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Vol. 5, Issue 5

Tuesday, February 3, 2025

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MELFORT MUSTANGS

## Kerrobert's Austin Shepherd named RBC Community Ambassador

BY KATE WINQUIST

The Melfort Mustangs are proud to recognize Kerrobert's Austin Shepherd as the team's RBC Community Ambassador for the 2025 season.

The Mustangs say Shepherd has set the standard for leadership and community involvement, leading by example through his reliability, respect and accountability. Known for his strong communication skills, Shepherd consistently goes out of his way to ensure everyone feels included, taking time to connect with kids and make them feel heard.

Shepherd volunteers twice week-



BROAD LEAF MEDIA

ly with the Learn to Skate program and Minor Hockey, and also assists with a morning skills skate twice a week. He has been involved with the Read with the Mustangs program at the Melfort Public Library for the past two seasons and is often among the first to step up when help is needed.

In recognition of his impact, RBC is

donating \$1,000 to Brunswick School in Shepherd's name.

RBC Community Ambassadors are honoured for giving back to the communities where they play, with one ambassador selected league-wide as the RBC Community Award recipient at the end of the SJHL regular season through an online fan vote.

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PHOTOS BY HELENKA BERNARD

**Left:** As part of the celebration, Sheppard was presented with a King's Shilling mug, a traditional naval gift for retiring officers.

**Above:** Capt. Sheppard cuts into the cake honouring his 20 years of service to the 365 Air Cadet Squadron.

# Kindersley air cadet squadron marks retirement of Capt. Monte Sheppard

BY KATE WINQUIST

For more than four decades, Captain Monte Sheppard has dedicated his life to service — first to Canada's Navy and later to the young people of the Kindersley community. Earlier this month, members of the Kindersley 365 Air Cadet Squadron gathered to thank him as he officially retired after 20 years with the program.

Sheppard's military career began in November 1980 when he joined the Royal Canadian Navy. Over 24 years of service, he served aboard numerous vessels, worked with training ships, commanded gate vessels and minesweepers, and took part in destroyer escort operations.

After retiring from the Navy in 2004, Sheppard wasn't finished serving. On Dec. 7, 2006, he joined the Cadet Instructor Cadre (CIC) with the Canadian Air Force, bringing decades of experience, discipline and leadership to the Kindersley 365 Air Cadets. He spent his entire cadet career with the local squadron, becoming a familiar and steady presence to generations of cadets.

Over the years, Sheppard filled nearly every major role within the squadron, including range officer, training officer and commanding

officer. He retires as the squadron's supply officer, closing a chapter defined by dedication, mentorship and countless hours volunteered behind the scenes.

While Cadet Instructor Cadre officers are required to retire at age 65 and Sheppard's official last day is Jan. 15, the squadron chose to honour him early with a retirement parade night on Jan. 8.

The evening brought together current cadets, fellow officers and many former cadets — some returning after years away — to share stories, laughter and memories that reflected the lasting impact Sheppard has had on their lives.

As part of the celebration, Sheppard was presented with a King's Shilling, a traditional naval gift for retiring officers. The pewter, glass-bottom mug, with a shilling encased in its base, served as a symbolic link between his naval career and his years mentoring youth.

Those who worked alongside him say Sheppard's calm leadership, commitment and genuine care for cadets will be remembered long after his final parade. His legacy lives on in the confidence, skills and values he helped instill in countless young people in the Kindersley community.



Regan Overand is one of the 28 members of the Prairie Crocus Quilt Guild in Kindersley, which continues to grow as millennials and baby boomers share their love of quilting. This family tree quilt continues to expand as new generations are added. *SUBMITTED*

# Millennials and Baby Boomers share a love of quilting

BY JOAN JANZEN

The Prairie Crocus Quilt Guild in Kindersley continues to grow as millennials and baby boomers come together to share their love of quilting. Chairperson Regan Overand reports the guild now has 28 members, with the most recent joining last month.

Quilters travel from Eston, Eaton, Kerrobert, Smiley, Pinkham, Major and Kindersley to attend meetings, which are held on the second Tuesday evening of each month at the Kindersley Seniors Centre.

Overand has been a member of the guild for five years and has been quilting for 15 years. She notes that quilters of all skill levels — from beginners to seasoned experts — are welcome to join.

While some members have been crafting quilts for decades, Overand says eight members balance their passion for quilting with raising families and building careers. The guild has been active since 1982, and long-standing members are enthusiastic about welcoming younger women into the group.

"A lot of the younger ones learn by watching YouTube," Overand explained. In contrast, senior quilters remember taking classes offered at Veronica's Sewing Supplies. "They have knowledge and experience and can help us. It can be intimidating for younger quilters, but they're very welcoming

and very supportive."

Beyond quilting, the guild provides an opportunity to socialize and build friendships. Members also participate in weekend retreats held periodically and host a quilt show every second year during Goose Festival, where approximately 200 quilts are displayed.

"There's a group of ladies that do a lot of charity quilting," Overand said. Quilts have been donated to the hospital and fire department, and over the past four years, members have made quilts for all residents at West Central Abilities. "Every Christmas we make placemats for Meals on Wheels," she added. "It's a way to use our talents and give back to the community."

New members also bring fresh ideas and styles to the craft. Overand is currently updating a family tree quilt for her husband's family that was originally started in 2000. "I keep adding a big border so there's more room for additions," she said. Another member created a quilt using T-shirts from her high school years.

While quilting styles, techniques and tools have evolved over time, the motivation behind the craft remains unchanged. "I quilt all year long in my basement. I find it stress relieving," Overand said. "I mostly make quilts for friends and family. When people appreciate it, it makes it all worthwhile."

## NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nominations for election to the Board of Directors of the Kerrobert Credit Union will be

**ACCEPTED UNTIL FEB 24, 2026**

Director's qualifications and nomination forms are available from the Kerrobert and Major offices.


The Board of Directors of the Credit Union consists of nine members.

There are **THREE** Director positions for a three year term and **ONE** Director position for a one year term.

*If required, voting will be conducted at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on **MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026** at the **Prairieland Community Centre***



Kerrobert Credit Union Limited



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The Laporte Quilting Group recently donated 17 quilts to the Kindersley Hospital. Back row (l-r): Sharon Butt, Virginia Klarenbach, Candida Coventry, Marilyn Resch, Monica Buddecke, Deanna Mock, Marlene Lockwood, Janice Becker, Gail Morgan. Front row: Annika Becker, Glenna Nunweiler, Dianne Lowenburger. Missing: Janeen Specht, Garnet Nunweiler, Margaret Shipley, Linda Huck, Donna Boyd, and Bev Thompson. SUBMITTED

# Quilters share their warmth with others

BY JOAN JANZEN

The quilters have been busy this winter and are sharing their warmth with others. Last week, the Laporte quilting group presented seventeen of their handmade quilts to the Kindersley Hospital.

Eighteen members from the Laporte group get together once a week in the basement of the Laporte Community Hall. Virginia Klarenbach started the group back in 1999, and it has been forging ahead ever since.

“We’ve lost some members, but we always seem to find someone to fill the spot, and we don’t have to work hard at it either,” Virginia said. “For most people, it becomes an addiction. It gives a lot of satisfaction and is a stress reliever.” One of their 89-year-old members continues to enjoy her addiction of creating numerous quilts for her family.

They also do some charity work. “Just recently, we donated 163 small blankets to the NICU at the Jim Pattison Children’s Hospital,” Virginia reported.

The quilts make beautiful gifts, and the group enjoys getting together with friends. “It’s a great outing and support system,” she explained. “It’s great for anybody who lives on their own.”



Anika Becker, Clinical Services Manager; Courtney Weenk, RN; Jessica Ross; Taryn Murphy, RN; and Adeline Hailbert, RN. “The Kindersley & District Health Facility extends a heartfelt thank you for the generous donation of handmade crochet blankets and quilts. This kindness will bring comfort and warmth to residents and patients when they need it most.” SUBMITTED

# Business owner charged in arson that destroyed Leader business

LEADER, Sask. — RCMP have charged the owner of a business destroyed by fire in southwestern Saskatchewan last fall following a months-long investigation.

Leader RCMP say a 50-year-old man from Calgary was arrested Jan. 26 in connection with a fire that destroyed a business in the community of Leader in October 2025.

Rajinderpal Basran is charged with one count of arson with intent to defraud, one count of fraud over \$5,000 and one count of arson with disregard for human life under the Criminal Code. Basran was the owner of the business that burned.

Basran is scheduled to appear in provincial court in Leader on March 19.

The fire occurred early on Oct. 26, 2025. RCMP say officers were called to a structure fire at a business on 1st Avenue at about 2:40 a.m. Local firefighters also responded, but the building was de-



The charred remains of the Halfway Huddle Sports Bar in Leader, Sask., are shown following a fire on Oct. 26, 2025. PHOTO COURTESY OF AARON WENZEL

stroyed.

In the days following the fire, RCMP said evidence suggested the blaze was suspicious. Fire investigators with the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency were brought in to help determine the fire’s cause and origin.

As the investigation continued, police released surveillance video in December showing a suspect arriving at the business, breaking in and later leaving the area in a dark-coloured SUV. At the time, RCMP said the vehicle closely resembled a Jeep and asked the public for help identifying both the suspect and the vehicle.

RCMP have not said whether tips from the public contributed to the arrest. Police say the investigation remains ongoing.

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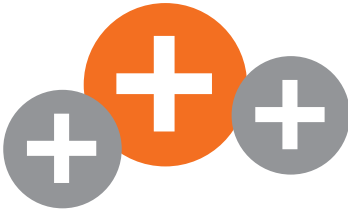


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# Spock would describe recent happenings as “highly illogical”

If you're a Star Trek fan, you may recall Spock raising his eyebrows and describing the actions of the native inhabitants of planet Omega IV as “highly illogical.” The phrase would be repeated in subsequent films and is also a fitting description of what's happening in Canada.

Canadian taxpayers have witnessed the federal bureaucracy increase year after year, while almost half of their income goes towards taxes, which finance our growing government. To put it in perspective, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) noted the amount the government spent on federal bureaucracy last year is equivalent to three times the entire budget of Saskatchewan.

However, it looks like the government is attempting to remedy the situation. The Canada Minute newsletter reported over 10,000 federal public servants received notice in January that the government plans to cut 28,000 positions over the next four years across twelve departments. Unions warned the reductions will affect essential services, causing longer wait times and weaker programs. But according to information provided by the CTF, this may not be true.

Franco Terrazzano from CTF gave the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) as an example. The CRA added 13,015 employees since 2016, a 33 percent increase. Nevertheless, the Auditor General's report said the CRA gave the correct answer about personal tax questions 17 percent of the time and that only one-third of Canadians who phoned the CRA actually got through to a live agent.

Furthermore, the CTF reports there are seven federal departments and agencies that have more than doubled their number of employees since 2016. Em-



Opinion  
By Joan Janzen

“That says to me that adding more bureaucrats doesn't improve services.”

Franco Terrazzano  
Canadian Taxpayers Federation

ployment and Social Development Canada added the most employees, which amounted to 16,842 additional employees since 2016—a 75 per cent increase.

Meanwhile, unions are demanding the government explain why experienced public servants are facing workforce reductions as outsourcing spending reaches record highs. However, increased outsourcing spending is not a new expenditure. Let's take a look.

The CTF reported that even though the cost of the federal bureaucracy increased 80 percent in the past ten years (from \$39.6 billion in 2015 to \$71.4 billion in 2025), the government also spent an additional \$23.1 billion on outsourcing services in 2025. That cost includes the services of consultants and contractors, which increased 11 percent over the previous year. In fact, Franco said the cost of outsourcing spending more than doubled during the past ten years.

While unions claim staff reductions will cause weaker programs, Franco made an observation that proves otherwise. “The government actually tracks government performance; you can find it online,” he said on a CTF podcast. “Over the last five years, they only met half of their own performance targets three times. They met less than 54 percent of their own performance targets in their best year.”

However, records show those same employees are rewarded for their poor performance, since the government approved \$406 million in bonuses in 2023–2024.

When Canadians were asked by Leger, a national polling firm, if they thought federal services improved

since 2015, fifty-four percent of Canadians said services have gotten worse since 2015.

“That says to me that adding more bureaucrats doesn't improve services,” he concluded.

In an attempt to remedy the situation, the government departments are offering early retirement without incurring a pension penalty. An article in the National Post delved into the early retirement offers. The headline reads: “Plan to reduce civil service will cost \$1.5 billion to cut payroll by just \$82 million.”

The article reads, “According to federal budget documents, the proposed early retirement incentive will cost an average of \$300 million for five years, all to deliver ongoing savings of \$82 million annually.” The article continues to say, “It wouldn't be until 2044 that the expected savings from the incentive would match the cost of making them.”

Ryan Davies, host of Northern Perspective, made the following observation. “So if you're paying public servants to leave on top of what they normally get, and it's going to take almost 20 years to get the savings back, what's the point? If you're going to cut them, then cut them.”

Franco from CTF voiced a similar observation. “The promise in the last budget is that in a couple of years Ottawa's headcount will be brought down to what it was at the end of 2021, during the heart of the pandemic spending spree,” he explained. “If bureaucrats are cut by 10 percent while bonuses and costs continue to go up, by 2028 it will still cost taxpayers about \$3 billion more than the bureaucracy cost in 2022, even after adjusting for inflation.”

Meanwhile, Canadians realize that the 99,000 additional employees added to the federal government during the past ten years doesn't mean taxpayers are receiving better service.

“You're not really saving money if it's costing you money to send these people on their way,” Ryan said. “If the point is to save taxpayer money, then save taxpayer money. Otherwise, there's no point to it.”

Or as Spock would say, “highly illogical.”

# HAVE YOUR SAY.

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Feign Support For Ukraine	Hold Love fest With Bibi	Happy New Year Message To MAGA	Denigrate Democrats	1 Blame Biden	2 Feign Outrage Over Iran Protest	3 Capture Maduro
4 Threaten Colombia	5 Cut Childhood Vaccines	6 Capitol Attack	7 Kill An ICE Protester	8 Restrict Congress	9 Trash Minnesota	10 Trash Illan Omar
11 Praise New Ballroom	12 GROK Comes to Pentagon	13 Flip Middle Finger at Auto worker	14 Shoot Another ICE Protester	15 Threaten To Enact the Insurrection Act	16 Claim Machado's Nobel Prize	17 Announce Greenland Takeover
18 Blame Biden	19 Trash Somalis	20 Detain Syr old In Minnesota	21 Trash NATO At Davos	22 J.D. Trashes ICE Protesters	23 Rescind Carney's Board of Peace Invite	24 Kill Another ICE Protester
25 Bessent Trashes Canada	26 Praise Greg Bovine	27 Pump Up Tom Holman	28 Send Arms To Iran	30	GREATEST MONTH FOR ANY LEADER EVER.	

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# Sane time or screen time?

Over the years I've written and performed literally 100s of performances. But one, called "Sacred Agents," keeps coming back to haunt me. It focused on the ways a new technology, called the "World Wide Web," would change our lives by hooking us to our computer screens.

I was just beginning to use a computer at the time. Up until then, I wrote everything by hand. Suffice it to say—I had no idea how a screen would alter our world, and our perceptions of it. Let alone our understanding of our relationships with the world and others. Above all, I could not grasp how thoroughly and rapidly the notion of "reality as relative" would turn our computers into silos, hiving us off from each other.

In my research I learned about a new illness attributed to the "internet." "Cyber sickness," manifested in the body as nausea, dizziness, vertigo, and insomnia. (Obesity and ADD came later.) The mental and psychic troubles included: extreme anxiety, hyper-vigilance, and dissociation. I came to understand that the internet, contrary to its promises, gave us hyper-connectivity without agency.

"Here is the body, made of flesh and bone, blood and guts, sweat and tears. Not buttons, not wires. But where is the dignity to which this animal aspires?"

Flash forward a few decades and Western culture is experiencing rampant use of a drug called: the screen. Psychologists, parents, cultural critics, spiritual advisors, and spouses spend hours discussing concerns around healthy amounts of "screen time."

"Screen time" starts early. I read that "experts suggest limiting non-educational screen time to under one hour a day for ages 2-5." Two- to five-year-olds are hooked on their screens? I didn't start using my opposable thumbs until I was ten! Those two-year-olds will not be self-policing. Who is going to watch the ponies now that they've already left the yard?

And so I give you: Top Ten Reasons For Walking Away From the Screen.

1. For most of us, movies were our gateway drug. The screen models behaviour. As a teen, I remember reading the words at the bottom of movie ads—"Warning: contains sex and violence." I thought: "They should say, Promise: contains sex and violence." Hollywood made sex violent and violence sexy; Mr. and Mrs. America became Mr. Violence and Mrs. Sexy.

I have an Oscar night fantasy. It involves actors, one after another, stepping up to the podium and announcing they will no longer portray gun-toting hotties in propaganda films. No more pumped-up, scowling, chest-baring, rationalizing loose cannons brandishing the kind of firearms accessorizing every ICE agent in Minnesota. And no more frightened citizens packing pistols as a solution to "taking on the system," either.

Imagine an actor who can see beyond the myopic vision of a culture they participated in creating? A culture that shoots first and asks questions never.



Pop89  
By Madonna Hamel

2. The screen robs us of our own imaginations. We can turn off the screen and tell our own stories, and be a character in our own story. As Harold Johnson writes: "A victim is a character in someone else's story." Don't be a victim.

3. The ubiquitous screen has dulled us, lulled us, made us feel helpless and hopeless. When the newscaster is about to show us a video of a citizen being shot 8-9-10 times, do we look away when she says: "These images may be disturbing to some?" There is no "safe word" when masochistically exposing ourselves to the sadism emitting from the screen. Nor is there a magic word for bringing back the capacity to still feel disturbed, concerned, tender. Many screens produce much numbness. If you want to preserve your remaining shred of human dignity, turn off the screen. Go outside.

4. Screens make reality seem relative. Once separated from reality, our experience is mediated by the screen. In the comfort and safety of our buildings, we become entertained by the darkest behaviours. Along with Trump, we watch Venezuela burn. "I watched it literally, like I was watching a TV show. And if you would have seen the speed, the violence. It was amazing." If only we had his kind of access to the "amazing" violence. Oh well—pass the popcorn.

5. Then there's the phone screen. How many natural vistas have we missed, sitting in the back seat, playing video games? How creepy is the energy a man gives off while looking at porn on his phone, held under the restaurant table, while mom tries to keep a conversation going with the children, pretending she doesn't know what he's looking at—knowing she's lost him to the biggest addiction the screen ever enabled. As a new CBC reporter, I was chilled by a trade magazine columnist proclaiming the new opportunities that came with the invention of the cell phone: "Now you can watch your favourite porn at the family picnic," he wrote.

6. Screen time is what people like Trump live for. They scrounge around at the bottom of the barrel for attention-grabbing trash talk. Like we would for a toddler or a teen, we need to take away his screen time. To reporters: quit scurrying after him for a quote that won't make sense, or give clarity, or show any semblance of connection to the truth. Yes, I know: the longer the rant, the easier it is to get a jaw-droppingly cruel or bombastic clip. Why, it's like shooting fish in a barrel—there are so many choices! Until: who cares if it's true? Lies sell even better.

7. Your screen decides for you. It lines up your "choices," so you don't have to.

8. The screen ignores the wild world just outside your door. Encountering the Great Outdoors is still the best response to the damage done by the screen. Reject the algorithms and get back your own—and the earth's—bodily rhythm.

9. The screen ignores your soul because it isn't aware souls exist.

10. The screen ignores other souls, as well. We get our souls back by greeting and meeting others, soul-to-soul—through genuine and gentle encounters with ourselves and with each other. We start by shaking hands (or paws), or holding hands. And, in my case, writing everything by hand, again.

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"Where Quality Comes First!"

Members of the Kindersley Klippers prepare breakfast for students and families at Westberry Elementary School last week. The annual event brings together families, staff and players to share a meal, with the Klippers handling the cooking and serving.

PHOTO COURTESY  
WESTBERRY SCHOOL





# Just a gal from Glidden

## Hope springs eternal (and please, please let it be cloudy)

BY KATE WINQUIST

Well, here we are—already into February. How did that happen? February always brings with it that age-old question: will that furry little rodent see his shadow or won't he? I can never remember whether we're supposed to cheer or groan, so I finally looked it up. If the groundhog emerges from his burrow and sees his shadow, he scurries back inside and we're stuck with six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't see it, spring arrives early.

So please, please let it be cloudy on Monday. Now, I'll admit, this winter hasn't been that bad—but as the saying goes, "Hope springs eternal," and lately it feels like we could all use a healthy dose of that. February is also Heart Month, and our friends at the Kindersley & District Health & Wellness Board

will once again be canvassing for donations for their Heart to Heart campaign. This year's focus is on updating the dining area for residents at Heritage Manor, along with purchasing a much-needed Medication Cart for Acute Care. The estimated cost for these projects is approximately \$65,000. So when that familiar pink piece of paper shows up in your mailbox, I hope you'll consider supporting this very worthwhile cause.

And speaking of hearts... is love in the air? Valentine's Day isn't just for romantic couples. It's a chance to celebrate every kind of love in your life—your friends, your children, your family members, and yes, even your co-workers. Everyone deserves to be reminded how much they're appreciated.

This time of year always makes me reflect on life-long friendships—especially since one of my dearest friends is celebrating a birthday this week. Back in high school, we had a pretty tight-knit group, and every time I look at this photo of the nine of us (circa 1987), I can't help but smile. Is it the acid-wash jeans? The industrial-strength hairspray? The hairstyles that required both commitment and courage?

Probably all of the above. What a time it was—playing basketball, cruising Main Street for hours on end, passing notes in Mr. Gordon's Biology class, drinking Bianca in Erickson's basement... Some of those stories may or may not be suitable for print. I'm not saying I'd want to relive

my high school days, but I would love to pile into Koska's big red Suburban one more time, crank up some Bon Jovi, Poison, or Tom Petty (sorry, Danora—I know you still don't like Tom Petty!), and just go for a drive.

I consider myself incredibly fortunate that after being away for almost 30 years, I was able to come back to Kindersley and still sit down for lunch with a few of these beauties, picking up conversations as if I had never left. Those friendships are forever treasured.

New friendships have blossomed over the years as well, especially through work. Joan Janzen is one of the most thoughtful and caring individuals you could ever hope to meet. Greg Paulhus and I have known each other since Grade 1 at Westberry School, and truthfully, without Greg's support—especially when it came to creating our website and sharing his knowledge of the newspaper industry—I'm not sure I would have felt comfortable starting from scratch.

And then there's the woman I work alongside every week through texts and emails: Patti Moran, whom I have never met in person. Patti works remotely from our nation's capital, and sometimes I wonder if we weren't separated at birth (even though she is MUCH older than I). We are clearly wired the same. We'll text each other at the exact same moment, asking the exact same thing. Honestly, it kind of freaks me out.

So on February 14, do something small to show

your appreciation for someone you love. Better yet—don't limit it to just one day. Let the people in your life know how much they mean to you, and the positive impact they have simply by being there. Because love, like hope, is always worth sharing.



**Back Row:** Sheri Cook  
**Middle Row:** Katie Drummond, Shawn Tailer, Janice Walde, Michelle Erickson  
**Front Row:** Karla Longmire, Danora Weber, Michelle Campbell, Trina Koska  
**Missing:** Kathy Auger, Francie McCallum

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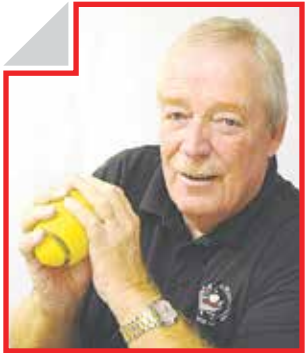
# Koepka alone in return to PGA Tour

What could have been a mad dash by some of the greatest golfers in the world from the upstart LIV tour back to the PGA Tour turned out to be hardly a trickle. Does one even count as a trickle?

Brooks Koepka, a five-time major champion who is one of a handful of big names who took the Saudi Arabian money and fled the PGA Tour a couple of years ago, had buyer's remorse in December and announced to the world he was leaving LIV.

Paul Simon wrote in the 1970s that there are 50 ways to leave your lover, but would there be a few more ways for the LIVers to leave the LIV? The PGA Tour brass wanted to find out, so they hastily established what they called the "Returning Member Program" which specifically targeted the cream of the LIV crop — Koepka, Bryson DeChambeau, Jon Rahm and Cam Smith. Criteria set out by the PGA said the program was open only to major champions or Players' champs who won their titles between the years of 2022 and 2025. Those four aforementioned players all fit the criteria while everyone else — Phil Mickelson, Dustin Johnson, Patrick Reed, Sergio Garcia and others — didn't fit the qualifying terms, nor did they have the star power sought by the PGA Tour. They therefore didn't qualify for return to the bright lights of what is indisputably the best pro tour in the world.

Given a deadline of Feb. 2 to accept the PGA Tour's offer, DeChambeau, Rahm and Smith all immediately pledged their fealty to LIV and left Koepka as the lone returnee. SI.com said Smith was committed to his all-Australian team on LIV while Rahm's contract with the breakaway tour runs through 2027. DeChambeau is a superstar in the YouTube golf world and has earning power from that source potentially greater than what he could accumulate playing on



Sports  
By Bruce Penton

"I've got a lot of work to do with the players and I want to do that one-on-one. I want to have those conversations, but behind closed doors."

Brooks Koepka

regular tours. New PGA Tour commissioner Brian Rolapp said there was no guarantee the Tour would leave the return window open forever. "Once the door closes, there is no promise that this path will be available again," said Rolapp.

Koepka's return to the PGA Tour didn't come without some financial pain. He will have to make a \$5 million charitable donation; he won't be eligible for the 2026 Fed-Ex Cup \$100 million bonus program; he will not be able to play in the Tour's big-money signature events in 2026; and he will not be able to earn any money from the Player Equity Program for five years. That last condition could reportedly be worth up to \$80 million.

"The penalty is significant, but I understand why they've done it. It hurts but it's supposed to," Koepka told Golfweek. "I've got a lot of work to do with the players and I want to do that one-on-one. I want to have those conversations, but behind closed doors."

Initial reports said the majority of PGA Tour players are glad to have Koepka back but while LIV will survive, it's more irrelevant than ever without Koepka.

Cathal Kelly of the Globe and Mail, on Brooks Koepka's return to the PGA Tour: "You almost feel sorry for the Saudis. They made Koepka monstrously rich, and in return he shanked them. But

- when you pay mercenary money, you get mercenaries."
- Comedy guy Torben Rolfen of Vancouver: "Senators' captain Brady Tkachuk says he's giving up fighting after undergoing thumb surgery. Oh well, he'll always have his stick."
  - Snipped from Jack Finarelli's sportscurmudgeon.com: "Jake Gaither, longtime head coach at Florida A and M, on his ideal defensive player: 'He should be agile, mobile and hostile.'"
  - David Aldridge of The Athletic, on AI challenges facing sports journalism: "You don't get rich being a reporter, but you can make a decent buck. In contrast, ChatGPT can write a decent paragraph or two, for free, and never complains about having to fly Southwest to get to Cleveland."
  - Columnist Norman Chad: "Enough with Joey Chestnut. Now he's going for the world bagel eating championship. He's just stuffing wieners and bagels down his throat while the world burns."
  - Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun, about Flames' Jonathan Huberdeau, who had 21 points in 45 games with the Flames through Jan. 24: "Hard to believe, but just four years ago, Huberdeau had 115 points in a season. Honest."
  - Steve Simmons again: "Without Bo Bichette, the Blue Jays still need one solid bat, one starting pitcher, one high-leverage relief pitcher and more affordable tickets."
  - Headline at theonion.com: "Groundskeeper Unsure What To Do With Unconscious Player Left In Medical Tent"
  - From Fox 29 in Philadelphia: "Flyers' mascot Gritty paid \$250,000 per year, only \$3,000 less than the Pennsylvania governor."
  - Another one from Torben Rolfen: "TV networks are courting former Steelers coach Mike Tomlin. Fox would like him for their NFL studio show while NBC is considering him for a reboot of Different Strokes."

Care to comment? Email [brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca)

## Klippers' Schneider to coach Sask at Canada Games

KINDERSLEY—Kindersley Klippers head coach Kyle Schneider will take his coaching experience to the provincial stage after being named an assistant coach with Team Saskatchewan's under-16 boys team for the 2027 Canada Winter Games in Quebec.

In his first season as Klippers head coach, Schneider has continued to build his résumé after previously serving as

an assistant with the La Ronge Ice Wolves from 2022 to 2025 and with Team Saskatchewan at the 2025 WHL Cup.

The Prince Albert, Sask., native played junior hockey with the Melfort Mustangs, Ice Wolves and Selkirk Steelers before turning to coaching.

The men's hockey competition at the 2027 Canada Winter Games will be held Feb. 26 to March 7 in Quebec.



PHOTO KINDERSLEY KLIPPERS



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- These prestigious awards are given to youths who:
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  - Volunteer within their community and school
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  - Are between the ages of 8 and 18

This year, four deserving youths will receive a **\$3,000 bursary**, provided by SaskPower, to use towards their post-secondary education.

## JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR STEM AWARD

Introduced in 2025, The Junior Citizen of the Year STEM Award will recognize a Saskatchewan youth who contains all the same qualities of a Junior Citizen of the Year but **has an aptitude for science, technology, engineering, or mathematics**. This award is eligible for all students, including but not limited to, young women, and underrepresented communities.

This year, one deserving youth will receive a **\$3,000 bursary**, provided by Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan, to use towards their post-secondary education.

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Visit [www.swna.com](http://www.swna.com) for further information and nomination forms  
**Nominations close March 31, 2026**



# Bingo night boosts programs at Elizabeth Middle School

BY JOAN JANZEN

A full house filled Elizabeth Middle School on Thursday evening, Jan. 29, as families gathered for the school's annual Family Bingo night. Now in its third year, the student-led event featured bingo games, a cake auction and a raffle, all made possible through the generosity of local businesses and community members who donated prizes. Raffle tickets were quickly snapped up as participants settled in for the evening.

Among the first to arrive was Lillian Soderholm, who had her bingo cards laid out and ready well before the first game. "When does the bingo start?" she asked eagerly as the gym continued to fill with families.

One of the highlights of the evening was the Grade 8 cake auction, which showcased an array of themed creations made by students with help from their parents. Cakes ranged in design and flavour, including a colourful Cookie Monster cake that drew plenty of attention from bidders. Proceeds from the auction will help fund the Grade 8 class's overnight camping trip later this year.

Funds raised through bingo ticket sales will support school trips, upgrades to the food lab, the school meal program and other student initiatives, making the evening both entertaining and impactful for the entire school community.



PHOTOS BY JOAN JANZEN

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TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Editor.

This letter is now in the hands of all Members of our federal Parliament.

Poking around the internet looking for that illusive and sacred truth has become a time-consuming exercise in futility.

Social media and talk-show hosts have become very popular while our WOKE politicians and a confused judiciary are fully engaged fragmenting and re-defining our country.

Carney's new world order is slowly coming into focus. As a long-time banker he knows money, but policy and direction is still in a dense fog. Arbitrarily awarding a bunch of non-Indigenous people VETO powers over land use and resource development is simply incomprehensible.

Land ownership should be on top of the page. Ownership must be 'cut in stone', as it is the very foundation, we absolutely MUST HAVE to stabilize our already fragile financial, socio-economic, and political environments.

Today the doors are wide-open for big multi-national corporations to scoop our precious and overpriced housing properties, making home ownership for Canadian middle-class workers completely out of reach.

Huge global corporations have been busy buying our land and housing properties, while Trudeau was busy transforming Canada into a world class refugee camp.

Economic immigrants we desperately needed to grow our economy are leaving through our back doors. About 1.25 million TFWs are taking their jobs, and more than half-a-million people are collecting EI.

Total aggregate federal and provincial overspending for 2025 – 2026 alone is projected to be in excess of 113 billion dollars, while about 80% of so-called Indigenous residents still rely on social assistance. The Chiefs are getting the bulk of our resource royalties we need to build municipal, provincial, and federal infrastructure .

Our colonial political system has left the doors wide open for radical changes in ownership of our land, and the destruction of our working middle class. Without the land, and the people to work it, we are truly screwed. We will all be tenants. We are well on our way.

A Proportional ballot is the only 'weapon' that completely destroys that incredible lock our Premier David Eby has on the BC Legislature.

Adopting, implementing, and using a Proportional ballot to pass legislation will require the support of at least 50% of all eligible voters, not 5%, and nobody will have VETO powers.

Without that ballot we can kiss Canada as we know it good bye, and follow the US and the UK down that ugly colonial political sewer. The Eby's and the Carneys of the world do not want to perform their electoral mandate to govern, they want to Rule, and Carney wants a mandate to bury that truth we so desperately need to have closure on reconciliation.

Andy Thomsen  
Kelowna BC

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# Biggar's Garrett Hawkins closing in on Major Leagues

BY KATE WINQUIST

From a small west-central Saskatchewan community better known for grain elevators than radar guns, Garrett Hawkins is steadily pitching his way toward baseball's biggest stage.

The 6-foot-5 right-hander from Biggar has emerged as one of the San Diego Padres' top pitching prospects, capping a remarkable comeback season in 2025 that earned him a spot on the club's 40-man Major League roster and put him firmly on the radar for a future big-league call-up.

Drafted by San Diego in the ninth round of the 2021 MLB Draft, Hawkins has taken a long and winding road to this point — one that included leaving the province to chase elite competition, battling serious injury, and proving he belongs among the game's rising arms.

After developing at the Vauxhall Academy of Baseball in Alberta and pitching collegiately at the University of British Columbia, Hawkins entered professional baseball with promise but faced a major setback in 2023 when an arm injury led to Tommy John surgery, sidelining him for most of two seasons.

When he returned to the mound in 2025, the results were emphatic.

Used primarily out of the bullpen, Hawkins dominated at both High-A Fort Wayne and Double-A San Antonio, posting a 1.50 earned-run average over 60 in-

nings, striking out 80 batters and allowing very little solid contact. At one point, he rattled off a scoreless streak approaching 40 consecutive innings, one of the longest in the minor leagues last season.

The Padres took notice.

In November, the organization added Hawkins to its 40-man roster, protecting him from the Rule 5 draft and signaling confidence that the Saskatchewan product could soon contribute at the major-league level.

Armed with a fastball that has touched 98 miles per hour and a sharp breaking pitch, Hawkins has transitioned seamlessly from starter to power reliever — a role increasingly valued in today's game. The Padres recognized that progress by naming him their Minor League Pitcher of the Year.

For Biggar and the surrounding west-central Saskatchewan region, Hawkins' ascent is a source of pride. Saskatchewan has produced only a handful of Major League players, and Hawkins is now within striking distance of becoming the next.

While his journey has taken him thousands of kilometres from home, those roots remain central to his story — proof that elite talent can emerge from even the smallest prairie towns.

As spring training approaches, Hawkins will arrive with a legitimate chance to push for his Major League debut, carrying with him not just Padres expectations, but the hopes of a hometown that has been following every inning.



Garrett Hawkins

## HOCKEY NEWS

# SWHL, CRHL release award winners

BY PHIL HEILMAN

Friday was a busy day for both the Sask West Hockey League and the Cross Roads Hockey Leagues as they both revealed award winners

**Sask West**

1st Team All-Stars: Goal – Logan Drackett (Kindersley), Defense – Daniel Hilsendager and Derek Keller (Wilkie), Forwards – Rick Cey (Wilkie), Jonathon Redlick (Biggar) and Jaxon Georget (Kindersley).

2nd Team All Stars: Goal – Taryn Kotchorek (Edam), Defense – Carson Grolla (Kindersley) and Tyler Baier (Macklin), Forwards – Keegan Tiringer (Edam), Shayne Neigum (Kindersley), Linden McCorrister (Asquith).

Top Scorer was earned by Jaxon Georget (18G, 27A for 45 PTS in 15 games), while the Coach of the Year was given to Les Aylward and Gary McManus of the Kindersley Klippers.

Rookie of the Year was handed out to Rhett Partington of the Macklin Mohawks, who had 4 goals and 6 assists, good for 10 points in 15 games played.

Both the Best Defensive Forward and Most Gentlemanly Player awards were given to Ryne Keller of the Wilkie Outlaws, while brother Derek won the

Top Defenseman and League MVP awards.

The Harvey Somerville Memorial Award was handed to Jerome Ehry. The Somerville award is a prestigious award given to an individual to recognize their years of service in both hockey in their town and the Sask West Hockey League. It was created in 2006 to commemorate the work of Harvey, who was a longtime supporter of the Eaton Huskies and the Sask West Hockey League.

The Bill Cey Memorial Award was given to Tyler Baier of the Macklin Mohawks. The Cey award is another prestigious award given to a hometown player who exemplifies work ethics in both on and off ice activities in their communities. This award was created in 2023 to honour Bill, who was a very avid supporter of the Wilkie Outlaws.

**Cross Roads**

Top Scorer honours went to Jordan Johnston of the Rosetown Redwings (17G, 15A for 32 PTS in 10 games), while Coach of the Year went to Curtis McLean of the Unity Miners.

Best Defensive Forward award was won by Jon MacDonald of the Dodsland Stars. Most Gentlemanly award was given to Troy Joyce, also of the Dodsland Stars.

Noah Gumpinger of the Unity Miners took home

the Rookie of the Year. He went 4-1 in 5 GP, sporting a 2.20 GAA and 0.904 Save %.

The Redwings took the rest of the awards, with Best Goalie being awarded to Noah Martens, Best Defenseman given to Eric Robbie, and Jordan Johnston taking home League MVP.

# TAX TIPS


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**Pipeline Online.ca**  
Saskatchewan's Energy News

# SaskPower launches review of large nuclear reactor option

SaskPower and the Saskatchewan government say they have begun a formal process to evaluate large nuclear reactor technologies as part of the province's long-term electricity planning.

The review will run alongside SaskPower's existing work on small modular reactors, or SMRs, as Saskatchewan looks to expand its supply of non-emitting power and meet growing demand in the coming decades.

Jeremy Harrison said the province's Energy Security Strategy includes both SMRs and large-scale nuclear generation, using uranium produced in Saskatchewan.

Harrison said nuclear power, combined with expanded interprovincial transmission capacity, would help strengthen Saskatchewan's energy security and position the province as a power exporter.

Nuclear generation has been used in Canada for more than 60 years and provides a reliable source of electricity without greenhouse-gas emissions.



Jeremy Harrison

SaskPower president and chief executive Rupen Pandya said the utility will work with experienced nuclear operators and continue engagement with Indigenous rights-holders, communities and businesses as it assesses the potential for large reactors in the province.

Pandya said bringing a large reactor into service would likely take 15 to 20 years, making early planning essential.

Before any construction could proceed, SaskPower would need to complete extensive regulatory reviews, site selection and public engagement.

SaskPower's SMR project is continuing separately. The utility expects to identify a site for Saskatchewan's first small modular reactor near Estevan later this year.

# Saskatchewan promotes mining, energy investment on western Canada tour

Saskatchewan's energy and resources minister is promoting the province as a top destination for mining and energy investment during a multi-day visit to British Columbia and Alberta focused on export access, infrastructure and interprovincial cooperation.

Chris Beaudry said the trip is aimed at supporting growth in Saskatchewan's resource sectors by strengthening connections to markets and working with other jurisdictions to improve shared infrastructure.

Beaudry attended the Western Mining Ministers Summit in Vancouver on Jan. 25, where ministers from western provinces and northern territories discussed economic corridors and access to export routes, including ports on the northwest coast, Hudson Bay and Grays Bay. The ministers signed a memorandum of understanding committing to reduce unnecessary delays for major natural resource projects as part of efforts toward a Western Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy.

Saskatchewan is Canada's largest primary producer of critical minerals, including potash and uranium, and the province has been positioning itself as a key supplier for global supply chains.

On Jan. 26, Beaudry attended AME Roundup, a major mineral exploration conference in Vancouver, where he met with resource companies and toured a



Chris Beaudry

lithium processing facility operated by Saltworks Technologies Inc. Saltworks is working with EMP Metals Corp. on Project Aurora, a lithium refining demonstration plant planned for southeastern Saskatchewan. The project has received provincial support through the Critical Minerals Innovation

Incentive.

The minister also visited the Port of Vancouver, one of the main export gateways for Saskatchewan commodities. Provincial officials say expanding port capacity is increasingly important as production grows across sectors such as potash, energy products and critical minerals.

Beaudry concluded the trip in Calgary on Jan. 28 with meetings focused on Saskatchewan's oil and gas industry and the province's target of increasing production to 600,000 barrels per day by 2030.

The government says it will continue working with industry to support investment and long-term competitiveness in the sector.



This is the Tableland switchyard, under construction west of Estevan. It will be the point where an additional 500 megawatts of power can be sent or received to or from the US. The photo was taken on Jan. 20, 2026.

PHOTO BY BRIAN ZINCHUK





The community of Denzil hosts their annual Denzil Days in June. Events like these need volunteers to ensure their continued success. FILE PHOTO

# Volunteers sought for Denzil Recreation Board events

BY KATE WINQUIST

**DENZIL** — The Denzil Recreation Board is seeking community volunteers to help support upcoming events and activities.

Volunteers play a vital role in ensuring the success of local functions, and the board relies on their time and commitment to continue operating community events. Opportunities to volunteer also offer a chance to meet new people and learn more about the work the Recreation Board does in the community.

Upcoming events include bonspiels, tractor pulls, and the annual shrimp and steak fest. No prior experience is required—only a willingness to help and support community initiatives.

Those interested in being added to the volunteer list or learning more are encouraged to contact any board member or Flo Frenette at 306-753-8076. Every volunteer contribution is appreciated and helps make a difference in the community.

# Who are Kindersley’s Welcome Wagon Ambassadors?

BY JOAN JANZEN

The Welcome Wagon group has been visiting newcomers to Kindersley during the past year, and are waiting patiently for warmer weather when people begin to think about relocating. However this is the perfect opportunity to introduce the members of their team.

Kyla Janzen joined Welcome Wagon because she feels it’s important to extend kindness and energy to people who make Kindersley their new home. She also spent time visiting businesses and telling them about Welcome Wagon, when it was introduced last fall.

“Most people already heard about it and were excited that it was back,” she said. “People were more than willing to help promote it and contribute coupons and items to the welcome packages.”

If you happen to hear of any people who have been brave enough to move during the cold winter months, be sure to contact Welcome Wagon at 306-500-1173.



Kyla Janzen is a member of Welcome Wagon in Kindersley. PHOTO BY JOAN JANZEN

# RCMP report multiple incidents across Unity, Wilkie and Macklin

RCMP responded to a range of incidents across the communities of Unity, Wilkie and Macklin in recent days, including fraud complaints, traffic-related matters and requests for assistance.

In Unity, police are investigating a reported fraud and a hit-and-run incident that resulted in vehicle damage. Officers also received a complaint of a suspicious individual near a residence, but patrols were unable to locate the person described.

Police were asked to conduct a wellbeing check on a family member, though the request was later cancelled after the individual was located. During a storm, officers responded to a report of a vehicle in the ditch and transported the occupants to a local hotel for the night.

RCMP also attended a two-vehicle collision within the town. No injuries were reported and no charges were laid. A reported break and enter at a residence was determined to be unfounded, and police noted one false alarm during the reporting period.

During traffic enforcement, officers issued a 60-day roadside suspension. In a separate incident, police attempted a traffic stop, but the vehicle fled at a high rate of speed. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle, and its information was shared with neighbouring detachments.

In Wilkie, RCMP received a fraud complaint; however, there was insufficient evidence to proceed with the investigation. Officers also conducted

**RCMP investigating break-ins**

Saskatchewan RCMP are investigating a series of break and enters reported across several central Saskatchewan communities earlier this month.

Between Jan. 5 and Jan. 8, 2026, RCMP responded to multiple reports of break-ins within the Craik, Biggar and Unity detachment areas. Investigators determined that several businesses and community centres in Davidson, Perdue, Biggar and Unity were targeted over the four-day period.

Police say forced entry caused damage at multiple locations, and cash was reported stolen in several of the incidents.

RCMP are continuing to investigate and are working to determine whether some or all of the break-ins are connected. As part of the investigation, officers canvassed the areas around the affected locations for witnesses and surveillance footage.

Unity RCMP obtained video footage of a suspect believed to be male attempting to break into a building on 1st Avenue South in Unity at approximately 11:30 p.m. on Jan. 7. Police say the suspect was unsuccessful in gaining entry.

The individual was described as wearing a black hoodie, blue jeans, gloves and a face covering. Police noted the suspect has a distinctive walk, taking short strides and appearing to slightly favour his right foot.

Shortly after that incident, a photo believed to show the same suspect was captured during a break and enter at a community building on 7th Avenue East in Unity.

Call 310-RCMP. Anonymous tips can also be submitted to Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com).

a wellbeing check at the request of a family member. CN Police reported a railway crossing malfunction in a rural area near Wilkie, which was noted for information purposes.

In Macklin, police are investigating a complaint of assault with a weapon. RCMP also responded to a Mental Health Act-related call and spoke with the individual involved.

Several investigations remain ongoing.



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**TOWN OF KINDERSLEY**  
Local Government Election  
FORM H (Section 66 of the Act)

**NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**  
(Municipal Elections)

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office of:

**Councillor: Town of Kindersley**  
**Number to be Elected: ONE (1)**

Will be received by the undersigned on the **18th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026** from **9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.** at **TOWN OF KINDERSLEY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - 106-5th AVENUE EAST.**

AND


During regular business hours on **MONDAY TO FRIDAY** from **8:30 AM TO 4:30 PM, JANUARY 27th, 2026,** to **FEBRUARY 18th, 2026,** at **TOWN OF KINDERSLEY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - 106 - 5th AVENUE EAST**

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location:

**TOWN OF KINDERSLEY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**  
**106-5th AVENUE EAST, KINDERSLEY, SASKATCHEWAN**

Dated this 27th day of January 2026.

**Marty Baroni**  
Returning Officer



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**AG OUTLOOK 2026**  
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Tuesday, February 10

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# RCMP report multiple incidents, impaired driving charge

Rosetown/Kyle RCMP responded to a range of calls across west-central Saskatchewan between Jan. 23 and Jan. 29, including fraud complaints, break and enters and an impaired driving incident.

On Jan. 25, officers were called to a disturbance in Rosetown shortly after midnight. Police spoke with the parties involved and no further action was required. Later that day, RCMP received a report of a gas-and-dash at a Rosetown business.

Police received multiple fraud-related complaints on Jan. 26, including one in Fiske and another involving a fraudulent \$100 bill in Elrose. Both matters remain under investigation. That afternoon, officers assisted the Combined Traffic Services Unit with a 60-day provincial driving suspension on Highway 7 near Fiske.

RCMP also investigated a report of suspicious persons in the RM of Lacadena, which remains ongoing, and responded to a disturbance at the Elrose Uniplex. No further action was required in that case.

Later that evening, officers were dispatched to an erratic driving complaint on Highway 7 near Zealandia. While en route, police were advised the vehicle had entered the ditch. Following an investigation, the driver was charged with impaired operation of a motor vehicle.

On Jan. 27, RCMP received a report of a break and enter at a Rosetown business. The investigation is ongoing. Police also responded to a trespassing complaint in Kyle, which was resolved without further action, and a report of vehicle vandalism in Rosetown that remains under investigation.

Early on Jan. 28, RCMP were notified by the Beechy Fire Department of a structure fire in the RM of Victory. Police attendance was not required. Later that morning, officers and EMS responded to a motor vehicle collision in the RM of Lacadena, where minor injuries were reported.

That afternoon, RCMP were dispatched to a possible break and enter at a residence in Rosetown. The investigation remains ongoing.

Between Jan. 23 and Jan. 29, Rosetown/Kyle RCMP issued 42 traffic-related charges and responded to two 911 misdial calls and one false alarm.

Police are asking anyone with information related to these or any other crimes to contact the Rosetown RCMP at 306-882-5700 or Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com).

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## TeleMiracle 50 adds four nationally recognized cast members

SASKATOON — TeleMiracle has announced four additional cast members for its historic 50th broadcast, adding nationally recognized broadcaster George Stroumboulopoulos, comedians Myles Morrison and Matt Donlevy, and CTV Regina weather and community anchor Sabeen Ahmad.

TeleMiracle 50 will run for an expanded 22 hours, beginning at 7 p.m. on Feb. 28 and concluding at 5 p.m. on March 1, 2026. The anniversary broadcast will take place at Prairieland Park in Saskatoon.

TeleMiracle is an annual telethon in support of the Kinsmen Foundation, which provides medical travel assistance and mobility and special needs equipment to Saskatchewan residents. Over its history, TeleMiracle has raised more than \$171 million for people across the province.



Previously announced cast members include legacy performers Beverley Mahood, Brad Johnner, Jeffery Straker and the TeleMiracle House Band, as well as TSN host Kate Beirness, radio personality Clayton Kroeker, country artist Jojo Mason, and actor and producer Sera-Lys McArthur.


The Backstage Lounge cast features disability advocate and past Kinsmen Foundation recipient Shailynn Taylor and podcast host Gary Nickel. The broadcast will also include special appearances by Brock Andrews, Brodie Siebert, Jay Semko and Danica Lorier, Munroe & Patrick, Northern Air and The Steadies, along with performances from 70 Saskatchewan-based talents.

“Our cast and performers make the show what it is, and we are so fortunate to host an event that raises funds for people in need across Saskatchewan,”

said TeleMiracle 50 chair Tammy Blackwell. “We’re grateful to present an entertaining show year after year that truly makes a difference.”

Donations to TeleMiracle can be made year-round through the Kinsmen Foundation, including through Helping Hands campaigns, Saskatchewan Talent fundraising pages and local Kin, Kinettes and Kinsmen clubs. Donations can also be made during the telethon weekend or online at [telemiracle.com](http://telemiracle.com).

TeleMiracle enters its 50th year in 2026, continuing its mission of helping Saskatchewan residents improve their quality of life and independence.

**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
Get help with substance abuse.

**Monday:** Kindersley AA Meeting  
8:00 PM, Legion Hall, 118 - 2nd Avenue East  
AA Upstairs, Alanon Downstairs

**Tuesday:** Brock AA Meeting  
8:00 PM, Vesper Club, 1st Avenue North


**Tuesday:** Leader AA Meeting  
8:00 PM, Leader United Church, 1st St. W.

**Wednesday:** Eston AA Meeting  
8 PM, St. Andrew's United Church, 1st St. W.

**Friday:** Kindersley AA Meeting  
8:00 PM, Lutheran Church, 807 - 3rd Ave. W.

**Narcotics Anonymous**

**Tuesday:** Kindersley NA Meeting  
7:30 PM, 113 Main Street





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- Cabinets

304 - 12th Avenue East, Kindersley, Sask - CALL 306-463-0066





## 5 reasons to work in the community sector

- Working in the community sector can be motivating and rewarding. Community organizations offer many advantages. Here are five good reasons to consider a career in this field.
- 1. Real impact.** When you work for a community organization, you directly support your neighbours and coworkers. You support worthy causes and participate in projects that promote fairness and improve the quality of life for everyone.
  - 2. Strong values.** Community organizations operate on social values, such as solidarity, equality and respect. Every day, you'll work alongside passionate people who truly want to make a difference.
  - 3. Openness to ideas.** Unlike more hierarchical workplaces, community organizations are often environments where you can suggest new ideas and play a part in shaping how things are done. All ideas are welcome!
  - 4. Continuous learning.** Community sector roles often allow you to wear many hats. There's always something new for you to learn, and you're also constantly growing your capabilities and learning new skills.
  - 5. Teamwork.** Teamwork and mutual support drive non-profit organizations. You'll work closely with colleagues, volunteers, clients and partners. People who get involved in local organizations often form strong, lasting connections.
- In short, no matter the position you hold, whether in communications, administration, maintenance, food services or accounting, community work gives meaning to your life.
- Are you looking for meaningful work? Explore job openings with organizations in your area today.

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

#### R.M. of Lacadena No. 228 GENERAL LABOURER

The R.M. of Lacadena No. 228 is accepting applications for a General Labourer for the 2026 construction season (April 1 - October 31).

Must be able to lift 50 lbs and work outside in all weather conditions. Class 5 drivers license required. Please forward resumes to the undersigned.

**R.M. of Lacadena No. 228  
Box 610  
Kyle, SK S0L 1T0**

**Fax: 306-375-4705 Email: [rm228@sasktel.net](mailto:rm228@sasktel.net)**

*For more information contact the  
R.M of Lacadena off ce at 306-375-4753.*

PLEASE APPLY BY FEBRUARY 15, 2026

### R.M. of HAPPYLAND No. 231 - FOR SALE BY TENDER

- The **Rural Municipality of Happyland No. 231** offers for sale the following property.  
**Property Description:**  
Roll 3316: **Prelate 116 Cardinal St** (Lots 15-18 Block 1 Plan O1720)  
Roll 3336: **Prelate 211 Railway Ave** (Lots 5-8 Block 3 Plan O1720)  
Roll 3459: **Prelate 99 Railway Ave** (Block C Plan 101856281)
  - A tender must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Property Tender" addressed to the Rural Municipality of Happyland No. 231.
- Address: Box 339, Leader, SK S0N 1H0  
Physical Address: 106 - 3rd Street West, Leader, SK
- Tenders must be postmarked by 4:00 PM on March 4, 2026.
  - A certified cheque to the municipality for 5% of the amount of the tender must accompany the tender.
  - Highest, or any tender, not necessarily accepted.
  - Successful bidder will have 30 days to provide the balance of cash to complete the purchase.

Dated this 29 day of January, 2026.

Kim Lacelle, Administrator  
Rural Municipality of Happyland No. 231



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Town of Kerrobert

### Pool Managers, Lifeguards and Instructor

The Town of Kerrobert is currently accepting applications for **Pool Manager, Assistant Managers, Jr. and Sr. Lifeguards, and Swim Instructors**, for the Kerrobert Swimming Pool. Various positions for full-time, part-time and casual employment are available for the summer season. Applicants must be at least 14 years of age and possess or provide proof of registration in:

- Standard First Aid & CPR C;
- Bronze Cross Awards;
- Youth Readiness Certification (if under the age of 16)

**Preference will be given to those who possess or provide proof of registration in:**

- National Lifeguard Certificate (NLA);
- Lifesaving/SWIM Instructor;
- Pool Operator Course;
- Transition courses (Red Cross certifications to Lifesaving certifications)

**Job description and expected duties:**

- Promote prevention of accidents through leadership, public education, class management and safety supervision.
- Performance of strenuous swimming and lifesaving tasks.
- Ensure aquatic facilities are clean and safe for users.
- Commit to on-site training opportunities.
- Follow provincial and local Public Health regulations.
- Evening and weekend work is expected.

**Closing date:** March 31, 2026.

Applications can be found on the Town of Kerrobert website [www.kerrobert.ca](http://www.kerrobert.ca) or at the Town of Kerrobert office. Please call **306-834-2344** or **306-834-8355** for more information.

Please include completed application, resume and photocopy of all certifications to:

**Town of Kerrobert  
P.O. Box 558, Kerrobert, SK S0L 1R0  
Email: [rec@kerrobert.ca](mailto:rec@kerrobert.ca)**

The Town of Kerrobert covers the cost of all recertifications for returning guards/instructors.

## Town of Eston - Public Works Foreman

**Date Posted:** Thursday, January 29, 2026  
**Department:** Public Works  
**Deadline:** Sunday, February 15, 2026

### POSITION OBJECTIVES

The Town of Eston is seeking a motivated and experienced Public Works Foreman to oversee and support municipal operations. This is a working foreman role that combines hands-on operational responsibilities with administrative and supervisory duties. Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Public Works Foreman is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Public Works Department and for ensuring the safe, efficient delivery of municipal services. These services include, but are not limited to, transportation infrastructure, landfill operations and other municipal facilities and operations. (E.g. Library, AGT Community Centre) The typical work schedule is Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with periodic on call duties or shift work as required. The Town supports training and professional development and offers opportunities for advancement for the right candidate

### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

#### Key Responsibilities

- Lead, supervise, and work alongside Public Works staff in daily operations, including roads, facilities, fleet, and grounds maintenance
- Plan, prioritize, and assign work while ensuring service levels and safety standards are met
- Prepare and obtain quotes, assist with budgeting, and manage operational expenditures
- Complete required reporting, documentation, and records as requested by Administration
- Monitor inventories, equipment maintenance, and asset condition
- Ensure compliance with applicable bylaws, policies, OH&S requirements, and regulations
- Communicate effectively with Administration, Council, contractors, and the public as required
- Support long-term planning and continuous improvement of Public Works operations

### DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

#### Qualifications

- Experience in municipal public works or a related operational environment is an asset
- Strong understanding of public works operations and infrastructure
- Demonstrated ability to lead by example in a hands-on, team-based environment
- Experience with budgeting, quotes, reporting, and administrative tasks
- Strong organizational, communication, and problem-solving skills
- Knowledge of workplace health and safety practices, asset
- Valid driver's license (Class 3 an asset)

### PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Team player who works collaboratively with staff and Administration
- Self-motivated, dependable, and accountable
- Able to balance fieldwork with administrative responsibilities
- Strong work ethic with attention to detail and follow-through

### BENEFITS:

Compensation  
Wage will be based on experience and qualifications.  
Benefits and Pension

### MORE INFORMATION:

#### How to Apply

Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume to:

**Town of Eston  
Attn: Jody Irwin, Chief Administrative Officer  
[cao@eston.ca](mailto:cao@eston.ca)  
111 4th Ave SE  
Box 757  
Eston SK**







Ad inquiries 306-463-2211   [www.westcentraljobs.ca](http://www.westcentraljobs.ca)   [kate@yourwestcentral.com](mailto:kate@yourwestcentral.com)



# Warehouse clerk: a high-demand job—even with robots!

When people think of jobs in the manufacturing and industrial sector, the idea of robots often comes to mind. Despite innovations in automation, many tasks still require human skill and judgment. This is particularly true of the warehouse clerk, a position that’s in high demand. Take a look.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY**  
**R.M. of Lacadena No. 228**  
**Grader/Heavy Equipment Operator**  
The R.M. of Lacadena No. 228 is accepting applications for Seasonal Equipment Operators for the 2026 construction season (April 1 - October 31). Equipment operator responsibilities may include road maintenance, equipment operation and servicing, and sign and culvert maintenance as directed by the foreman. Must be able to lift 50 lbs and work outside in all weather conditions. Pension plan and benefits are available. Please forward resumes to the undersigned.  
**R.M. of Lacadena No. 228**  
**Box 610, Kyle, SK S0L 1T0**  
**Fax: 306-375-4705; Email: [rm228@sasktel.net](mailto:rm228@sasktel.net)**  
*For more information contact the R.M of Lacadena office at 306-375-4753.*

- Key benefits**  
Whether it’s a permanent position or a student job, the role of warehouse clerk offers several advantages. The position helps you build valuable skills and keep in shape while working in a fast-paced environment.
- Duties and responsibilities**  
Warehouse clerks perform a variety of tasks and have a range of responsibilities, including:
  - Receiving and inspecting goods
  - Organizing and storing

- products
- Preparing and shipping orders
- Maintaining inventory records
- Supervising other workers
- Keeping the warehouse clean and safe

**Required skills**  
If you want to be a warehouse clerk, you must be organized, able to lift heavy loads and skilled with basic computer tools. In addition, you must have strong communication skills and a high school diploma or equivalency.



Robots won’t replace warehouse clerks anytime soon. Many essential tasks still depend on human workers.

*If you enjoy active, hands-on work, this stimulating job is an excellent option. It’s up to you!*

## You can change careers at any age

Are people telling you that you’re too old to switch careers or go back to school? Don’t listen to them! Changing careers is a personal journey and can certainly be beneficial. Here are some things to consider.

**Ask yourself some questions:** If you’re thinking about changing careers, forget about your age. Instead, ask yourself questions like:


- Do I have enough support from my loved ones to start over?
  - How can I balance my studies and my family life?
  - Do I already have the skills I need to start a new job?
  - How long would this transition take? In other words, is the time frame realistic?
- Whether you’re 35 or 50, a clear, thoughtful evaluation of your situation will help you make the best decision. For guidance and support, reach out to a career counselling service in your area.

**FOR SALE BY TENDER**  
**LARGE BLOCK OF TAME AND NATIVE GRASSLAND**  
**~ RM of Lacadena and RM of Monet ~**

**Highlights:**

- **21 deeded quarters** + 45 Saskatchewan Government lease quarters (*buyer must qualify for lease transfers*)
- Grass in excellent condition
- Perimeter & cross-fenced
- Corrals, handling system, hydraulic chute, sorting pens
- Two homes, heated shop, calving barn, garages, sheds

**Total acres:** Approx. **10,560+ acres** (Deeded acres: **3,360** - Leased acres: **7,200**)

**ROYAL LEPAGE**  
**WHEAT COUNTRY**

**Tender deadline: February 28, 2026 at 1:00 PM**  
**Arlene Boisjoli** • 306-460-7785 • [royal3@sasktel.net](mailto:royal3@sasktel.net)  
**Mary Kloster** • 306-372-7832 • [marykloster@royallepage.ca](mailto:marykloster@royallepage.ca)  
1 West Road, Kindersley, SK S0L 1S1

**Accepting applications for:**  
**CUSTODIAN**

The Luseland Municipal Building Committee is accepting applications for the contract position of Custodian. The successful applicant will be responsible for the cleaning of the Town of Luseland and RM of Progress No. 351 office building located at 503 Grand Ave, Luseland, Saskatchewan.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- Respectful of the confidential nature of the position
- Ability to work independently
- Work congenially with office staff and Committee members

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Hold a business license with the Town of Luseland
- Complete all custodial responsibilities on either Saturday or Sunday of each week
  - Vacuuming, sweeping, and mopping of floors
  - Cleaning all surfaces in the offices, boardrooms, and bathrooms
  - Emptying garbage and recycling
  - Wash windows in the spring and fall
- Communicate with the Committee if you become unavailable
- Accept additional duties as reasonably requested by office staff and Committee members

This is a contract position, and salary will be negotiated. A complete and detailed job description is available upon request.

Applicants should submit a detailed resume, including expected salary, by February 17, 2026, to:

**Luseland Municipal Building Committee**  
**PO Box 460**  
**Luseland, SK. S0L 2A0**  
**Phone: 306-372-4322   Email: [rm351@sasktel.net](mailto:rm351@sasktel.net)**



**TOWN OF OYEN**  
**ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS FOREMAN**  
**Permanent, Full-Time Position**

The Town of Oyen is seeking a dynamic individual to assist with, and/or provide leadership for, the installation, maintenance, repair or upgrade of all Municipal infrastructures. These include roadways, signage, sidewalks, water distribution, and wastewater system.

Mechanical abilities, heavy equipment operator experience, and experience with water and wastewater systems would be an asset. Level 1 water / wastewater operator certification is considered a strong asset. The successful applicant must be reliable, a proven team player, and willing to undertake any necessary training.

A detailed Job Description is available upon request from the Town Office.

Remuneration will be in accordance with the Town of Oyen salary grid and town policies. The Town of Oyen offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes participation in the Local Authorities Pension Plan.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a cover letter and a detailed resume outlining their experience and training to Debbie Ross, Chief Administrative Officer.

**Please forward resumes to:**  
**Debbie Ross, Chief Administrative Officer: [cao@oyen.ca](mailto:cao@oyen.ca)**  
**Or in person at the town office - 201 Main Street, Oyen AB T0J 2J0**  
**Phone: 403-664-3511**

*Applications will continue to be accepted until a successful candidate is found. The Town of Oyen wishes to thank all applicants but will only be contacting those selected for an interview.*





## What to say when a recruiter asks you where you see yourself in five years?

You may have been asked the question “Where do you see yourself in five years?” at a recent job interview. This question can sometimes be difficult to answer, even for experienced candidates. No one can really predict where they’ll be in five years. So, what should you say? Here are a few ideas to consider.

**Be authentic:** When a potential employer asks you this classic question, they don’t necessarily expect you to answer with “I see myself in senior management” or “I see myself as the head of business development.” It’s essentially a way to confirm that your profile matches the job offer.

Take the time to think about how you would answer this question before the interview. Do you want this job because it provides a better work-life balance? Do you think your skills will contribute to the team’s success or expand the company’s customer base? Be authentic. The most important thing is to show your interviewer that you see yourself as part of the company.

**Talk about advancement:** If you want to avoid giving too much personal information—your plans to move abroad, for example—focus on goals that align with the job’s specifications. You might consider mentioning your interest in developing certain technical skills or earning certifications. It’s entirely appropriate to include this type of information in your conversation.



If you prepare for the interview and provide answers that reflect who you are, you’ll undoubtedly present yourself confidently and position yourself in a positive light. Put on your best smile and trust yourself!

*If you need professional guidance, consult a human resources professional in your area.*

### FOR SALE BY TENDER

#### R.M. of Prairiedale #321

SE 10-32-25 W3rd  
161 total acres, 11 cult acres  
\$16,300 assessment

*Tenders close Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 3:00 PM*



Refer to: [www.edgerealty.sk.ca](http://www.edgerealty.sk.ca) for tender details or call Brad Edgerton, [brad@edgerealty.ca](mailto:brad@edgerealty.ca)  
306-463-7357. Box 1324 Kindersley, SK S0L 1S0

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

#### Owens & Sweitzer (1972) Ltd.

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is looking to fill the following positions:

**SALES PERSON**  
Primary focus to cover on road sales and territory management of areas including and surrounding but not limited to: Rosetown, Milden, Elrose, Kyle, Dodsland.

**PARTS COUNTER PERSON**  
Retail parts sales, ordering and customer service within the dealership.

**SERVICE TECHNICIAN**  
Minimum 3rd year apprentice to service all of our brands.

*Owens & Sweitzer offers the benefits of working for a locally owned, in house management group that is community and family oriented. Wages and salaries that meet or exceed industry averages, comprehensive benefits plan.*



*If you think you have something to offer our team, are energetic, and ready to help us grow our business, apply to:*

**Cordell Goheen at 124 Railway Ave in Eston, SK**  
[cordell@owensandsweitzer.com](mailto:cordell@owensandsweitzer.com)



## Summer Staff

### TOWN OF LEADER

#### SWIMMING POOL & PARKS & RECREATION

**Swimming Pool Manager**  
May 11 - Sept. 1, 2026 30+ hrs / week  
Applicant must be at least 18 years of age  
Previous experience necessary  
**Qualifications:** NLS, Pool Operator’s Course, LSI (all levels), CPR-C, Standard First Aid

**Full-Time Lifeguards**  
Early / Mid June - September 7, 2026 30+ hrs / week  
Applicants must be at least 15 years of age  
Previous experience necessary  
**Qualifications:** Bronze Cross, NLS (preferred), LSI (all levels), CPR-C, Standard First Aid

**Part-Time Lifeguards**  
Mid June - September 7, 2026 12+ hrs / week  
Applicants must be at least 15 years of age  
**Qualifications:** Bronze Cross, NLS (preferred), LSI (preferred), CPR-C, Standard First Aid

**Part-Time Junior Lifeguards (Lifeguard in Training)**  
Mid June - September 7, 2026 40 hours total (possibility of more hours)  
Applicants must be at least 14 years of age  
**Qualifications:** Bronze Cross, CPR-C, Standard First Aid


**Summer Program Coordinator / Parks Labourer**  
May 25 - August 28, 2026 30+ hrs / week Driver’s License an asset.  
Responsible for development/implementation of summer programs. Includes park maintenance & campground janitorial. Ability to work independently very important.

**Tourism Coordinator**  
May 14 - August 31, 2026 Thursday to Monday 30+ hrs / week  
Driver’s license an asset. Responsible for the Tourist Information Centre. Includes some park maintenance and janitorial duties.

**Forward Resume & Cover Letter**  
stating position of interest to:

**Rochelle Francis, Recreation Director**  
**TOWN OF LEADER**  
Box 39 Leader SK S0N 1H0  
**EMAIL: [recreation@leader.ca](mailto:recreation@leader.ca)**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
March 16, 2026 @ 4:30 PM



## Employment Opportunity

### DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL

**CATEGORY:** Casual - no guaranteed hours. You set your availability for call-outs of vacant shifts. You can tailor your availability to suit your existing schedule.

**REPORTS TO:** Residential Manager

**WAGE:** Starting wage - \$19.50 to \$20.33/hour depending upon education. Increase available when probation is completed and annually thereafter to maximum Step 4 of \$23.22.

**NATURE OF DUTIES:**  
By following the established person-centered plan programs, provides support to participants in a manner that maximizes their potential and quality of life. This includes but not limited to; participant support and personal care, administering medication, maintaining a home-like atmosphere, and attending events with the participants, and administrative duties.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- A valid Saskatchewan Driver’s License.
- Must be able to drive Agency vehicles.
- Must provide a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector prior to employment.
- Passionate to work with adults with intellectual disabilities.
- Proficient at spoken and written English.
- Must be able to work shift work.

**Additional Benefits of Working for Prairie Branches:**

- Fulfilling work
- Flexibility
- Medical benefits and pension for qualifying employees
- We recognize 14 Stat holidays per year
- Vacation accrual above legislated guidelines for qualifying employees
- Earned days off for long-term employees
- Paid sick time for qualifying employees
- Available Employee Assistance Program through Telus Health One
- Staff appreciation events and gifts

**Applicants must provide documentation to indicate they meet the qualifications.**





Ad inquiries 306-463-2211   [www.westcentraljobs.ca](http://www.westcentraljobs.ca)   [kate@yourwestcentral.com](mailto:kate@yourwestcentral.com)





# Physical work in the great outdoors: have you considered landscaping?

Do you have a green thumb and enjoy working in the great outdoors? Landscaping could be the perfect job for you. Here's a look at this vital career.

**Tasks:** Landscapers design, create and maintain green spaces for their clients, planting flowers, trees and shrubs. They may also install features such as fences, garden walls, fountains and other decorative elements. They beautify outdoor areas for homeowners, restaurant owners, public organizations, golf clubs and more. As a landscaper, you might be self-employed or work for a landscaping company.

**Skills:** Landscapers must be in good shape. The work is physically demanding and requires a high level of dexterity. A strong eye for esthetics is also required to create balanced and appealing designs. Additionally, because the landscaper must work closely with their customers, excellent communication skills are essential.

**Advantages:** With professional training, landscapers can work for companies or start their own businesses. In addition to being a lucrative profession, landscaping gives you opportunities to improve outdoor spaces by making them more beautiful and resilient. The work you do as a landscaper can also contribute to environmental improvements, such as reducing urban heat islands.

*Would you like to learn more about this career path? Contact training institutions in your area for more information.*



**POSITION POSTING**  
**PERMANENT, FULL TIME (SUBJECT TO PROBATION)**  
**Public Works Maintenance Operator**

**Reports To:** Public Works Foreman (CAO in their absence)

**Hours of Work:**  
Full Time, normal hours 8:00 am. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. Overtime hours may be required. Daily hours may fluctuate due to operational requirements.

**Remuneration:** Salary Grid - Based on qualifications.

**Position Summary:**  
The primary purpose of the position is to facilitate the delivery of public works and water and sewer services to the Town of Oyen. The position performs a wide variety of duties, including but not limited to: installation, maintenance and repair or upgrade of all municipal infrastructure, including roadways, sidewalks, water and sewer lines, water distribution system, wastewater system, airport, and signage. A detailed job description is available upon request from the Town Office.

**Experience/Assets:**

- Heavy Equipment Experience	- Air Brake Endorsement	- Willing to be on call
- Team Player - take directions	- Capable of heavy lifting	
- Public Works Experience preferred (or willing to take courses)		

**Closing Date:** Until position is filled.

**Please forward resumes to:** Debbie Ross, Chief Administrative Officer  
Town of Oyen, Box 360, Oyen, AB T0J 2J0  
Phone: 403-664-3511 • Fax: 403-664-3712 • email CAO@oyen.ca

**We thank all applicants in advance for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.**



**SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES – 2026**  
**Pool Lifeguard | Landscape Labourer**  
**Administrative Assistant**

The Town of Oyen is now accepting applications for Summer Student employment for the 2026 summer season. These positions provide students with an opportunity to gain valuable work experience while contributing to municipal services and community programs. General duties will include, but are not limited to, assisting with daily operations, supporting municipal programs and services, maintaining public facilities and spaces, providing customer service to residents, and performing other related duties as assigned.

**AVAILABLE POSITIONS**

**Pool Lifeguard**  
Responsible for the safety of patrons at the Shirley McClellan Aquatic Facility, including supervising swimmers, enforcing pool rules, assisting with programs, and responding to emergencies. Current NLS, First Aid & CPR required, or applicants must be willing to obtain them.

**Landscape Labourer**  
Assists with general grounds and landscaping maintenance throughout the community, including mowing, trimming, weeding, litter collection, and park maintenance.

**Administrative Assistant (Office)**  
Provides clerical and administrative support in the Town Office, including answering phones, greeting the public, filing, data entry, and assisting with community projects.

**Offering Competitive Wages**

Please forward resumes including qualifications via: Email: [recreation@oyen.ca](mailto:recreation@oyen.ca) or [publicworks@oyen.ca](mailto:publicworks@oyen.ca)  
Or in person at the town office - 201 Main Street, Oyen AB T0J 2J0

**PLEASE NOTE: These positions are summer employment opportunities.**  
**Applicants MUST BE WILLING to work evenings, weekends and statutory holidays.**

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 1, 2026**

**FULL-TIME SEASONAL EQUIPMENT OPERATOR**

The R.M. of Pleasant Valley No. 288 is West Centrally located in Saskatchewan, halfway between the communities of Kindersley and Rosetown, and is accepting applications for a Municipal Equipment Operator & Labourer. This is a full-time seasonal position with potential to become full-time permanent.

Eligible applicants should possess the following qualifications:

- Knowledge of road maintenance and construction equipment operation.
- Ability to operate tractors and other heavy equipment.
- Experience in operating graders is considered an asset.
- A basic mechanical aptitude.
- Additional duties may include but is not limited to culvert installation, equipment repairs, signage, and shop work.
- A valid driver's license is required and a clean drivers abstract may be requested.
- Class 1A License is considered an asset.

Salary will be negotiated based on experience and qualifications. The RM offers an excellent health & dental plan as well as a pension plan. This position has an expected start date of April 1, 2026, however this date is flexible and an alternative start date may be negotiated.

**Please forward resumes stating experience, qualifications and a minimum of three references by February 26, 2026 to:**



**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF PLEASANT VALLEY No. 288**  
ATTN: ADMINISTRATOR  
Box 2080, Rosetown, Saskatchewan S0L 2V0  
Ph: 306-882-4030 E-mail: [office@rm288-317.ca](mailto:office@rm288-317.ca) Fax: 306-882-4401

**We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.**

**The Town of Leader**  
is currently seeking applications for the position of  
**PUBLIC WORKS FOREMAN**

**Qualifications Required:**


- Valid Class 5 driver's license
- Working knowledge of computers
- Experience with supervision and management of staff
- Water Treatment and Distribution Level 2 certification\*
- Waste Water Treatment & Waste Water Collection Level 1 certification\*
- Supervisory Certificate\*
- WHIMIS, TDG, Confined spaces and Ground Disturbance\*

*\* Denotes qualifications that may be obtained within the first two years of employment.*

This is a full-time, permanent position with full benefits.  
The salary scale for this position is in accordance with the Town of Leader/SEIU-West Collective Agreement. The successful candidate will be required to enroll in SEIU.

**A complete job description can be obtained by visiting [www.leader.ca](http://www.leader.ca) or by calling the Town Office at 306-628-3868.**

Applications for this position will be received until a suitable candidate is hired and can be sent to:  
**cao@leader.ca**  
**Town of Leader**  
**P.O. Box 39**  
**Leader, SK S0N 1H0**



**We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.**



COUNCIL NEWS

Mayor, council set priorities for 2026

BY JOAN JANZEN

Kindersley Mayor Ken Francis and town council are looking ahead to a busy 2026, with a focus on keeping taxes low while maintaining service levels and ensuring residents continue to have access to affordable recreational facilities.

Francis said council remains committed to long-term infrastructure planning, including annual water and sewer replacements and street paving.

"We have an infrastructure plan in place where we do water and sewer replacements every year, as well as street paving," he said. "The project on Main Street will be completed this summer with a paving cap that finishes off the work started last year."

One unexpected expense emerged following an inspection of the town's water tower, which revealed significant interior issues.

"We need to spend approximately \$1 million to repair and re-coat the interior lining this spring," Francis said. "It was an unforeseen cost, but we caught it be-



Mayor Ken Francis

fore it became a much bigger and more expensive fix."

Council is also reviewing Kindersley's water rate structure in an effort to build reserves for future investments in water infrastructure.

"This includes evening out the town and rural water rates so they are consistent and fair," Francis said, adding that the town continues to prioritize efficiency in operations and tendering processes to ensure value for taxpayers.

Another major priority for 2026 is moving forward with a replacement community hall. Plans to renovate the Elks Hall were abandoned after costs proved higher than anticipated.

"Plans are in the works for a new build at a new location, with double the capacity and double the parking," Francis said. "That way, larger events can be held here."

While venues such as the Norman Ritchie Centre, Kindersley Ballroom, Legion Hall and several churches can accommodate smaller gatherings, Francis said the town needs a space capable of hosting events for more than 500 people.

Inflation remains a key challenge for both municipal operations and new construction projects, particularly as council works to avoid increasing property taxes.

"Last year was a reassessment year, so it was a challenge to reshuffle the tax base," Francis said. "We saw a significant drop in hotel and multi-unit properties, so other classes had to be adjusted to balance revenue. To be honest, hotels were paying too much, so a reduction was appropriate."

Francis said there are indications that new businesses may be opening in the local mall, though no formal announcements have been made.

Service clubs also continue to play an important role in the community, he added.

"I feel there's an uptick in service clubs, which help support local businesses through the events they put on," he said.

Francis said serving on council is both rewarding and impactful, noting that decisions often produce visible results in a short time.

"I hope we see interest in the council position opening up in March," he said. "Being on council is a great way to be involved and to give back to your community."

Classifieds

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\$10.00 plus GST.  
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20¢ each.  
Deadline is Friday noon.  
306-463-2211

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Feb. 17th  
  
DLMS.CA  
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www.westerncommodities.ca

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ESTON LIONS CLUB**  
**TRIP OF THE MONTH**  
**January Winners**  
\$1500 Pick A Trip  
**Theresa Japp,**  
**Eston, SK**  
\$150 Cash  
**Murray Johnston,**  
**Eston, SK**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Is there someone you would like to see inducted into the

**Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame**  
for their contribution to Baseball in Saskatchewan for 2026?  
**NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN**  
for Induction in the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame for 2026.  
Information and Nomination Forms are available by contacting the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame by phone or email.  
**306-446-1983**  
saskbaseballmuseum@sasktel.net

**COMING EVENTS**

**PIAPOT LIONS CLUB**  
25th Annual  
**Antique & Collectibles Sale**  
Maple Creek Armouries,  
**February 7th & 8th, 2026**  
Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm  
Sunday, 10 am - 3 pm  
Canadiana Items, toys, china, furniture, lamps, '40s, '50s, '60s, glass, depression glass, carnival glass, coins, sports cards, farm collectibles, history books.  
Tables available.  
Call 306-558-4802 for more info. Admission: \$5.00  
Lions food booth.

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**AGPRO MARKET REPORT:**  
Farmers, call to sign up for **Free Today!**

**FOR SALE OR RENT**

**SIBBALD HOTEL**  
**For Sale or Rent**  
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Contact **yiming6deer@yahoo.com** or call **306-460-7856** for more information.

**HEALTH**

**FARM STRESS LINE**  
IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS OF STRESS, THE FARM STRESS LINE IS AVAILABLE 24/7 AT  
**1-800-667-4442**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

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BOOK REVIEW

“The Lavender Child”

by Harriet Richards  
Published by Shadowpaw Press Reprise  
REVIEW BY TOBY A. WELCH

The Lavender Child is a beautifully unique and creative story with unforgettable characters and a plot that keeps readers intrigued. I wasn't surprised to learn that this powerful read was a winner of the Saskatchewan Book Awards First Book prize when it was initially published.

If you are like me and wonder what the title is referencing - what the heck is a lavender child? - I have the answer! When one of the main characters is born, Dion, he is limp and looks close to death. Another child was born into the family decades earlier that only lived for two weeks and fought for every breath. Both babies were a shade of blue, hence “lavender child.” (I should mention that this book might be a bit challenging for people who have lost babies or experienced children with health issues.)

I loved that when reading this story about three generations of a family that we are thrown back into a time when life wasn't so chaotic and technologically driven. But it's not so far back that this would be considered historical fiction. After all, the book mentions Dairy Queen, John Candy, and Wheel of Fortune. It's a great reminder of a simpler time.

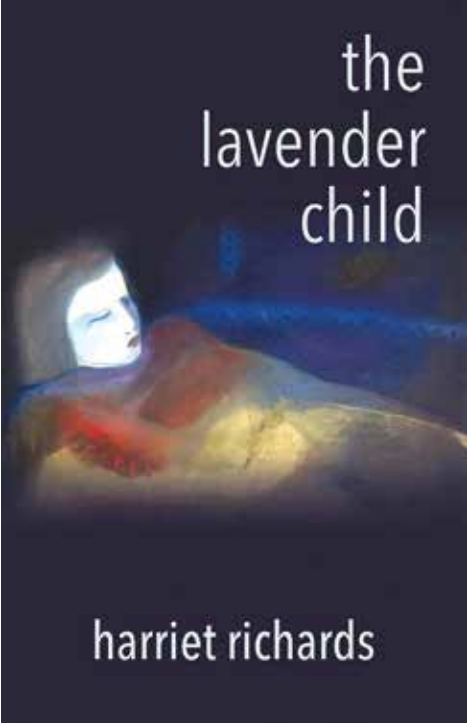
There are so many pluses to this novel. The chronological layout is seamless in the best way. Chapter one takes place in September and chapter two takes place in October. This continues throughout the book with each chapter being one month. It ends with chapter thirteen, which is September of the year after the first chapter. It flows smoothly. Another bonus is the perfectly balanced amount of dialogue mixed with descriptions mixed with scenes that carry the plot strategically forward.

The Lavender Child was first published in 1998 by ThistleDown Press.

Myself and anyone else who picks up a new copy will be thrilled that Regina-based Shadowpaw Press Reprise dusted it off and published the second edition in 2024. It's heartbreaking to think that it may not have been given a second life if Shadowpaw Press didn't see the value in this entertaining read.

Saskatoon-based Richards has published three book-length works of fiction and all three have been either finalists or award winners. Having read The Lavender Child, that was not surprising to learn. Additionally, Richards has published short fiction in literary journals in Canada and Wales. Richards is also a painter and her work has graced book covers. I hope she puts down her paintbrush soon to create another beautiful piece of literature.

For book lovers searching for a story that is somber and uplifting at the same time, The Lavender Child should be the next book you read. Picking up a copy should be on the top of your to-do list!



This book is available at your local bookstore or from [www.Skbooks.Com](http://www.Skbooks.Com)

9.1 million illicit cigarettes seized after Highway 16 traffic stop

**RM of Battle River** — Saskatchewan RCMP have charged an Ontario man after seizing approximately 9.1 million illicit cigarettes during a traffic stop west of North Battleford earlier this month.

The seizure followed a stop by Saskatchewan Highway Patrol officers on Highway 16 in the Rural Municipality of Battle River at about 12:40 a.m. on Jan. 20. Officers stopped a truck and trailer and discovered a large quantity of illicit tobacco in the trailer. The adult male driver was arrested at the scene.

Battlefords RCMP, along with the Saskatchewan RCMP's Yorkton Saskatchewan Trafficking Response Team, were brought in to continue the investigation. A search of the truck and trailer revealed 23 pallets of unstamped tobacco, containing



an estimated 9.1 million cigarettes. The tobacco was seized and the driver was taken into RCMP custody.

Police say the investigation determined the driver was on court-ordered release conditions related

to tobacco-related charges laid in Ontario, including a condition prohibiting him from being outside that province.

As a result of the investigation, 41-year-old Harwinder Kahlon of Brampton, Ont., has been charged with one count of selling, offering for sale, transporting or possessing unstamped tobacco for the purpose of sale under the Criminal Code; one count of possession of unstamped tobacco under the Excise Act; one count of possessing, storing, transporting or selling tobacco not marked in a prescribed manner under Saskatchewan's Tobacco Tax Act; and one count of failing to comply with an undertaking condition under the Criminal Code.

Kahlon appeared in North Battleford provincial court on Jan. 21.

AAFC cuts – eating the goose that lays the golden eggs

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) is raising serious concern over Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) decision to close seven research sites, including key facilities in Saskatchewan located at Scott and Indian Head, and eliminate 665 positions across Canada.

These closures eliminate critical public research infrastructure that has been foundational for Canadian farmers' competitiveness for decades and contradict AAFC's stated mission to “drive innovation” and “create conditions for long-term profitability.” This critical public research infrastructure embodies a public good that delivers widespread benefits to the public.

“To claim these cuts are aligned with a ‘core mandate’ of innovation misleads the agricultural sector,” said APAS President Bill Prybylski. “Closing these sites is the opposite of progress. You cannot claim global leadership in sustainable agriculture while bulldozing the very farms and labs required for discovery and adaptation. It's like eating the goose that lays the golden eggs—sacrificing a steady, long-term benefit for a single, short-term gain.”

The impacted prairie facilities include research farms at Scott and Indian Head in Saskatchewan, which provide producers with essential agronomic data tailored to local growing conditions. Additionally, the Lacombe Research and Development Centre in Alberta, a leading hub for forage

and meat science, and the facility at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, are also affected.

“The federal government is trading long-term benefits for a short-term rounding error in budget savings,” Prybylski cautioned. “You cannot be a world leader in sustainable agriculture while eliminating the research needed for sustainability and adaptation. This will create an innovation vacuum that the private sector isn't stepping in to fill. By the time producers feel the full impact of these decisions, it will be too late to reverse the damage.”

APAS is especially troubled by the timing of these cuts. The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) places significant emphasis on adaptation and resiliency as core objectives, yet these

closures directly undermine those goals. Farmers are being asked to adopt climate-smart practices that require targeted research support—research that will no longer exist if these facilities are shut down.

In response, APAS is urging the federal government and the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food to release an immediate impact assessment outlining how it plans to achieve its innovation and adaptation goals considering these widespread closures. Producers deserve transparency about how these research reductions will affect them—and answers about how the government intends to safeguard the long-term growth of Canadian agriculture.



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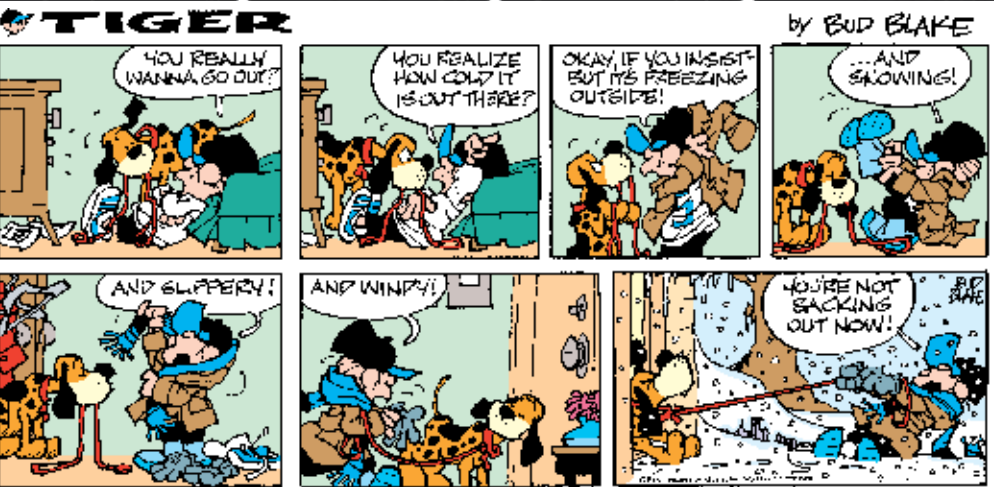


**Vern's Pizza**





Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Differences: 1. Back of chair is different. 2. Box is different. 3. Collar is missing. 4. Burner is missing. 5. Refrigerator handle is lower. 6. Stove hood is wider.

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Nile biter  
4 Chat  
8 Job for Holmes  
12 One of the five W's  
13 "East of Eden" son  
14 Makes a choice  
15 Snaky fish  
16 Fruit salad ring  
18 — Lama  
20 Humorist  
21 — Raton  
24 Settle a debt  
28 Holiday wreath adornment  
32 Ms. McEntire  
33 "I love," to Livy  
34 Passion  
36 "The One I Love" band  
37 Attempt  
39 Pesto ingredients  
41 Bar mixer  
43 Salinger girl  
44 Sticky stuff  
46 Tuscany setting  
50 Forest-inspired color  
55 Uncle, to Pedro  
56 Romanov ruler

DOWN

1 Dumbstruck  
2 — butter  
3 Survey  
4 Bubble tea ingredient  
5 Shapiro of NPR  
6 Horror star Chaney  
7 Recognized  
8 Whirlybird  
9 Smartphone download  
10 Cardinal cap letters  
11 Jargon suffix  
17 Tire filler  
19 Jurist Fortas  
22 Business abbr.  
23 MacDowell of "Green Card"  
25 Andean land  
26 Help a hood  
27 Thanksgiving veggies  
28 Bygone days  
29 Texter's "As I see it"  
30 Lunch hour  
31 Billions of years  
35 Prompts  
38 Detroit team  
40 Mosquito barrier  
42 Gearwheel tooth  
45 Spheres  
47 Slightly  
48 Ovid's 53  
49 Luke's teacher  
50 School org.  
51 MSN, for one  
52 Rebel Turner  
53 Vichy water  
54 Stately tree

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. HISTORY: When did the Easter Rising insurrection take place in Ireland?  
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of India?  
3. MEDICAL TERMS: What is a common name for lateral epicondylitis?  
4. MOVIES: The "Back to the Future II" characters travel forward in time to which year?  
5. LITERATURE: What color is the badge of courage in Stephen Crane's novel about the Civil War?  
6. GAMES: How many points is the center red bullseye on a dartboard worth?  
7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of floating otters called?  
8. AD SLOGANS: Which car company used the slogan "Drive your dreams"?  
9. TELEVISION: What is husband Darrin's profession in the "Bewitched" sitcom?  
10. SCIENCE: What part of the brain controls hunger?

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REMEMBERING WHEN

Nothing dates you faster than your music

When I was visiting my family over the Christmas holidays, we were watching Wheel of Fortune at my brother's house one evening, and the Triple Toss-Up that night featured three Heaven-themed word puzzles.



Keith Schell

Being of a certain generation, the answer to the third puzzle was obvious to me even before the letters started revealing themselves. It was the Led Zeppelin song "Stairway to Heaven."

But when the first contestant rang in to solve the puzzle, the answer he gave flabbergasted both my brother and me. He confidently announced: "Staircase to Heaven."

"Staircase to Heaven"??

When my brother and I finally stopped laughing, we both agreed that host Ryan Seacrest should have it written into his contract that he has the right to swat at least one contestant per season in the back of the head for giving a particularly dumb answer. I mean, "Staircase to Heaven"! Come on!

But that being said, the contestant who gave the answer appeared to be in his early-to-mid thirties, and the odds may have been quite high that he had never even heard of the song in question. *Stairway to Heaven* was practically an anthem for much of my generation, but popular music tends to fade away as new tastes and trends rise with each succeeding wave of young listeners.

Nothing dates you faster than your music. And nothing changes faster than today's music scene. Today's hits quickly become tomorrow's oldies, and yesterday's music superstars quickly become today's nobodies. They go from playing sold-out mega-stadiums at their peak to playing small and mid-sized casino halls in the present, performing for people of their own generation who are trying to forget about the headaches of daily life and briefly relive the glory days of their youth. No more mortgages, bills, or ungrateful kids — at least for those couple of hours — as the mature audience is whisked back to the days when they were young and free, full of dreams, and had no responsibilities whatsoever. They still had a "future so bright, they had to wear shades," as the song goes.

Musical tastes and trends change with every generation. In one particular episode of *The Simpsons*, Homer tries to bond with Bart and Lisa and their friends while driving them to school by telling them about all

the musical groups he followed in his youth, but the kids have no interest in learning about Homer's "dinosaur bands," as Bart put it. Homer later takes Bart and Lisa to a music festival in Capitol City featuring all the kids' favourite bands, but as soon as they arrive at the festival, Bart and Lisa quickly decide to distance themselves from him — both physically and musically — no matter how cool he tries to act. They ditch him as soon as they can. Each generation must find a way to push away from the previous one musically, no matter how crass or disturbing the new type of music may seem.

When I was in my teens in the 1970s and just beginning to explore my newly discovered musical genre of rock and roll, I picked up an 8-track tape of classic '50s rock out of the bargain bin at our local department store. Curious, I took it home, went into my bedroom, and popped it into my 8-track player — that being the coolest way to listen to music at the time.

One song in particular struck me as pretty cool — until my mother popped her head into my room with a big smile and told me it had been one of her favourite songs when she was a teenager. And, of course, once your mom tells you something like that, the song immediately goes from pretty cool to pretty uncool!

But it could be worse. One Christmas not so long ago, when our entire family was at my brother's house, my then-high-school-aged nephew asked me what my all-time favourite song was during an inter-generational music discussion. When I told him it was a song by Simon and Garfunkel, he replied, "Oh, we studied them in history class. That's hippie music!"

Sigh. Thanks, nephew. You made my day.

I keep thinking about a Facebook post I recently read that said, "My grocery store used to play old people music. Now they play all my favourites!" Kind of sums it up, doesn't it? Thirty years from now, the cycle will repeat itself. The kids will be the old people, and the grocery stores will be rocking to all the oldies tunes of current stars like Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, Drake, The Weeknd, Bruno Mars, Adele, and Justin Bieber. And God only knows who — or what — their kids will be listening to.

In the end, every generation thinks its music is the soundtrack of the world — and in a way, I suppose it is. The names change, the beats change, the hairstyles definitely change, but the cycle never does. We all grow up, we all grow older, and eventually our favourite songs will all end up in our local grocery store or in the next generation's history class at school.

Like sixties troubadour Bob Dylan once sang, "The times, they are a-changin'."

And musically, they always will.

Two determined young, single women homesteaded near Kindersley

BY JOAN JANZEN

Homesteaders crowded around the Saskatoon land office in the early 1900s, waiting to claim land, but the majority of those pioneers were men. It was difficult for women to claim a free homestead. To do so, they had to undergo a lengthy process to prove they were married, widowed, or had dependent children.

Around 1910, single women were permitted to homestead land if they could afford to purchase South African scrip (SAS). Instead of purchasing land outright, they bought scrip that allowed them to homestead 320 acres. However, they did not initially

own the land. They had to abide by strict rules and regulations in order to "prove up" their claims under the watchful eyes of land agents and inspectors.

According to Saskatchewan Archives Board (SAB) data, of the 4,730 SAS entries, only 11 percent were women. Here, we look at two of those determined single women who homesteaded land near Kindersley.

Mildred Williams was a teacher who made headlines across North America in May 1910 for her determination. Arriving from Minnesota, Williams supported her widowed mother but did not qualify for a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



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OBITUARIES

Richard Halter

November 2, 1947 - January 28, 2026



It is with heavy hearts that the Family announce the passing of Richard Halter. He passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at the age of 78 years. Richard leaves to cherish his memory: his children, Donelda (Luc) Proteau; Rick (Rhonda) Halter; Daphne Halter; and Megan (Brad) Ausmus; 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Jeffrey Proteau- Callie, Parker; Jasmin Proteau; Alysha (Trevor) Decker- Eli; Beck (Sara) Halter; Cori (Dillon) Rees- Sawyer; Gavin (Megan) Halter- expecting February, 2026 ; Jada Spence; Quinn, Ashlyn, and Kaden Ausmus. Richard is also survived by his former wife and mother of his children, Aileen Halter; brothers, Leonard (Elsie) Halter, Brent (Ernie) Halter, and sister-in-law; Sharon Halter as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Richard was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Ruth Halter and his brother, Larry Halter. Richard was born on November 2, 1947 in Dodsland, Sk. He grew up working on the family farm with his parents and his 3 brothers. After a short stay in Edmonton, Ab, where he trained in Welding, he eventually came back to the Dodsland area. He then built a home, south of Dodsland and continued farming, while also working at Be-line Manufacturing in Kindersley, Sk. He often worked hard and long hours, until his retirement in 2013. After retirement from farming, he moved to Kindersley, Sk, where he started BackRoads Plastic Welding, "Don't Falter, Call Halter!" That kept him working until his passing. You would often see him for coffee in the mornings and afternoons, and travelling around watching his grandchildren play hockey. If he wasn't at the rink watching hockey, he would

likely have a hockey game on the T.V, his favourite team being the New York Rangers. Richard was a father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. He was consistent, hardworking, determined, caring, and loyal to his family and friends. He was dearly loved and will be greatly missed. Funeral Celebration will be held at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Dodsland, Sk on Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 2:00 pm. Interment at Dodsland Cemetery immediately following the service. Following the Interment, everyone is encouraged to stay and share in a time of fellowship with the family in the Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church Hall. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to the Dodsland Arena Rebuild Committee in memory of our dad, Richard Halter. Box 400 Dodsland, Sk SOL OVO Email: villageofdodsland@yourlink.ca

Our Family Chain

We little knew that morning  
That God would call your name.  
In life we loved you dearly;  
In death we do the same.  
It broke our hearts to lose you,  
But you did not go alone,  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.  
You left us beautiful memories,  
Your love is still our guide,  
And although we cannot see you,  
You are always by our side.  
Our family chain is broken  
And nothing seems the same,  
But as God calls us one by one,  
The chain will link again.

...Homesteaders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22  
free homestead because she had no dependent children.

After arriving in Canada, she worked as a teacher in Saskatoon. She was single, in her early 20s, and highly determined. That determination resulted in Williams waiting for twelve days and nights at the top of the stairs of the Saskatoon land office in order to file on 320 acres of land near Kindersley. The land was valued at between \$18 and \$20 an acre. It had previously belonged to a North-West Mounted Policeman who had received a land grant as an incentive to move west, but after serving in the Yukon, he returned to South Africa.

Mildred carefully planned her twelve-day vigil at the land office. She hired one woman to bring her meals and drinks, and another to act as a messenger. She rested in a reclining chair and even fashioned a tent above her at night.

There were reports of a man attempting to push her off her chair, at which point others came to her rescue. When she finally filed her claim, she was met with applause and cheers from waiting friends.

Williams successfully proved up the land and became an official landowner. However, she may have later sold the property, as the Star Phoenix reported that she resigned from her teaching position in 1917 and moved to the Pacific coast.

Another single woman who purchased South African scrip near Kindersley was Marie Westphal. In 1910, Westphal arrived from Milwaukee to the Eaton area to keep house for her brother Herman, who was homesteading.

Marie filed on land that had previously been abandoned by one of her brothers, who had been unable to take up residence on it. Her father also homesteaded nearby. She later married and settled in the district, where the Westphal family accumulated additional land in the Kindersley area.

Information for this article was obtained from the University of Manitoba Archives.



In the early 1900s, people rushed to claim free homesteads at land offices such as this one in Moose Jaw. However, single women who wanted to homestead faced many obstacles. In May 1910, Mildred Williams stood at the top of the stairs of the Saskatoon land office for twelve days and nights to file on 320 acres of land near Kindersley. She was not alone. That same year, Marie Westphal filed on land near Kindersley that had previously been abandoned by her brother.

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**EVENTS**

**ALSASK**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**  
• Cornhole Tournament at the Alsask Rec Centre 6 PM start. Call Wonona 306-460-4489 to register or for more info.

**COLEVILLE**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21**  
• Coleville Licensed Daycare Committee presents Wild West Night in Dodge at the Coleville Hall featuring Cole Patton and the Blackjacks. Supper, Silent Auction, Band. For tickets and more info call the Village Office 306-965-2281.

**EATONIA**  
- Every Thursday from 11:30 AM -1:30 PM come to the Eatonia Library for puzzles, visiting and grab your books for the week!  
- Check out our TOPS Chapter ... it's free to try! Every Wednesday. Weigh in: 5:45 PM. Meeting: 6:00 PM at Corcoran Place. Contact Cora Knuttila 306-460-9047.  
- The Lions Club meets on the last Tuesday of each month.  
- The Rec Board meets the second Monday of each month 7:00 PM at the Town Office.  
- Town Council meet the second Tuesday of each month 7:00 PM at the Town Office.

**ESTON**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4**  
• Paint Night at the Eston Library 6:00 - 8:00 PM.  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12**  
• Pokémon Party at the Eston Library 3:30 - 5:00 PM.  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18**  
• Crafty Creations (ages 10 and up) 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the Eston Library. Yarn Weaving: Coasters and Block Printing with Foam. Contact the Library to register 306-962-3513 or eston.library@wheatland.sk.ca  
  
- Wheatland Centre Potluck Supper fourth Friday of each month 6:00 PM. \$5.00. Bring your own utensils. Coffee & tea provided.  
- Wheatland Centre Bingo - 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month 7:00 PM. Regular Bingo plus Bonanza, 50/50 Draw. Must be 14 years of age. Call 306-962-7117 (ask for Linda) for more info.  
- Coffee Time "Grounds for Discussion" every Wednesday at the Library 2:00 - 3:00 PM.  
- Every Monday - Adult Exercise Program 10:00-11:00 AM at the AGT Community Centre  
- Make sure to check the AGT Community Centre recreation calendar on eston.ca for ice schedule.  
- Drop in Bowling Sundays 1:00-4:00 PM. \$5 bowling. No need to book, just drop in.

**HOOSIER**  
**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13 & 14**  
• Hoosier Rec Board presents 23rd Annual Outdoor Curling "Hoosier Tournament of Hearts" Open, Mens, Ladies or Mixed. All skill levels welcome. Call / text Christy 306-460-9190 or Kregan 306-460-6896.  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 6**  
• Gord Bamford 25th Anniversary Celebration Tour at the Hoosier Hall with opening act Dallas Alexander. All ages show. Call Christy 306-460-9190 for more info.  
  
- Sunday Service Hoosier Community Church 10:30 am at the Community Hall. Contact Joel Hamm 306-460-7056 or Curtis Kornelson 306-460-7327.

**KERROBERT**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4**  
• Kerrobert, Luseland & District (KLD) Wellness Foundation Annual General Meeting 7 PM Town of Kerrobert Council Chambers (433 Manitoba Ave.)  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13**  
• Kerrobert Kinettes are hosting a Valentines Banger Bingo - Ladies Night Out at the PCC. Doors open at 8 PM. E-transfer: kerrobertkinettes1@gmail.com or contact a Kinette member.  
  
- MS Support Group at Kerrobert Health Centre Meeting Room every 3rd Saturday 2:00-4:00 PM. Contact Gail Wiebe for more information 306-834-7068.  
- Walk This Way Group Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30-11:30 AM  
- Walk This Way with Lao Thursdays at the PCC from 10:30 - 11:30 AM. Everyone is welcome and it's FREE.  
- Shuffle Club Mondays at the PCC 1:30-3:00 PM  
- Winter Wear Drive ongoing until March. Drop off at the Seniors Hall Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30-11:00 AM. Contact Yvonne at 306-834-8292 if you need an item.  
- Make sure to check the Kerrobert Memorial Arena schedule for upcoming games.

**KINDERSLEY**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5**  
• Kindersley and District Arts Council presents: Americana/ Alternative Country Artist Kyle McKearney 7:30 PM Norman Ritchie Community Arts Centre.  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28**  
• Kindersley Screen Arts presents "Rental Family" 4:00 PM at Sunset Theatre. \$10 cash at the door. Wine and beer available for purchase. Sponsored by Speedy Auto Glass.  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 7**  
• Kindersley Wildlife Federation Awards Banquet at the Elks Hall. Door Prizes, Raffle Prizes, Silent Auction. For tickets / info

call Ray 306-831-9920 or Lori 306-460-7638.

- Parkinson's Support Group Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month 1:30 PM at 401 - 4th Ave West (New Life Church). Everyone welcome! For more info call Nancy at 306-463-4514.  
- Monday Night Jam Sessions at the Norman Ritchie Community Centre. Doors open at 6:30 to set-up, then the fun begins at 7-11 PM. Call Keith 306-460-8633.  
- Interested in a support group for weight management? TOPS meetings; every Monday at 6:00 PM in the Kindersley Senior Centre OR contact Jill at 306-463-4210.  
- Pickleball meets Sunday & Wednesday evenings 7:00 PM at Elizabeth School for the indoor season. Cost is \$50 for the season or \$5 drop in. Our club is a part of Pathway To Wellness. More info call Teresa Knight 306-460-7304.  
- Fit Fighter Group Class. Helping individuals with Parkinson Disease, Fibromyalgia, MS, Arthritis and mobility issues. Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:00 PM at Anytime Fitness. Call Karen 463-3607 for more info.  
- 365 Kindersley Air Cadets meet Thursday evenings at the Kindersley Museum. No charge to be a member, youth ages 12-18, must be a Canadian resident. Contact Ian Kehrer via text at 306-460-0057 or Sheila Kehrer via text 306-604-9044. Come Fly With Us!  
• Every Tuesday: Community Badminton 6:30 - 9:00 PM at Westberry School. Everybody welcome.

**LEADER**  
- Make sure to check out the G3 Iceplex Arena Schedule online at leader.ca  
- Community Walking Club Monday - Thursday 7:00-8:00 PM at Leader Composite School (Use student parking lot door). You must pre-register at the Town Office.  
- Community Badminton SUNDAY evenings 6:00-8:00 PM. \$2/ Sunday at the LCS Gymnasium (use student parking lot door). Under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Racquets and shuttles available.

**MAJOR**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7**  
• 3rd Annual Fundraiser for the West Central Crisis Centre at Major Centennial Hall. Entertainment: Keely, Superb Sound & Friends. Silent Auction (Crafts & Artwork). Non-alcoholic / alcoholic beverages, chili cook-off, snacks. \$20 at the door. Doors open at 5:00 pm.

- MS Support Group at Kerrobert Health Centre Meeting Room every 3rd Saturday 2:00-4:00 PM. Contact Gail Wiebe for more information 306-834-7068.

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