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# The Kerrobert & DISTRICT CHRONICLE

The stories that matter because they're ours

Vol. 6, Issue 12

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

## Luseland Library exhibit showcases Bonnah Busch's vibrant portraits

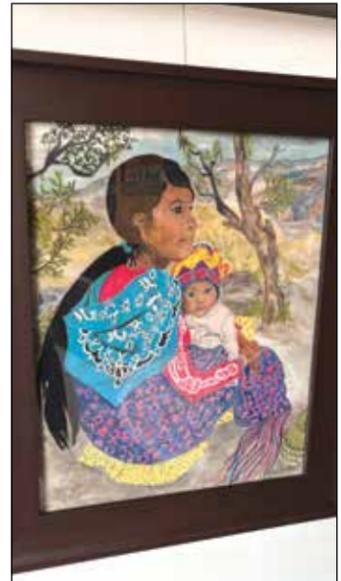
BY JOAN JANZEN

There's a new exhibit at Luseland Library's Art Gallery where the vibrant artwork of Bonnah Busch is on display. Librarian Dawna Neinaber said the artist's work will be featured at the library until the end of April.

Bonnah's artistic endeavours began to flourish after she joined the Perspective Art Group, a group of artists from the Dodslund, Luseland, Kerrobert, Tramping Lake and Kindersley area. Since then, she has painted with watercolour, acrylic, oil, alcohol ink and chalk pastel.

About six years ago, she and her husband took a train ride with friends from El Fuerte, Mexico, to the Copper Canyon. Bonnah was very impressed by the breathtaking scenery, rugged canyons, mountains and agricultural landscape. The women still wore their traditional colourful attire, which inspired this artist to create a series of chalk pastel portraits. The portraits are based on photos she took, which she sketched in pencil and chalk pastel.

You won't want to miss seeing this amazing display of portraits that capture the heart of the people who live in the canyons of the Sierra Madre mountains.



The Luseland Library Art Gallery has a new exhibit featuring the vibrant artwork of Bonnah Busch.

PHOTOS BY DAWNA NEINABER



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Eston Preschool kids enjoyed a sweet field trip at Village of Hope Bakery and Cafe last month.

PHOTO SUBMITTED VILLAGE OF HOPE

## Little Bakers, Big Smiles at Village of Hope

BY JOAN JANZEN

The Village of Hope Bakery and Cafe invited the Eston Preschool class to visit the bakery last month. It was a sweet morning as the kids enjoyed a quick tour before jumping into the highlight of the morning — decorating their very own sugar cookies.

They were kept busy spreading icing, piling on sprinkles, and creating delicious-looking cookie mas-

terpieces. All the while, they were giggling, munching, and having a whole lot of fun. Of course, the men at Village of Hope enjoyed every minute of it.

“It was a great, heartwarming way to open our doors, connect with our amazing community, and share big smiles with the next generation,” staff member Kyle Parsons said. “A huge thank you to the Eston Preschool teachers and all the sweet kiddos for making our morning so special. We loved having you!”



ADAMA contributed to an accessible playground in Virden, MB.

## ADAMA funding supports Wilkie daycare safety, boosts Eston food bank

ADAMA Canada is investing in two west-central Saskatchewan projects, directing funding to a Wilkie daycare and an Eston food initiative through its Stomping Grounds program.

The company announced March 18 that 22 projects across Canada will receive up to \$10,000 each. Among them are Little Seedlings Daycare in Wilkie and a community food program in Eston.

In Wilkie, funding will be used to install a fence around the daycare’s outdoor play area, creating a safer and more secure space for children.

In Eston, funding will support the Little Free Pantry, which has been awarded a \$5,000 grant. Organizers say the unexpected funding will allow the program to continue purchasing fresh dairy, produce, protein and bread on a weekly basis, supplementing community donations of non-perishable food.

The pantry aims to improve access to nutritious food, reduce stigma and build a more sustainable, co-

ordinated support system for residents.

“Every application tells a story of hope, pride and possibility for the community it serves,” said Jodi Starodub, marketing lead at ADAMA Canada.

Starodub said nearly 200 applications were submitted this year, making the selection process highly competitive.

ADAMA Canada is investing a total of \$127,000 in 2026 through the program, supporting projects ranging from recreational facilities to child care, senior care and agricultural education.

Since launching Stomping Grounds in 2018, the company has contributed more than \$500,000 to community initiatives across Canada.

“A common thing we’ve heard is that many of the smaller communities across rural Canada feel left out or overlooked when it comes to outside funding,” Starodub said. “It brings everyone at ADAMA great joy to support these communities.”

# Spring road bans take effect in southwest Saskatchewan

Spring weight restrictions took effect at 12:01 a.m. Friday on secondary highways in southwest Saskatchewan as warmer temperatures begin to soften roadbeds.

The Saskatchewan government said the annual restrictions are meant to protect roads and the ground beneath them during spring thaw, when moisture weakens the surface and base.

"As the ground begins to thaw, this measure is introduced each year to protect key transportation infrastructure for the long term," Highways Minister Kim Gartner said in a news release. "Highways play a pivotal role moving goods to support the province's export-based economy, which helps sustain Saskatchewan's quality of life."

The province said the restrictions will be phased in

across Saskatchewan as winter conditions give way to spring. They are expected to remain in place for up to six weeks.

The measures reduce allowable vehicle weights on rural municipal roads and secondary-weight provincial highways by 10 to 15 per cent.

Truckers and shippers are being urged to check regularly for updated information on which highways are affected. The latest order is posted on the province's website under the Spring Road Bans heading.

Technical and regulatory information is also available through the Trucking Inquiry Line at 1-866-933-5290 or, from outside Saskatchewan, 306-933-5290.

The province noted rural municipalities are responsible for their own roads and set their own weight limits.



Jess Steinkey, wearing her Mexican sombrero, was ready to race at Liebenthal's Mexican Pub Night.



Mike Andreas and Trina Steinkey.

PHOTOS BY JOAN WAGNER

## Balance bike races fuel lively fundraiser in Liebenthal

BY JOAN JANZEN

The Liebenthal Rec Board was off to the races Saturday evening at its Mexican Pub Night on March 14. Who knew fundraising could be so much fun? The Liebenthal Community Hall was decked out in a Mexican theme for the event, while guests feasted at an all-you-can-eat pulled pork nacho bar with all the trimmings. No passport was needed to get out of the cold and join the fun.

Following a silent auction, the races began. Six women and 10 men mounted tiny balance bikes and navigated an obstacle course to the finish line. The

competitive millennial-aged teams, as well as the spectators, had a whole lot of fun. It was the perfect way to help alleviate the winter blahs.

At the end of the competition, the winners donated their prize money back to the club. Funds raised from the evening went toward running the community hall and paying the utilities.

A 50-50 raffle and delicious deep-fried ice cream topped off the evening. The Rec Board members are grateful to everyone who donated and purchased silent auction items, and to everyone who attended and volunteered at their Mexican Pub Night.

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After the roasting is complete, Jimmy Oneschuk places the beans in packages for his customers to purchase.

PHOTOS BY JOAN JANZEN



The coffee roasting machine is hooked up to a computer, which helps track the process. Jimmy charts the temperature as it climbs, causing moisture evaporation in the beans to increase.



Coffee beans are roasted for seven to 10 minutes, depending on the type of bean.

## Coffee lovers who take it to a whole new level

BY JOAN JANZEN

There are coffee lovers who take coffee to a whole new level, and I have a son who is one of those individuals. He owns a cabinet full of coffee paraphernalia, varieties of roasted beans from all over the world, and a chart displaying the hundreds of flavours available. Needless to say, I know where to go for a really good cup of coffee.

Recently, I accompanied him on a visit to his favourite cafe and coffee roasting company in Saskatoon, where his coffee buddy invited me to the back of the shop where all the roasting magic happens.

But before the demonstration, we ordered our flavourful cups of coffee as patrons came through the cafe door. "You're the Air Canada guy," my son said to one of the customers as he recognized him as a pilot who brings beans to Jimmy Oneschuk, the coffee guy, every time he flies to different countries.

"And you're the guy who drives two hours for a cup of coffee," the pilot responded. But we were interrupted by Jimmy, who was anxious to begin the roasting demo.

Piled along the wall were 155-pound gunny sacks filled with coffee beans, all waiting to be roasted. The beans of choice for this batch came from Ethiopia and were slightly green in colour.

The roasting machine was hooked up to a computer, which helped track the process. Jimmy was charting the temperature as it continued to climb, causing moisture evaporation in the beans to increase.

Every couple of minutes, he would pull out the tester and smell a spoonful of beans. At the beginning of the process, the beans had not yet shed their greenish hue and smelled somewhat like straw because the sugars had not yet begun to roast.

"It's still fresh with a grass-like smell. As it starts to cook more, you start to get sugars rendered down and begin to get the sweet coffee aroma," he explained.

The process lasts from seven to 10 minutes, depending on the type and size of bean.

"The more you roast it, the darker it gets," he said, as the sugars begin to caramelize. But every coffee is different.

"Some do better at a light roast, and some are grown to be roasted at a dark roast," he added. Longer roasting results in less caffeine and a more intense flavour. "The lighter roast has more caffeine and typically has a lighter flavour profile. Dark roast and medium roast are all in a close range of a few minutes."

Moisture is released from the bean throughout the roasting process. At one point, you could hear a slight crackling sound.

"It's called 'first crack' when the moisture begins to be released and the shell actually cracks," I was told. "The 'second crack' is when whatever moisture remains cracks the shell even wider open."

The skin is pulled off the coffee beans and is deposited into a chamber at the bottom of the roaster. The shell resembles parchment paper.

The end result is aromatic beans in various shades of brown.

After the roasting is done, the beans are cooled, weighed and placed in bags for customers to purchase. Unlike coffee beans you purchase on grocery store shelves, these bags have air holes in them to release air that is still being expelled from the freshly roasted beans.

The end result is mellow and flavourful freshly brewed coffee that attracts customers to Jimmy's cafe, some of whom drive two hours for the taste experience.

## Nearly 10,000 family, partner violence victims in 2025

Saskatchewan RCMP responded to more than 9,800 victims of family and intimate partner violence in 2025, underscoring persistently high levels of interpersonal violence across the province.

Police reported 5,191 victims of family violence and 4,708 victims of intimate partner violence last year. Family violence accounted for about 30 per cent of all violent crime victims, while intimate partner violence made up 27 per cent. Spouses and ex-spouses are included in both categories.

Both figures marked slight declines from 2024, when officers responded to 5,269 family violence victims and 4,808 intimate partner violence victims.

Despite the decreases, rates remain elevated. In RCMP jurisdiction, family violence occurred at a rate of 925 victims per 100,000 population in 2025, while intimate partner violence was reported at 839 victims per 100,000.

Five-year trends show consistently high levels. Family violence rates climbed from 854 per 100,000 in 2021 to a peak of 939 in 2024 before easing slightly in 2025. Intimate partner violence rates have fluctuated between 820 and 857 per 100,000 over the same period.

More than half of all reported victims were in northern Saskatchewan. The RCMP's North District accounted for 2,698 family violence victims, or 52 per cent, and 2,385 intimate partner violence victims, or 51 per cent.

Central District reported 1,456 family violence victims and 1,414 intimate partner violence victims, while South District recorded 1,037 and 909 victims respectively.

"These numbers show that both family and intimate partner violence continue to have a significant impact in our communities," said Cpl. Rob King, Saskatchewan RCMP interpersonal violence co-ordinator. "Even with a slight decline, the levels remain high."

The RCMP says it continues to work with community agencies to support victims and improve safety.

The force is also promoting its Family Violence Initiative Fund, which offers up to \$25,000 in project funding for organizations working on prevention, education and victim support. Applications for the 2026-27 funding cycle are open until March 27.

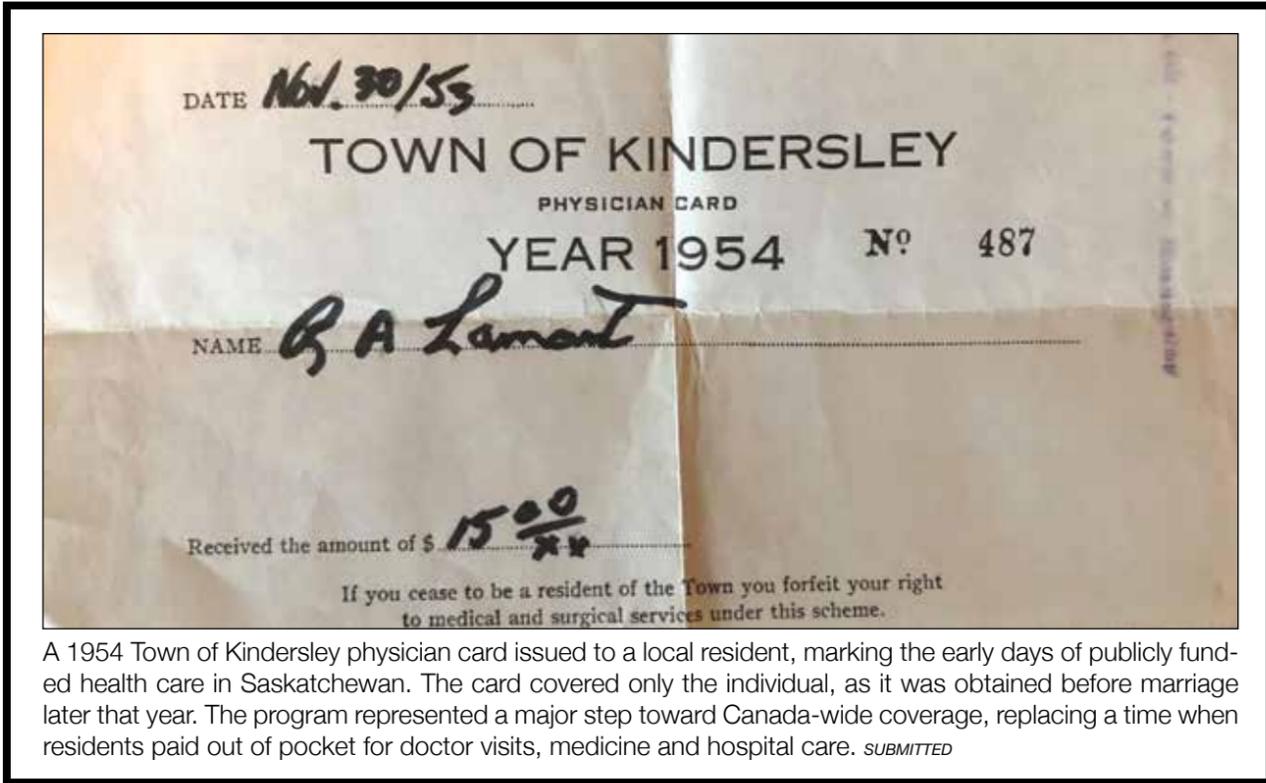


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# AgriStability sees largest increase in Saskatchewan agriculture budget

BY IAN MACKAY

The AgriStability program receives the biggest boost in the new provincial agriculture budget.

The Saskatchewan agriculture budget rises six per cent to \$662.7 million, up \$37.4 million, according to a statement on the 2025-26 document.

"This budget protects farmers, ranchers and our agriculture industry in the face of market volatility and weather-related challenges," Agriculture Minister David Marit said in the statement, echoing the theme of protection stressed by Finance Minister Jim Reiter, MLA for Rosetown-Delisle.

"By supporting innovation, investing in emerging technologies, strengthening market access and fully funding our suite of business-risk management programs, we are helping producers stay competitive and ready for the future," Marit said.

The budget designates \$524.3 million for business-risk management programs such as crop insurance and AgriStability, up from almost \$481 million last year.

The AgriStability allocation rises to \$116.3 million from \$53.1 million in 2025-26 and is intended to make sure farmers "can access reliable coverage and responsive service delivery that meets the needs of their operations," the statement said.

The program is "designed to help farm operations facing large margin declines caused by production loss, increased costs or market conditions," a crop insurance document says.

Work to improve the processing industry receives \$89.4 million through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, the federal-provincial support program. The intention is to "strengthen the agri-food



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sector and maintain Saskatchewan's position as a leading agri-food exporter with a growing value-added sector," the statement said.

Research and technology receive nearly \$38.3 million, about \$19,000 less than budgeted last year. Of that, \$37 million goes to develop new technologies and conduct state-of-the-art research in Saskatchewan, the statement said.

The money pays the salaries of key personnel at crop and livestock research labs and research chairs to advance strategic priorities and train the next generation of producers, agronomists and scientists. It also covers projects that demonstrate innovative technologies to producers and agronomists at the local level, the statement said.

The budget also fully funds animal welfare enforcement for livestock and companion animals in Saskatchewan through the newly formed Saskatchewan Animal Enforcement Agency. As well, \$200,000 will go toward improving mental health services that will be available to Saskatchewan agriculture workers and their families, it said.

On April 1, the Farm Stress Line joins the National Farmer Crisis Line to provide free, confidential mental-health support and additional access to followup counselling by registered mental health clinicians with agricultural backgrounds, the statement said.

According to the budget estimates, the department spent about \$726.9 million last year rather than the \$625.1 million planned.

Officials intend to spend nearly \$4.2 million, the same as last year, to deal with pests, while the capital budget designates close to \$3.9 million for rehabilitating irrigation infrastructure and \$300,000 for information technology upgrades.

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# My crash course in patient advocacy

Last week I listened to a doctor's podcast on the topic of advocating for your loved one when they're hospitalized and thought it would be a good topic to write about. Two days later I was taking my hubby to emergency in the city for cardiac heart failure and found myself enrolled in a crash course on patient advocacy.



**Check It Out**  
By Joan Janzen

In his podcast, Dr. Suneel Dhand described hospitals as complex systems under enormous strain. "There are many remarkable people in healthcare, and many nurses go above and beyond in ways most people will never see," he observed.

We had the privilege of meeting many of those remarkable professionals, and I was so happy to finally meet a cardiologist in person that I could have hugged him, but I didn't. The process to get to that point had begun two months earlier when we had booked an appointment.

After a medical check-up and blood tests, we needed to get an echocardiogram. In order to shorten the waiting period, I found a clinic in Alberta and asked for a referral from the local doctor so it was covered by Sask. Health.

A week later, the results were sent to our local doctor, and we were told a cardiologist would phone us after a week or more to let us know when an appointment could be made. That week seemed to stretch on forever, and it soon became obvious we couldn't wait any longer, so we headed to emergency in the city.

Because of his condition, my husband began receiving prompt and professional care shortly after we entered the building. The words Dr. Dhand had spoken on his podcast began to play out in real time.

"It's better to be the annoying and questioning loved one than the loved one who watches the hospitalized patient suffer a complication."

Dr. Suneel Dhand

"Hospitals are overcrowded, the pace is relentless," he said. "Staff are pulled in many directions at once." He said an engaged family member at the patient's bedside, or patient advocate, can make all the difference. In this instance, I was the advocate.

To say I was unprepared for this role would be putting it mildly, but thankfully I had a friend who stepped in to be an advocate for the advocate, me. She knew all the right questions to ask while we were in emergency and interpreted much of the language I didn't understand.

After she left, I sent photos and lists of medications to my sister, who is a nurse and could explain what was happening. It was sort of like "medicine for dummies," and I was the dummy.

Dr. Dhand had said, "It's better to be the annoying and questioning loved one than the loved one who watches the hospitalized patient suffer a complication."

A doctor stood before my husband, myself, my son and another sister of mine and rapidly explained a procedure that would take place in the next couple of days. After he was done and walked off, we looked at each other in complete confusion. We needed a "medicine for dummies" interpretation.

It was only after getting an explanation from my sister, a nurse, and watching multiple YouTube videos

that I knew what he had been trying to tell us. But we should have asked the nurses for an explanation.

"Take notes, write down medications, plans and doctor names," Dr. Dhand advised. "The best families I have seen during my career are those who are respectful of the people caring for their loved one, but they are also attentive and engaged."

When the doctor is asking an ailing patient how they are feeling, their response is often limited. They need someone to give the staff more information.

"None of this replaces the work of doctors and nurses, but it strengthens it," Dr. Dhand explained. "Healthcare works best when patients, families, nurses and physicians are all working together." Personally, I would add friends to that list, and someone you trust who has a medical background.

And trust me, if you don't believe in the power of prayer, you will soon change your mind when you're in a crisis situation. I didn't need any convincing on that front and have an incredible church family who show up every time there is a need.

Dr. Dhand discovered that advocating for your loved ones was a popular topic. Within a few hours, his podcast generated over a million views. "I could barely believe my eyes," he said. "I didn't even think what I said was that revolutionary. It just felt like common sense."

He received thousands of comments from people all over the world sharing their stories, some grateful, some sad, but all saying the same thing: "I wish someone had told me this earlier."

We're not meant to do life alone. Yes, we need professionals, but we also need to be there for each other. We're also not meant to be completely self-sufficient, and that's where a loving and personal God makes all the difference, because He can do everything we cannot.

Anyway, after this all plays out, I might become qualified to write a book, "Medicine for Dummies: How to advocate for loved ones."

**HAVE YOUR SAY.**

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

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# How a hen's body turns yolks into eggs

BY JOAN JANZEN

Eggs are an important part of our everyday diet, and they are pretty incredible. Inside a chicken's body is a non-stop biological production line that operates consistently. The egg's journey begins as a microscopic cell.

Inside a hen's body is a specialized reproductive system. Hens are born with two ovaries, but only the left ovary ever fully develops. This single ovary contains thousands of tiny yolks.

When a hen reaches adulthood, her body begins releasing these yolks one at a time, every 24 to 26 hours. Once released, a yolk enters a long, winding passage known as the oviduct, a 25- to 27-inch-long tubular organ where transformation begins. The yolk develops through five hormonally regulated sections and, over the course of the next day, slowly moves through the different parts of the tube.

At each section, a new layer is added. First comes the thick egg white around the yolk, then the protective inner and outer membranes, and finally the hard shell. At the end of this process, it looks exactly like the eggs we buy at the store. A rooster is only needed if the goal is to produce fertilized eggs.

Laying eggs every day has a lot to do with light, since chickens are incredibly sensitive to daylight. The timing of their egg-laying cycle is closely controlled by the light they experience. When sunlight reaches a hen's eyes, it sends hormonal signals to her brain, instructing the ovary to release the next yolk. This explains why hens lay more eggs during spring and summer, when the days are long, and fewer during the shorter days of winter. Artificial light is often used



to keep hens laying throughout the year by simulating the long days of summer.

Laying eggs frequently is far from effortless. Each eggshell is composed mostly of calcium, and producing one every day demands a constant supply of minerals and energy. To meet this need, a hen's body draws calcium from her diet and, if necessary, even from her own bones. Hens require calcium-rich food.

As chickens grow older, their egg-laying declines. They begin producing fewer eggs, and after a few years they eventually stop laying altogether.

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Community newspapers are living history books, recording all facets of the lives of community residents, as well as providing news that is relevant to them.

# Wilkie man charged with assault with weapon following dispute: RCMP

A 38-year-old Wilkie man is facing charges of assault with a weapon and uttering threats after RCMP responded to a dispute in the community.

Police say the incident was among a wide range of calls handled by Unity RCMP and surrounding detachments over the past three weeks, including multiple breaches of court-ordered conditions, assaults, thefts and mental health-related calls.

In Unity, RCMP laid charges in several incidents. A 39-year-old woman was charged twice with failing to comply with an undertaking, while a 42-year-old woman was charged with assault following a reported dispute.

Police are also investigating complaints of uttering threats, fraud and theft, as well as reports of individuals breaching undertaking conditions. Officers responded to a hit-and-run causing vehicle damage, but say there was insufficient evidence to proceed.

Members conducted several wellbeing checks at the request of concerned citizens and responded to a Mental Health Act complaint, transporting an individual to Battlefords Union Hospital for assessment.

Other calls in the community included a false 911 report, two traffic complaints, a property dispute, and a report from CN Police of a vehicle striking a railway crossing gate. An identification card was also turned in to be returned to its owner, and officers served a court document on behalf of Ontario Provincial Police.

In Wilkie, RCMP responded to a semi rollover south of the community, where a passenger sustained minor injuries and no charges were laid. Police also attended a separate vehicle collision with no injuries reported.

Members handled multiple Mental Health Act complaints, conducted a wellbeing check and issued a verbal warning following a complaint of disturbing the peace. A theft complaint remains under investigation.

Police received two reports of suspicious vehicles near residences, with one complainant requesting increased patrols. Officers also investigated

a report of a suspicious person who had left the area before police arrived.

One reported assault was determined to be unfounded, while another remains under investigation.

RCMP also received reports from CP Police of a train blocking a railway crossing and a crossing malfunction near Wilkie.

In Macklin, RCMP charged a 29-year-old woman with mischief following a complaint of property damage. Police are also investigating a report of a vehicle striking a residential fence.

Members mediated a dispute between a landlord and tenant and are investigating a complaint of disturbing the peace. Officers also issued a three-day roadside suspension during a traffic stop and handled an additional traffic complaint.

RCMP assisted Calgary Police Service with an investigation during the reporting period, and one false alarm was also reported.

Police ask anyone with information about crimes in the Unity, Wilkie and Macklin areas to contact their local RCMP detachment or Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers.

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FORM 2 (Section 4)

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**Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4 (3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act* is included in the amount shown against each parcel.**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY						Total Arrears	Advertising Costs	Total Arrears and Costs	
Part of Sec.	Lot	Blk	Plan						
Part of Sec.	Sec.	Twp.	Range	Meridian	Title No.				
NE	24	22	22	W3	121664055	\$2,958.81	\$23.83	\$2,982.64	
NW	24	22	22	W3	121664077	\$2,975.87	\$23.83	\$2,999.70	
NW	10	22	23	W3	148996726	\$1,197.43	\$23.83	\$1,221.26	
SE	15	22	23	W3	157012321	\$ 746.01	\$23.83	\$ 769.84	
SE	36	21	22	W3	128787957	\$1,315.36	\$23.83	\$1,339.19	
SW	36	21	22	W3	128787913	\$1,250.09	\$23.83	\$1,273.92	
		13	5		0759	158418423	\$1,640.53	\$23.83	\$1,664.36
		9	7		Y4458	153037829			
		10	7		Y4458	154326898	\$1,546.83	\$47.69	\$1,594.52

Dated this 24th day of March, 2026.

Krista Loudon  
Treasurer

# Sports mascots are big business

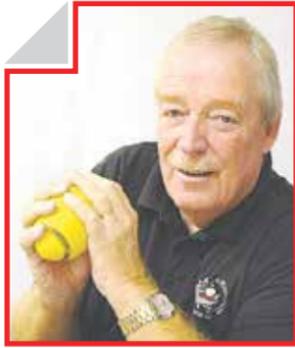
Sports fans may consider team mascots to be: a) entertaining; b) annoying; c) hilarious; d) adding to the game experience. Whatever your view, their existence in sports today is no laughing matter. Mascots are big business.

It's almost mandated that every professional sports team must have a mascot to fire up the fans. Their efforts help to get the "Go Team Go" chants going, to help start the wave around the seating area, to tussle some youngster's hair so Mom and Dad can get a picture, and in some cases, bang a drum so loudly that some fans go home with a headache.

There are endless mascot stories, but my favourite is when Harvey the Hound, the Calgary Flames' mascot, got too close to the Edmonton Oilers bench in a 2003 game at the Saddledome and had his tongue ripped out by Oilers' assistant coach Craig MacTavish, who then waved the piece of red felt in the air before tossing it into the crowd behind him. No penalty was called by the officials, who didn't even give him a tongue-lashing.

As mentioned earlier, sports mascots are big business. The person who answers to Gritty, the smiling, scary, big-eyed, orange Philadelphia Flyers monster, recently signed a contract that pays him/her an annual stipend of \$250,000 U.S. Pretty good dough, but not sure how the job description would look on a resumé.

Grey Cup champion Saskatchewan Roughriders recently announced they are on the lookout for a new Gainer the Gopher. While most gophers in Saskatchewan meet their maker from a shotgun blast from



**Sports**  
By Bruce Penton

an angry farmer, Gainer is the most beloved critter in the Wheat Province. "A Rider Fan's Dream Job," said radio station CKRM on its website. "Think you can gopher it?" headlined CKOM Radio. Job requirements state that the winning Gainer must be "young, energetic and willing to dress like a football-obsessed rodent." The team's online job posting, according to a Canadian Press story, says the Riders are "looking for someone who can dance, hug, give high fives, and also improvise — all while staying in character."

Canada's best baseball mascot was Youppi from the Montreal Expos. He was thought to be out of work when the Expos moved to Washington in 2005, but the Canadiens decided to hire Youppi as the NHL team's first mascot. He remains on the job at the Bell Centre today. Youppi is one of only three mascots with glass-encased displays at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. The San Diego Chicken and the Phillie Phanatic are the others. Youppi remains the only Canadian entry in the Mascot Hall of Fame.

Former Dodgers' manager Tommy Lasorda had his issues with mascots. He once got into an on-field fight with the Phillie Phanatic, and had Youppi ejected from a game in Montreal after the mascot continuously jumped on the roof of the Dodger dugout.

Meanwhile, you can go online to apply to be the new Gainer. It's only part-time, but it beats living in a hole in the ground.

- Author Paul Myers, whose book on John Candy devotes a full chapter to Candy's Canadian Football League excursion, in which he, Wayne Gretzky and Bruce McNall bought the Toronto Argonauts: "One wonders how well that part of the comedian's life translates to American readers who wouldn't know a Rough Rider from a Roughrider."
- Cathal Kelly of the Globe and Mail, on the popularity of football at the U of Alabama with 17-year-

olds across America: "Almost 60,000 of them apply each year to go the University of Alabama, and it isn't because it has a hot environmental sciences program."

- Super 70s Sports: "Scientists now believe Topps gum from the '80s will outlast all animal and plant life on the planet."
- A piece of wisdom from the late Lou Holtz, snipped from sportscurmudgeon.com: "Coaching is nothing more than eliminating mistakes before you get fired."
- Cathal Kelly of the Globe and Mail, after an uninspiring Leafs' effort against Tampa Bay: "After an initial burst of enthusiasm, the only way they could have been worse is if they'd gone back to the dressing room and reappeared in their bathrobes."
- Kelly again, mocking the Fraser Minten for Brandon Carlo trade that also gave the Bruins Toronto's first-round draft pick: "That they thought (Minten) was disposable explains why the Leafs should hire a responsible adult to be present during all future negotiations."
- Golf great Jack Nicklaus, asked if he liked the TPC Sawgrass course when it opened in 1982: "No, I've never been very good at stopping a 5-iron on the hood of a car."
- European pro golfer Darren Clarke: "The 17th at Sawgrass is like waking up at 6:30 in the morning knowing you have root canal work at 3:30."
- Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "The Tampa Bay Buccaneers should not have let franchise legend Mike Evans sign a contract elsewhere. The Buccaneers without Mike Evans is like their pirate ship without its cannons."
- fark.com headline: "Las Vegas Raiders forgot to say 'no takebacksies' before Maxx Crsoby fails physical and Baltimore nixes trade."

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

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# Just a gal from Glidden



## Fighting over lozenges, counting our blessings

BY KATE WINQUIST

This week's column comes to you under the influence of NyQuil and Halls.

Yes, I caught my annual spring cold. I am blaming Robert as he came down with symptoms a couple of days before me. I just wish now that I had slept in the spare bedroom when he first started complaining of a sore throat. At first, I thought it was just the "man cold" — never as bad as they'd like you to think. As it turns out, he actually wasn't just looking for sympathy.

But why do guys have to be so noisy when they cough, sneeze or blow their nose? Even our dog gets startled.

Still, things could be much worse, and we're counting our blessings this week.

Joan's husband was hospitalized with cardiac heart failure. Thankfully, he is doing much better and is now home.

It hasn't been an easy week at the office.

My dear friend, mentor and columnist, Madonna Hamel, is recovering from brain surgery — yes, you read that correctly. She had a tennis ball-sized tumour removed at University Hospital and is now in the care of her sister and husband in Medicine Hat.

Madonna is chomping at the bit to get back to writing, but we'll see. I can't help but admire her outlook. When I asked her how she was doing, her immediate reply was, "Actually, it's been amazing and fascinating."

Amazing.

Fascinating.

When I wished her the best heading into this next chapter, she told me it has already been enriching. That's when I lost it.

I texted Madonna to tell her she was making me cry. She replied, "That is good. It's all so beautiful — this life, body and spirit of ours."

And I'm sitting there thinking: this woman has just had brain surgery and she is still more poetic than I could ever hope to be.

Perspective shows up when you least expect it.



Kate (left) and her sister Carrie take a turn being "under the weather" in this childhood photo — a reminder of the days when Mom made everything better.

Remember when you were a kid and Mom made everything better when you were sick? Or at least she tried.

On the farm, all of our bedrooms were downstairs except for Mom and Dad's. When I was sick, I got to sleep upstairs on the hide-a-bed in the living room. There was a cool mist vaporizer humming beside me, a puke bucket just in case, a box of Kleenex within reach, and Vicks VapoRub slathered on my chest. Plenty of liquids, too.

It's nice to have someone waiting on you when you're under the weather.

No chance of that happening this week, with Robert being sick as well.

He says he remembers his mom making a mustard plaster for his chest, which "worked pretty well, but burned like a son of a bitch."

By the time you read this, Robert and I should be fully mended. In the meantime, we'll fight over the last package of lozenges and remind ourselves that things can always be worse.

And maybe, if we're lucky, we'll carry just a little bit of Madonna's perspective with us.

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**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

## SaskPower to link northern and southern grids with new transmission project

SaskPower will build a new transmission link between Saskatchewan's northern and southern electrical grids in a move the provincial government says will improve reliability and support future growth in the far north.

The Government of Saskatchewan approved SaskPower's North-South Transmission Systems Interconnection project, which will see two new transmission lines built between the southern system near the E.B. Campbell Hydroelectric Station and the northern system near the Island Falls Hydroelectric Station.

The lines will each be about 250 kilometres long. SaskPower said the project is intended to strengthen reliability and energy security for northern communities and industry while supporting mining and other economic development in the province's north.

At present, Saskatchewan's northern and southern grids operate independently and are connected through Manitoba. The northern system is also far from most of the province's generating sources, which are located in the south.

Minister Responsible for SaskPower Jeremy Harrison said the interconnection is a key part of the province's transmission and energy security strategy.

SaskPower president and CEO Rupen Pandya said the Crown utility is continuing to focus on investments that support reliability, safety and load growth



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Preliminary planning, design work and engagement with Indigenous rightsholders and the public has already begun.

The federal government has conditionally approved up to \$18.075 million in funding for pre-construction planning and design through Natural Resources Canada's First and Last Mile Fund.

Federal Energy and Natural Resources Minister Tim Hodgson said the project will help strengthen Saskatchewan's transmission network and support jobs, Indigenous partnership, mining and critical minerals development.

The transmission lines are expected to be in service by 2032.

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## BOOK REVIEW

# “From the Ground Up: An Anthology of New Fiction”

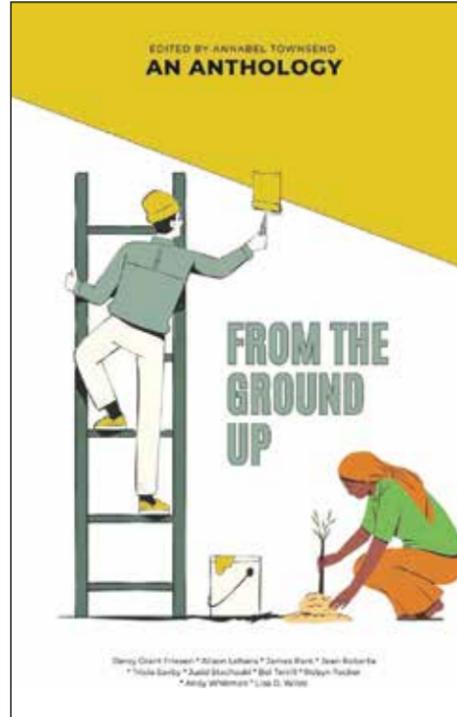
Edited by Annabel Townsend  
Published by Pete's Press  
REVIEW BY SHELLEY A. LEEDAHL

Annabel Townsend loved the “From the Ground Up” theme of Regina’s Cathedral Village Arts Festival (2024) so much, she used it as the theme for an anthology featuring ten Regina area fiction writers. Townsend—a writer, editor, publisher and former bookstore owner—held a “Battle of the Pitches” event at the festival: short story writers were given three minutes to “pitch” a story before a live audience and judges, with the prize being publication in the first-ever anthology by Pete’s Press, *From the Ground Up: An Anthology of New Fiction*. A few other writers also contributed stories.

The stories include a futuristic story by well-known, multi-genre author Alison Lohans. The piece, “Crystal Sister,” is set on the planet Terruggia, which contains a “massive crystal lode” that’s being mined. The main character is young Lytha, whose “job was to form and impress images into waiting crystal, which had the capacity to amplify

and transmit halfway across a galaxy.” Legend has it that the Terruggian waters are unsafe, so what’s any self-respecting teenager going to do? You can guess.

The anthology opens with a fantastical dystopian story by Andy Whitman. Creatures the media initially termed eruptions (the beasts are also called Dirtbacks and Oxodillos) are emerging from the earth daily. Whitman writes, “The creatures looked like a muskox with armadillo’s armour, fifty stories tall and half as wide,” and “Where they emerged from their ancient hibernation, they left craters which swallowed skyscrapers.” The destruction caused as these behemoth’s erupt is widespread and apocalyptic, as they “literally moved the world.” The story takes an interesting twist when the protagonist speeds to his parents’ farm—several hours away—for safety and reconciliation, and finds only his twin brother, who doesn’t believe in the “goddamn hysteria”. Then: “Things shifted quickly. The ground trembled and buckled.” Whitman’s skill is evident in descriptive lines like “The concrete sidewalk beneath my shoes sounded like the



whole planet grinding its teeth” and “The clouds were fluffy but flat, old ships serenely sailing from one horizon to another.”

Tricia Saxby’s contributed a realistic story about taking her materialistic and opinionated teenaged sons to work at a

soup kitchen. Two stories feature kidnappings—including a financially-desperate bookstore owner’s kidnapping of Margaret Atwood. One can tell how much fun the writer had with this romp, ie: the bookstore owner’s name is Paige Turner.

The diverse anthology includes a six-chapter novella concerning a downed Cessna and heaps of drug money; a Snow White tale; and a story involving a talking, kleptomaniac cat.

I clicked on Pete’s Press website to learn more about the publisher: “Pete’s Press is a new, hybrid publisher intent on publishing books that make you think. The Press—named for “the late, great and bookish Cat”—which provides publication of books in various genres, “offers authors a unique blend of traditional and self-publishing advantages,” with a “one-off fee [that] covers editing and proofreading, typesetting and design, printing the books, distribution through global sales platforms and book marketing.” For more, [www.petespress.ca](http://www.petespress.ca).

*This book is available at your local bookstore or from [www.skbooks.com](http://www.skbooks.com)*

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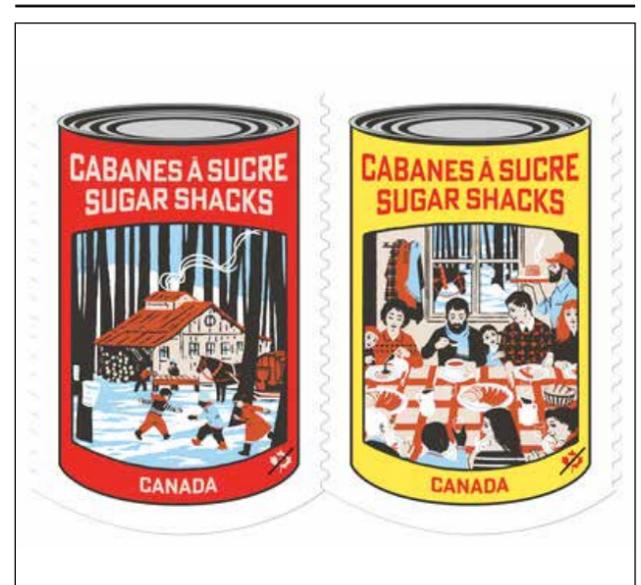
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## Canada Post sweetens spring with maple sugar stamps

BY IAN MACKAY

Two new postage stamps celebrate making maple sugar.

Canada Post issued both stamps in the shape of maple syrup cans, “just as the scents, sounds and tastes of the season come to life at sugar shacks,” a Canada Post statement said. Revealed at Cabane Panache, a festival in Montréal, “the stamps celebrate sugaring-off season and pay tribute to Quebec’s iconic sugar shacks,” the statement said.

“Indigenous peoples of the Eastern Woodlands, including the W8banakiak (Abenakis), the Anishinaabeg (Anishinaabe), the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) and the Mi’gmaq (Mi’kmaq), were producing maple products long before the arrival of European settlers,” the statement noted. “They shared their ancestral knowledge with early French colonists, who adapted their methods over time.”

People in Quebec and eastern Ontario began boiling sap from maple trees in small shacks during the 1850s and, although sugar bushes have grown in size, artisanal techniques are still in practice, the statement said. Quebec produces 90 per cent of Canada’s maple syrup and more than 70 per cent of the world’s supply.

Illustrator Gérard DuBois and Montréal graphic design firm Paprika created the stamps and associated products.



**A FINE STRAPPING LASS!** Shirley Jeffries sports her best green for St. Patrick's Day celebrations at Caleb Village in Kindersley on Tuesday, bringing a touch of Irish cheer — and a wee bit of luck — to the festivities.

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## Virtual care helps rural Saskatchewan patients avoid long trips for basic health needs

Rural Saskatchewan residents often spend more time travelling to see a doctor than they do receiving care, and a new report suggests virtual medicine is increasingly filling that gap.

Many rural residents in Saskatchewan travel 45 minutes to more than an hour to access health-care services, according to a 2024 report from the University of Regina's Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit. The report also found health-care vacancy rates rose significantly between 2019 and 2023, contributing to clinic closures, reduced hours and fewer available primary care providers in some communities.

New data from Dialogue, an employer-funded virtual care and wellness platform, suggests many common health concerns can be handled remotely, cutting wait times and reducing travel for patients in rural areas.

According to the company, 65 per cent of visits through its platform result in a prescription, eight per cent lead to a referral and fewer than seven per cent end in an emergency room visit. Dialogue says patients connect with a medical professional within an hour on average, compared with waits of days or weeks for some in-person appointments.

"Reduced availability of primary care services, combined with long distances to clinics or hospitals, creates significant barriers to timely care for rural families," said Dr. Marc Robin, Dialogue's medical director and a practising physician.

Robin said employer-funded virtual care can help ease pressure on clinics and emergency departments by giving patients access to medical advice, prescriptions and followup care without requiring travel.

Dialogue's platform connects patients with licensed physicians, nurses and mental health professionals for non-emergency consultations, chronic-condition management and counselling.

The company said virtual care is intended to complement local clinics and hospitals, allowing in-person resources to focus on more complex cases while patients manage routine health needs from home.

For many rural families, Robin said, that can mean less time on the road, fewer missed work days and faster access to prescriptions, referrals and followup care.

"As Saskatchewan continues to grapple with health-care staffing and access challenges, virtual care is proving to be more than a convenience," he said. "It's becoming an essential part of how care is delivered, especially outside the province's major cities."



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

# Everything energy in the 2026 Saskatchewan provincial budget

BY BRIAN ZINCHUK

REGINA – There might be a war underway in Iran, the Strait of Hormuz could be threatened, and WTI is hovering around US\$94 a barrel. But none of that was reflected when Saskatchewan's 2026-27 budget was put together.

Dig into the numbers, and the outlook is notably cautious.

Oil assumptions were locked in back in February, before geopolitical tensions drove prices sharply higher. As a result, the province based its projections on a much weaker pricing environment.

The budget pegs WTI at US\$59.75 per barrel. That's down \$11.25 from the US\$71 used in last year's budget. Even that earlier number proved optimistic, with the current fiscal year now expected to average just US\$61.69. Anyone in the patch knows the story. Much of the past year saw declining prices, dipping into the US\$50 range before the recent spike.

That feeds directly into revenue.

The province is forecasting oil and natural gas revenue at \$721 million, down \$347 million, or 32.5 per cent, from last year's budget. Lower prices and slightly reduced production are the main drivers, partially offset by a weaker Canadian dollar.

Production itself hasn't shifted dramatically. Actual output for 2024-25 came in at 163.1 million barrels, or 446,849 barrels per day. The current fiscal year is now expected to land at 160.3 million barrels, while 2026-27 is forecast at 165.7 million barrels, or 453,973 barrels per day.

Small price swings matter.

Every US\$1 change in WTI moves provincial revenue by about \$16 million. If oil averaged roughly US\$89.75, that would translate into an estimated \$480 million in additional revenue. On the flip side, a one-cent increase in the Canadian dollar cuts revenues by about \$42 million.

That volatility explains the province's restraint. Even with prices currently elevated, the government is not building that upside into its plan.

The budget projects \$21.4 billion in revenue against \$22.2 billion in expenses, leaving a deficit of \$819 million.

Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Jim Reiter pointed to global instability as the key risk.

"What keeps me up at night in the whole budget process is just the absolute volatility of world markets," he said in a briefing, noting how oil moved from around \$60 to near \$100 in a matter of days.

The province's approach is to limit reliance on non-renewable resource revenue to no more than 15 per cent of total revenue. This budget comes in at 11.5 per cent. If additional oil revenue materializes, Reiter said a significant portion would go toward debt reduction, though other pressures like health care remain.

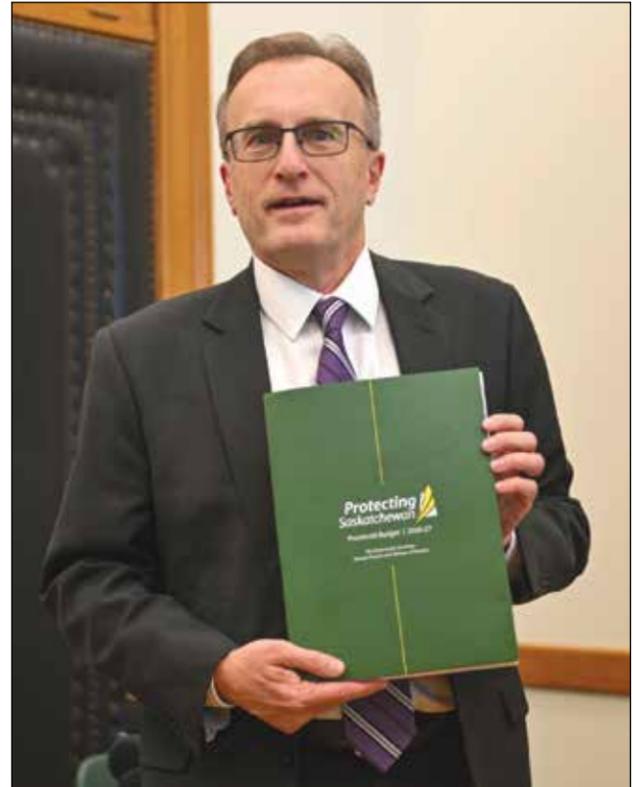
### Digging into the numbers

Non-renewable resource revenue is projected at \$2.6 billion for 2026-27, about 12 per cent of total revenue. That's down \$132 million, or 4.9 per cent, from the previous budget.

The outlook depends heavily on external factors: global commodity prices, exchange rates, geopolitical developments, and supply chain stability.

Saskatchewan oil continues to sell at a discount to WTI due to its heavier quality. The budget assumes a stable light-heavy differential of 14.7 per cent, reflecting current pipeline capacity and market conditions.

Other resource revenues, including coal, minerals, and related fees, are expected to total \$106 million, up modestly from last year.



Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier Jim Reiter, with his second budget on March 18, 2026.

GOVT OF SASKATCHEWAN PHOTO

The High Water-Cut Oil Well Program is extended to March 31, 2031. The program reduces royalties for wells producing at least 90 per cent water, helping operators manage higher costs and extend well life. The minimum investment threshold per well rises from \$20,000 to \$30,000.

### Broader economic picture

Saskatchewan's economy showed resilience in 2025, with exports reaching \$43.5 billion despite weak oil prices and ongoing trade friction. That total was down four per cent from 2024, largely due to a \$1.9 billion drop in energy exports.

Real GDP growth is estimated at 2.2 per cent for 2025, with 1.6 per cent projected for 2026. Over the medium term, growth is expected to average 2.3 per cent annually through 2030, driven by investment in natural resources and value-added agriculture.

Oil production is forecast to grow modestly, up 3.4 per cent in 2026-27 and averaging 1.1 per cent annual growth through 2030. Investment tied to improved pricing and pipeline capacity, including the Trans Mountain expansion, is expected to support that increase.

Globally, supply remains strong. OPEC+ continues to unwind production cuts, contributing to an over-supplied market and softer price expectations heading into 2026.

### Energy and infrastructure spending

The province continues to invest in its resource sectors.

The Saskatchewan Geological Survey receives \$2.3 million as part of a \$10 million, 10-year Public Geoscience Initiative aimed at encouraging mineral exploration. Another \$3.5 million goes toward the Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive, which has helped Saskatchewan reach an estimated 17 per cent share of national exploration spending in 2025.

Crown corporation capital spending totals \$2.5 billion for 2026-27. That includes \$1.7 billion through SaskPower for generation and grid upgrades, \$308.8 million through SaskEnergy for system expansion,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

# Kindersley leads region with \$1.5M in provincial revenue sharing

Kindersley is set to receive nearly \$1.5 million from the province's municipal revenue-sharing program in 2026-27, the largest allocation among communities in west-central Saskatchewan.

The figure is part of a record \$392.4 million in revenue sharing being distributed to urban, rural and northern municipalities, based on a portion of provincial sales tax revenue.

Among nearby communities, Outlook will receive more than \$752,300, Biggar about \$687,100 and Delisle over \$330,900. Eston is to receive more than \$314,200, while smaller centres such as Elrose, Kyle and Dinsmore will receive between about \$88,000 and \$153,000.

Rosetown, meanwhile, is to receive more than \$807,200, an increase of almost nine per cent from about \$741,000 in 2025-26. That represents a boost of

more than \$66,000 compared with last year. Town administration had budgeted based on the lower 2025-26 amount.

Doddsland will receive nearly \$71,100, Harris \$63,050 and Mildred more than \$51,150. Brock and Plenty will each receive just over \$44,000, while Zealandia is to receive about \$26,100 and Wiseton nearly \$22,600. Tessier and Netherhill will each receive \$10,055.

In addition to revenue sharing, municipalities will have access to \$239 million in infrastructure funding through various programs, including those supported by the federal government.

Government Relations Minister Eric Schmaltz said the funding is intended to help municipalities meet local priorities while maintaining affordability, noting education property tax rates will remain unchanged this year.



## ...Pipeline Online

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

and \$539.1 million across other Crowns, including SaskTel investments in fibre and 5G.

Highways tied to oilpatch activity are also seeing upgrades. Work is planned on Highway 47 near Estevan, Highway 16 between Lloydminster and Lashburn, and several other key routes.

### Bottom line

The current spike in oil prices could improve the province's fiscal position. But the budget was built on a far more conservative foundation.

For now, Saskatchewan is planning for volatility, not betting against it.

*This article is published with permission from Brian Zinchuk and is available at [www.pipelineonline.ca](http://www.pipelineonline.ca). It has been edited for length.*

## Sask. construction growth ranks second in Canada

Saskatchewan recorded the second-highest year-over-year increase in building construction investment among the provinces in January, according to figures released by Statistics Canada.

Seasonally adjusted investment in building construction in Saskatchewan rose 25.6 per cent from January 2025 to January 2026, reaching \$650 million, the provincial government said in a March 19 news release.

Trade and Export Development Minister Warren Kaeding said the increase reflects continued growth in the province.

"With more and more people choosing to call Saskatchewan home, our construction industry is reaping the rewards," Kaeding said in the release.

He said increased investment in the sector helps create jobs, build housing and support in-

frastructure needed by communities.

The province said investment in building construction is based on the total spending value on building construction within Saskatchewan.

The government also pointed to other recent economic indicators. Statistics Canada's latest gross domestic product figures show Saskatchewan's real GDP reached a record \$83.6 billion in 2024, ranking second in Canada for real GDP growth and above the national average of two per cent, the release said.

Private capital investment in Saskatchewan also rose 12 per cent last year to \$13.6 billion, which the province said ranked first among the provinces.

The government attributed part of that growth to its investment attraction strategy, Securing the Next Decade of Growth.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

# 2026 Junior Citizen of the Year Scholarship

Powering our future®

SASKATCHEWAN WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS ASSOCIATION

Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan

## JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Over the past four decades, the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, in partnership with SaskPower and the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, has recognized the youth of Saskatchewan through the Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

These prestigious awards are given to youths who:

- Have a positive lifestyle
- Volunteer within their community and school
- Has overcome a personal life challenge (physical, emotional or environmental)
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
- 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.

*Building a Strong Saskatchewan through the Crown Sector*

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

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#### PARTS COUNTER PERSON

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#### SERVICE TECHNICIAN

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[cordell@owensandsweitzer.com](mailto:cordell@owensandsweitzer.com)



## How to determine freelance rates

Do you do freelance work and find it difficult to determine your rate of pay? Are you afraid of charging too much or too little? Here are a few tips.

#### Do research

The "perfect" rate won't magically appear on a silver platter. In determining how much to charge your clients, you need to analyze and compare current market prices for similar services. You can get a good idea of the going rate by visiting various websites, posting in discussion forums and talking to professionals in your network.

#### List your expenses

Unlike salaried employees, freelancers must pay for certain business expenses out of pocket. For example, costs like insurance, travel, retirement savings,

equipment and rent should be factored into your rate.

#### Perform calculations

First, decide how much money you want to bring in each month. Then, add this amount to your monthly business expenses, social security fees and taxes. Finally, set aside a certain amount of money for emergencies, like illness or computer problems.

Once you determine the total you need to earn per month, calculate your hourly rate by dividing this total by the number of hours you work in a month. For example, if you want to charge per document, you must estimate the number of hours required to complete the job and multiply it by your hourly rate.

All that's left to do is promote your services, write quotes and sign contracts.

## ORGANIC HAY LAND LEASE

### OPPORTUNITY

### TOWN OF KERROBERT

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- ✓ Organic Methods Only (No Chemicals)
- ✓ Min. \$10,000/Year + Percentage Per-Bale Share
- ✓ \$2M Liability Insurance Required

A detailed map is available on *SaskTenders* or from the Town.

#### SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

## MARCH 31, 2026

#### HAY LANDS INCLUDED (APPROX. 562 ACRES)

- NE 13-34-23 W3rd (72 acres)
- SW 13-34-23 W3rd (60 acres, behind Yukon driving range)
- W ½ Section 18-34-23 W3rd (120 acres total: 60 grass / 60 hay)
- E ½ Section 14-34-23 W3rd (230 acres grass)
- SE 23-34-23 W3rd (80 acres)

#### TO APPLY OR FOR DETAILS:

- ☎ (306) 834-2361
- ✉ [cao@kerrobert.ca](mailto:cao@kerrobert.ca)

Full RFP posted on *SaskTenders*:

Search "Town of Kerrobert Organic Hay Land Lease"

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## JOIN OUR TEAM AS A FULL-TIME REPORTER

Your Southwest Media Group, located in Kindersley, Saskatchewan, is hiring a full-time reporter to cover:

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- Agriculture
- Rural healthcare
- Regional events
- Human-interest features

- ▶ Produce 8–12 stories per week for print and online
- ▶ with opportunities through the Local Journalism Initiative (LJI).

#### WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO:

- ✓ Has strong reporting instincts
- ✓ Works independently and meets deadlines
- ✓ Is comfortable travelling rural communities
- ✓ Has a valid driver's licence
- ✓ Is eager to learn and grow

Full-time: 35–40 hours/week  
Term: Until March 31, 2027,

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with your resume, cover letter and at least 3 writing samples.

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# JOBS & TENDERS

To advertise call 306.463.2211 or email: kate@yourwestcentral.com

## 3 good reasons to hire students

Are you looking for new employees but hesitant to hire students? Here are three good reasons to consider them for your team.



**1. You can fill temporary vacancies**  
Students are usually flexible and available to work in the summer and during holidays when business is booming. For this reason, they're ideal for casual and seasonal work, or if you need somebody to temporarily cover an employee on parental leave. They're also more likely to accept evening and weekend shifts.

**2. You help train the next generation**  
You offer students the opportunity to learn within your company. In certain industries and with particular tasks, you can teach recruits the basics of the trade and help them develop a strong work ethic. These motivated young people will become qualified workers capable of taking on full-time, perma-

nent jobs upon graduation. Give them a chance; they'll repay you in time.

**3. You encourage knowledge sharing**  
Students often know more about new technologies than long-time employees. You can build mentorship connections between recruits and existing employees to encourage each to share their know-how and gain critical knowledge. This type of expertise exchange can propel your company into the future.

Are you interested in hiring students? Consult the placement services offered by local schools to tap into this valuable workforce.

## SEASONAL UTILITY WORKER RM OF PRAIRIEDALE NO. 321

The Rural Municipality of Prairiedale No. 321 is now accepting applications for **TWO (2) FULL-TIME SEASONAL UTILITY WORKERS.**  
Work to commence on or around mid to late May 2026.

Preference will be given to applicants who are able to operate a tractor with mower, rock picker, mulcher, etc. A valid driver's license is required.

Duties to include but not limited to:

- Mowing ditches
- Culvert and sign installation and maintenance
- Equipment maintenance and repair
- Duties as directed by Council

The wage will commensurate with qualifications and experience as well as a benefits package.

Interested individuals should submit their resume including work experience, wage expectations, and three work related references and current Driver's Abstract by 4:00 pm, March 16, 2026 to:

**RM of Prairiedale No. 321**

PO Box 160  
Major, SK S0L 2H0  
Fax: 306-834-1202

Email: [administrator@rmofprairiedale.ca](mailto:administrator@rmofprairiedale.ca)

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

## FULL-TIME SEASONAL GRADER OPERATOR RM OF PRAIRIEDALE NO. 321

The Rural Municipality of Prairiedale No. 321 is seeking a full-time, seasonal Grader Operator.

The successful candidate will meet the following criteria:

- Have willingness and aptitude to operate grader as required for the job
- Have knowledge of servicing and maintaining heavy equipment
- Valid Driver's License
- Have a working knowledge of grading roads
- Must be capable of working with minimal to no immediate supervision
- Attention to detail, safety conscious, and ability to take direction from Supervisors

Duties may include but not limited to:

- Operating grader
- Experience operating other equipment is an asset
- Any other tasks assigned by the Supervisor with the direction of Council

Employment proposed start date is to be determined. The RM of Prairiedale offers a competitive wage and comprehensive benefits package including the Municipal Employees Pension Plan (MEPP).

The position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. Applicants are invited to submit a resume to:

**RM of Prairiedale No. 321**

Box 160  
Major, SK S0L 2H0  
Fax: 306-834-1202

Email: [administrator@rmofprairiedale.ca](mailto:administrator@rmofprairiedale.ca)

## FOR SALE BY TENDER R.M. of Winslow No. 319

Is accepting offers for sale by tender on the following equipment:



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Email: [Administrator@rmofwinslow.ca](mailto:Administrator@rmofwinslow.ca)

## LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

### R.M. of Antelope Park #322

NE 35-31-29-W3 Surface Parcel #117739693  
98 acres cultivated  
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98 acres cultivated

### Alberta Special Area 3

SE 36-31-01-W4  
158 acres cultivated

- Highest tender or any tender not necessarily accepted.
- Property "as is"
- Offers must exclude GST or any other levies which may be payable by the purchaser.
- Purchasers must rely on their own research and inspection of the property.
- 10% of purchase price must accompany tender which will be returned if not accepted.

Closing date for Tenders is 4:00 pm April 9, 2026.

Forward Tender to: **Sheppard & Millar Law Office**  
113-1st Avenue East  
Box 1510  
Kindersley, SK S0L 1S0  
Attention: Monte Sheppard

Please refer to file 26-6408 when submitting tender.

## LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

### R.M. of Deer Forks #232

NE 07-20-28-W3 Surface Parcels #146032556 & 146032578  
150 acres cultivated  
LSD 11 & 12 08-20-28-W3 Surface Parcels #146032590 & 146032602  
80 acres cultivated  
SW 16-19-29-W3 Surface Parcels #144574319 & 144590913  
145 acres cultivated  
Includes 2 gas wells - annual income \$3,554.00

- Highest tender or any tender not necessarily accepted.
- Property "as is"
- Offers must exclude GST or any other levies which may be payable by the purchaser.
- Purchasers must rely on their own research and inspection of the property.
- 5% of purchase price must accompany tender which will be returned if not accepted.
- Sale to close no later than April 10, 2026.

Closing date for Tenders is 4:00 pm March 31, 2026.

Forward Tender to: **Sheppard & Millar Law Office**  
113-1st Avenue East  
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Attention: Monte Sheppard

Please refer to file 26-6387 when submitting tender.

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saskbaseballmuseum@sasktel.net



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tasamedia.ca.

Your West Central Voice  
(Kindersley) is hiring an LJI  
Reporter for west central  
Saskatchewan and east  
central Alberta. The job is a  
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Full description at jeffgaulin.  
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### PROPERTY FOR SALE BY TENDER

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Lot 20-22, Block 11,  
Plan BA1993  
303 Main Street,  
Ogema, SK

### TENDER CLOSE

April 3, 2026  
at 4:00 p.m.

Highest, or any tender,  
will not necessarily  
be accepted.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Town of Ogema  
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Phone:  
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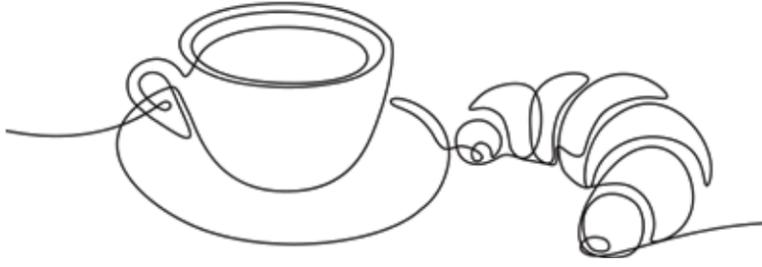


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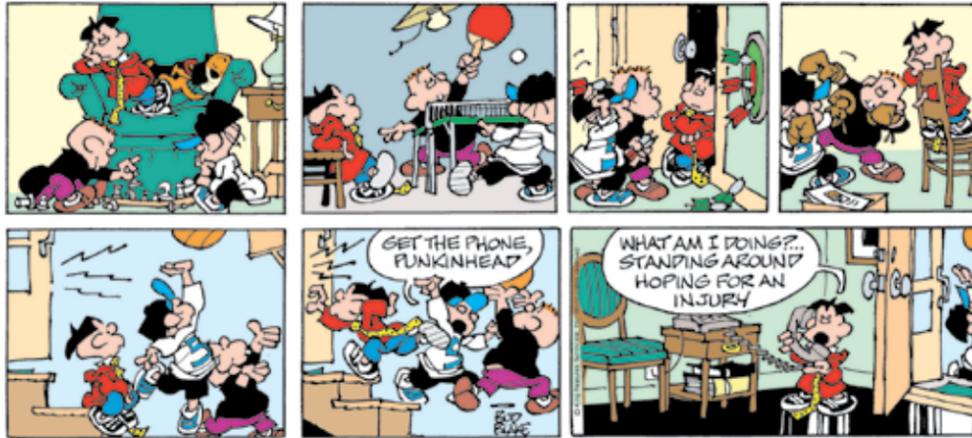
**Amber Waves**

by Dave T. Phipps



**TIGER**

by Bud Blake



**The Spats**

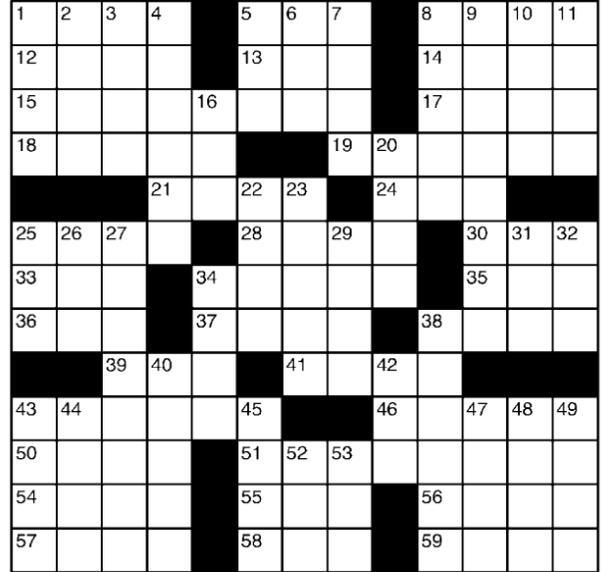
by Jeff Pickering



**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- 1 Banner
- 5 Invoice fig.
- 8 Experts
- 12 Earring site
- 13 Brit's restroom
- 14 Carry on
- 15 Capital of Paraguay
- 17 Slender weapon
- 18 Rationed (out)
- 19 Urges forward
- 21 "La Dolce —"
- 24 Granola morsel
- 25 Luke's teacher
- 28 Folklore monster
- 30 Mel of Cooperstown
- 33 "Caught ya!"
- 34 Welcome
- 35 Bankroll
- 36 "Tasty!"
- 37 Give temporarily
- 38 Burden
- 39 Navarro on "The View"
- 41 Mausoleum
- 43 Continue
- 46 Skiers' mecca
- 50 Bank statement no.
- 51 Capital of India



**DOWN**

- 1 Two-stroke drumbeat
- 2 Misplace
- 3 Border on
- 4 Swiss metropolis
- 5 Foreman foe
- 6 Cattle call
- 7 Author
- 8 Venezuelan corn patty
- 9 Capital of South Africa
- 10 Daring Knievel
- 11 Beholds
- 16 Roman 401 brand
- 22 Ripped
- 23 Rep
- 25 Candied veggie
- 26 Resistance unit
- 27 Capital of Syria
- 29 Make over
- 31 Sigma follower
- 32 QBs' goals
- 34 Glitzy rock genre
- 38 Fixate
- 40 Peculiar
- 42 Irate
- 43 Grate
- 44 Canyon comeback
- 45 Concludes
- 47 Conspiracy
- 48 Barak of Israel
- 49 Guitarist Lofgren
- 52 Rock producer Brian
- 53 Method

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

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

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

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Briefcase is different. 3. Vest is missing. 4. Elbow patch is added. 5. Newspaper is larger. 6. Bush is moved.

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

**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES:** Who is the director of the Oscar-winning movie "Parasite"?
- FOOD & DRINK:** What is miso?
- LITERATURE:** What are the names of the romantic couple in "Wuthering Heights"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** Which city's nickname is "Pearl of the Orient"?
- HISTORY:** In what year were the first modern Olympic Games held?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS:** Before becoming president, Barack Obama served as a senator from which state?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Which peninsula is the largest in the world?
- MYTHOLOGY:** Who is the Greek god of war?
- MUSIC:** Who composed the opera "The Ring of Nibelung"?
- ACRONYMS:** In computer emails, what does the acronym "CC" stand for?

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**King Crossword**  
Answers  
Solution time: 24 mins.

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Trivia Test Answers  
1. Bong Joon Ho; 2. Fermented soybean paste; 3. Heathcliff and Catherine; 4. Manila, Philippines; 5. 1896 in Greece; 6. Illinois; 7. Arabian Peninsula; 8. Ares; 9. Richard Wagner; 10. Carbon Copy (once used in typewriters)



**NOTICE OF POLL**  
**TOWN OF KINDERSLEY**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that a poll has been granted for the election of:

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

Voting will take place on **Wednesday, the 25th day of March, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at the following polling place:

**Town of Kindersley Administration Building**  
**106-5<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, Kindersley, Saskatchewan**

I will declare the result of the election at the Town of Kindersley Administration Building, 106 - 5th Avenue East, Kindersley, Saskatchewan, on the 26th day of March, 2026 at the hour of 9:00 a.m.

Dated at Kindersley, Saskatchewan this 24th day of February, 2026.

Marty Baroni, Returning Officer

**VOTER IDENTIFICATION WILL BE REQUIRED TO VOTE**



A Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services officer departs Stony Rapids to patrol the ice road during a northern enforcement initiative.

**RCMP remove 21 impaired drivers during northern patrol covering 2,400 kilometres**

Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services removed 21 impaired drivers from the road during a five-day traffic safety initiative in northern Saskatchewan, with most involving drugs.

Officers conducted the fourth phase of a winter enforcement campaign from March 11 to 15 in and around the La Ronge detachment area. Police from Martensville and Saskatoon, along with Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan (CTSS), took part in the operation.

Police patrolled 2,400 kilometres and stopped 90 drivers for impairment checks.

As a result, officers suspended two licences for alcohol consumption prior to driving and 18 for drug use. One driver was charged with impaired operation under the Criminal Code.

Officers also issued 117 tickets, including 43 for speeding, along with 93 warnings.

Patrols covered Highways 102, 905 and 964, as well as communities including La Ronge, Stony Rapids, Fond du Lac, Uranium City, Black Lake and Southend. Officers also travelled the ice road between Stony Rapids and Uranium City and conducted roving check stops in Southend.

RCMP say traffic enforcement efforts will continue across Saskatchewan to target impaired driving and promote road safety.

**Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll**  
**Village of Coleville**

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Village of Coleville for the year 2026 has been prepared and is open for inspection in the office of the assessor from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the following days:

**Monday to Friday – March 27 to April 27, 2026**

A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of The Municipalities Act has been passed, and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

A notice of appeal, accompanied by a \$200 appeal fee, which will be returned if the appeal is successful, must be filed with:

**Mike Ligtermoet**  
**The Secretary of the Board of Revision**  
**Nor-Sask Board Services**  
**Box 459**  
**Aberdeen, SK S0K 0A0**

by the 27th day of April, 2026.

For information regarding your assessment notice, please contact the assessor, Village of Coleville, Box 249, Coleville, SK S0L 0K0.

Dated this 24th day of March 2026.

Gillain Lund  
Assessor



**FISKE FROM ABOVE:** A Look Back at Village Life in the 1950s - Aerial view of Fiske in the 1950s, showing the village along the Canadian National Railway line west of Rosetown. The rail line reached the district in 1909, followed by the opening of the post office on Aug. 1, 1910, with Bruce Ronald as postmaster. Named by the railway for a financial backer, Fiske remained a small but active service centre for decades, with landmarks such as the general store and Shorty's gas station, known for its gravity-fed pump. The post office closed permanently in 1990. The village continues today with a population of 74, according to the 2021 census.

PHOTO HISTORIC SASKATCHEWAN



**TRIP OF THE MONTH**  
*March Winner*  
**JEFF BOSER** Unity, SK

**NEW YORK CITY** **Luseland Rink Improvement Project**

Our first Trip of the Month Winner is headed to the city that never sleeps! Congratulations to **JEFF BOSER** who has won **4 nights at the Hilton Times Square or Hyatt with flights from YEG or YVC** - a dazzling escape to take in the bright lights, Broadway & big city energy in New York City, NY!

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**FEBRUARY 26** - MACKLIN (location TBD)

**Standard First Aid Level C CPR/AED** (Recert / Blended Learning)  
**MARCH 12** 8:30 AM-3:00 PM LUSELAND CU

**Standard First Aid Level C CPR/AED** (Recert / Blended Learning)  
**APRIL 16** - KERROBERT PCC

**Standard First Aid Level C CPR/AED** (Recert / Blended Learning)  
**MAY 4** 8:30 AM-3:00 PM LUSELAND CU (PD DAY)

**Basic Life Support Training**  
**MAY 21** 9:00 AM-3:00 PM - KERROBERT PCC

*\*\* Feel free to contact about private bookings for businesses or groups.*

Full/Blended Courses - \$155  
Recertifications - \$135  
Basic Life Support - \$110 Babysitting - \$65

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• AAC OAKMAN VB 	• CDC IMPULSE CL sm. red
• AAC BRANDON	• CDC PERIDOT CL fr. green
• AAC ANDREW (SWS)	• CDC MARBLE fr. green
	• CDC KERMIT sm. green
<b>FLAX</b>	• INDIAN HEAD sm. black
• CDC ROWLAND (Brown)	
• AAC BRIGHT (Yellow)	<b>BARLEY</b>
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# Molasses: The Sweet Leftover with a Rich History

BY JOAN JANZEN



A jar of molasses was a common ingredient in the household of every pioneer, primarily because it was an affordable sweetener compared to refined sugar. Children often ate bread with butter and molasses, which

was high in iron, calcium, magnesium and potassium. However, many people don't know how it is made. Molasses is actually the leftovers of the sugar industry, but the good kind of leftovers. Sugar cane is harvested and crushed to extract the juice, which is then boiled to evaporate the water. As the water disappears, sugar crystals begin to form. Those white crystals are removed to make table sugar, and a dark, thick liquid is left behind. This liquid contains the minerals and plant matter that did not turn into sugar crystals.

There are different types of molasses, depending on how many times it is boiled. The first boil produces light molasses, which is sweet and mild. The second boil produces dark molasses, which is thicker, less sweet and gives gingerbread its signature taste. The third boil produces blackstrap molasses. At this point, most of the sugar has been removed, producing blackstrap molasses, which is bitter, thick

and packed with iron and calcium.

It's the healthiest part of the plant.

Molasses attracts and holds onto water molecules from the air, so when added to cookies it locks in moisture. The secret ingredient in brown sugar is molasses. In fact, brown sugar is simply refined white sugar with molasses added back in, so you can make your own brown sugar by mixing one tablespoon of molasses with one cup of white sugar. Brown sugar becomes hard if exposed to air because the molasses in it absorbs moisture.

An interesting bit of history occurred in 1919. During the First World War, large quantities of molasses were used to produce industrial alcohol (ethanol) for manufacturing explosives like TNT. An industrial alcohol company fermented imported molasses, turning it into a key ingredient for munitions. In January 1919, the Boston Molasses Flood occurred when a storage tank suddenly burst. A 40-foot-high wave of syrup surged through the streets at speeds of up to 35 miles per hour, destroying buildings and claiming 21 lives.

Those are just a few interesting facts about molasses that you may not have known.

# Luseland police report includes threats, scam, arrest warrant

Luseland Police Service handled a range of calls in February, including a report of uttering threats, an email scam complaint and several suspicious activity reports.

Police also responded to five separate business alarm calls, a medical call, a mental health call and a domestic disturbance during the month.

Among the more serious files, officers received a sexual assault report that was referred to an outside agency. Police also responded to a sudden death, which was determined not to be suspicious in nature.

Luseland Police Service said it issued a warrant for the arrest of a 52-year-old man following multiple break-and-enter and theft investigations.

A male was also charged under the Traffic Safety Act for failing to stop when signalled by police.

Other incidents included a report of theft under \$5,000 that was later deemed unfounded and concluded at the complainant's request, as well as three suspicious activity, vehicle or person calls.

Police also responded to a report of a motor vehicle collision involving possible injuries and entrapment, but search efforts did not locate a collision.



In an emergency, call 911. For non-emergency administration, call Luseland Police Service at 306-372-4844.

# Great Plains College showcases programs, opportunities at Kindersley open house

BY JOAN JANZEN

Great Plains College in Kindersley opened its doors and invited visitors to its open house on Thursday evening, March 19, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Guests connected with program coordinators and student advisors who were on hand to help them explore the programs offered, get a glimpse of campus life and discover what scholarships and financial supports are available.

Mackenzie Veason, recruitment coordinator, was on hand to answer questions about the various programs, and anyone who wished was able to tour the facilities.

The evening also presented an opportunity to apply to a tuition-paying post-secondary program and save the \$75 application fee. Most importantly, it allowed visitors to see what Great Plains College is all about and meet the friendly staff.

Programs offered at Great Plains College in Kindersley include Adult 10 and CAEC, Continuing Care Assistant,



Mackenzie Veason, recruitment coordinator, was on hand to greet visitors at the open house held at Great Plains College in Kindersley on Thursday evening, March 19. PHOTO BY JOAN JANZEN

Early Childhood Education, English Language Training, Grade 12 and upgrading, Personal and Professional Development, Practical Nursing, and safety training courses.

# Rosetown theft under investigation in weekly RCMP report

Rosetown RCMP are investigating a reported theft from a residence in Rosetown as part of calls handled between March 12 and 19.

Police said the theft complaint was received at 10:10 a.m. on March 19 and remains under investigation.

Earlier in the week, officers responded to a hit-and-run complaint at a Rosetown business on March 17. RCMP also dealt with a breach of the peace call in the RM of Lacadena on March 18, a wellbeing check in the RM of Mountainview on March 14, and a suspicious person complaint in the RM of Monet early March 14. Members patrolled the property and surrounding area but did not locate any vehicles.

On March 13, RCMP received a complaint of a possible theft in the RM of Mountainview, but the matter was determined to be unfounded.

During the reporting period, police also issued 31 traffic-related charges, received five 911 misdial calls and re-



sponded to one false alarm.

Rosetown RCMP are asking anyone with information about these or any other crimes to contact the detachment at 306-882-5700 or Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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Common tax terms.

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- **Personal amount:** The amount of money you're allowed to earn before having to pay income tax.
- **Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP):** A tax deferral strategy that allows you to save for retirement.
- **Dependent:** Children under 18 years of age and or family members with disabilities.
- **Capital Gains:** You have a capital gain or loss when you sell or are considered to have sold capital property.

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These kids unleash their creativity every week at the after-school art class at Devon Coles Gallery in Kindersley.



Char carefully sculpts a turtle at the after-school art class at Devon Coles Gallery in Kindersley. This is her first year attending the class, while Kinley has been enjoying it since she was four years old. PHOTOS BY JOAN JANZEN



# AGM

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

This is your Co-op. Every Central Plains Co-op member is an owner, and as an owner, you can and should have a say in your business.

**CENTRAL PLAINS CO-OP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

---

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

7:00 PM Call to Order

Please join us at the Anglican Church Hall in Rosetown, or virtually on Webex, as our membership is spread across West Central Saskatchewan and all members need the opportunity to join in and have a say in our business. Advanced registration to attend virtually is required and closes Monday, March 30, 2026 at 12:00 PM.

**How To Register For Virtual Attendance:**  
Email [admin@centralplains.crs](mailto:admin@centralplains.crs) by Monday, March 30, 2026 at 12:00 PM. Include your name & membership number in the email and use the subject line "AGM Registration."  
A link will be emailed after the registration deadline to members who registered for the meeting.

Our Board of Directors election will be ratified during the meeting. See our website for more information.  
Please send any questions in advance to [admin@centralplains.crs](mailto:admin@centralplains.crs) no later than Monday, March 30, 2026.

[www.centralplainsco-op.crs](http://www.centralplainsco-op.crs)

## Young artists get creative at Devon Coles Gallery

BY JOAN JANZEN

Fun, imagination and new skills come to life for the kids who participate in the after-school art classes at Devon Coles Gallery in Kindersley. Once a week, 11 children ranging from Kindergarten to Grade 7 unleash their creativity by working with clay, sculpting and painting, while older teens come alongside to help.

Throughout the 10 weeks, Devon teaches the youngsters about each of these art forms. "They're getting good at the technical aspects of it all," he said. Many of his students keep coming back for each new 10-week session. Some

of them have been coming since they were four years old. These preschoolers have proven that artistic talent begins to flourish at a very young age. Devon has taught many of his current students' older siblings.

During the one-hour class, he shows individual students different techniques to help them create a work of art that they love. At this particular class, the kids were sculpting everything from turtles to their favourite chocolate bars. Each one was busy rolling out their mound of clay, meticulously forming it into a work of art, and then, more often than not, smashing it flat and starting all over again.

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# Impaired driving claimed 33 lives in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction in 2025

Thirty-three people died in drug- or alcohol-related collisions in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction in 2025, according to statistics released by Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services during National Impaired Driving Prevention Week.

The RCMP said officers responded to 31 fatal motor-vehicle collisions last year in which drugs or alcohol were a contributing factor. Those crashes resulted in 33 deaths.

Police also said alcohol or drugs were a factor in 33 per cent of all fatal collisions attended by Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services in 2025.

From January to December, Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan stopped and removed 1,932 drivers from the road who had consumed alcohol and-or drugs before driving.

"Believe us when we say consuming drugs or alcohol before driving has the very real potential of killing people. We saw it 33 times last year,"



ADOBE STOCK PHOTO

Insp. Lee Knelsen, operations officer with Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services, said in a news release.

Knelsen said driving sober is one of the most important things people can do to keep themselves and their loved ones safe on the road.

Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services and CTSS officers will continue to conduct check stops and patrol roads and highways to remove impaired drivers from Saskatchewan roads, police said.

The RCMP is reminding the public to call 911 to report impaired drivers.



James Walker has been the principal at D'Arcy School for the past three and a half years and will assume his new role as principal at North West Central School in Plenty in the 2026-27 school year.  
PHOTO SUN WEST SCHOOL DIVISION

# Principal James Walker to leave D'Arcy School for new role in Plenty

BY JOAN JANZEN

James is a teacher at heart.

James Walker has been the principal at D'Arcy School for the past three and a half years and will be missed by students, staff and parents as he prepares to assume a new role at North West Central School in Plenty for the 2026-27 school year.

"James has done an awesome job for the students and community as the principal at D'Arcy School," stated Sun West Director of Education Darryl Seguin. "We are excited to see what he can accomplish working with the students and staff at North West Central School."

In addition to his administrative role at D'Arcy, James taught Grades 4 to 6 in English language arts, math, science, social studies and health.

"What I have enjoyed most is the students. The children at D'Arcy are incredibly kind and genuinely willing to try new strategies in their learning," he said. "They show a strong growth mindset and are willing to take on challenges, even when learning feels hard at first."

"I've known since Grade 8 that I wanted to be a teacher," he said.

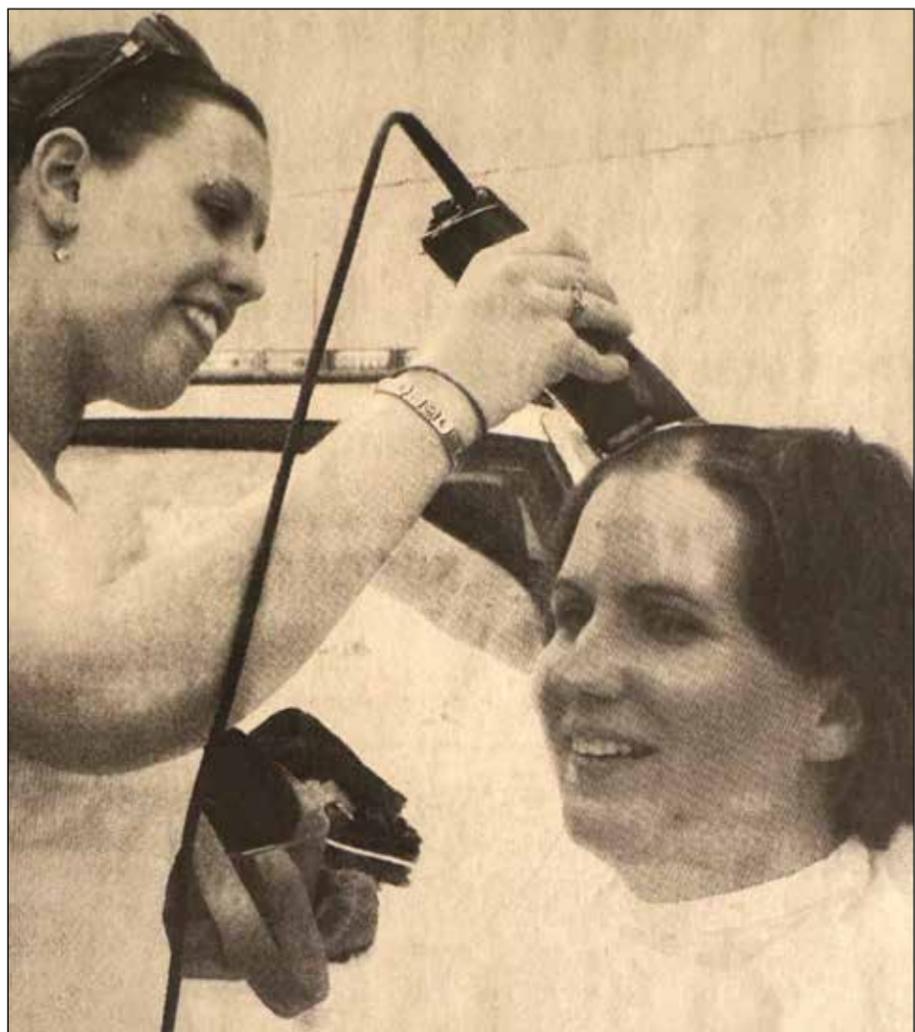
His teaching career began in Nova Scotia, where he learned the importance of flexibility, compassion and meeting students where they're at.

More than a decade ago, he moved to Saskatchewan and joined Sun West School Division, where he served as principal or vice-principal in several elementary, secondary and K-12 schools. Now he is looking forward to his role in a larger school.

"I'm really looking forward to being part of a bigger K-12 community, working with a wider range of students and teachers, and having more opportunities to support learning across all grades," he said as he anticipates the new school year at NWCS.

Nevertheless, he will also miss the school community at D'Arcy.

"I will miss the whole school community, our students, staff and families. D'Arcy has a strong



In 2007, Kerrobert held its first Cops for Cancer fundraiser, spearheaded by the Kerrobert detachment. Grade 12 student Lacy Schrieber took great care in shaving teacher Allison Sherwin's hair at the event. PHOTO CROSSROADS, SPRING 2007 EDITION

# Recognize these Kerrobert gals from 2007?

BY JOAN JANZEN

A snapshot of these two Kerrobert gals was published in a 2007 spring edition of The Crossroads. Grade 12 student Lacy Schrieber took great care in shaving teacher Allison Sherwin's hair at the Cops for Cancer fundraising event that took place that year.

The fundraiser generated \$6,000, and Sherwin was not the only courageous individual who decided to part with her locks. Ten others followed suit, having their hair shaved off in what was Kerrobert's first Cops for Cancer fundraiser, spearheaded by the Kerrobert detachment.

On the list were Cpl. Tom Vander-

zwan, Cst. Steve Bell, Mayor Gary Smith, Kerrobert Tiger Gary Phillips, Kindersley RCMP Cst. Chris Hujber, teacher Troy Snider, son Clark, and The Aud Cup owner Audrey Engel.

All of the participants collected pledges, and coffee and donuts were served at The Aud Cup on the day the event kicked off. At the kick-off event, kids were busy collecting pledges and volunteering to have their heads shaved. Audrey Engel raised the largest amount, bringing in \$1,300.

Hundreds of people turned out for a barbecue held in the curling rink parking lot, where they were able to watch the spectacle of heads being shaved.

## RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF WINSLOW NO. 319 Public Notice – Zoning Bylaw Amendment

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Winslow No. 319 (RM) intends to adopt one (1) bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*; Bylaw No. 01-2025 to amend Bylaw No. 9-2021 known as the Zoning Bylaw.

**INTENT:** Bylaw No. 01-2025 is a proposed amendment in order to allow for more commercial development variety within the RM.

Bylaw No. 01-2025 is to introduce Horizontal and Vertical Integration into the Zoning Bylaw to allow for more than one Principal Use to be on a parcel in cases determined as appropriate by Council. Additionally, adding in Complementary Commercial Uses as land use and a Discretionary Use in the AG District, the CR1 District, the H District, the C1 District and the M1 District. Finally, amendment to definition to reflect above changes via Complementary Commercial Uses, and Horizontal and Vertical Integration.

**AFFECTED LAND:** All lands within the RM of Winslow will be affected by this amendment.

**REASON:** Bylaw No. 01-2025 is amended to introduce the ability for the RM to allow more commercial developments should they meet established requirements for horizontal or vertical integration.

Bylaw No. 01-2025 is amended to introduce Horizontal and Vertical Integration into the Zoning Bylaw to allow for more than one Principal Use to be on a parcel in cases determined as appropriate by Council. To allow for a maximum of two (2) Complementary Commercial Uses to be permitted on a site. Additionally, adding in Complementary Commercial Uses as a Discretionary Use in the AG District, the CR1 District, the H District, the C1 District and the M1 District. Finally, amendment to definition to reflect above changes and clarify these items to allow for Council to determine when these uses are appropriate and beneficial to the RM.

**PUBLIC INSPECTION:** Any person may inspect the bylaw at the RM Office during regular business hours, excluding statutory holidays. Hard copies will be available to the public at a cost at the RM Office. Digital copies can be obtained by contacting the Administrator ([administrator@rmofwinslow.ca](mailto:administrator@rmofwinslow.ca); 306-356-2106).

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Council will hold a public hearing at 10:15 am on April 8th, 2026, in the RM office to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Public may attend meetings via teleconference or in person. If you wish to attend the meeting via teleconference, please contact the RM administrator, Regan MacDonald, at [administrator@rmofwinslow.ca](mailto:administrator@rmofwinslow.ca) requesting a meeting link invitation. Council will also consider written comments received on or before April 7th, 2026, by the undersigned at the RM office by hardcopy or email before the hearing.

The RM office is located at 135 2 Ave, Dodsland, SK S0L 0V0.  
The RM Office contact information: [administrator@rmofwinslow.ca](mailto:administrator@rmofwinslow.ca); 306-356-2106.

Issued by the Rural Municipality of Winslow No. 319 this March 19, 2026.

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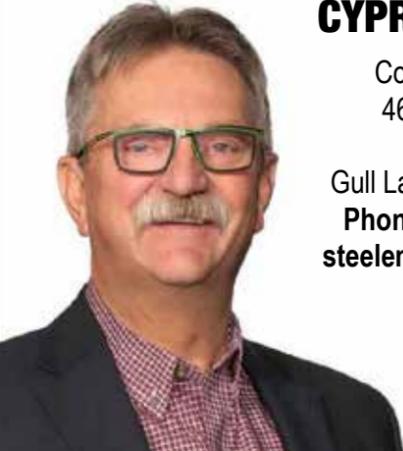
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**Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll**  
**R.M. of Winslow No. 319**

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the R.M. of Winslow No. 319 for the year 2026 has been prepared and is open for inspection in the office of the assessor from **8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** on the following days: **Monday to Friday – March 27 to April 27, 2026.**

A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of The Municipalities Act, has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required. All fees must be submitted to the local assessor at the RM of Winslow No. 319.

All appeals must be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Revision, Nicolle Hoskins, which can be sent electronically to: [secretary@westernmunicipal.ca](mailto:secretary@westernmunicipal.ca), or via post/mail to RM of Winslow No. 319, Box 310, Doddsland, SK S0L 0V0, and forwarded to the Secretary of the Board of Revision.

Any person who wishes to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the assessor at the R.M. of Winslow No. 319, Box 310, Doddsland SK S0L 0V0. A notice of appeal, accompanied by a \$200 appeal fee, which will be returned if the appeal is successful, must be submitted by the 27th of April, 2026.

Dated this 27th day of March, 2026.

Regan MacDonald  
 Assessor



**CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY AT KINDERSLEY THRIFT STORE** - Bryan Ekelin (front) and Frank Kutschera receive surprise bags during the Kindersley Thrift Store's Customer Appreciation Day on March 17, where staff served coffee, cookies and conversation. Manager Eddie Diehl said the event was a way to thank the roughly 100 customers the store serves daily. Nancy Klein is seen assisting customers. *SUBMITTED PHOTO*

# Respiratory virus activity eases in Saskatchewan as COVID-19 cases fall

BY IAN MACKAY

The number of people testing positive for the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 slid to 49 during the week of March 1 to 7, down from 71 the week before and 102 during Feb. 8 to 14.

No one had died from COVID-19 or the flu during the four weeks covered in the latest charts from the provincial Health Department.

Over the past two weeks, "COVID-19 activity has decreased, while influenza and RSV activity have remained stable," a Health Department statement said. "Hospitalizations related to COVID-19, influenza and RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) continued to decrease."

Positive flu cases remained fairly steady, with 67 during the latest week after 70 the week before, while the number of people testing positive for RSV declined to 130 during March 1 to 7 from 156 during Feb. 22 to 28, the highest among the past four weeks.

Hospitals around the province admitted 12 people with COVID-19 during the latest week, the same as the week before, with two needing intensive care, up from one the week earlier.

Seven people with the flu went



to hospital during March 1 to 7, down two from the week before, with one needing intensive care during both weeks.

However, 34 people with RSV went to hospital during the latest week, up from 28 a week earlier but 10 fewer than two weeks previously, a chart showed. Five of the people suffering from RSV needed intensive care, up two from the week earlier.

The 47 people around the province considered sick with COVID-19 included 18 people in

both the 65-and-over and 20-to-64 age groups, along with nine children under five years old and two aged five to 19.

Those sick with the flu comprised 24 people aged 20 to 64, 23 aged five to 19, eight children under five and three seniors.

Children under five made up 46 of the 123 residents suffering from RSV, along with 41 seniors, 24 people aged 20 to 64 and 12 aged five to 19.

One person tested positive for each virus in the department's west-central region.

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# The art class ash tray

When I was graduating from eighth grade and about to enter high school, I was faced with the daunting task of picking the classes I would take in my first year. Not having a clue about what I wanted to be—or what classes I should take—made the decision difficult.



**Remembering When**  
By Keith Schell

Some courses were mandatory, like Math and English. But we also had a few optional electives, and one of those was Art. I loved drawing and sketching back then and thought it would be a great way to learn more about the medium. So, I chose Art as one of my electives in my first year of high school. I ended up liking it enough to continue taking it for all four years.

As I eventually learned, many of the students who took Art every year did so because they thought it was an easy credit. And to be fair, in some ways, it was. The students weren't the only ones who felt that way either. I heard through the grapevine many years later that when the art teacher retired, the high school shop teacher applied for the art teacher's job. The shop teacher! For obvious reasons, he didn't get the position.

Our high school art teacher was a wonderful woman who taught us many traditional art practices—sculpting, pointillism, wood carving, ceramics—and even threw in a bit of Canadian art history on the side. She dedicated about a week to each subject.

When it came time to begin the ceramics portion of the class, she asked us on the Friday before to think over the weekend about what we wanted to make. We'd start our ceramics projects the following Monday.

By Monday, everyone had different ideas. One girl wanted to make a little statue. One smart-alecky guy wanted to make a giant beer stein! The list of ideas was long and varied.

As for me, I still wasn't sure. Ceramics was not my thing. Maybe a cup or a bowl? I thought about it over the weekend but couldn't decide. I just started working that week and hoped inspiration would strike.

As the week went on and I realized my ceramics project wasn't turning out as well as I'd hoped, it slowly morphed into the old high school art class fallback for uninspired and untalented students:

I made an ash tray.

It was about three inches high, eight inches in diameter, and had three large notches around the rim to hold cigarettes. I painted it with a sky-blue glaze, which came out rather nicely after it was fired in the school kiln. It was unspectacular at best—but not too bad for someone who had no idea what he wanted to make.

When it was finished, fired, and graded, I think I probably got a high "C"—something like that. It was okay, but it wasn't great.

To me, art is good if it looks like what it's supposed to look like. And while my ceramics project was certainly nothing special, it definitely looked like an ashtray. So, in that respect, I guess it was a success.

But it never held ashes after I brought it home. Around the house, it held buttons, paper clips, marbles, coins, bobby pins—any little bits of bric-a-brac that needed a place to go. And that was fine by me. At least it served a useful purpose.

These days, my high school art class ashtray has been lost to the ages. I'm sure it's still somewhere in my mother's house. Maybe one day we'll stumble across it while looking for something completely unrelated. Who knows?

And to all the other untalented former high school art students out there—I hope your art class ashtrays turned out okay too!

# U of S scientists among agrology award recipients

BY IAN MACKAY

Two University of Saskatchewan scientists were among those recently honoured by the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists.

Tom Warkentin and Randy Kutcher, along with four other people and one company, received awards during a March 11 ceremony in Saskatoon.

Warkentin "is a distinguished plant breeder and professor" with the Crop Development Centre, "where he has led field pea and soybean breeding since 1999," according to a document. Warkentin has released 71 pea varieties and one soybean variety, and his cultivars account for about 65 per cent of Western Canada's pea acreage, it said.

"His pioneering research on pea protein genetics, low-phytate varieties and resistance to fusarium and aphanomyces root rots has strengthened farm profitability, environmental sustainability and human nutrition," the document said.

Warkentin also mentors graduate students and leads national and international pulse organizations. His honours include the Dean's Award for Research Excellence and the 2025 Industry Appreciation Award from the Canadian Pulse and Special Crops Trade Association.

Kutcher "is a leading plant

pathologist" and holds the province's research chair in cereal and flax crop pathology.

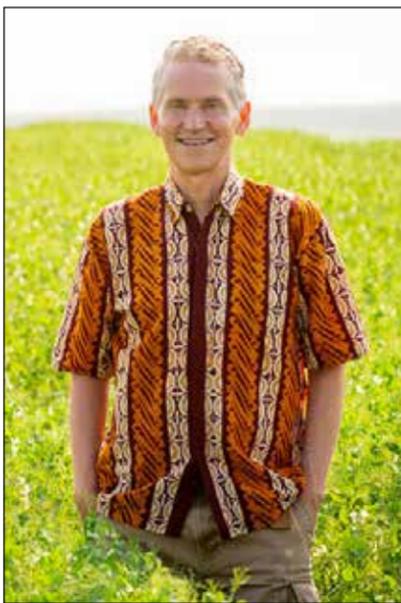
"His research on major crop diseases, including fusarium head blight, stripe rust, crown rust and pasmo, shaped integrated pest management strategies adopted across Western Canada and influenced disease management approaches internationally," the document said.

"Working closely with plant breeders, he has advanced the development of disease-resistant cereal and flax varieties and pioneered rapid mycotoxin detection methods that enhance global grain quality standards."

Shelby Wray of Pierson, Man., with Good Lands Environmental Inc., and Brianna Lummerding of Clavet, with Nutrien Ag Solutions, shared the Outstanding Young Agrologist Award.

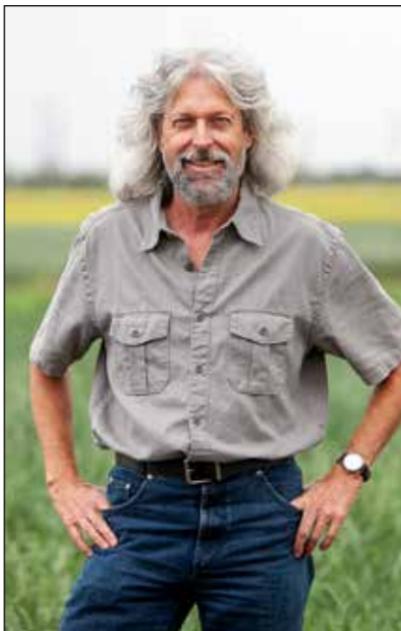
Thomas Yates of Saskatoon was recognized for long-standing service and his contributions to the profession and the organization, while Kim Kennett of Saskatoon received an honorary life membership.

The Rack, based in Biggar with branches in communities including Rosetown, Outlook and Luseland, won the Agrology Excellence Award for employing licensed agrologists and encouraging staff to contribute to the institute at both the council and branch levels.



Dr. Tom Warkentin (PhD)

PHOTO: CHRIS HENDRICKSON



Randy Kutcher

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**Upcoming EVENTS**

**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!
- 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**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 11**

- Eston 95 Lions present Vegas Vendetta - A Murder Mystery Dinner 5:30 PM Happy Hour. 6:30 PM Dinner and Entertainment. Call Shannon 306-962-7611 for tickets and more information.

**APRIL 16-19**

- Quilt Retreat at the Eston United Church. Call Bonnie 306-962-7440 or Kelly 306-481-6820 for more info.

- 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
- Drop in Bowling Sundays 1:00-4:00 PM. \$5 bowling. No need to book, just drop in.

**FLAXCOMBE**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18**

- Flaxcombe's 1st Annual "Make It, Bake It, Grow It" Spring Market is looking for vendors. Please call Montenique at 403-916-5128 for info. Deadline is March 15.
- Pre/Post natal FUN exercises with mom and baby. Led by Stephanie Vandewiele. Call Montenique to register 403-916-5128.

**HOOSIER**

- Sunday Service Hoosier Community Church 10:30 am at the Community Hall. Contact Joel Hamm 306-460-7056.

**KERROBERT**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 10**

- Kinsmen Comedy Night Fundraiser. \$25/person. Doors open 7:00 PM. Contact Darin for more info. Proceeds will go towards a new playground for the poolside park.

**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2 & 3**

- Kerrobert & District Ag Society 80th Annual Regional 4-H Show and Sale at the Kerrobert Fair Grounds - Ag Building.
- 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

**KINDERSLEY**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28**

- Kindersley Screen Arts presents "Hamnet" 4:00 PM at Sunset Theatre. \$10 cash at the door. Wine and beer available for purchase. Sponsored by Speedy Auto Glass.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25**

- Kindersley Screen Arts presents "Song Sung Blue" 4:00 PM at Sunset Theatre. \$10 cash at the door. Wine and beer available for purchase. Sponsored by Speedy Auto Glass.
- 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.
- Junior Leader Club (ages 10-14 welcome) Two Saturdays each month from 7:00-9:00 PM at the KCF Church 800-12 Avenue East.

**LEADER**

- 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.

**LUSELAND**

- Luseland & District Chamber of Commerce regular meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month 7:00 PM at the Luseland Credit Union Community Room, 701 Grand Avenue.
- The Luseland Homecoming Hall will be available for indoor walking on TUESDAY & THURSDAY mornings. Please pick up the key at the Town Office to unlock the door. Silver collection at the door.
- The Luseland Library Art Gallery has a new exhibit featuring the vibrant artwork of Bonnah Busch.

**Recurring events at The Luseland Pioneers Club Members**

- Monday-Saturday 8:30 AM - Noon, Coffee, Pool, Visiting, Cards
- Cards are played several days of the week
- Third Friday of the month Birthday Lunch at noon
- Exercises 9:00-9:30 Am Monday, Wednesday, Friday

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