance with CPP Applications

Wheelchair Accessible 

Park Memorial Ltd.
Funeral Home & Crematorium
www.parkmemorial.com

BRANDED CONTENT

FortisAlberta expands its wildfire prevention efforts with new public safety measures

Extreme wildfire conditions are becoming more common across Alberta, with recent years seeing an increase in both the frequency and scale of wildfire activity. While the risks are a growing concern, there is positive work underway to help reduce the risk.

FortisAlberta takes a proactive approach to wildfire safety

FortisAlberta's wildfire preparedness efforts combine advanced technology, real-time awareness of local conditions and coordination with local authorities. This approach supports year-round wildfire mitigation measures, including regular inspections, vegetation management around power lines, early-warning technology to detect issues and infrastructure upgrades to improve resilience in wildfire-prone areas.

In rare cases, if conditions such as strong winds, low humidity and dry vegetation create extreme wildfire risk, FortisAlberta may implement a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) as a last resort safety measure. A PSPS involves temporarily turning off electricity in targeted areas where operating power lines could increase the risk of wildfire during these extreme conditions.



Although a PSPS event would be a rare occurrence, it's important that individuals and businesses are aware and prepared.

If conditions warrant, we will notify customers and coordinate with municipalities and emergency partners. We would also leverage social media to help warn residents and businesses that we will be shutting off power.

Denis Andre, Manager, Land Environment & Sustainability at FortisAlberta



This advanced notice helps residents and businesses prepare, particularly customers who rely on medical devices that require electricity. To stay informed, update your contact information with the retailer that issues your utility bill.

A community approach to wildfire mitigation

"Preparing for wildfire risk is a shared responsibility," says Lorena Charest, Crisis and Wildfire Communications Strategist. "Staying ready helps everyone. Steps such as keeping devices charged, assembling an emergency kit and staying informed about wildfire conditions and potential power outages can make a meaningful difference."

Alberta's provincial government advises individuals to take proactive steps to build wildfire resilience for their properties and be prepared.



Clear dead wood, pine needles, debris and firewood within 1.5 metres of your home to reduce wildfire risk.



Stay informed about local conditions and update your contact information with the retailer that issues your utility bill.



Build an emergency kit with water, non-perishable food, a flashlight, radio, medications and important documents.



Have an evacuation plan for your household, including pets and livestock.



Keep devices and medical equipment charged and check on neighbours who may need help.



Follow Alberta Wildfire fire bans and restrictions. When permitted, fully extinguish firepits and burn barrels.

Visit alberta.ca/wildfire-preparedness for more.
This is intended for general information only.



For more information on PSPS and how to stay safe this season, visit fortisalberta.com/psps

FORTIS ALBERTA

The line that connects us all

These images are for illustrative purpose only. Remember to keep a safe distance away from power lines. For more information visit fortisalberta.com/safety

**AFTER 15 YEARS IN BUSINESS...
...IT'S TIME FOR RENOVATIONS!**

SO LET'S HAVE A
STOREWIDE UP TO

30%

from June 1 – June 27th



(NOT INCLUDING REPAIRS, SPECIAL ORDERS,
OR PREVIOUSLY DISCOUNTED ITEMS)

5012 50th Avenue, Whitecourt

PUBLIC NOTICE

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



LEMONADE DAY JUNE 13, 2026



NORTHERN ALBERTA

Whitecourt Town Council encourages the citizens of Whitecourt to recognize June 13 as Lemonade Day in Whitecourt.

Lemonade Day helps youth learn skills to become the business leading, social advocated, community volunteers and forward thinking citizens of tomorrow. Youth will be set up all throughout town with their lemonade stands on June 13 and we encourage the residents of Whitecourt to support these entrepreneurs by purchasing their tasty treats.

NOTICE OF DECISION

The following decision was made by the Municipal Planning Commission:

Application No. 26-057 – Discretionary Use Automotive Vehicle Repair and Service and Accessory Buildings (Shipping Containers) – 4125 41 Avenue - Approved with conditions.

Date of Decision: May 28, 2026

Appeal Closes at 4:00pm: June 18, 2026

An Appeal of the above decision(s) may be made by submitting a written appeal and appeal fee (\$315) 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.

PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITY

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

- RFT 4025-005: 2026 Intersection Upgrades. Closes: June 16, 2026 at 2:00pm

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

Alberta & Canada MOU and what it means for Albertans

| By **Serena Lapointe**

An energy-heavy landmark agreement between the Province of Alberta and the federal government, signed in late November, was implemented with a detailed agreement on May 15. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlines cooperation between the two governments for things like natural resource expansion, environmental regulation, and infrastructure development, including the regulatory framework for a West Coast pipeline to prioritize access to Asian markets.

“Construction of one or more private sector constructed and financed pipelines, with Indigenous Peoples co-ownership and economic benefits, with at least one million barrels a day of low-emission Alberta bitumen, with a route that increases export access to Asian markets as a priority. This application for this pipeline project will be ready to submit to the Major Projects Office on or before July 1, 2026. It is agreed this

new pipeline would be in addition to the expansion of the Trans Mountain pipeline for an additional 300,000 to 400,000 barrels per day destined for Asian markets,” reads the MOU. It also clarifies that Alberta must work with B.C to ensure that “British Columbians share substantial economic and financial benefits of the proposed pipeline.”

The MOU also details how Alberta will become a frontrunner for low carbon intensity. Under projects, it includes the construction and financing of the “world's largest carbon capture, utilization, and storage project for the purpose of making Alberta oil among the lowest carbon intensity produced barrels of oil in the world.”

The five-page MOU, found on open.alberta.ca, also touches on nuclear power generation and states that the federal government will work with the province to design a strategy, set to be finalized on or before January 1, 2027, as well as emissions

expectations, such as a methane equivalency agreement with a 2035 target date and a 75 percent reduction target relative to 2014 emissions levels.

West Yellowhead MLA Martin Long, Minister of Infrastructure, said he has noticed a difference in the working relationship with his federal counterparts. “We have seen a drastic shift in tone from the federal government, and I believe that’s truly what has led to the MOU being signed. In my own personal interactions with my federal counterparts, there’s more discussion around collaboration and working with provinces. I think that many could very bluntly say that for about a decade, we didn’t have that tone being set at the federal stage.”

MLA Long said what he’s heard from Prime Minister Mark Carney in recent months is that it’s clear; Canada’s success is reliant on Alberta’s success. “Our government has been intent on getting another pipeline built

to help our oil and gas economy. We’ve shared for many, many years that we need to get access to other markets instead of being so heavily reliant on the American market. So really, this MOU is about creating certainty in market success, because we know that that’s what will drive jobs and investment. It’s really a road map to reduce the uncertainty and strengthen our competitiveness for our energy sector, which will include a focus on growing exports, and yes, lowering emissions, because we know that that’s not just a priority for governments and the energy sector, but for families as well,” explained MLA Long.

With some big, impactful changes in the MOU, MLA Long said he expects to see movement on a pipeline as early as next fall. “The MOU already removed the cap on oil and gas production and removed any net-zero power regulations, as well as rolled back a major hike in carbon pricing that Ottawa

was going to impose. It lowered that price substantially.” He said the news was encouraging, finally. “I would say that the Trudeau-era federal government wasn’t overly friendly to the voice of many provinces, let alone Alberta.”

He said that, although each province has unique concerns, there are some significant issues that have affected most, if not all, of them. “One example I’ve highlighted before was the immigration policy that was put into force by the Trudeau government. Every single province was saying the same thing: that we couldn’t sustain the numbers at the rate they were bringing them in, and Trudeau’s policy trumped the voices of provincial leaders around the country. Every single province is dealing with the same things that Alberta is today, which is massively expanding infrastructure to meet the needs that were thrust upon them,” said MLA Long.

The importance of the MOU was made

clear with its opening sentence, which called it a “pivotal global moment,” encouraging collaboration among all involved to get things in motion. “Canada and Alberta, working closely with Indigenous Peoples and industry, must work together cooperatively, and within their respective jurisdictions, to foster the conditions necessary for infrastructure, including pipelines, rail, power generation, a strong and integrated transmission grid, ports and other means that will unlock and grow natural resource production and transportation in Western Canada,” reads the document’s opening paragraph.

MLA Long said seeing things come together as they have should hopefully give optimism to Albertans moving forward. “It is such a huge shift, and for me, as a representative and as a resident, I have optimism that we have a path forward for families in Alberta to succeed should this current tone continue as it is today.”

Practical steps to support your financial well-being

(NC) Worrying about money is a top concern for many Canadians—42 per cent of us, according to the latest FP Canada Financial Stress Index. When you’re feeling constant financial pressure, it can be difficult to know where to start or how to move forward. Taking practical steps and focusing on what you can control can make a meaningful difference. Here are some things to consider:

Set clear financial goals

Clear goals provide direction. They help you define what you want to achieve, when you want to achieve it and what resources you can commit. For example, saving for a home may require a shorter timeline and disciplined contributions towards a

down payment, while saving for education or retirement may involve a longer-term investment approach. As you go through different life stages, your financial priorities will likely shift—review your goals regularly to verify that your plan reflects your current needs and circumstances.

Save with intention, no matter the amount

Saving doesn’t have to start with a large amount to make a difference. Building the habit of saving regularly can be more important than the dollar figure itself. Small, consistent contributions can help create momentum and support longer-term financial stability, especially when directed into

savings and investment accounts such as a registered retirement savings plan (RRSP), tax-free savings account (TFSA) or first home savings account (FHSA). Over time, those contributions will grow by earning returns on both your original savings and past growth.

Build an emergency fund

An emergency fund can help you prepare for unexpected expenses or events. As a general rule, it’s a good idea to have three to six months’ worth of expenses saved and easily accessible. This can provide a buffer during uncertain times and reduce the need to make rushed financial decisions, such as selling investments or taking on additional debt.

Seek professional financial advice

You don’t have to navigate financial decisions on your own. Working with a financial advisor can help clarify your goals, understand your options and build a plan that reflects your personal situation and priorities. In addition to professional advice, Canadians can also access educational information through trusted public resources, such as those provided by the Government of Canada, to better understand key financial concepts and planning considerations.

Financial well-being is a journey, and small steps can make a meaningful difference. Find tools and resources to support your next steps at cooperators.ca.



Plans for second-stage housing project are underway for Wellspring



Image - Wellspring
For the past 43 years, Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre has been helping people in need, either in-house at the shelter, off-site through outreach or their crisis line and educational visits to schools. Now, the team is in growth mode, and the community will be better off for it. Pictured is the rendering of the current fourplex (left) and the planned 12-unit shelter (right).

| By Serena Lapointe

Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre was a busy place last year, housing those in need for all but eleven days out of 364. “There weren’t many days where we didn’t have somebody in there,” said Executive Director Rebecca Wells, during a Town Council presentation last week.

“We had 88 women and 77 children come through our emergency shelter. The front-line workers were very busy,” she said. Last year alone, staff gave support through the 24/7 crisis line for over 38,000 minutes. Not only do staff support those at the shelter, but they also support clients through outreach programs, which were used by 138 adults and 74 youth last year. “You don’t have to be in the shelter to access those programs, which I think is really good,” said Wells, noting that men can also access off-site support and have even been sheltered elsewhere when needed.

Two years ago, the eleven-bed shelter became a 22-bed shelter thanks to a \$1.2 million grant from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Renovations to the space included a new kitchen. “It has a beautiful fridge and freezer combo that they built the whole kitchen around. We are lucky

to have a board that thought that was a great idea because I definitely know the clients really appreciate it,” she said.

Ten years ago, the Wellspring board began talking about opening a second-stage shelter, a project that didn’t end up coming to fruition, though it certainly wasn’t for lack of effort on the board’s side. It was ballooning costs that did it in. “In 2020, we announced that we were going to build it. We got some funding. Then, COVID happened, and no one planned for that. We had some downtime where costs really escalated. It went from 15 million dollars to 23.5 million dollars, and we were \$500,000 short.”

Wells said that interest rates went up, and the board finally decided it was time to pull the plug on the project. “It was hard, as a director and staff, and obviously for the board, because they’re the ones that had to make that decision to pull it. We haven’t really said why this happened, and I guess that was because we were trying to figure out what we would do next.”

Then, a building behind the current shelter, a fourplex, came up for sale, and the board jumped on it, purchasing it two years ago and renovating it into a third-stage shelter where clients could be on their own and

self-sufficient. “We did some really nice renovations in there to make it look aesthetically pleasing and make it feel like a home for the individuals that are in there,” said Wells.

Once clients were in and using the space, Wells said the board started to discuss what they could do next. In January last year, conversations began on the prospect of building a facility near their current site. As the ball started to roll, they were successful in snagging \$75,000 in seed funding to get renderings and plans in place.

Then, another grant, this time for \$60,000, was nabbed through From Path to Place, one of only three projects accepted into the program, which will collect data from them as they go through the building process. “They are going to take what we are learning. We will be able to give back to other people to say, what went good and what didn’t, and what we learned.”

Next, a bigger cheque came, propelling the project forward. “We were successful in getting Alberta’s Affordable Housing Partnership Program through the Minister of Assisted Living and Social Services for \$2,132,865. That’s 33 percent of our project. That’s very exciting news for Whitecourt to see that the province believes in us

again and thinks we can get this done, and we’re going to get this done,” smiled Wells. “There were 16 shelters in the province that had their funding cut, and we were not one of them. So, obviously, we’re doing some good work and the province recognizes the work we are doing.”

Permits are now in with the Town of Whitecourt to start construction, and Wells said they hope to get going either as early as this fall or next spring. She said they also plan on applying for more dollars through Build Canada for more CMHC dollars now that the province has put dollars into the project. “The White House, as I call it, we are going to tear that down. I’ll be the first one to hit it with a hammer,” chuckled Wells, speaking of the small home that they purchased in December, beside the fourplex, the future site of their multi-level shelter.

The build will feature flexible suites, with some units able to open up into each other, allowing for larger families to be connected. The bottom floor will be a community space for residents. “I think community is a big thing that’s missing in a lot of these houses. You see it more, even with seniors housing, going towards more of this (shared spaces). So

we have a room that we’re going to call the Community Ceremonial Room, which will be really exciting because clients will finally be able to smudge. We can’t smudge in our current building because the fire alarm will get set off.”

The build will also feature a community kitchen, play area, two office spaces and storage for clients to put bikes or larger items away safely. “Very intentional design. The first floor will be accessible, and it will also have an elevator. The architect really listened to what we wanted.” They are calling it a Safe Housing Continuum. “It’ll be 12 new second-stage units, roughly 15,000 square feet. Our projected cost is seven million. The renovations for the four-unit fourplex are about one million, so the total cost is about eight million,” added Wells.

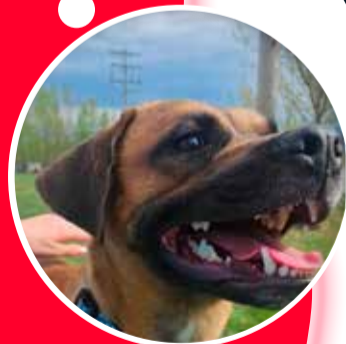
Mayor Ray Hilts congratulated the Well-

spring team on their hard work. “This is absolutely fantastic. Congratulations. That’s a lot of work to get to that point.” Councillor Tara Baker agreed. “You could’ve sat here for two hours and still not capture every single thing that you guys do. To have a women’s shelter in our community serves not just our own residents, but I know that sometimes other people have to go to a different community, and I would say that you guys do an exceptional job of caring for individuals in their worst moments.”

Mayor Hilts said the work done not only at the shelter but in the educational component they offer to schools is important. “When I look at our regular police reports and updates on crime and policing in our community, domestic violence by far continues to be a challenge for the community. So, thank you for the work you, your board and your staff do.”

Meet Maverick

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



WHITECOURT ADOPTABLE ANIMALS

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**

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.71 US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7172** (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of June 10, 2026



For all open career opportunities, please check out our website at albertanewsprint.com → Careers.

Town of Whitecourt photo



Councillor Serena Lapointe begins her term as Whitecourt's Deputy Mayor, serving from June 1 to November 30, 2026, alongside Mayor Ray Hilts.

Town of Whitecourt photo

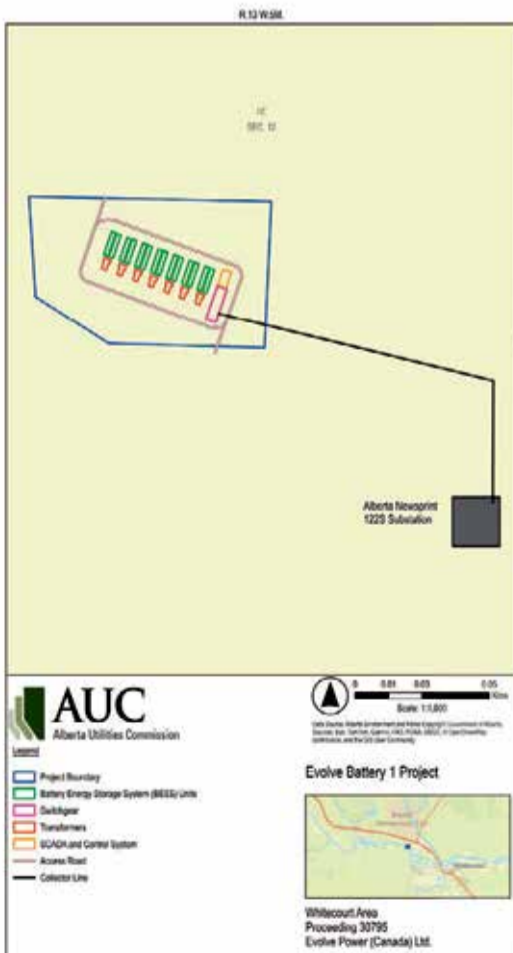


As part of its End Period Poverty Campaign, the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees donated feminine hygiene products to the Whitecourt community on May 29. AUPE is delivering menstrual products to communities across Alberta in an effort to improve access to essential hygiene products and help reduce the financial burden associated with menstruation. The products donated to Whitecourt will be distributed through the Whitecourt Food Bank to support those in need.



Notice of applications Evolve Battery 1 Project

Evolve Power (Canada) Ltd. has filed applications for an energy storage facility approximately six kilometres northwest of the town of Whitecourt, within the municipal district of Woodlands County



Proceeding 30795 Applications 30795-A001 and 30795-A002

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), the independent utilities regulator, will be considering the energy storage facility development applications in Proceeding 30795. If you feel you may be affected by these applications, you can request to participate and provide input to the AUC before it makes its decision.

You can request to participate by registering and filing a statement of intent to participate by July 3, 2026.

Evolve Power (Canada) Ltd. has applied to construct and operate a 25-megawatt/50-megawatt-hour battery energy storage facility, and to connect the energy storage facility to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System through the existing Alberta Newsprint 122S Substation. The energy storage facility is proposed to be constructed on previously disturbed land within the Alberta Newsprint Company pulp mill industrial complex, approximately six kilometres northwest of the town of Whitecourt, within the municipal district of Woodlands County. The applications have been filed under the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*.

Additional information about the applications

The applications and any associated documents are publicly available and can be accessed from the eFiling System on the AUC website www.auc.ab.ca. Alternatively, for more information about what is being applied for, or for a copy of the applications, please contact:

Evolve Power (Canada) Ltd.
c/o Green Cat Renewables Canada Corporation
Jacqueline Gallagher
Phone: 403-540-7782
Email: jacqueline.gallagher@greencatrenewables.ca

Participant information

For more information about how you may become involved in this proceeding, please contact us or visit our website and review the information under "Get involved."

Register to participate by filing a statement of intent to participate

If you wish to participate in this proceeding, please visit our website and log in to the eFiling System, go to Proceeding 30795, and register to participate under the "registered parties" tab. You will be prompted to fill out a statement of intent to participate. For guidance on how to use the eFiling System, please visit www.auc.ab.ca/how-to-use-e-filing. Alternatively, please contact us at 310-4AUC (310-4282) in Alberta or info@auc.ab.ca for more information or assistance with filing your statement of intent to participate. The lead application officer, Chad Bergeron, can also be contacted at chad.bergeron@auc.ab.ca or 403-592-4534.

The AUC may make its decision without further notice or process if no statements of intent to participate are received.

Privacy

To support an open and transparent process, information you send to the AUC will be publicly available through the AUC's eFiling System. If there is confidential information you would like to file, a request must be made in advance of registering to participate.

WOODLANDS COUNTY BURSARIES

Applicants or their parents must be a resident or own property in Woodlands County to be eligible for a bursary.

POST-SECONDARY BURSARY

\$2,000 for first-year
\$1,000 for second-year awarded to 12 students annually

Must be enrolled full-time in a post-secondary institution

Deadline: October 15, 2026

APPRENTICESHIP BURSARY

\$1,500 for first-year
\$1,500 for second-year awarded to 6 students annually

Must be enrolled in a provincially recognized apprenticeship program

Deadline: Accepted throughout the year

AGRICULTURE BURSARY

\$1000 awarded to 1 student annually

Must be enrolled full-time in an Agriculture or Environmental Science program at a post-secondary institution in Alberta

Deadline: October 15, 2026



Contact Us
780-778-8400

communityservices@woodlands.ab.ca
www.woodlands.ab.ca/p/bursaries
dawn.fortin@woodlands.ab.ca
www.woodlands.ab.ca/p/ag-bursary

AG PIONEER NOMINATIONS

Woodlands County Agriculture Services Board (ASB) would like to recognize individuals with a long-term commitment to agriculture - our Ag Pioneers!

Nominations are now being accepted for this prestigious award. Awards will be presented at the Annual Agriculture Services Supper.

Please submit a nomination letter briefly outlining qualifications based on the following eligibility criteria:

- Nominees must have resided and actively farmed in Woodlands County for a minimum of thirty (30) years.
- Nominees must be a minimum of 60 years of age.
- Priority will be given to individuals who currently reside in Woodlands County.
- Nominations will be accepted from family members, members of the public and Agriculture Services Board members. Individuals may also apply.

Nominations may be submitted by mail to: Woodlands County, Box 33, Fort Assiniboine, AB. TOG 1A0 Attn: Manager, Ag Services

Or e-mail: agservices@woodlands.ab.ca

NOMINATION DEADLINE IS JULY 31, 2026

RURAL BEAUTIFICATION NOMINATIONS

Woodlands County Agriculture Services Board (ASB) would like to recognize individuals who take pride in their property!

The Rural Beautification Awards recognize individuals who, through yard maintenance and property beautification, foster civic pride, environmental awareness, and municipal beautification.

Nominating someone is a great way to acknowledge the countless hours spent landscaping, maintaining, and enhancing a valued part of our County.

One agricultural and one non-agricultural recipient will be selected from each County Division. Awards will be presented at the Annual Agriculture Services Supper.

Nomination forms are available at both County offices and online at www.woodlands.ab.ca.

Nominations must include two photographs of the nominated property.

Submit your nomination forms:

Emailed to: agservices@woodlands.ab.ca Dropped off at either County office.

Or mailed to: Woodlands County, Box 33, Fort Assiniboine, AB. TOG 1A0 Attn: Manager, Ag Services

NOMINATION DEADLINE IS JULY 31, 2026


CANADA DAY OFFICE CLOSURES & SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS:

Wednesday, July 1, all Waste Transfer Stations and both Municipal Offices will be closed. Offices will reopen Thursday, July 2, for regular hours.

WOODLANDS COUNTY

2027 BUDGET SURVEY

Your voice matters! In 15 minutes, you can help shape the 2027 budget priorities.



Scan the QR code, or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7KWGCPF>

For hard copies of the survey, please call our offices 780-778-8400, and we'll mail you one, or pick one up at front reception.

Survey deadline is June 30, 2026. Stay tuned to our website and social media for details on upcoming public engagement open houses.

WOODLANDS.AB.CA/P/BUDGETS

WOODLANDS COUNTY

ROAD BANS LIFTED JUNE 1

WOODLANDS.AB.CA/P/ROAD-BANS

HAMLET HYDRANT FLUSHING - JUNE 8-29

Why is hydrant flushing happening? Each spring, municipalities flush hydrants as part of routine water system maintenance.

- Remove Sediment Buildup
- Improve Water Quality
- Ensure Emergency Readiness
- Preventive System Maintenance

During flushing, some residents may notice temporary discoloured water or lower water pressure. If this occurs, run your cold water tap for several minutes until the water clears.

This flushing process will take approximately 3 weeks to complete. Thank you for your patience while we perform this important maintenance.

For more information, call 780-778-8400.

WE'RE HIRING:

Woodlands County has exciting opportunities!

- Financial Analyst – Corporate Services
- Intern & Practicum Opportunities (General)

For more information and to apply, scan the QR Code, or go to woodlands.ab.ca/p/careers



Local work. Good people. Let's talk.



DAVE KUSCH
Reeve, Division 1 – Anselmo
dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
780-778-9337



PATRICIA MACNEIL
Councillor, Division 2 -
Whitecourt West
patricia.macneil@woodlands.ab.ca
780-268-3000



ALAN DEANE
Councillor, Division 3 -
Whitecourt Central
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
780-778-0894



KAREN ST. MARTIN
Councillor, Division 4 -
Whitecourt East
karen.stmartin@woodlands.ab.ca
780-778-0822



JENNA WRIGHT
Councillor, Division 5 -
Blue Ridge
jenna.wright@woodlands.ab.ca
780-779-6765



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



BENNY WHITTEN
Councillor, Division 7 -
Fort Assiniboine / Timeu
benny.whitten@woodlands.ab.ca
780-305-4655



www.woodlands.ab.ca
780-778-8400
1-888-870-6315
admin@woodlands.ab.ca
1 Woodlands Lane,
Whitecourt,
AB T7S 1N3

Young cyclists learn safe riding skills at RCMP Bike Rodeo



By Haylee Winger

On June 3, Grade 2 and 3 students from Pat Hardy Elementary School traded their classrooms for two wheels as they participated in the Whitecourt RCMP's annual Bike Rodeo.

The event provided students with an opportunity to sharpen their cycling skills while learning the fundamentals of bike safety.

Throughout the day, riders navigated skill stations that focused on balance, control, signaling, obstacle awareness, and safe riding practices.

RCMP members worked with students to reinforce the importance of following the rules of the road, staying alert to their surroundings, and ensuring their bicycles are in safe working condition before every ride.

A key focus of the rodeo was helmet safe-

ty. Students were reminded that wearing a properly fitted helmet is one of the simplest and most effective ways to reduce the risk of serious injury while cycling.

The annual Bike Rodeo continues to be a valuable educational experience, helping young riders gain confidence and develop habits that will keep them safe on community streets, pathways, and trails throughout the summer months.



Pat Hardy School photos

Woodlands County contributes \$15,000 toward CT scanner campaign



Woodlands County photo



By Haylee Winger

The Friends of Whitecourt Society received a \$15,000 boost this week as Woodlands County made a contribution to the community fundraising campaign for a local CT scanner.

The campaign aims to bring advanced diag-

nostic imaging services to Whitecourt, reducing the need for residents to travel elsewhere for certain medical tests.

Friends of Whitecourt Society Treasurer Elaine Gunderson said the project continues to gain momentum, with strong support coming from local governments, businesses, and community members.

Woodlands County Reeve Dave Kusch

said the addition of a CT scanner would be a significant benefit for residents throughout the region and noted the County is pleased to support the fundraising effort.

The donation reflects the County's support for initiatives that strengthen healthcare services and improve access to medical care closer to home for residents across the region.

Four reasons to work in industries contributing to sustainability

(NC) Canada is committed to working towards net-zero emissions, and there's action underway across the country. Many industries are shifting to become more sustainable and offering new opportunities for building a rewarding career while making a positive impact on the environment. Here are some reasons to dedicate your skills to Canada's low-carbon transition:



1. Your skills are in demand. It's an exciting time to be looking for jobs in Canada's natural resource and low-carbon industries, which are some of the country's emerging and fastest-growing sectors. That's creating a demand for skilled workers in

a wide variety of fields. There are jobs available in nuclear and renewable energy, forestry, mining and critical minerals, electric vehicle design and energy storage, green buildings and carbon manage-

ment, to list just a few. **2. There are high-quality jobs available.** One thing you may not know about working in the energy and natural resource sector is that it often pays well. Many of

those jobs also offer protection and support that help employees stay secure and succeed at work – such as transportation support, mental health services, health benefits, pension plans and more. **3. Many of the jobs**

are within reach. Many of the job and career opportunities in Canada's low-carbon energy, natural resource, construction, manufacturing and transportation sectors require only light upskilling or retraining from your current credentials. Many roles don't demand extensive technical expertise, and let you leverage many transferable skills, such as project and logistics management, digital literacy and problem-solving. There are also numerous opportunities for those with a trades background. For example, HVAC technicians can shift to working with heat pumps through short, targeted training that builds on

the skills they already use daily. **4. You can make a difference.** Building a career is also about being proud of your work. Being part of advancing Canada's environmental objectives means putting your labour toward building a better future for yourself and your community. The advances being made and infrastructure being created today are laying a foundation for everything that will come next. You could be supporting climate adaptation, helping to make our communities more resilient and preserving our natural beauty for future generations. You can learn more about rewarding career opportunities at canada.ca/sustainablejobs.

Support local. Advertise local. Grow local.

Our newspaper connects your business directly with engaged readers—and every print ad is also posted online for added exposure.

For all of your advertising needs, contact **Haylee** at thepresswtc@gmail.com
Let's make your business shine.

GET THE PRESS DELIVERED TO YOUR INBOX

free!

- ✔ Free to subscribe
- ✔ Never miss an issue
- ✔ Read on any device
- ✔ Read every issue online the moment it's published.

Subscribe at www.whitecourtpress.com

GARAGE SALE

RAIN OR SHINE

43 PRESTLIEN DRIVE

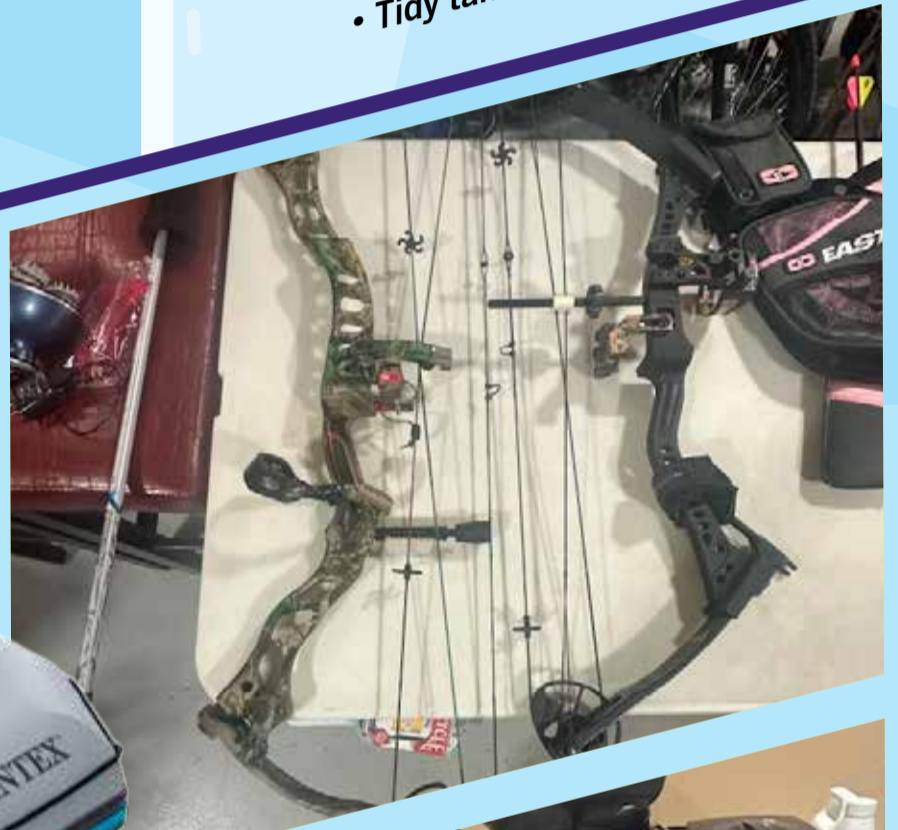
FRIDAY JUNE 12: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
SATURDAY JUNE 13: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Items for Sale

- Hunting / Outdoor
 - Hunting accessories
 - Camouflage clothing
 - Archery equipment
 - Bows (including custom-made recurve bow)
 - Primos game caller
 - Scope
 - Gun case

- Inflatable boat
- Household / Furniture
 - Curtains
 - Pictures / wall décor
 - Stools
 - Office chair
 - Humidifier
 - Diaper Genie
- Tools / Equipment

- Weed eater
- Tile saw
- Punching bag
- Electronics
 - Canon Rebel camera
- Miscellaneous Items
 - Puzzles
 - Clothing
 - Tidy tank And More....



LEMONADE STAND

WOODLANDS COUNTY BENEFITS PROGRAM - IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

HEALTH-RELATED TRAVEL COSTS REIMBURSEMENT: Deadline June 30, 2026
Please submit your reimbursement applications for any health-related travel costs incurred from January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026, by June 30, 2026. (This is the primary intake period. Applications are processed twice per year following each intake period.)

PROPERTY TAX REBATE: Starting July 1, 2026.
Property owners can apply to receive a flat rebate of \$150.00.

For full program details and forms, visit woodlands.ab.ca/p/benefits-program, or call Community Services at 780-778-8400.

ABOUT THE BENEFITS PROGRAM:

Woodlands County's Benefits Program helps eligible low-income, senior, or disabled residents by offering the following:

- Health-related travel cost reimbursement: \$0.50/km, up to \$300 per person, per year.
- Property tax rebate: \$150 flat rebate if you own your own home.
- Up to 3 free snowplow flaps per residence.



Woodlands County is exploring the potential development of a Shelterbelt Program to support agricultural producers and rural landowners. Shelterbelts can help reduce wind erosion, manage snow, improve soil health, and enhance wildlife habitat.

Your feedback will help shape program design, funding, and services to best meet local needs.

Access the survey by scanning the QR code or go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/L3SHLMV>



This survey will take approximately 5-7 minutes to complete. All responses are confidential.

DISCRETIONARY USE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

Woodlands County Land Use Bylaw provides opportunity for any person who may have comments on the proposed development to deliver to the Development Officer, a written statement of their concerns indicating: their full name and address and the reasons for their comments to the proposed use.

If you have any comment or concern regarding this proposal you may provide a written statement via email to planning@woodlands.ab.ca prior to **4:30 p.m., June 19, 2026**. The Development Authority will be making a decision on the following development permit applications following this deadline.

Comments received will be taken into consideration by the Development Authority.

Legal Description	Development Permit Application Number	Proposal
NE 18-58-11 W5M LOT 3 BLOCK 3 PLAN 1423727	26-DP-042	Accessory Use

Information regarding this application may be obtained by inquiring prior to **4:30 p.m., June 4, 2026**.

Contact: planning@woodlands.ab.ca
Woodlands County, Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt
AB T7S 1N3, Telephone: 780-778-8400, Toll-Free: 1-888-870-6315

2026 PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT DEADLINE JUNE 30

2026 Property Tax Notices were mailed on Friday, May 15, and payments are due June 30.

For more information about taxes, payments, assessments, and reviews, please visit <https://woodlands.ab.ca/p/corporate-services>, or call 780-778-8400

NOTICE TO READERS

Please note that we will not be publishing our July 1st edition this year due to the Canada Day holiday. Our next regular edition will resume the following week.

— Management & Staff

Career Ads, affordable price, with print ad, receive free online job posting at... WWW.WHITECOURTPRESS.COM

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

HELP WANTED

Tim Hortons in Whitecourt is looking to fill the following positions:

Food Service Attendant
Full Time / Shift Work

Food Service Supervisor
Full Time / Shift Work

SHIFT INCENTIVE FOR OVERNIGHTS
Please apply in person at the restaurant.

4331-52 Ave Unit 1 | 4216 Elko Drive
Whitecourt, AB | Whitecourt, AB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THIS IS YOUR CO-OP. Every Pembina West Co-op member is an owner, and as an owner, you can and should have a say in your business.

The Pembina West Co-op Board of Directors invites all members to attend our Annual General Meeting.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- Election of Directors, 3 positions up for election
- Appointment of an auditor

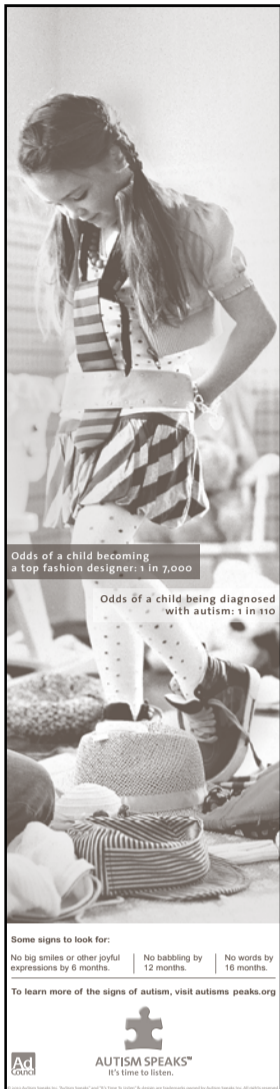
<p>INFORMATION SESSION Tues, June 23 6:30 p.m. Registration 7:00 p.m. Call to Order</p> <p>Mayerthorpe Legion 5111 45 Ave <i>Information only</i></p>	<p>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Wed, June 24 6:30 p.m. Registration 7:00 p.m. Call to Order</p> <p>Senior's Drop-in Centre 5437 49 St, Barrhead</p> <p>more information: pwcoop.ca/AGM</p>
---	---

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



Blanket Classified Ads

Alberta and NWT for \$269 (up to 25 words) \$8.00 each additional word. These ads are placed in over 100 community newspapers throughout Alberta. We can also place ads in other provinces throughout Canada.



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.

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



Feed and Seed

FORAGE SEED FOR SALE: Organic & conventional: Sweet Clover, Alfalfa, Red Clover, Smooth Brome, Meadow Brome, Crested Wheatgrass, Timothy, etc. Free Delivery! Birch Rose Acres Ltd. 306-921-9942.

For Sale

WHITE SPRUCE TREES: 5' average \$50. Installation ONLY \$19. Includes: hole augered, Wurzel Dip enzyme injection, bark mulch application, staking. Minimum order 25. One-time fuel charge: \$150 - 300. Crystal Springs. 403-820-0961. Quality guaranteed. albertasprucetrees.com.

Health

BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only \$269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach 75 weekly newspapers. Call NOW for details. 1-800-282-6903; www.awna.com; email classifieds@awna.com.

Household Items

PROMOTE YOUR MESSAGE THROUGHOUT Alberta. The Blanket Classifieds or Value Ads connect with more than 400,000 readers in the province each week. Choose from three packages beginning at \$269, \$299 or \$599 to share your message in over 70 Weekly Community

Newspapers. Contact THIS NEWSPAPER today or email classifieds@awna.com for more information. Call 1-800-282-6903 or 780-434-8746 or visit www.awna.com.

Services

PRIVATE MORTGAGE LENDER. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. 403-543-0927; www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca.

Travel

OSOYOOS LAKESHORE

VILLA: Executive villa in Osoyoos, BC, breathtaking lake views, just 3 minutes from town. Vacation in Canada's warmest destination. Or warmer weather, two luxurious 5-star resort units in Phoenix, Arizona. Doug 306-716-2671 or visit osoyooslakevilla.com.

Wanted

WANTED: Collector paying top prices: old advertising signs, gas pumps, Red Indian, White Rose, Buffalo, Ford Dodge, GM. 1968-70 Chargers, 1970-71 Barracuda's. Running or not. 306-221-5908.

I PAY CASH!!

FOR ALL GOLD & SILVER COINS, JEWELRY, BARS, INGOTS, NUGGETS, GOLD Dust, Dental Gold, Bullion, Sterling Silverware, plus anything made of gold or silver!

Covering ALL OF ALBERTA, and I can come to you!

I also purchase coin collections!

**CALL TODD
780-504-7995**



CASH FOR COINS

WANTED ROYAL CANADIAN MINT COINS, FRANKLIN MINT, US MINT, WORLD SETS ETC, COLLECTOR'S COINS, NUMISMATICS, OLYMPIC COINS, OLD COINS, OLD \$, GOLD COINS, SILVER COINS, BARS, INGOTS, JEWELRY, NUGGETS, STERLING SILVER & ENTIRE COIN COLLECTIONS!

Call or text Todd
Numismatist/Gold & Silver Dealer

780-504-7995

I MAKE FREE HOUSE CALLS ALL OVER ALBERTA+



CASH FOR GOLD!



Buying Jewelry, Old Gold, Broken Gold, Silver & Gold Coins, Bars, Bullion, Nuggets, and anything Gold or Silver

Mobile Gold Buyer

Covering ALL OF ALBERTA, and can come to you!

CALL OR TEXT NOW! PH: 825-365-8557

Buildings for Sale

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

Public information session scheduled for proposed rezoning of 3515 Caxton Street



By Haylee Winger

Residents will have an opportunity to learn more about a proposed rezoning application for 3515 Caxton Street at an upcoming public information session.

The application, submitted by Soaring Eagle Support Society, seeks to rezone the property to allow for the continued operation of structured supportive housing for individuals experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

Soaring Eagle Support Society is a Whitecourt-based non-profit organization that provides housing and support services for people facing homelessness and other housing

challenges. Through its supportive housing programs and outreach services, the organization works with individuals to help them secure stable housing, connect with community resources, and build the skills needed for greater independence.

The public information session will be held on Tuesday, June 23, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Forest Interpretive Centre. Information about the rezoning proposal and the process for participating in the public hearing will be available during the session.

A Public Hearing on the rezoning application is scheduled for Monday, July 20, at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Forest Interpretive Centre.

Town officials have



stated that the rezoning application is required because the current use of the property does not align with the zon-

ing regulations of the Highway Commercial district, making a formal rezoning process necessary.

CANADIAN PRAIRIE PICKERS
SENIORS 55+
10% MORE ON ALL PAYOUTS
— WE ALWAYS PAY CASH! —
WE BUY
SILVER
WE BUY ALL YOUR SILVER
• Canadian, American & World Mint Sets
• Canadian Silver Coins 1968 & Older
• American Silver Coins 1964 & Older
• Flatware • All Forms of Silver
WE COME TO THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN HOME!
FRIENDLY • PRIVATE • NO OBLIGATIONS
Call Joy or Ted
825-966-4373
PROUDLY SERVING ALBERTA SINCE 1986

CANADIAN PRAIRIE PICKERS
★ **SENIORS 55+** ★
10% MORE ON ALL PAYOUTS
— WE ALWAYS PAY CASH! —
WE BUY
GOLD
WE BUY ALL YOUR GOLD
• Gold Jewellery • Rings & Chains • Gold Nuggets
Scrap Gold • Dental Gold • All Gold Items
Gold Coins
WE COME TO THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN HOME!
FRIENDLY • PRIVATE • NO OBLIGATION
Call Joy or Ted
825-966-4373
PROUDLY SERVING ALBERTA SINCE 1986

This page is sponsored by:


YOUR ONLY LOCAL CARRIER SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1950



Proud supporter of our local Organizations
780-778-2226




"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



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

Kim Nendsa (President of Whitecourt Cancer & Wellness Society)
780-778-0932 **Aimee Grierson** 780-262-0222 <https://wctcancerwellness.com/>

24/7 CRISIS LINE
780.778.6209
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.whitecourtshester.ca



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 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



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

Woodlands County Council Recap

| Press release
At the Governance & Priorities Committee meeting held on April 15, 2026, the Committee received Bylaw 639/26, being the Chief Administrative Officer Bylaw, for information. Rather than replacing Bylaw 525/19 in full, the Committee recommended targeted amendments, which are reflected in Bylaw 642/26. Today, Council gave first reading to Bylaw 642-26, being the Chief Administrative Officer Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, and directed Administration to bring back the amended version to a future Council meeting for a second reading.
On June 11, 2025,

the Access to Information Act (ATIA) and the Protection of Privacy Act (POPA) came into force, effectively replacing and repealing the former Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). The legislation states that a municipality must adopt a Privacy Management Plan by June 11, 2026. Council gave all readings to Bylaw 644-26, being the Access to Information Act and Protection of Privacy Act Bylaw.
Council directed Administration to defer Policy AD-2.014, being the Privacy Management Program, and bring it forward to a future Governance & Priorities Meeting. The County's new Privacy

Management Program (PMP) is being developed to ensure compliance with Alberta's new privacy legislation. The program will establish a framework for managing and protecting personal information, with the understanding that it may be refined over time as implementation progresses and additional guidance becomes available.
Woodlands County is a member of the Yellowhead Regional Library system, which provides residents with access to a wide range of resources through the broader library network. On April 1, 2026, Administration received correspondence from the Yellowhead Regional Library

(YRL) requesting Woodlands County Council consider a motion supporting an increase to the municipal levy for 2027. As such, Council supported an amendment to Schedule C of the Yellowhead Regional Library Master Membership Agreement to allow for an increase in the municipal levy from \$4.85 per capita to \$5.60 per capita, effective January 1, 2027, and directed Administration to inform the Yellowhead Regional Library of its decision prior to the July 30, 2026 deadline.
On May 13, 2026, the County received a sponsorship request letter and accompanying information package

from the Whitecourt Charity Classic Committee. The request is for the County to partner as a sponsor for the inaugural Whitecourt Charity Classic Golf Tournament, to be held on August 27, 2026. Council received the funding request for the Whitecourt Charity Classic 'Swinging for a Scanner' for information and directed Administration to respond with a donation of two loads of gravel, not including trucking costs, and Woodlands County-branded items as prizes for the event.
Council received the Council Action Tracking Report January 01, 2026 - April 30, 2026, for information, including amendments.

Upcoming scheduled meetings:

- Governance & Priorities Committee Meeting – Wednesday, June 10 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Regular Council Meeting – Thursday, June 18 @ 9:30 a.m.
- Regular Council Meeting – Thursday, July 16 @ 9:30 a.m.

Meetings are held in-person at the Woodlands County Municipal Office in Whitecourt and live-streamed on the Woodlands County YouTube channel. Agenda packages are available on the Woodlands County CivicWeb Portal.

Career Ads, affordable price, with print ad, receive free online job posting at ...

The Press
www.whitecourtpress.com

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

Whitecourt Veterinary Clinic 4439 - 52 Ave



...where pets are family...



Thank you to all those loving families who've adopted the pets at the Whitecourt Vet Clinic.

Career ads, online at: www.whitecourtpress.com

Leanne Gould
Mortgage Associate

toll free 1.866.235.9906
www.mortgagegroup.com

403.505.9906
leanne.gould@mortgagegroup.com



THE MORTGAGE GROUP

The Mortgage Group Alberta Ltd.
304 - 3216 5th Ave. NE, Calgary AB T2A 0K4

LOCAL NEWS PRINTED ON LOCAL NEWSPRINT

Alberta Newsprint Company



A.C. Waring
& Associates Inc.
Licensed Insolvency Trustee
Trustee in Bankruptcy

DEBT PROBLEMS???
780-424-9944

Foreclosure Fear? Bank Loan Recalled?
Wage Garnishment? Mortgage/Rent Arrears?

Call Us. Talk to Us. We can help you NOW.

FREE Consultation
www.DEBTFREE.ca



Providing Traffic Control and Piloting

- Traffic Control Personnel
- Provide service for emergency lane or road closures
- Construction zone set ups

780-865-5815

We're there where you need us most!

Road Monitoring & Radar Services

Servicing Woodlands and Yellowhead Counties

The Press

Check us out online at whitecourtpress.com



Garden Sheds • Custom or Pre-built • Delivery Available

780-778-4404

Help is close to home®

The Press

Get the Whitecourt Press App at iTunes AppStore and Google play

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

RF RESCHKE FRITZ LLP
PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

MARK R. RESCHKE, CPA, CA
PARTNER

Tax planning
Corporate & Personal Tax Preparation
Full Accounting Services

Box 569, #101, 5011 - 51 Ave
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N6

780-778-3981 mreschke@rflp.ca

NEED HELP? CALL ANYTIME! (24-7)

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



WOODLANDS COUNTY

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

DID YOU KNOW? HOME-BASED BUSINESSES REQUIRE A DEVELOPMENT PERMIT.

In Woodlands County, if you want to build a new structure or conduct a new land use, a development permit is required.

- ✓ Ensure your business and /or project meets local bylaws
- ✓ Avoid costly delays or penalties
- ✓ Support smart, sustainable community growth

Woodlands County Planning Department is here to guide you through the process every step of the way:

- 📍 Learn what permits you need
- 📄 Get step-by-step application support
- 🕒 Stay informed on zoning rules and timelines

For more information, please visit our website at: woodlands.ab.ca/p/planning-and-development
Or contact us at planning@woodlands.ab.ca 780-778-8400




METRIX GROUP LLP
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

4927-51 AVENUE, PO BOX 328, WHITECOURT, AB T7S 1N5
61 KAYBOB DRIVE, PO BOX 83, FOX CREEK, AB T0H 1P0

Accounting • Tax • Estates & Trusts • Bookkeeping
Controllorship • Audit & Review Engagements

Michael Epp CPA, CA, CMA Partner	Terry St. Laurent CPA, CGA, CA Partner	Braedon Nawrot CPA Manager Whitecourt	Kris George BMgt Manager Fox Creek
---	---	---	--

Edmonton T: 780-489-9606	Lloydminster T: 780-875-7433	Whitecourt/Fox Creek T: 780-778-3091
Fort Saskatchewan T: 780-992-0266	Evansburg T: 780-727-2017	

TOLL FREE: 1-877-489-9606 **METRIXGROUP.CA**

Visit www.whitecourtpress.com

BOOK YOUR AD NOW

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

The Press