



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 36 | Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Easy

is always on hand

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

*Some conditions may apply.

HEART TO
HOME MEALS
DELICIOUS MEALS MADE FOR SENIORS™

We accept
the Veterans
allowance.



Give the gift
of comfort
this season —
Heart to Home
Meals delivered
frozen.

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



Annual Health Professionals Appreciation BBQ



Town of Whitecourt photo

Whitecourt's Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee (HPARC) hosted its Annual Health Professionals Appreciation BBQ, bringing health professionals together for an evening of food, conversation and recognition. See more pics page 9.



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

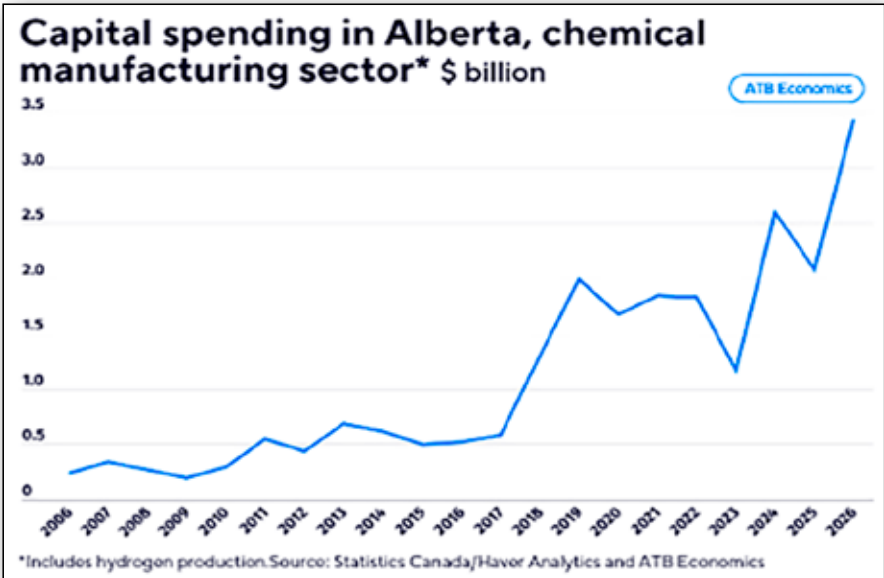
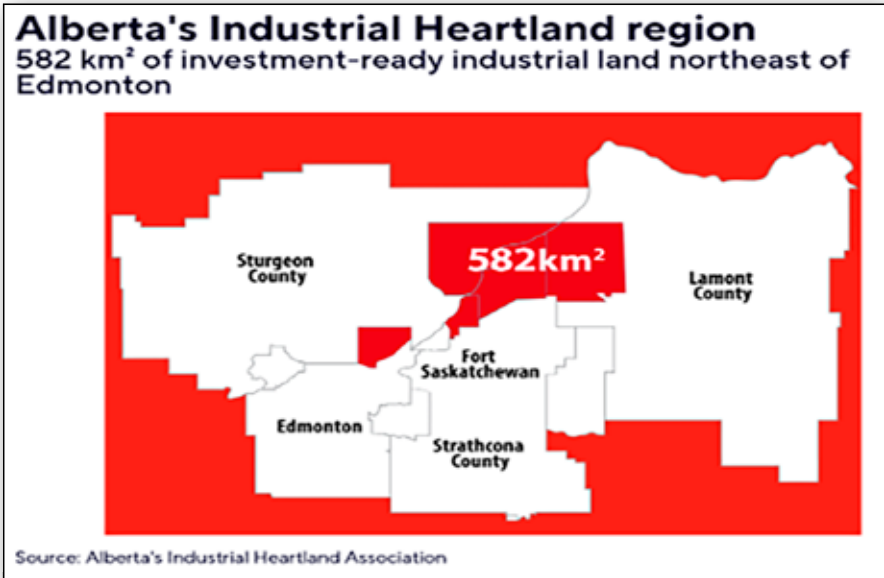
780-778-6644

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

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



Beating strong: Alberta's Industrial Heartland



By Rob Roach,
ATB Economics

Key points

- The Alberta Industrial Heartland region is a major hub for value-added processing of Alberta's oil and natural gas resources.
- The construction of Meta's \$13 billion data centre in the region along with an accompanying \$4.6 billion natural gas-powered electricity facility has added tech to the region's repertoire in a big way.
- As economies of scale and industry clustering gain even more momentum, the region is poised for strong growth going forward.

Zeroing in

There are many unique regions within Alberta, with each of them contributing to the overall economy. One of these regions—dubbed Alberta's Industrial Heartland—is having its annual conference today in Edmonton (our Chief Economist Mark Parsons is speaking at the event), so we thought we'd provide an update on some of the exciting economic developments taking place there.

As Alberta's first Designated Industrial Zone (DIZ), the Heartland region utilizes centralized environmental baselines and streamlined regulatory

approvals, significantly lowering the time and cost required for companies to bring capital-intensive industrial builds online.

Adding value

As its name suggests, expanding industrial capacity in the Heartland is an important part of its growth story and is a key driver of Alberta's current and ongoing economic success.

As Canada's largest hydrocarbon processing region, Alberta's Industrial Heartland adds value to Alberta's abundant energy resources. While investment in the extraction (a.k.a. upstream) side of the energy sector is still well below 2014

levels in Alberta, there has been a significant increase in capital spending on new downstream facilities designed to process oil and gas resources here at home (see the chart below).

The momentum is tangible, with major projects like Dow's Fort Saskatchewan Path2Zero net-zero expansion project, Air Products' net-zero hydrogen energy complex, Yellowhead Pipeline Project, Imperial Oil's renewable diesel facility, and the Alberta Corridor Export Rail Terminal Project transforming the region.

These projects build on the success of those recently completed,

like the Interpipe-line Heartland Petrochemical Complex. They're multi-billion dollar investments that are having a material impact on Alberta's economy and outlook.

Adding data centres to the mix

Big Tech is also finding a home in the Heartland with Meta Platforms Inc. building a \$13 billion data centre in Sturgeon County. At peak construction, Meta estimates that more than 3,000 construction workers will be onsite with approximately 300 full-time workers needed when it's operational. The facility will use power generated in Alberta by a new 932 MW natural

gas-fired power generation facility. Scheduled to be operational by 2030, the Greenlight Electricity Centre is a \$4.6 billion project.

A bright future

The intersection of energy resources, value-added processing, and A.I. data processing in the Heartland bodes well for its ongoing role as a driver of economic activity and growth in the province. From hydrogen production and carbon capture to biofuels and petrochemicals, the region's focus on low-carbon processes will help Canada compete in global markets at a time when the world is looking for a safe and secure supply.

WOMBANIA™

MAYBE WE COULD GO TO THAT FANCY NEW RESTAURANT.

THAT REALLY ISN'T IN OUR BUDGET.

WHAT'S IN OUR BUDGET?

Copyright ©2026 Peter Marinacci All Rights Reserved.

www.wombania.com

by PETER MARINACCI

A look at the local weather		Wed., Sep. 16	Thu., Sep. 17	Fri., Sep. 18	Sat., Sep. 19	Sun., Sep. 20
P.O.P. High Low Wind 24-Hr Rain / Snow		Mainly sunny	Sunny	Mainly sunny	Sunny	Mainly sunny
		10%	40%	20%	10%	30%
		15°C	17°C	19°C	19°C	18°C
		5°C	7°C	8°C	9°C	9°C
		SW 8 km/h	W 12 km/h	SE 14 km/h	SW 7 km/h	NW 19 km/h

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



**WHITECOURT
CANCER &
WELLNESS
SOCIETY**

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

Joanne Belke (president of WCWS) **780 706 6861**
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.whitecourtshelter.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

GRIEF SHARE

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

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



RCMP encourage Albertans to verify AI-generated content



The images used with this information were generated using artificial intelligence for illustrative purposes and may not depict real people, events or locations.



By Haylee Winger

As artificial intelligence becomes more advanced, it is becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish computer-generated images from real photographs. The Alberta RCMP is encouraging people to be cautious when viewing and sharing content online. Before passing along an image or post, people should consider its original source, whether that source is reliable and whether the information can be confirmed elsewhere. The RCMP also advises people to consider whether an image may be misleading or being presented without the full context. The reminder comes as AI technology makes it easier to create realistic-looking images that may not accurately represent a person, event or location. Taking a few moments to check the information before sharing it can help prevent false or misleading content from spreading online.



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



Canfor Culture & Events Centre nearing completion



By Haylee Winger

Whitecourt’s new Canfor Culture & Events Centre is nearing completion, with the facility set to begin opening to the public next month. After two years of construction, the downtown facility will soon provide space for con-

ferences, trade shows, events, concerts, dance festivals and ceremonies. The centre includes an arts, culture and convention centre with a theatre, the Whitecourt & District Public Library and Town administration office. The facility will open in phases, beginning with the arts, culture and convention centre. The first scheduled

event is set for October 15, marking the start of public access to the new space. The Whitecourt Administration Office is expected to move into the facility in November, followed by the Whitecourt & District Public Library. Clark Builders is completing the remaining building construction and plans to leave the site in the coming weeks. Specialized contractors will continue working at the facility over the next several weeks as equipment and furnishings are installed and the various spaces are prepared for use. Whitecourt Mayor Ray Hilts said the phased opening will allow the remaining work to be completed

continued to page 7

STAND UP FOR A STRONGER ALBERTA

On October 19, vote for:

SUSTAINABLE IMMIGRATION • RESILIENT SOCIAL SERVICES • MORE PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY



FOR A STRONG AND SOVEREIGN ALBERTA
WITHIN A UNITED CANADA
AlbertaReferendum2026.ca

ALBERTA
REFERENDUM
2026
PAID FOR BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA



During our Store Renovations Caine's Jewellers' commitment to serving and meeting the Jewellery needs of our community and area still remains.

Starting July 6, 2026, if your Jewellery is in need of repair, or you need a battery for your watch, you can drop it off with our sales associates who will gladly take care of it for you. We can be found through the side entrance of the Whitecourt and District Chamber of Commerce building at **4907 – 52nd Avenue in Whitecourt Unit #7.** Monday – Friday 11am-3pm

You can also follow us on our Facebook page (**facebook.com/cjewellers**) for updated news as our renovation progresses.

If you are needing an item for a special occasion, please reach out via text to **Kandice @ 780-778-3302** or email at **wckandice@cainesjewellers.com**.

We can't wait to show you our new Home!!!!

PUBLIC NOTICE

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



WHITECOURT LAUNCHES 2027 BUDGET CONSULTATION

Let us know where you would like to see your tax dollars invested for the 2027 budget.

Town Council encourages you to share your thoughts on projects and plans at the 2027 Budget Public Input Session. The session is scheduled during the Regular Meeting of Council at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, September 28 at 4:00 p.m.
Forest Interpretive Centre – Council Chambers
3002 – 33 Street, Whitecourt

Community members that are unable to attend the Public Input session are encouraged to submit written comments. Complete the online form on our website, call the Office, or submit an email to the following address by 12:00 noon on Thursday, September 24:

Town of Whitecourt
Box 509, 5004 52 Avenue
Whitecourt AB T7S 1N6
780-778-2273 ext. 227
administration@whitecourt.ca

All comments received regarding the 2027 Budget will be considered by Council during budget deliberations.

NATIONAL COACHES APPRECIATION WEEK SEPTEMBER 14 – 20, 2026

Whitecourt Town Council encourages the citizens of Whitecourt to recognize September 14 – 20, 2026 as National Coaches Appreciation Week. Coaches provide a positive impact to athletes throughout our community and residents are encouraged to thank the coach that has helped them in life or to perform at their best. Sport is the biggest volunteer segment in Canada and those volunteers are a crucial part of building a healthy, active, community.
#thankscoachWCT

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

Getting the house ready before winter arrives



By Haylee Winger

Fall has a way of sneaking up on us. One day the windows are open and the yard is still being used for summer evenings, and the next, frost is showing up on the grass in the morning and winter suddenly feels much closer.

For homeowners, this is the time of year when a little preparation can pay off. Before the snow arrives and temperatures begin to stay below freezing, there are a number of things around the house that are worth checking

while the weather is still manageable.

The furnace is a good place to begin. After spending much of the summer sitting idle, it will soon be doing some of the hardest work of the year. Homeowners should check the furnace filter and replace it if necessary, while also making sure heating vents and registers are clear. Having the furnace looked at before the cold weather arrives can also help identify problems before they become an emergency on a particularly cold night.

The rest of the house can use a quick inspection, too.

Walk around windows and exterior doors and watch for places where cold air could find its way inside. Worn weatherstripping, cracked caulking and small gaps around frames may not seem like much during the fall, but they can become noticeable once the furnace is running regularly. Sealing those areas can help keep warm air inside where it belongs.

Outside, the roof and eavestroughs deserve some attention before snow starts to pile up. Leaves and other debris can collect in gutters during the fall, while damaged shingles or

loose areas may be easier to spot and repair before winter weather sets in. Downspouts should be clear and directing water away from the foundation.

It is also time to put summer plumbing to bed. Garden hoses should be disconnected and stored, and homeowners should make sure outdoor water lines are drained or shut off as appropriate for the home's plumbing system. A frozen pipe can cause considerable damage, making this a small job that is worth doing before the first hard freeze.

The yard itself can also be part of the seasonal

cleanup. Patio furniture, gardening tools and other summer equipment can be put away, while branches that could become a problem under heavy snow or ice should be dealt with. Clearing leaves and other debris from around the property can make spring cleanup easier as well.

For rural homeowners and anyone living near trees or heavier vegetation, fall is also a good opportunity to take another look at the area surrounding the home. Keeping vegetation maintained and reducing combustible material close to buildings are part of FireSmart practices and can help reduce the potential impact of wildfire.

Patio furniture, gardening tools and other summer equipment can be put away, while branches that could become a problem under heavy snow or ice should be dealt with. Clearing leaves and other debris from around the property can make spring cleanup easier as well.

Homeowners who depend on a sump pump may also want to consider how it would operate during a power outage and whether a backup option is appropriate for their property.

None of these jobs are particularly exciting, and few homeowners probably have "clean the eavestroughs" at the top of their list of favourite fall activities. But dealing with them now is generally easier than trying to solve the same problems in the middle of January.

The first snowfall will eventually arrive. Getting a few of the less glamorous jobs out of the way beforehand can help ensure that when winter does settle in, the focus can be on staying warm rather than discovering what should have been fixed in the fall.

Preparing for winter does not stop at the front door. Alberta weather can bring power outages and severe storms, so it is worth making sure emergency supplies are easy to find. Flashlights, batteries, blankets, warm clothing

NOW HIRING!

CAMPGROUND CARETAKER COUPLE

Whitecourt Lions Campground – 2027 Season

April 1 – October 15, 2027

The Lions Club of Whitecourt is seeking a **friendly, dependable, self-motivated couple** to manage and maintain our beautiful campground for the 2027 season. For more information about the Whitecourt Lions Campground please visit: <https://whitecourtlionscampground.com>

Your Role:

- Welcome campers & handle reservations
- Monitor activity, collect fees, bank deposits, and reporting
- Provide 24/7 days a week campground service, office hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., gate is closed at 11 p.m. daily
- Live at the campground during term of contract, winter rental optional
- Report incidents of vandalism, unruly behaviour, or criminal acts to the RCMP
- Routinely check washroom/shower/laundromat facilities and maintain neatness and cleanliness by and routinely wash mirrors, clean toilets and shower stalls and floor. Monitor and replenish washroom supplies (bathroom tissue and hand towels) as required.
- Maintain a neat and tidy and safe campground by routinely checking campground sites and undertaking maintenance such as ensuring campfires are extinguished and emptied, litter is picked up from the campsites, grassed areas and road, water services are turned off and monitor for damage to service connections
- Provide visitors with information on things to do in and around the community
- Assist campground visitors in obtaining help in emergency situations
- Provide proof of Worker's Compensation Board Coverage and liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 with The Lions Club of Whitecourt named as an additional insured
- Comply with local fire bans
- Maintain road network filling potholes and removing intruding branches
- Report on any unsafe conditions to Campground Committee
- Grass cutting and weed whipping around campsites & tables
- Coordinate dangerous tree removal and firewood supply
- Coordinate spring cleanup in partnership with volunteers
- Undertaking other minor maintenance and repairs as required
- Coordinate contractors for major repairs as required
- Administrative support to the Board of Directors

We Offer:

- Seasonal contract rate
- On-site accommodation
- Fuel, equipment, tools, office equipment, and supplies

Email Resumes: Detailing relevant experience, supporting references, and a Criminal Records Check to: sectionswwt22@gmail.com

Application Deadline: September 23, 2026 or until contract is filled



Before and after: Cleaning out eavestroughs is one of the fall maintenance jobs that can help prepare a home for the winter months. Removing leaves and debris allows water to drain properly and helps prevent potential problems when snow and ice arrive.

continued from page 4

while the different areas of the facility are brought into operation.

"There's an extensive amount of stage equipment to install and other preparations needed for the theatre area, and a lot to move for the Town Office and Library spaces to be fully operational," said Hilts.

The arts, culture and convention centre already has several events scheduled for October, giving residents and visitors an opportunity to see the new facility.

A larger grand opening celebration is planned for the coming months once the entire facility is operational.

The Town of Whitecourt announced the phased opening and remaining construction details in a September 10 release.

Tickets and information about upcoming events at the Canfor Culture & Events Centre are available through whitecourtlive.ca.

Whitecourt RCMP news

| Media Release

Whitecourt RCMP charge two after firearms complaint

On Sept. 4, 2026, Whitecourt RCMP received a 911 call of a confrontation that included a male discharging a firearm in Woodlands County. The complainant reported that they had located a male and female on their property on a quad who were damaging their property. The suspect presented a handgun and discharged it in the air and then pointed it at the complainant. The suspects fled the area after loading the ATV into a cube van.

RCMP from Whitecourt, Whitecourt Traffic Services, Mayerthorpe RCMP and RCMP Emergency Response Team (ERT) flooded the area and located the suspects with assistance from the RCMP Real Time Operation Center.

As a result of the investigation, the below

persons were arrested and charged with the following offences:

Richard Helewka (45), a resident of Whitecourt, was charged with:

- Pointing a firearm
- Discharge firearm with intent
- Possession of a prohibited weapon
- Possession of a weapon contrary to order
- Alter/destroy/remove a vehicle identification number (VIN)
- Fail to comply with undertaking
- Possession of a weapon for dangerous purpose
- Possession of a firearm with tampered serial number
- Mischief under \$5000.00
- Possession of property obtained by crime over \$5000.00
- Uttering threats
- Disguise with intent to commit an offence
- Careless use of a firearm
- Assault with a

weapon

Alanda Sisson (31), a resident of Woodland County, was charged with:

- Possession of property obtained by crime over \$5000.00
- Alter/destroy/remove a vehicle identification number (VIN)
- Possession of a weapon for dangerous purpose
- Possession of a firearm with tampered serial number
- Possession of a restricted firearm/prohibited weapon without licence

Helewka and Sisson were brought before a Justice of the Peace. Helewka was remanded into custody and is set to appear in Alberta Court of Justice in Whitecourt on Sept. 8, 2026. Sisson was released from custody with conditions and is set to appear in court on Sept. 22, 2026.

Whitecourt RCMP would also like to thank the public for their as-

sistance in locating the suspects.

Whitecourt RCMP investigate aggravated assault

On Aug. 9, 2026, Whitecourt RCMP responded to an assault complaint where a male was found with serious injuries. He was transported by EMS to an Edmonton hospital due to his injuries. A subsequent investigation identified three suspects along with information about a series of unreported firearm discharges in the Whitecourt area. On Sept. 4, 2026, a search warrant was executed with the assistance of the Whitecourt GIS, Emergency Response Team, and Police Dog Services at a location in Whitecourt.

As a result of the investigation, two suspects have been arrested and charged.

William Desjarlais (36), has been charged with the following:

- Aggravated assault
- Assault with a weapon
- Unlawful Confinement

- Possession of a firearm without a licence (x3)
- Reckless discharge of a firearm
- Possession of a restricted firearm with ammunition
- Careless use of a firearm
- Use of a firearm in the commission of an offence
- Possession of a controlled substance (x2)
- Possession of body armor without a permit

After a Judicial Interim Release Hearing, Desjarlais was remanded into custody and is to speak to bail on Sept. 8, 2026.

Joyelle Kerr (30) has been charged with aggravated assault and unlawful confinement.

After a Judicial Interim Release Hearing, Kerr will appear in Alberta Court of Justice in Whitecourt on Sept. 22, 2026.

Warrants are being sought for a third individual, and it is expected the additional charges will be laid in the future.



Pat Hardy School photos



Pat Hardy students enjoy teamwork and games during gym class.

Blue Ridge Family Fun Day brings an afternoon of fun to the community



By Haylee Winger

Woodlands County put on an amazing afternoon for families on Saturday, September 12, as the Blue Ridge Family Fun Day filled the Blue Ridge Recreation Area with activities, entertainment and plenty of smiles.

The free event ran from noon to 4 p.m., giving families several hours to enjoy the outdoors and take part in activities throughout the recreation area. The event was designed to offer something for children of different ages, with entertainment and attractions spread throughout the afternoon.

Young visitors had plenty to keep them busy, including bouncy castles and obstacle courses. Face painting was another popular activity, with children getting colourful designs painted on their faces as they made their way around the event.

Balloons added another festive touch to the afternoon, while bubbles could be seen floating around the recreation area and giving the younger crowd something else to chase and enjoy.

There was also plenty of entertainment to keep families watching. Fairies could be spotted walking around the grounds and interacting with visitors, adding a little bit of magic to the afternoon. A performer riding a unicycle also entertained the crowd with his unique skills.

Families could take part in canoeing, enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides and learn more about the area's natural surroundings through environmental learning activities. Indigenous storytelling was also part of the day's programming, offering another opportunity for visitors to experience something different.

For many families, the event was as much about spending time together as it was about the individual activities.

Children could move from one attraction to the next while parents enjoyed the relaxed outdoor setting and community atmosphere.

Free hot dogs were served during the afternoon, giving families a chance to grab something to eat while taking a break from the activities.

Located approximately five kilometres north of Blue Ridge, east off Highway 658, the Blue Ridge Recreation Area provided a scenic setting for the gathering. With the surrounding trees, open space and water nearby, families were able to enjoy the event while making use

of the area's outdoor amenities.

From face painting and balloons to bubbles, fairies, carriage rides and live entertainment, the afternoon offered plenty of memorable moments for those who attended.

The Blue Ridge Family Fun Day gave residents an opportunity to get together, enjoy some family time and make the most of a beautiful September afternoon. With free activities, food and entertainment, the event was a fun-filled way for the community to come together and enjoy everything the area has to offer.





Whitecourt IGA continues its partnership with the Community Lunch Box Society, supporting food security for children and youth at all seven local schools and several out-of-school programs. More than 12 per cent of the student population participates in the program.

WOODLANDS COUNTY HAS SOME
EXCITING JOB OPPORTUNITIES!

- Infrastructure Services Administrative Assistant
- Transfer Station Operator (2 positions)
- Accounts Payable Clerk

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.



NOTICE OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The Organizational Meeting will be held on October 8, 2026, commencing at 9:00 a.m., followed by the Regular Council Meeting, at the Municipal Council Chambers located at #1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt, Alberta.

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., September 18, 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 4-59-12 W5M	26-DP-068	Home Occupation - Major

Information regarding this application may be obtained by inquiring prior to **4:30 p.m., September 18, 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

NOTICE OF DECISION -
DEVELOPMENT PERMIT 26-DP-070

Location: SE 23-59-12 W5M
Proposed Development: Secondary Suite, External
Decision Date: September 3, 2026
Appeal Deadline: September 24, 2026

For full details on Development Permits visit <https://woodlands.ab.ca/>
Email: planning@woodlands.ab.ca
Call: 1-888-870-6315

We want to hear from you!

WOODLANDS COUNTY

BYLAW SURVEY

Share your feedback on the proposed Community Standards Bylaw and the proposed Special Events Bylaw.

Deadline: September 24
Scan the QR code,
or visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SJPKND8>



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROPOSED BYLAWS
Scan the QR code or visit: woodlands.ab.ca/p/bylaw-public-engagement



 WOODLANDS.AB.CA 780-778-8400

DOING BUSINESS WITH WOODLANDS COUNTY

Woodlands County invites contractors, suppliers, and service providers to view our current:

- Tenders
- Requests for Proposals (RFPs)
- Requests for Quotations (RFQs)

The Alberta Purchasing Connection (APC) is the official source for current bidding opportunities and tender documents.

Scan the QR code or visit purchasing.alberta.ca to view current opportunities.





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 / Timeau
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

A new piece of local history has found a fitting home at JDA Place with the donation of a taxidermied wolverine display. Warren Czmuchalek donated the wolverine to the Whitecourt Fish & Game Association, with taxidermy completed by Brody Teale of Dave Booth Taxidermy in Slave Lake. The display will be enjoyed by Whitecourt Wolverines players, families, fans and the community for years to come.



Whitecourt Wolverines photo

Meet Cheeto,

a sweet, affectionate 7-year-old orange domestic shorthair looking for a second chance through no fault of his own.



WHITECOURT ADOPTABLE ANIMALS

This lovable gentleman enjoys cuddles, conversation and spending time with his people. Cheeto does have some health challenges and can become stressed, so he would do best in a quiet, calm home without other pets. He's looking for a patient, loving home where he can feel safe and enjoy plenty of companionship.

Interested in Cheeto? Contact the **Whitecourt Pound** at: **780-778-5767** for more information or to inquire about adoption.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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

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

Job#: 26-054 – Facility Maintenance Operator – Permanent, Full-Time Position

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





Town of Whitecourt photos

Just Peachy

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Locally owned and operated indoor artisan market. At Just Peachy, you will find over 100 artisans selling their creations. Everything from pottery and paintings to soaps and sun-catchers. @ @ **780-778-1051**
5014 50 St, Whitecourt

Contact us about our workshops
justpeachyarts@outlook.com





The Town of Whitecourt thanked local health professionals for their contributions to the community and recognized Original Joe's Whitecourt for sponsoring the meal and Woodlands County for its continued support.



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.



World Suicide Prevention Day encouraged Albertans to start the conversation



By Haylee Winger

Albertans were encouraged to start conversations about suicide and mental health as World Suicide Prevention Day was recognized on September 10.

The day provided an opportunity to raise awareness about the far-reaching effects of suicide, which can impact individuals, families, workplaces and communities. According to Recovery Alberta, suicide claimed more than 720,000 lives around the world each year.

Recovery Alberta emphasized that talking openly about suicide did not increase a person's risk.

Compassionate conversations could instead help reduce risk and encourage someone to seek support. Asking someone directly about thoughts of suicide could also be an important first step toward getting help.

The agency encouraged people to use the acronym REACH when supporting someone who may have been struggling. The approach included recognizing signs that someone may have been having difficulty, engaging in conversation and listening with compassion, asking directly about thoughts of suicide, connecting the person with supports and services, and helping by taking care of one's own mental health and well-being.

Starting a conversation could sometimes feel difficult, but reaching out and listening could help reduce isolation and connect someone with support.



Recovery Alberta provides mental health, addiction and recovery services for Albertans and their families, including crisis support, treatment and recovery programs. Information about available services was available by calling 211 or visiting Recovery Alberta's website.

Anyone experiencing immediate danger or an emergency was urged to call 911, go to the nearest emergency department or contact the Suicide Crisis Helpline by calling or texting 988.

World Suicide Prevention Day served as a reminder that support was available and that reaching out, whether for yourself or someone else, could be an important step toward getting help.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS CORNER

If your life is in danger, or someone else's - dial 911

Emergency services are available 24/7

1-800-668-6868

KIDS HELP PHONE
or text CONNECT to 686868

988

CALL OR TEXT
Suicide Crisis Helpline • 24/7

1-855-242-3310

HOPE FOR WELLNESS
Indigenous crisis support



PUTTING A FACE ON SUICIDE

Tyler Meier
Age 19

Every 40 seconds, somewhere in the world, someone dies by suicide. Behind every number is a name, a family, a community that felt the loss. This week we remember one of our own.

THIS WEEK'S TIPS

TIP #1

POSITIVE COMMUNICATIONS TIP

Respect that everyone communicates differently.

COMMUNITY WISDOM SERIES

TIP #2

CONFLICT RESOLUTION TIP

Be willing to compromise.

COMMUNITY WISDOM SERIES

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



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.

Visit www.whitecourtpress.com



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

Odds of a child being diagnosed with autism: 1 in 110

Some signs to look for:

No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months.	No babbling by 12 months.	No words by 16 months.
--	---------------------------	------------------------

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

Ad Council **AUTISM SPEAKS™**
It's time to listen.

Auctions

MEIER LIVE GUN AUCTION, Saturday, Sept 26 -10am Wetaskiwin – Selling Rifles, Shot Guns, Antique Firearms, Gun Safes, Ammunition, Scopes, Sportsman Equipment, Consign Now. Free Pick Up. Call 780-440-1860 www.meierauction.com

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.

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.firststandsecondmortgages.ca

Travel

OSOYOOS LAKESHORE VILLA: Executive

lakeview villa in Os-oyoos, BC, breathtaking lake and mountain

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



Members of the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce joined Community Learning at NorQuest on September 8th to celebrate the 60th anniversary of International Literacy Day and recognize the importance of literacy, lifelong learning and education in the community.

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

CASH PAID for GOLD & SILVER

ALL JEWELRY, ALL GOLD & SILVER COINS

Bars, Bullion, Ingots, Nuggets, Stirling Silver, Old & Broken Gold, etc.

BUYING ENTIRE COIN COLLECTIONS & OLD MONEY

TODD 1-825-365-8557
Covering ALL OF ALBERTA

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

Congratulations

Amy Jaquish of Okotoks has been chosen as the winner of the C.A. MacLean Local Journalism Grant, in recognition of her award-winning essay on the current challenges facing local news outlets.



Pictured: AWNA and C.A. MacLean director Amanda Zimmer (left) presents Amy Jaquish with a cheque for \$2,000.

CA MacLean Bursary Foundation

Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association

Crystal Springs Trees

WINDBREAK PROTECTION FOR YOUR ACREAGE

White Spruce Shelterbelt Trees - Supplied & Planted -

Book Now for Fall Planting

\$79/tree supplied and planted

- 30 tree minimum
- Delivery \$150-\$400 (free on orders of 200+)

No payment until the job is done.

403-820-0961 crystalspringstrees.ca
Serving Alberta since 1999

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+





Wheelchair Accessible

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

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

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



Park Memorial Ltd.

Funeral Home & Crematorium

www.parkmemorial.com

CONSUMER CHOICE AWARD 2024 NORTHERN ALBERTA

14 YEAR

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

403.505.9906

leanne.gould@mortgagegroup.com

THE MORTGAGE GROUP

The Mortgage Group Alberta Ltd.
204 - 2016 5th Ave. W. Calgary AB T2A 6K4



THINK OUTSIDE THE BRANCH!



LOCAL NEWS PRINTED ON LOCAL NEWSPRINT

Alberta Newsprint Company



A.C. Waring & Associates Inc.

Licensed Insolvency Trustee
Trustee in Bankruptcy

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



Check us out online at whitecourtpress.com



Please recycle this paper



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

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.72 US Dollar at an exchange rate of 0.7224 (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of September 16, 2026



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

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
Whitecourt, AB

4216 Elko Drive
Whitecourt, AB

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

WWW.WHITECOURTPRESS.COM



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