

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Shellbrook renews contract with Greenland Waste



TJ Disposals is calling on the Town of Shellbrook to review its decision-making policies after being passed over for the Town's waste and recycling removal contract.

Shellbrook's Town Council has voted to renew the town's residential waste and recycling removal contract with Prince Albert-based contractor Greenland Waste for the next five years.

The decision came after tenders from four contractors, including Shellbrook's TJ Disposals, were discussed briefly at council's Oct. 4 meeting.

After upping rates to \$16 per bin for garbage collection and \$7.25 per bin for recycling collection as of Sept. 1, to accommodate an increase in landfill fees, and the fuel surcharge and carbon taxes, Greenland Waste has slashed its rates in its new tender.

Through 2022 and 2023, residents will pay \$7.25 and \$5.25 per bin, respectively, for garbage and recycling removal. Rates for each will increase by 25 cents in 2024, then by another 25 cents for the final two years of the contract.

This means an annual cost to resi-

dents of \$103,200 in 2022 and 2023, \$107,328 in 2024, and \$111,456 in 2025 and 2026, making the five-year cost of the contract \$539,640.

By comparison, TJ Disposals was offering rates of \$14.50 and \$6.50 for garbage and recycling collection, respectively, putting its offering at \$1.25 below the current rate for garbage and 75 cents below the rate for recycling.

Under TJ's tender, which was the second highest of the four, rates would increase by 50 cents in 2023, then again in 2025, reaching \$15.50 for garbage removal, and \$7.50 for recycling collection.

Even with these slightly lower rates, Shellbrook residents would end up paying \$379,776 more over the course of a five-year contract with TJ Disposals, or an average of about \$76,000 per year.

"It's based on the ability of the contractor to supply the goods and price. The winner had a significantly lower

price and a history of good service. That's all there is," Shellbrook Mayor Amund Otterson said of council's decision, noting that the town has a policy to choose a local contractor if the tender is within 5 per cent of the lowest bid.

"It's very unfortunate. I'm sad that we can't use a local supplier, but it's a significant amount of money over five years," he added.

Noting he was shocked to see Greenland Waste's significantly lower bid, Otterson says the contractor didn't explain why it was able to offer the lower rates so soon after raising them, noting that the raise was part of the contract with Greenland. Otterson says council didn't pursue the question.

Returning again to the question of price, and the fact that TJ Disposals' quote was lower than current rates, Otterson said council focused on the opportunity to provide ratepayers with a

break.

In the first two years of the new contract with Greenland Waste, households will see their base utility bills drop to \$99.56 from \$110.31, a savings of \$10.75 per month or \$129 per year.

When compared to TJ Disposals' quote, the savings with Greenland are \$8.50 per month or \$102 per year.

"It's a fee for service," Otterson said. "There's a slight admin fee tacked onto it, but for the most part it's what it costs the town. We don't try to use that as a profit centre."

For Randall Johnson, owner of TJ Disposals, council's explanation and focus on the bottom line misses the larger picture of Shellbrook's local economy.

TJ Disposals is a large player in that economy, employing 12 people locally and hosting three local businesses, and Northwest College, in its Main Street building.

Continued on page 2



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Shellbrook renews contract with Greenland Waste

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Indeed, according to internal calculations, TJ Disposals has contributed \$670,000 to the local economy since December 2020.

"If I did make some money, I'm going to be spending it on my building or on growing and improving my business," Johnson said.

"Every penny [made by Greenland Waste], except for the odd guy who might buy a pop at the Co-op or the convenience store will head straight out of town."

Johnson also questions the speed with which council made its decision at the Oct. 4 meeting. He says council fo-

cused only on the \$70,000 of savings in the first year of the contract, and gave him little time to discuss or prepare a response with his competition sitting across the table from him.

Though he feels he wasn't "given a fair shake," Johnson says he doesn't plan to stop doing what he's doing locally with businesses in Shellbrook. In the meantime, he'd like council to review and revise its decision-making policies to factor in the bigger picture.

Office manager Kelsey Segberg agrees and feels ratepayers should have more of a say in questions involving their money.

"I want to know that my Town Council isn't just looking at the lowest price and

going with it. I want to know that they're taking into consideration not only their obligation to the taxpayers, but also to the businesses and the whole economic impact on the community," she said.

"If they can show us that they weighed out all these options... it's an easier pill to swallow."

Aside from questions about decision-making, there's also the question of why residents aren't given the same choice as businesses when it comes to who collects their garbage and recycling.

The split between residential and commercial garbage and recycling collection dates back a few years, to when the service was removed from the tax

roll and made a fee for service to reduce the tax burden on local businesses (this burden was considered by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation to be disproportionately high relative to residential taxes).

Kelly Hoare, Chief Administrative Officer for the Town of Shellbrook, says allowing residents the same choice would create administrative issues with ensuring that residents are handling their waste and recycling properly.

"There would be people that would opt not to pay for the service at all and possibly use their neighbours, which would cause great grief," she said. "There are people that try that now."

SRPSD rural enrolment holds steady

The Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division's numbers are in, and though schools are now weathering their second consecutive year under a resurgent COVID-19 pandemic, enrolments appear to be holding steady at Shellbrook and area schools.

In general, it was a year of growth for the SRPSD. Director of Education Robert Bratvold says the Division's predictions for enrolment were blown out of the water, exceeding estimates by roughly 500 students to see a net increase of 1,000 students over the 2020-2021 school year.

Though the SRPSD is still working with the Ministry of Education to finalize the numbers, little of this increase was seen in Shellbrook and area schools. The schools, including Wild Rose, Canwood, Debden, and Big River, saw a net increase of just one student.

Shellbrook Elementary saw the largest gain, with enrolment increasing by 16 to 205 students.

W.P. Sandin Public High School had the largest overall loss, dropping by 12 to 199 students.

Elsewhere, Wild Rose Public School's enrolment is



Shellbrook Elementary School saw the largest enrolment increase of any school in the area, growing by 16 students.

down five students to 82, while Canwood Public School enrolment increased by one to 163 students, and École Debden Public School is down by six students to 159.

Finally, in Big River, TD Michel Public School's enrolments increased by seven students to 131, and Big

River High School's decreased by two students to 104.

"It is difficult to make any accurate comments on the reasons for the changes, but we know that some are certainly COVID related," Bratvold said.

In particular, Bratvold says some families across the division have expressed concern over possible COVID transmission in communities, while others are concerned about the requirements for students to wear masks. Some of those families have children who are not returning to school in person yet.

Additionally, the SRPSD has established a Distance Learning Centre for online learning, so a number of families have chosen that option.

"Some plan to return to their neighbourhood school when they feel appropriate and others are finding that distance learning is a good fit for their learning preferences," Bratvold said, noting that there are currently 200 students from across the division enrolled in the Distance Learning Centre.

Elsewhere, Bratvold says the Division's schools often have students from neighbouring First Nations. With some First Nations communities having established their own COVID-19 safety plans, there has been an impact on enrolments.

Looking beyond the pandemic, Bratvold says some of the enrolment changes come down to the simple reality of demographics, meaning there were more (or fewer) Grade 12 students who graduated than new students enrolling, or perhaps there were new families who moved into a town or a city.

Then, Bratvold adds, there are also the communities themselves. "I know that schools work hard, along with the many RM Councils and Town Councils and various community organizations, to keep the communities strong and that is helpful for enrolments as well," he said.

"People across the province see Saskatchewan Rivers as a leader in many areas, and the strong and vibrant schools in the region certainly contribute to the division's strong reputation."

SALE BY TENDER

The Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 offers for sale the following property "as is":

Parcel A, Plan 1015521138, Ext 321 in the NE 24-55-07 W3 - (1.75 acres)
The following 2 properties are sold together as one tender.
Block A, Plan 101448457, Ext 33, in the SE 06-55-06 W3 - (1.26 acres)
SE 06-55-06 W3, Ext 134 - (7.57 acres)

Tenders must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Property Tender" addressed to:

Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP
Attention: Landon Grubb
128 4th Ave S, Suite 600
Saskatoon, SK S7K 1M8

Tenders must be received by Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP at the above address by 3:00 pm on November 4th, 2021.

A certified cheque to the Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 for 10% of the amount of the tender must accompany each tender.

Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

The successful bidder will have 30 days to provide the balance of the cash to complete the purchase.

Dated September 22nd, 2021.

Michael Yuzik
Administrator

Notice of Nominations for Members of Area Authority Election of Area Authority

As per Regulations
under *The Conservation and Development Act*
(O.C. 1369/65) - Form E

Notice of Nominations for Members of Area Authority The Vant Creek Conservation and Development Area No. 170 Public Notice

is hereby given that for a period of fourteen days after the date stated hereunder I will accept duly completed written nominations of owners or occupants of land in the area for membership of the area authority. The number of vacancies to be filled is 3 and forms of nomination papers may be obtained from the undersigned.

Completed nomination papers may be mailed or delivered to me at Bob Miller, Box 8, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0. Date of commencement of the fourteen day period: 14th day of October, 2021.

Dated at Shellbrook, Saskatchewan this 14th day of October, 2021.

Robert B. Miller
Returning Officer

TOWN OF SHELLBROOK PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Shellbrook intends to adopt a bylaw under *the Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw 2018-01, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

1. The proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment will:

- Require development applications to show the accurate location of all property pins, utilizing the services of a professional surveyor, if necessary.
- Prior to final approval, for new or "move-in" dwellings, require applicants to submit a "Real Property Report", prepared by a professional surveyor, to confirm the location of all property pins, building foundation location, distance between buildings and all property lines.
- Add a required 100 metre setback for Cannabis Retail Stores vs. Schools, Playgrounds and Licensed Daycares.
- Require Cannabis Retail Stores to be located in a standalone building or in a building with other uses where each use has a separate entrance.
- Change Cannabis Retail Stores from a permitted to a discretionary use in the C1 - Downtown Commercial District and the C2 - Highway Commercial District.

REASON

1. The reasons for the Zoning Bylaw amendments are to:

- To improve the processing and accuracy of development permit applications and approvals.
- To Direct Cannabis Retail Stores to locations that would cause minimal land use conflict.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

A copy of the proposed bylaw is posted on the Town's website: www.townofshellbrook.ca. A copy of the proposed bylaw will be available for inspection at the Town Office between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on November 1st, 2021 @ 5pm in Council Chambers located @ 71 Main Street, Shellbrook, SK, to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing. **Due to COVID-19, anyone attending in person will be required to show proof of vaccination or a negative test result within 72 hours prior to attending the meeting. Self-administered rapid antigen tests are not acceptable.**

Issued at the Town of Shellbrook this 14th Day of October 2021.
Kelly Hoare, Chief Administrative Officer

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BY TENDER



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Attn: Jeff Rothwell, 306-747-7361 or email tender
to jeff.rothwell@lakecountrycoop.ca

Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

RCMP news highlights

Officers seek ATV thieves

Saskatchewan RCMP is seeking two suspects in connection to an ATV theft from a residence in Shellbrook early last week.

The theft was reported to the Ahtakakoop/Shellbrook RCMP Detachment on Tuesday at approximately 4:45 p.m. The Detachment's subsequent investigation determined that the red, 2014 Suzuki quad was stolen the previous night by two males. The quad was loaded onto a trailer, which was in turn being pulled by a truck.

Later Tuesday evening, the Blaine Lake RCMP received and followed up on a complaint about two suspicious males at a business on the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation.

Upon investigation, of-



The stolen ATV is described as a red 2014 Suzuki KingQuad.

icers concluded the two males were operating the red quad that had been reported stolen to the Ahtakakoop/Shellbrook RCMP Detachment. Officers located the suspects and the quad and attempted to stop them, but they fled.

Anyone with information about this file, including the identities of the males or the location of the quad, is asked to contact their local RCMP detachment. Anonymous tips can also be submitted to Crime Stoppers.

Big River RCMP warns of increase in thefts

In a release issued Friday, the Big River RCMP Detachment warned the public of an increase in

thefts, and in particular thefts of ATVs and trailers in the recent months.

"Officers investigate each report received and are conducting frequent patrols within the Detachment area, but ask members of the public to protect themselves from falling victim to theft," the statement said.

Noting that it's not enough to hide keys in a console or behind a sunvisor, the Detachment urges the public not to leave keys or valuables in vehicles, and not to leave vehicles unlocked.

As for trailers and off-road vehicles, it advises that people park them in well lit areas, take the keys out of the vehicles, and consider using a

hitch lock.

The Detachment encourages the public to exercise similar caution when it comes to sheds, garages, and their homes by keeping doors and windows locked.

"It's also important that residents report all suspicious activity to police," Big River Detachment Commander Sgt. Heath Robinson said. "This includes reporting all property crimes – even if you think it's minor. That's not the case. When all crimes are reported to us, we get a clearer picture of the types and number of crimes occurring in our area."

Finally, the Big River RCMP is asking anyone who has been the victim of theft, or who has information about a theft that has occurred, to call the Detachment at 306-469-2590.

Information can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Stoppers by calling

1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by submitting a tip online at www.sask-crimestoppers.com.

Residents can also report certain crimes, including thefts under \$5,000, through online crime reporting at: <https://ocre-sielc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/saskatchewan/en>.

Pelican Narrows RCMP seeks escaped suspect

Pelican Narrows RCMP is seeking the public's assistance in locating an adult male who escaped police custody.

Barry Thomas (DOB: 1997-04-14) was arrested by Pelican Narrows RCMP on Oct. 5, 2021 and was charged with one count of aggravated assault, Section 268(2), Criminal Code in relation to an investigation from Oct. 4, 2021.

He was last seen on McKay Road at approximately 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 5. He fled on foot and ran into a wooded area.

Thomas is described as

approximately 5'9" and 175 lbs. He has black hair and brown eyes.

He was last seen wearing a greyish-blue long sleeved shirt, camouflage pants and black shoes.

Pelican Narrows RCMP are actively searching for Thomas. If you see him, do not approach him. Call Pelican Narrows RCMP at 306-632-3300 or 9-1-1 in an emergency. To remain anonymous, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.



Barry Thomas is wanted by the Pelican Narrows RCMP.



The two men pictured are wanted in connection to an ATV theft in Shellbrook last week.

In Memory

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Fri., Oct. 15th @ 7 – 8 PM

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 - Group #1 (Nov 11 – Dec 16, 2021)
 - Group #2 (Jan 13 – Feb 17, 2022)
 - **Mon OR Wed Night 6-Pack League @ 7:30pm**
 - 6 Weeks of 6 End Games + 6 Free Drinks = A lot of fun!
 - **= \$500.00/Team + \$15 Curl SK/CAN Fee per player**
 - 6-Pack #1: Week of Nov 8 – Week of Dec 13, 2021
 - 6-Pack #2: Week of Jan 10 – Week of Feb 14, 2022
 - 6-Pack #3: Week of Feb 21 – Week of Mar 28, 2022
 - **Thurs Night Year Round League @ 7:30pm = \$1,100.00/ Team + \$15 Curl SK/CAN Fee per player**
Starting Nov 11th, 2021; Ending Mar 31st, 2022
- 50% DISCOUNT FOR NEW MEMBERS (SOME CONDITIONS APPLY)**
- **Seniors (Mon & Wed Afternoons) @ 1:00pm**
 - Full Season Rate = \$225.00 / Person
 - Monthly Rate = \$50 / Person + \$15 One Time Fee

Please call or text Gayle at 306-714-0027 to register as a team or individual.
Fees can be paid via e-transfer to shellbrookcurlingclub@gmail.com



Keep your eyes on the road ahead.
Everything else can wait.





Wilson's 'principled stand' betrays her constituents

In explaining her decision to resign from the Sask. Party Caucus, Saskatchewan Rivers MLA Nadine Wilson got one thing right.

The frequent and mixed messaging from the government regarding COVID-19 public health measures is crippling the province. Just not for the reasons she thinks.

Over the course of the pandemic, the Sask. Party government has hesitated to act at nearly every turn, ever fearful about the backlash it will

face from those who oppose any limitations to their rights and freedoms.

By acting out of fear, it has devoted an inordinate amount of time to blue-faced denials about public health measures, only to turn around a few weeks later and implement those measures when the COVID-19 situation has worsened.

This day late, dollar short approach to the pandemic has been confusing to say the least. And the province's Swiss cheese strategy of introducing measures with more exemptions than circumstances they apply to hasn't helped.

If Ms. Wilson had quit the Sask. Party on these grounds and stood in solidarity with those of us who have done their part to combat the pandemic, she could be lauded.

But that isn't what happened.

In case you missed the news, Ms. Wilson left the Sask. Party to sit as an independent MLA over claims she misrepresented her vaccination status.

The claims stem from two sources: a statement by Sask. Party Caucus chair David Buckingham that he had asked MLAs for a verbal declaration of vaccination status in the spring and received affirmative answers, and Ms. Wilson's wearing of an "I got my COVID-19 Vaccine" sticker in the legislature.

Ms. Wilson has categorically denied Mr. Buckingham's assertion, and says she never disclosed her vaccination status because her medical history should remain personal and confidential.

As for the infamous sticker, Ms. Wilson says she didn't take note of what it was or what it said, having spent the past 14 years wearing pins, ribbons, and



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

stickers supporting all sorts of important causes.

Indeed, according to Ms. Wilson, her resignation was less about questions of misrepresentation than about matters of principle.

For Ms. Wilson, those principles include a belief "in the fundamental values of freedom of personal choice and voluntary informed consent, without the element of duress or coercion."

That's why, after conversations with her constituents and much reflection about her role as an elected official and citizen, Ms. Wilson says she could "no longer support the direction of the Saskatchewan Party government or follow the government with true conviction regarding the current health situation."

Though it's her job, Ms. Wilson deserves praise for listening to her constituents and taking their concerns so seriously. Few politicians truly do this.

However, one wonders why she's put so much stock in the grievances of a small but very vocal minority, over the concerns of the majority of people who have done their civic duty throughout the pandemic.

How, when 78 per cent of COVID-19 cases in September were in the unvaccinated, can Ms. Wilson so casually dismiss questions about the efficacy of vaccines as "semantics?"

How, when Saskatchewan is setting new records for daily case counts, hospitalizations and ICU admissions, and active cases, can Ms. Wilson equate a limited proof of vaccine or negative COVID test mandate to tyranny?

And how, when Saskatchewan has recorded 14.2 per cent of its COVID-related deaths in just the last month, can Ms. Wilson so carelessly repeat long-disproven falsehoods about so-called COVID treatments?

The people of Saskatchewan deserve MLAs who will take this pandemic seriously and do everything in their power to protect them.

With her statements in the aftermath of her resignation, Ms. Wilson has proven she doesn't fit the bill.



Canada needs to take Alberta's equalization grievances seriously

By Franco Terrazano
CTF Federal Director

Alberta's referendum on equalization is more than a vote on a federal program: it's an urgently needed conversation about a deep crack in Confederation. So far, Canada has ignored the problem and the rift has grown. Now a referendum yes vote will push federal and provincial governments to the negotiation table. So, let's talk.

All Canadians have been struggling with the pandemic for the last year and a half, but our prairie friends have been dealing with economic hardships for the last six-plus years.

The 2014 oil price collapse sent Alberta's economy into a tailspin.

By March 2016, about 100,000 oil patch jobs were lost. In 2018, the tough times were still being felt around Alberta kitchen tables. Dwayne, a manager in Alberta's oil industry, shared a haunting tale with a Calgary morning radio show.

"I have to lay off 25 per cent of my workforce right before Christmas," Dwayne re-

vealed in 2018. "I love my guys, but I have to lay off 25 per cent. They're going home to tell their wives tonight that Christmas is over. We've taken a pay cut so we can keep as many people employed as we can and today I have to break people's hearts.

"This is the worse day of my life."

Only a few months before the pandemic, the economic hardships were still being felt.

"Outside the Calgary headquarters, cabs were lined up to take people home as they filed out with their belongings," reported CBC following layoffs at Husky Energy in 2019.

Canadian politicians made the tough times tougher.

During Alberta's downturn, the feds rejected the Northern Gateway pipeline, moved the regulatory goalposts on Energy East, imposed a No More Pipelines Law and discriminatory tanker ban and watched from the sidelines while the United States pulled the plug on the Keystone XL pipeline.

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Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: In the interest of readers of this newspaper, we will publish opinions of our readers. Letters To The Editor are most welcome; however, they must be signed and include writer's contact information and will only be published with the writer's name on it. Letters should be limited in length and be typed or clearly written. We reserve the right to edit letters depending on available space.

Member of



Report from the Legislature

October has once again been proclaimed as Agriculture Month in Saskatchewan. As we recognize local producers for their dedication to the agriculture sector, I encourage you to participate in #CelebrateAg on social media. In collaboration with industry partners, Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan will share food stories about modern agriculture throughout October.

The ongoing dry conditions are causing major concerns with increased fire risks. Hot, dry weather has prompted the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency to issue fire bans for all provincial Crown lands, including provincial parks located in east-central Saskatchewan. The ban also includes all land within 4.5 km



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of the provincial forest boundary. Hunters and late-season campers are reminded to keep up to date with the latest developments by visiting saskpublicsafety.ca.

Our government has heard the concerns from ranchers and acted to improve the Canada-Saskatchewan Drought Re-

sponse Initiative to deal with the current drought conditions. The initiative will consist of two payments totalling \$200/head for cattle, with adjustments based on animal unit equivalents for other livestock. The initial payment will provide producers with \$100 per breeding female equivalent in inventory as of August 1, 2021. Secondary payments will be up to \$100 per breeding female equivalent in stock as of December 31, 2021.

In addition to being Agriculture Month in Saskatchewan, Ag Minister David Marit has proclaimed October 2021 as Registered Veterinary Technologist Month. Animal health goes hand in hand with success on the farm, and we want to thank those who take

care of our animals. Saskatchewan has over 530 Registered Veterinary Technologists.

This past week also recognized the work Registered Veterinary Technologist perform with the proclamation of Animal Health Week. This year's national theme, "Animal Health + Human Health = One Health," highlights the roles and responsibilities within the national One Health community, including critical roles in food safety, public health and environmental protection.

Innovation Saskatchewan and the Ministry of Agriculture will be providing combined multi-year funding of \$3.2 million to the Global Institute for Food Security's new engineering biology



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centre at the University of Saskatchewan. This new centre will help attract investments and companies to the province's agriculture and food sectors. The resulting research and development will build on Saskatchewan's world-class research hub at the University.

More good news comes from the tech sector, which saw the Canadian Venture Capital & Private Equity Association report that Saskatchewan Venture Capital investment reached a record-breaking level of \$171 million for the first half of 2021. This investment momentum is a strong indicator of the province's natural economic strengths, strong wages, lower cost of living, and government programs that encourage investment. This shows the world that Saskatchewan is a great place to develop technology.

As always, if you have questions, comments, concerns, or require assistance with provincial government programs or services, please get in touch with our constituency office.

Canada needs to take Alberta's equalization grievances seriously

Continued from 4

In British Columbia, politicians pledged to "employ every tool available" to block Alberta pipelines. In Quebec, Premier François Legault called Alberta's oil "dirty energy" and said there's "no social acceptability" for another oil pipeline.

Despite the open hostility to Alberta's economic driver, the prairie province continued to punch above its weight for Canada. Between 2015 and 2018, Alberta taxpayers paid \$73 billion more to the feds than they received back in spending. This year, equalization alone will cost an Alberta family of four \$2,600.

On Oct. 18, Albertans will vote in a province-wide equalization referen-

dum. A goal of the referendum is to bring these legitimate grievances to kitchen tables coast to coast. The way the feds treated Alberta is unfair and remedies are needed.

But there are other reasons for provinces to rethink the equalization and natural resource status quo.

Canada needs taxpayer-friendly ways to recover our economy, such as removing roadblocks to Canadian natural resource development. Since 2014, \$215 billion worth of Canadian resource projects have been stalled or cancelled in part because of governments, according to Secondstreet.org. About \$140 billion of that occurred outside of Alberta.

A taxpayer-friendly recovery is cer-

tainly needed given the \$1-trillion federal debt. Equalization continues to douse more red ink on the nation's finances. When equalization was first created in 1957, it was \$1.3 billion (2021 dollars). It now costs \$21 billion – a 1,500 per cent increase. Despite the massive cost increase, is there any evidence that any province is fundamentally better off?

Equalization harms taxpayers in provinces that receive the money because it allows politicians to rely on ex-

ternal tax dollars and less on solid policies to grow their own economies. Even politicians receiving equalization, such as New Brunswick's Blaine Higgs and Legault in Quebec, have acknowledged this perverse reality.

Alberta's referendum will fuel a much-needed conversation around equalization and natural resource development. As with any troubled relationship, silence can only increase the trouble. It's in the best interest for all provinces to kickstart this conversation.

Shellbrook Library receives Canada Post grant

The Shellbrook Public Library has been awarded a \$3,000 grant from the Canada Post Community Foundation to refit its existing public access computer area, a project it has been planning for several years.

"The Shellbrook Public Library is long overdue to modernize our public access computer area. The large old awkward desks will be replaced with sleek modern computer tables to better fit

the space," said Library Board chair Coral Lafond.

"Comfy seating and end tables will be added to create a more inviting atmosphere for patrons wanting to use personal devices. We expect these improvements to be more appealing to all age groups of patrons."

When purchasing furniture, the Shellbrook Library will take into consideration not only its current space, but the

design of its new facility, which will be open sometime next year.

Librarian Dian Campbell is very excited to be working with the Canada Post Community Foundation.

"We depend on grants to keep our libraries open, functional and to provide programming to the community," she said. "We are glad to be included in the foundation work that Canada Post is doing."

Spiritwood Herald

is looking for the right individual to work part-time with reporting of news happenings in Spiritwood and area.

Some other duties involved.

Send resume to **Jordan Twiss, Editor Spiritwood Herald at Box 10, Shellbrook, Sask. S0J 2E0** or by email to jordan@sbchron.com

Please mark reporter position.

Minutes of an RM of Spiritwood meeting

(Where necessary, the following minutes may have been edited for clarity or brevity)

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 was held on Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2021.

In attendance were Reeve Shirley Dauvin, Division 1 Larry Vaagen, Division 2 Al Steinhilber, Division 3 Terry Wingerter, Division 4 Dennis Laventure, Division 6 Bevra Fee, Administrator Colette Bussiere, and Foreman Darcy Laventure.

Absent was Division 5 Jerome Tetreault.

A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Reeve, Shirley Dauvin.

Wingerter: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Steinhilber: That the Foreman's report having been read now be filed. Carried

Foreman Darcy Laventure left the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

Fee: That we purchase a 2020 4155 Rhino mower and trade the 2015 3815 Bush Hog mower at a cost difference of \$22,300 plus applicable taxes. Carried

Steinhilber: That the minutes of the July 20, 2021, Regular Meeting of Council be approved as amended: That "Wendy Jim" be replaced with "a representative of WLFN".

Carried

Fee: That the Administrator's report having been read now be filed. Carried

Steinhilber: That the bank reconciliation for the month ending July 31, 2021, be accepted as presented. Carried

Vaagen: That the "List of Accounts" as listed on the attached Schedule "A" forming part of these minutes be passed for payment. Cheque No. 13184 - 13234 (\$894,146.15), Payroll File No. 0333, 0334 & 0336 - (\$40,740.37), and Payroll File No. 330 & 332 (\$47,511.25). Carried

Wingerter: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month ending July 31, 2021, be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That former council member, Doug Johnson, be removed as an authorized signatory & that Deputy Reeve, Al Steinhilber, be added as an authorized signatory. Carried

Laventure: That we approve the request to remove dead, dying & fallen trees within the Municipal Reserve (MR) in front of Lot 11/Blk 4 in Spruce Bay. The applicant is solely responsible for all design, safety, and workmanship aspects associated with this approval and all work must be completed in accordance with the regulations of the Water Security Agency's Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit. Carried

Laventure: That we authorize the clearing of trees & brush from the municipal right of way located between SW 19-52-12-W3 & SW 20-52-12-W3. No compensation will be paid as the brush clearing is only beneficial to the applicant & does not provide a benefit to the municipality. The trees and brush may be placed in the right of way for future disposal by the applicant. Carried

Steinhilber: That we enter into a lease agreement with Her Majesty the Queen, represented by the Minister of Agriculture, for the excavation of road construction material located on NE 36-51-11-W3. Carried

Steinhilber: That we enter into a lease agreement with Her Majesty the Queen, represented by the Minister of Agriculture, for the excavation of road construction material located on SE 02-50-10-W3. Carried

Wingerter: That we proceed with the removal of the unauthorized development located on municipal reserve adjacent to Lot 22 Blk 4 & Lot 6 Blk 4 in Spruce Bay, and that all costs incurred by the municipality in removing the development & restoring the dedicated lands, be added to the tax roll of the aforementioned properties. Carried

Fee: That we authorize the disposal of the following records for the 2010 & 2011 cal-

endar years as per the RM of Spiritwood Records Retention & Disposal Bylaw:

- Accounts Payable (includes billing, payments, overdue accounts, invoices, receipts, payment vouchers, receipt duplicates, related correspondence, etc.);
- Accounts Receivable (includes receipt records, write offs, invoices, vouchers, related correspondence, etc.);
- Audits and Compliance Reviews (auditor recommendations, reports, etc.);
- Bank Accounts (includes records related to termination and establishment of bank accounts, deposit slips, cancelled cheques, passbooks, bank statements, reconciliations, deposit books, cheques stubs/duplicates, etc.);
- Budget Related Reports;
- Cash Payments and Receipts (includes cash payments books, printouts, cash reports and summaries, register tapes, etc.);
- Federal/Provincial Remittances;
- Ledgers/Journals (includes general ledgers, subsidiary ledgers, ledger cards, reports, journals, etc.);
- Monthly Financial Statements;
- Insurance Policies – Property (includes insurance

claims);

- Public Notice Documentation;
- Tax Assessment Appeals;
- Tax Assessment Records (assessor's valuation records, reassessment sheets, etc.); and
- Tax Certificates. Carried

Wingerter: That we abate the residential improvement taxes levied on the vacant residential dwelling located on PT SE 10-51-12-W3 as follows: Municipal - \$650, School - \$173.76. Carried

Fee: That the regular meeting of Council be adjourned at 11:03 a.m. to move into an In Camera session to discuss HR matters. Carried

Administrator Colette Bussiere left the council meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Administrator Colette Bussiere returned to the council meeting at 11:11 a.m.

The regular meeting of council was called backed to order at 11:11 a.m.

Laventure: That the following correspondence having been read now be filed: SARM - Updates/Emails, SARM - Weekly Policy Bulletins, SARM - Rural Sheaf (July 2021), Victoria Hospital Foundation Letter, Town of Spiritwood - SARCS Board members, Aspen Ridge Lagoon Report - June 25, 2021. Carried

Fee: That the meeting be adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Crop report for the period Sept. 28 to Oct. 4

Harvest is practically complete in the province, with nearly all regions having 99 per cent of the crop in the bin. The five-year (2016-2020) average for harvest progress for this time of year is 79 per cent. Producers continue to do post-harvest work in the fields such as harrowing, weed control and preparing to or bringing livestock home. There have been reports that the dry soil conditions and recent cold temperatures have limited fertilizer and herbicide applications.

Harvest weather was favourable throughout the fall, allowing producers to harvest without major delays from

rain or waiting for crops to mature. The season-long drought and extreme temperatures caused crop yields to be much lower than average; however, most crops were reported to be within the top two quality grades. Several small rainstorms in early-September meant most of the province experienced regrowth in pastures and fields. This regrowth caused issues with harvest, especially in crops like canola. Producers had to apply herbicides or find other solutions in order to begin harvest.

Crop yields varied throughout the province, depending heavily on the amount of moisture received through-

out the season. Overall provincial yields are well below average, even areas that received timely rains reported below average yields. Yields were impacted by the extreme drought, heat stress, wind, hail and grasshoppers. Average yields are estimated as 30 bushel per acre for hard red spring wheat, 19 bushel per acre for durum, 49 bushel per acre for oats, 34 bushel per acre for barley, 21 bushel per acre for canola, 22 bushel per acre for peas and 870 pounds per acre for lentils.

Moisture conditions remain a concern, with much of the province receiving minimal or below average rainfall

this year along with hot temperatures and drying winds throughout the growing season. All regions in the province reported that their topsoil moisture was short or very short for most of the season.

Significant precipitation is needed this fall and winter to replenish moisture levels in the soil and dugouts. Heading into winter, topsoil moisture on cropland is rated as twelve per cent adequate, 43 per cent short and 45 per cent very short. Hay and pastureland topsoil moisture is rated as eight per cent adequate, 35 per cent short and 57 per cent very short.

Continued on page 7

Saskatchewan Tech Companies are Shining in 2021

During the first half of 2021, Saskatchewan Venture Capital investment reached a record-breaking \$171 million. The province's natural economic strengths - strong wages, lower cost of living, and government programs that encourage investment - are showing the world that Saskatchewan is a great place to develop technology.

[Learn more at innovationsask.ca](https://www.innovationsask.ca)



Hon. Jeremy Harrison
MLA for Meadow Lake
jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

Hon. Scott Moe, Premier
MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook
scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net

Push for greater regulation challenges producers

Recently a contact of mine forwarded a press release regarding Delta Waterfowl joining "three dozen conservation partners in signing a letter expressing opposition to a petition that, in effect, calls for elimination of the ability to transport legally harvested wild game across any state or international border.

"The petition, submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention by the anti-hunting Center for Biological Diversity and the Natural Resources

Defense Council, specifically seeks a ban on trade in wild mammals and birds."

It's an American issue of course, and hunting is not agriculture, so why is it mentioned here?

Simply put, every time some group makes a run at restricting something regarding animals, it is often designed to be a tiny step toward much bigger efforts down the road.

There are of course changes which have been called for that have made great sense; such as the move away from leg hold traps by



CALVIN DANIELS

hunters, the clubbing to death of seals and better regulations when transporting stock.

But farmers need to be watchful to make sure lines are not blurred and crossed.

There is an active ef-

fort stateside to end the slaughter of horses.

One is left to wonder how many people want to feed horses until natural death after they have passed their usefulness?

Of course, there are those calling for the end of many long held uses for horses too, in particular racing and equestrian jumping.

One wonders where all the limitations might ultimately leave the horse. It might well mean some breeds would simply go extinct with no purpose remaining.

Others work to ban fly-

ing pigeons in competition, and the list grows.

We know there are pressures on how chickens and pigs are raised, and cattle are fed in feedlots. In some cases, changes are warranted, but many lobbyists will only be satisfied when stock is no longer raised.

The concern has to be there, especially with the growing disconnect to farms.

It wouldn't be too difficult to find those in Saskatchewan cities who have not set foot on an active farm.

In Vancouver, Montreal, Toronto, Winni-

peg, or Edmonton it is likely a challenge to find people who have been on a farm.

Yet in the big cities, the masses carry a big voice backed by their votes.

And those they are voting for likely have limited, if any connection, to farming, or hunting.

How producers inform those people about their good practices and about what they do having merit, is increasingly a challenge, and meanwhile the agenda of those wanting hunting and livestock farming ended creeps ever forward.

Crop report for the period Sept. 28 to Oct. 4

Continued from 6

Average hay yields on dry land are reported as 0.79 tons per acre (alfalfa), 0.77 tons per acre (alfalfa/brome and wild hay), 0.55 tons per acre (other tame hay) and 1.13 tons per acre (greenfeed). On irrigated land, the estimated average hay yields are 2.2 tons per acre (alfalfa), 2.1 tons per acre (alfalfa/brome), 1.60 tons per acre (wild hay) and 1.9 tons per acre (greenfeed). Most of the hay going into winter is rated as poor to good in quality.

At this time, most livestock producers indicated they will have inadequate to adequate supplies of hay, straw, greenfeed and feed grain heading into winter. Many areas in the province will have inadequate winter feed supplies and shortages are expected

due to a poor first cut of hay and the inability to get a second cut. Due to the dry conditions this year, dugout, slough and well levels have been low and there are concerns about livestock water supplies. Some producers were able to use crop residue and straw from their grain farming neighbours and use it as feed. The late rains allowed for some pastures to briefly green up and extend grazing for one or two more weeks.

With drier than normal field conditions this fall, the number of acres seeded to winter cereals is below normal. In most areas, winter wheat acres are estimated to fall 17 per cent, while fall rye is estimated to fall twelve per cent. With harvest wrapping up in most regions, there was adequate time

for seeding but there were concerns with poor germination and establishment of winter cereals prior to winter due to the extremely low topsoil moisture conditions.

Producers were able to complete fall work such as fixing fences, moving cattle, hauling grain and bales, picking rocks, spraying weeds and working fields. Producers will continue to do this work until the temperature drops sharply or a big snowfall occurs.

Even as harvest winds-up in Saskatchewan, we want to remind producers to exercise caution and remain safe in their post-harvest operations.

A complete, printable version of the Crop Report is available online at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/crop-report>.

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Shellbrook Chronicle
Spiritwood Herald

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PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES
A division of Northern Livestock Sales



To consign cattle or
for on-farm appraisals
please contact Brent,
Glen, Boyd or Frederick

Mon., Oct. 18, 2021
Presort Sale 9:30 a.m., Regular Sale to follow

Fri., Oct. 22, 2021
Bred Cow/Heifer & Pair Sale 1:00 p.m.



Producers wishing to market cattle prior
to sale day please contact the
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For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

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Brent, Blair or Brody

Wed., Oct. 20, 2021
Regular Sale 9:00 a.m.
Presorted Internet Calf Sale 11:00 a.m.

Producers wishing to market cattle prior to sale day
please contact the office 306-236-3411 for delivery.



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Email: mlstockyards@sasktel.net ~ market info visit: www.mlstockyards.com

Provincial Emergency Operations Centre to lead pandemic response

The Government of Saskatchewan has announced a change in its pandemic strategy, handing over the reins to the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre (PEOC) to lead the COVID-19 response.

The PEOC will now be responsible for the coordination and deployment of provincial supports for activities across multiple sectors, and will also handle ongoing inventory management of staff across the province's health-care system.

Premier Scott Moe, who announced the change during a press conference on Thursday afternoon, said this will allow for a better response to the pandemic.

"This is being done to better coordinate the pandemic response between government ministries and staff, ensure the right resources are in the right place at the right time and provide administrative support so health care workers can focus their efforts on providing the best possible care to patients," Moe said.

"Responsibility for public health recommendations and orders will continue to be managed by the chief medical health officer, Dr. Shahab."

Apart from its key duties, the PEOC will also disseminate critical updates for the public and establish normalized briefings through media availability.

Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency president Marlo Pritchard said this structure has worked well during other provincial emergencies.

"The pressures in our healthcare system as a result of COVID-19 have demanded all the resources of the SHA, and now require the resources of the entire province through provincial command," he said.

"Our health-care system has been working to support the people of Saskatchewan, and this will ensure that Saskatchewan is supporting our health-care system with every tool we have available."

Pritchard, along with Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) CEO Scott Livingstone, and Deputy Minister of Health Max Hendricks will lead the provincial command.

The province said it expects the provincial command to be operational throughout the duration of the provincial emergency that was declared on Sept. 13.

The change in COVID response strategy comes as Saskatchewan continues to set records for case numbers, hospitalizations, and ICU admissions.

On Sunday, the province hit a pandemic high of 79 ICU admissions. Under normal circumstances, Saskatchewan only has a total capacity of 79 ICU (capacity was expanded to 175 beds in September, to accommodate the fourth wave of the pandemic).

With ICUs seeing more patients, the SHA announced that it was moving to restrict family presence in Critical Care Units across the province.

All provincial ICUs and cardiac care units in Saskatoon and Regina will

implement temporary enhanced surge family presence restrictions, which means every ICU patient will be able to designate two essential family or support persons, with one person present at a time.

There is no change to end-of-life family presence, which allows two designated people at a time, in the ICUs or elsewhere.

Meanwhile, Premier Moe has said "nothing is off the table" as far as new public health measures go, though he says he and his government don't like the idea of punishing those who have gotten vaccinated.

"We're very resistant to the fact of imposing broad-based restrictions across society," Moe told reporters at last Thursday's press conference.

"The majority of Saskatchewan people have done the right thing. What we continue to do is ask and make life increasingly uncomfortable for those

that have not yet been vaccinated, as they ultimately are the people that are predominantly ending up in our hospitals."

Saskatchewan is one of only two provinces (the other being Newfoundland) currently without restrictions on public or private gatherings to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Having called for restrictions on public and private gatherings ahead of the Thanksgiving weekend, Sask. NDP leader Ryan Meili criticized the premier for refusing to act.

"Shifting responsibility for COVID-19 from one bureaucracy to another won't do anything to add nurses and doctors to our overstretched ICUs," he said. "Scott Moe needed to ask for federal supports weeks ago and should have implemented evidence-based public health measures to protect Saskatchewan families this weekend. He should have announced this today."

Minutes of an R.M. of Blaine Lake Meeting

(Where necessary, the following minutes may have been edited for clarity or brevity)

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Blaine Lake #434 which was held in the RM's Municipal Office, at

118 Main Street, on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021.

Present Council Members and Administration attended as follows: Gerry Strelieff - Reeve, Michael Chudskov - Division 1, Lee Dolezal - Division 2, Courtney Swystun - Division 3, Alan Lavoie - Divi-

sion 4, Glenn Lamontagne - Division 6, and Jennifer Gutknecht - Administrator.

Absent: Tim Stupnikoff - Division 5

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Strelieff at 7:01 a.m.

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NOTICE TO OUR READERS

Please take only as many newspapers from our newspaper bins as need to be read.

If you're looking for newsprint paper, please contact us and we can arrange a bundle(s) of recycled paper for your use at no charge.

Contact us at 306-747-2442.

Thank you for your understanding.

Shellbrook Chronicle
& Spiritwood Herald

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Regular services, Sunday school and special services will be listed.

PARTNERS IN FAITH

Lutheran/United/
Christchurch Anglican,
137-2nd St. W.
Spiritwood
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Sarah Urano

UNITED /ANGLICAN

Worship Services
Glaslyn
Time is on the sign
Rev. Kun Kim
Rev. Don Skinner

CATHOLIC SUNDAY

Spiritwood - 9:00 a.m.
Leoville - 11:00 a.m.
Chitek Lake - Closed for
the Season
Everyone Welcome
SATURDAY
Shell Lake - 8:00 p.m.
Medstead - 6 p.m.
Father Ramel Macapala

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

Shell Lake
Worship Services
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Pastor Sarah Urano
306-841-7333

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407 - 2nd Ave .E,
Shellbrook
Sat., 9:45 am -
Sabbath School
Sat., 11:00 am - Worship

Broadcast on
VOAR 92.1 FM
Pastor Liviu Tilihoi
306-747-3398

MENNONITE BRETHREN

Glenbush
10:00 am - Sunday School
Worship 10:50 am

FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER) MENNONITE CHURCH

Glenbush
Worship - 11:00 am

BETHEL

Medstead
1st Sunday, 10 am -
Worship
Pastor David Jensen
3rd Sunday - 10 am
Worship
Pastor David Jensen

Gideons International of Canada

Battlefords Camp
Phone Art Martyns
(306) 389-4633

EVANGELICAL FREE

Mont Nebo
Wed., 7:30 pm -
Bible Study & Prayer
Sun., 10:30 am - Worship
Pastor Bill Klumpenhouwer

LAKELAND

COMMUNITY CHURCH
(Corner of 1st Ave. and 4th
St., Spiritwood)
Sun., 11 am - Worship
Service & Sunday School
Pastor Michael Kluthe
306-883-2380

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service
1st Sun., 7:30 pm
- Hymn Sing
Pastor Floyd Berg

COWBOY CHURCH

Spiritwood
Every Wednesday Night
7 pm
Spiritwood Legion Hall
Pastor Rick Martin

Minutes of an R.M. of Blaine Lake Meeting

Continued from 8

Mark Curry presented the lead hand report from 7:05 to 7:12 a.m.

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the July 20, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the Aug. 4, 2021, Special Meeting minutes as presented. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the Aug. 10, 2021, Special Meeting minutes as presented. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 accept the July 2021 Statement of Financial Activities, Income Statement, Budgetary Control, Chequing Account Statement, and Bank Reconciliation as Information only. Carried

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the List of Accounts for Approval, including cheques #5360 to #5410 with the total payable amount being \$205,432.57. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the Additional Accounts for payment as presented by Administration, totaling \$58,810.58: \$1,782.90 Brian Verbonac, \$36,321.22 KDM Farms, \$20,706.46 Marcel Baynton. Carried

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the presented Council Indemnities totaling \$2,375.90 for payment: Gerry Jul-Aug \$450, Lee Jul-Aug \$391.75, Tim Apr-Jun \$658.40, Tim Jul-Aug \$293.75, Glenn Aug \$582. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 move in camera to discuss Personnel Matters, compliant with s. 120(2) of The Municipalities Act, and on the basis that the discussions that take place during the meeting apply to s. 16(l)(b) and (d) of The Local Freedom of Information and Protection Act, the time being 7:45 a.m. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake move out of camera, the time being

8:03 a.m. Carried

Lavoie: That the RM of Blaine Lake Council #434 move the mowing equipment to Triod. Carried

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire a custom operator to move mowing equipment to Triod within a \$3,000 price range. Carried

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorize the purchase of signs from ATS Traffic with the exclusion of Range Road and Township signs. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorize the purchase of road markers. Carried

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire Marcel Baynton to spray out brush throughout the RM at a cost of \$160 per acre to a maximum cost of \$5,000. Carried

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire Gerald Fehr to do additional mulching throughout the RM at a price of \$5,000. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM

of Blaine Lake #434 rescind resolution #097/21 brought forward at the Feb. 16, 2021 Regular Meeting due to inadequate information presented to Council, and that a letter be sent to the landowner of NE 19-45-07 W3 outlining the facts of the matter. Carried (*Editor's note: the resolution had to do with obtaining quotes to replace a fence that had been removed from the property.*)

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorize the purchase of a Milwaukie heavy duty 1/2 inch battery powered impact drill subject to a maximum of \$700. Carried

Dolezal: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approve the subdivision of NW 05-44-06 W3 (File #R0672-215) as it meets the conditions of Zoning Bylaw 86/2004, that we are not aware of any site conditions or any facilities that could be affected by the proposed development, and that

the approval of this subdivision be subject to the condition that the roadway be included in the subdivision. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approve in principle the subdivision of SE 16-44-06 W3 as it meets the conditions of Zoning Bylaw 47/82. Carried

Dolezal: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approve the pet policy as attached to these minutes. Carried

Strelloff: That all Council members attending SARM Conventions provide a write-up at the Regular Meeting to report on each module attended outlining what it taught them and how it will benefit the municipality. Carried

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorize the purchase of a parcel picture on demand for the temporary closure of the road at SW 05-43-06 W3 at a cost of \$125. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 rescind resolution #374/21, and that Mark Curry be designated as the RM's beaver counter and to spray paint tails upon disposal. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 inform the Administrator to contact the Ministry of Highways and inquire whether the Department of Highways will either clean or repair the culvert at the intersection of Range Road 3072 and NE 22-44-07 W3, and that a formal request for repairs be submitted to alleviate flooding in wet years. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire Alan Tanchak for 2 days per week at a rate of two-fifths of the RMAA Schedule extended until end of year. Carried

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 adjourn, the time being 9:30 a.m.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Regular services, Sunday school and special services will be listed.

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion - Canwood
Sunday School,
Worship Sunday, 11 a.m.
St. John's - Shellbrook
Sunday School,
Live-stream worship
service on Facebook,
Worship Sunday, 9 a.m.
Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside
10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor Daniel Mooseely
306-747-3572
Shellbrook
Adult Study
9:30 a.m.
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Pastor David Bodvarson
306-747-7235
Canwood
11:00 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Glenn Blazosek
306-468-2138

Leask Gospel Tabernacle
Sunday 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Pastor Lorne Valuck

PRESBYTERIAN

Mistawasis
Sunday worship
11:00 a.m.
Rev. Katherine Bretzlaff

IMMANUEL

LUTHERAN
Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Leask - All Saint's
Sunday Service - 9 a.m.
Rev. Wendell Brock
306-460-7696
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service
Re-opening for services
Sun. Mar. 14, 2021, 11 a.m.
Canwood - Christ Church
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Service

MENNONITE

BRETHREN CHURCH
Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel
109 Railway Ave. W.
Blaine Lake
306-497-3316
Pastor: Rick Schellenberg
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
Worship

EVANGELICAL FREE

Big River
11:00 a.m. - Worship
Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
Summer: 10:30 a.m. - 12
306-469-2258
Youth Nite: Fridays
Mont Nebo
Bible Study & Prayer
Sun., 11:00 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Bill Klumpenhower

UNITED CHURCH

Big River
Sundays
10 a.m. - Worship
at Anglican Church
Rev. Dave Whalley
306-747-2804

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Debden
Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m.
Fr. Dong Doan
Big River - Sacred Heart
Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass
Whitefish
Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass.
Victoire
Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass.
Fr. Dong Doan
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook
Mass - Sunday 9 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday - 11 a.m.
Mistawasis
2nd & 4th Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Phong Tran

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407-2nd Ave E, Shellbrook
Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath School
Sat., 11:00 am -Worship
Broadcast on
VOAR 92.1 FM
Pastor Liviu Tilihoi
306-747-3398

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 9 am - 5 pm; Wednesday 9 am - 5 pm; Friday 9 am - 5 pm
LEOVILLE: Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 3 pm
SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 12:30 pm - 4 pm; Wednesday 12:30 pm - 4 pm

BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - Wednesday 11 am - 6 pm; Friday 11 am - 5 pm; Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www.wapitilibrary.ca.
BIG RIVER: Wapiti Library - Wednesday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm; Thursday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm. Phone # 306-469-2152

CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 4 pm; Friday 1 pm - 5 pm. Kids Club is Fridays 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm, Crafter's Choice is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

DEBDEN: Wapiti Library hours: Tuesday 10 am - 3 pm; Wednesday 3 pm - 7 pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

LEASK: Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Tuesday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Friday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm - 4 pm

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - Tuesday 2 pm - 7 pm; Thursday 2 pm - 8 pm; Saturday 9 am - 2 pm. For information on all your library needs, please contact 306-226-2110.

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Branch of the Wapiti Library located at 105 Railway Ave., West (Provincial building). Library Hours: Monday 2 pm - 6 pm; Tuesday 12 pm - 8 pm; Wednesday 2 pm - 8 pm; Thursday 12 pm - 6 pm; Friday 9 am - 4 pm.

SPIRITWOOD: Spiritwood Area Recreation, Culture & Sport Inc. (SARCS) Annual General Meeting - Wed., October 27, 2021 @ 6:30 pm. Location: Spiritwood Rec Centre Arena Mezzanine. Everyone welcome to attend! SARCS is accepting nominations for vacant positions on the SARCS board. For more info call (306) 883-2176 or email spr@sasktel.net

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Canwood Public School hosts Terry Fox Run

Canwood Public School hosted a very successful 2021 Terry Fox fundraising campaign, raising \$4,001 to send off to the Terry Fox Foundation.

The school's Grade 12 students took charge of the event, organizing everything to do with the day, from preparing fundraising packages for students, to handling advertising and communi-



Students from Canwood Public School take part in the 2021 Terry Fox Run/Walk.

cation, to asking community members for donations, to working with principal Brian Linn on the meal and the 8km Terry Fox run/walk with the entire school.

At the end of the race, Hansyn Bahn- uick, Cooper Taylor, and Tye Vaughan were the winners. Meanwhile, the top fundraisers were Jailyn Rivard and Reese Hamborg in first, Rakel Olson and Tye Vaughan in second, and Bryn- lee Aiken in third.

Each of the top three runners and fundraisers earned prizes for their efforts.

Canwood Public School's Terry Fox fundraiser was sponsored by Parkland Meats, Canwood Co-op Grocery Store, and Willoughby Gardens. The Grade 11/12 PAA students, meanwhile, made and served the meal on the day.

Other contributors include secretary Valerie Hinson, who collected and to- taled the money raised, Erica Archer of Whispering Pine Place, who ensured residents were outside to greet stu-

dents as they passed by, Grant Person, who drove the pilot firetruck for the run, and Greg Duval and crew, who put up the signage.

Canwood Public School appreciates all students, staff members, and com- munity members that helped in any way.



Terry Fox Run/Walk Winners from left: Cooper Taylor, Emma Arcand (Grade 12 Chairperson), Hansyn Bahnuick, Tye Vaughan, Rakel Olson, Jailyn Rivard, and Ms. Lou-anne Stefankiw (teacher).

Shellbrook Library gets set for Library Week

By Dian Campbell

Shellbrook Public Library is celebrating Library Week in Saskatchewan from Oct. 17 to 23.



An Indigenous art display by Linda M. can be seen at the Shellbrook Library throughout October.

This year's theme, "Saskatch- ewan Libraries: Rise Above," is especially true in the upside down COVID world we have been living in over the past year. But Saskatchewan librar- ies have Risen Above and con- tinue to serve their communi- ties.

The Shellbrook Library is back to full operation, includ- ing programs for adults, teens and young children. Story Time has begun again on Fri- day mornings, as well as Mak- erspace/Lego Club on Monday afternoons after school.

The Sensory Exploration Room is open for children to enjoy. Please call and book a time. Adult book clubs are be- ing held in person on the sec- ond Wednesday evening of the month and the third Friday afternoon. Participants not

wanting to meet in person are welcome to join in on ZOOM.

Our Teen art program is con- tinuing, with a pebble/stone art project for October.

Special events for Library Week include a beautiful "Re- lax and Read" gift basket (put your name in the draw each time you visit the library in October), an Author Reading from Jim Van Eaton at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 20, highlighting his book "Tales and Memories of the Past," and a special Pup- pet show for the kids on Friday Storytime at 10:30 am.

The library has two displays for October: paintings by PIHC resident Muriel Howrie, and an Indigenous art display on loan from the collection of Linda M.

Linda spent many years nursing in the Northwest Ter- ritories and Ontario.



Paintings by Muriel Howrie will be on display at the Shellbrook Library throughout October.



A gift basket is available to be won during Library Week.

Minutes of a Village of Canwood meeting

(Where necessary, the following minutes may have been edited for clarity or brevity)

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the Village of Canwood, held at 580 Main Street (café), Canwood, Sask., on Monday, July 19, 2021.

Present: Mayor – Robert Thompson, Deputy Mayor – Ken Moar, Councillors – Lorne Benson and Ron Willner, and Administrator – Erin Robertson

Delegations: 5:59 p.m. to 6:28 p.m. — Staff Sergeant, Shannon Haggarty from Ahtakakoop RCMP Detachment, Animal Control, Traffic Safety, Drugs and Drug Trafficking.

Let the minutes note that in the absence of Mayor Thompson, Deputy Mayor Moar assumed the position of Chair.

Delegations: 6:04 p.m. to 6:38 p.m. Maintenance Manager Dean Andersen to discuss proposed wireless system at Water Treatment Plant and garbage.

Let the minutes note that Mayor Thompson assumed

the position of Chair at 6:39 p.m.

Willner: That the minutes of the June 21, 2021, Regular Meeting of Council be ap- proved as presented. Carried

Moar: That the Statement of Financial Activities and Bank Reconciliation for the month of June 2021 be approved as presented. Carried

Thompson: That the water report for the month of June 2021 be approved as presented. Carried

Moar: That we acknowledge receipt of Maintenance Manager Calendar, Office Assistant and Administra- tor Attendance Statements for June 2021 as present- ed. Carried

Benson: That we issue Cheques 5339 to 5365 and Other payments totaling \$93,599.84, as detailed on attached List of Accounts for Approval, Pay Period 06 to 07 and July payroll advance from the general ac- count. Carried

Thompson: That we move to in-camera at 7:21 p.m.

citing Strategic Planning and ask that the Administra- tor remain in Council chambers. Carried

Thompson: That we move out of in-camera at 7:52 p.m. and note that all members of Council and Admin- istrator remain in chambers. Carried

Committee updates

- Public Works Committee -Verbal report provided by Ron Willner and Lorne Benson
- Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation- verbal report provided by Robert Thompson
- Elk's Hall Committee- verbal report provided by Ken Moar

Continued on page 12

NHL welcomes Kraken to its family

In one way, the National Hockey League returns to normal this season, with divisions organized by geography rather than the all-Canadian division fans saw last year when COVID-19 dictated emergency policy revisions.

But a totally normal season? Hardly.

The 2021-22 campaign gets under way this week, but there are still a number of question marks hanging over the 32-team league which features the arrival of the newest expansion team, the Seattle Kraken.

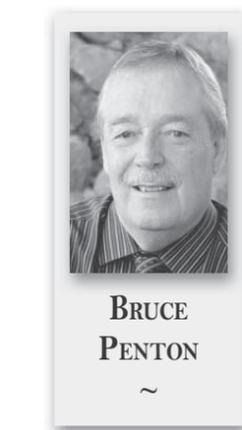
For instance, the league schedule currently includes a two-week gap from Feb. 5-22 to allow for NHL players to take part in the Olympics in Beijing, China. But here we are, a mere four months from the start of the Games, and the NHL Players' Association still hasn't decided officially to take part. Why? COVID, of course.

The NHLPA is leaving its options open. If the COVID situation looks

palatable, the players will take part and the NHL schedule will pause for two-plus weeks. If the players decide the health situation in China is going to be a problem, they are reserving the right to forego the Olympic Games, and stay in their North American confines. The NHL would then rearrange the schedule to fill in that two-week gap.

Meanwhile, the Kraken kick off their official existence with a game in Las Vegas Oct. 12, the first of five straight on the road, and play their home opener Oct. 23 against the Canucks, who are destined to become the new team's No. 1 rival. Considering the tremendous success the Golden Knights had in their first season, reaching the Stanley Cup final, it won't be a surprise if the Kraken are competitive right off the hop.

Old, established divisional rivalries resume, which means Toronto, Montreal, Boston and defending Cup cham-



BRUCE
PENTON

pion Tampa Bay will see plenty of each other this year. Winnipeg Jets are back in the same division as St. Louis, Dallas, Nashville and Minnesota, while the Oilers and Flames will do battle once again with the Canucks, Sharks, Kings, Vegas, etc., as well as the Kraken.

Will this be the year Connor McDavid leads the Oilers to Cup glory? Will Cole Caufield continue his blistering play-off pace and become a 50-goal man for the Habs? Will last year's rookie of the year, Kirill Kaprizov, become the most explosive player in

the game? Can two-time Cup champ Tampa keep rolling? Will Nathan McKinnon and the Avalanche break through? Thanks to Auston Matthews, is this finally the Leafs' year?

So many questions, with the answers to roll out over the next seven or eight months.

- From Hockey Beast, on Facebook: "After the Boston Bruins won the 1970 Stanley Cup, Wayne Cashman got drunk, stepped out into an intersection, started to direct traffic, got arrested, and used his one phone call to order Chinese food."

- Golf writer Geoff Shackelford, on the evolution of the PGA Tour: "The PGA Tour, ever desperate to lower the average viewer demographic from 65, became a wannabe lifestyle brand where you come, hold up your phones, get drunk and are as much a part of the action as the players."

- Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com: "The New York Jets and New York Giants are a

combined 0-6 to open the season. Fortunately I am sure the New York media will be gentle and understanding about this."

- Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha: "Snoop Dogg will be the Super Bowl halftime performer. Which answers the age old question: Do the halftime performers need to pass a drug test? No."

- Steve Simmons of Sun Media: "Money isn't everything: The Blue Jays paid just \$4.1 million this season for (Vladimir) Guerrero, (Bo) Bichette, Jordan Romano, Tim Mayza, Alek Manoah, Danny Jansen, and Alejandro Kirk. That could be close to \$100 million in the future."

- Brad Dickson again: "The Fox Sports guy said one of the Husker receivers 'has suffered from anxiety and depression.' So he knows what it's like to be a Husker fan."

- Headline at fark.com: "Bears head coach decides kickoff on Sunday night might be the ideal

time to decide which of his quarterbacks will start the game."

- Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Cowboys tackle La'el Collins — who missed seven scheduled drug tests — was given a five-game suspension for trying to bribe the NFL collector who came to take his sample, according to ESPN's Adam Schefter. He was hoping they'd let him off with an illegal-procedure penalty."

- Retired sportswriter Greg Johns, via Facebook, after Seattle beat the Athletics for the 12th straight time: "Now that the Mariners own the A's, are they responsible for building a new stadium in Oakland?"

- NFL guru Dan Daly, via Twitter: "Amazing how many NFL teams are trying to develop young QBs with trainwreck offensive lines. Can't decide if it's child abuse or just malpractice."

Care to comment?
Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Parkland Elks drop home opener to PA

The sophomore season slump continues for the Parkland AA U18 Elks, who hosted the Prince Albert Lakeland Towing Vulcans for their home opener on Friday, Oct. 8.

Despite the support of an energetic hometown crowd, and a strong showing in the second period, the Elks dropped the opener by a score of 5-2.

Once again, the trouble started early for the Elks, as Prince Albert's Keethan Isbister took a feed from Cohen Noreikat and beat netminder Shae Stewart to give the Vulcans a 1-0 lead around the four-minute mark.

Eight minutes later, the Elks got careless on the power play, allowing Jack Mortimer to put the Vulcans up 2-0 on the penalty. Mortimer was unassisted on the goal.

The Elks managed to hold off the Vulcans for the remainder of the period and came out playing hard in the second frame. Carson Favel helped the home team get back into the action early in the second, scoring on an assist from Ashton Tanchuk less than 90 seconds into the period.

Carson Favel struck again



The Parkland U18 AA Elks return to the dressing room after a home opener loss to the Prince Albert Vulcans. Photo Credit: Parkland U18 AA Elks Facebook.

seven minutes later, this time finding the back of the net with assists from Anson Favel and Kendon Skalicky.

This was as close as the Elks would get for the rest of

the match, as the Vulcans reclaimed a one-goal lead in the dying minutes of the second period and didn't let up. Ashton Miller scored the PA goal, unassisted.

After a slow start to the third and final frame by both teams, the Vulcans went on to score two late goals.

Kaleb Willoughby struck with seven minutes remaining, scoring on assists from Kees-tin Danielson and Zach Svenson to put the Vulcans up 4-2.

Miller capped off the scoring with his second of the evening, scoring a power play marker with a little over five minutes remaining in the game. Isbister and Svenson earned helpers on the goal.

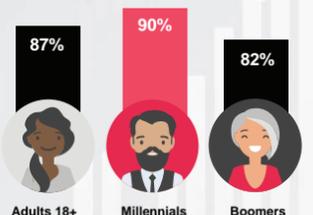
With the home ice loss, the Elks are still winless with a record of 0-2-0-1. This puts them third from the bottom of standings in the Centre Four division of the SAAHL's U18 league.

The team plays back-to-back home games this weekend, hosting North East on Friday, Oct. 15. The next night they face off against the West Central Wheat Kings. Both games have 7:30 p.m. start times.

Then, on Wednesday, Oct. 20, the Elks hit the road for a rematch against the Vulcans. Puck drop for that game is also slated for 7:30 p.m.

NEED TO REACH MILLENNIALS?

New survey results show that **nine out of ten** Millennials read newspapers weekly in print or digital formats.



News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

Results are sourced from a November 2020 national online research survey managed by Totum Research. Interviews were conducted with 855 English and French Canadians in every province, and results were weighted to be nationally representative.

GOOD NEWS

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

Rev. Dave Whalley, DLM(R)
First United Church, Big River

World Communion Sunday took place on Oct. 3, this year. World Communion Sunday is a celebration observed by several Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of every October and promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. The tradition originated in the Shadyside Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1933, was adopted throughout the United States Presbyterian Church in 1936, and subsequently spread to other denominations.

Then, in about 1941-42, World Communion Sunday became a tradition in our United Church. Each year, on this Sunday of the year, with many of the rest of the world's Christians we celebrate Jesus and what he did for us, for all of us – in every corner of the world.

We celebrate what Jesus did – and what by the power of the Holy Spirit he still does. We celebrate the Jesus who considered family unity to be important, who welcomed little children into his arms. We celebrate the Jesus who took time to bless everyone, no matter who they were and no matter what oth-

ers thought of them.

Jesus, the promised one of God, the Son of God, and yet a man:

A human like us,

A man who struggled to be faithful to God,

A man who was called to love his neighbours as himself,

A man who was tempted like we are tempted,

A man who suffered as we suffer.

This is true – our whole faith speaks of it. But the letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 2, verses 5-8 also reminds us of something else that our whole faith speaks of.

It reminds us that here, on this earth:

That he was made like us a little lower than the angels.

That Jesus was one with us, born of a woman, born as our brother to walk as we walk through this life.

Jesus was one with us:

Able to sympathize with us,

Able to identify with us,

Able to rejoice with us,

Able to suffer with us,

And, because of what he suffered and suffered in faithfulness,

He is able to intercede for us before God.

Minutes of a Village of Canwood meeting

Continued from 10

Benson: Whereas the Canwood Elk's Community Hall services the village, multiple surrounding municipalities and First Nations; and that the community hall is utilized as a gathering place for many types of activities that would benefit from increased accessibility to all arrears of the hall; be it resolved that the Council for the Village of Canwood agrees to support the application for funding under that Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF). Furthermore, with this application we agree to meet legislated standards, to meet the terms and conditions relevant to the program, to conduct an open ten-

dering process, to oversee the management of the project, to fund the municipal share byway of committee generated funds, annual budget or borrowing for project costs, fund any ineligible costs or overages related to the project, to support the ongoing operation and maintenance of the Canwood Elk's Community Hall, and to follow any mitigation measures as required by applicable legislative requirements. Carried

Willner: That we agree to void Cheque 5340 as payment was issued to the incorrect vendor. Carried

Thompson: That we agree to approve Policy LU-2, Fire Ban Policy as attached to these min-

utes, with a review date of Sept. 30, 2022. Carried

Moar: That the correspondence be noted and filed: Canwood Elk's Community Centre Financial Statement ending Jan. 31, 2021; North Central Transportation Planning Committee April 8, 2021, regular meeting minutes; North Central Transportation Planning Committee Nov. 18, 2020, annual meeting minutes and Financial Statement ending March 31, 2021; and Resident compliant letter regarding animals causing a disturbance. Carried

Thompson: That we acknowledge receipt of the Canwood Elk's Committee Financial Statement for the hall ending

OBITUARY

Carson Battersby



BATTERSBY, Carson
 September 5, 1958 – September 22, 2021

It is with profound sadness that we announce the death of Carson of Shell Lake, SK on the evening of September 22, 2021 in Saskatoon, SK. Left to mourn are his loving wife of nearly 40 years Marylyn; mother, Laura Battersby; Children, Evan (Brenna, Children: Jabari, Kalem and Bailey), Morgan (Mary, Children: Luvisa and Gunnar), Shawna (Nolan Jessop); Siblings, Laurie Chubak (Roy), Donna Nelson (Dave),

Debbie Brad (Dwayne), Shannon Battersby (John Cook); numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, uncles, aunts, and friends who were like family. Carson was predeceased by his father, Cameron Battersby; uncles Harold Kjerstad and Richard Battersby; cousin, Jordan Kjerstad; and several other aunts and uncles.

Carson was born on September 5, 1958, in Calgary, AB. Although Carson was born in Calgary and spent time in his earlier years working in other communities, his heart was on the farm near Shell Lake where he grew up, raised his family, and resided at the time of his passing. It was there that he ran a dairy, raised cattle, and ran heavy equipment. Carson could often be found in his shop fixing vehicles for family and friends, but nothing brought him greater joy than being out fishing, hunting, sitting around

the campfire, or ripping down backroads in his big loud truck.

A Celebration of Life Graveside Service was held Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 2:00 pm at the Shell Lake Cemetery with Ron Quintal officiating. The eulogy was given by Lorraine Quintal and Noreen Reed and Patty Heisler was the soloist. Carson's final resting place is in the Shell Lake Cemetery.

Memorial Donations in Carson's name may be directed to the Victoria Hospital Foundation (Victoria Hospital Foundation, Box 3000, 1200-24th Street West, Prince Albert, SK S6V 5T4 or online at www.help-thevic.ca. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to Mark Muir Funeral Director, Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Spiritwood, 306-883-3500

Jan. 31, 2021. Carried

Willner: Whereas the Village of Canwood Council has reviewed and acknowledges the quotes obtained by the Public Works Committee for a replacement mower; and whereas a replacement finishing mower is needed; be it resolved that the Council for the Village of Canwood Council endorse the purchase of 2013 John Deere Z930R for \$10,700.00, plus applicable taxes, from Glen-Mor Equipment, Prince Albert, Sask. Carried

Moar: That we agree to the purchase of a new office computer from Munisoft, includes hardware, software, file transfer and setup, for the quoted cost of \$2,867.00, plus applicable taxes. Carried

Thompson: That the Council hereby declares the land located on Lot 7, Block 2, Plan Y3516 Ext. 0, the civic address of the property being 570 Main Street, to be a nuisance under Section 8 of Bylaw No. 2018-04 the Nuisance Abatement Bylaw, for the following reason(s): Overgrown grass and weeds;

That the Designated Officer is hereby authorized to issue an order to the owner of the said property requiring them to undertake the following work: Mow all grass/weeds and whipper snip around buildings and fixtures; With said work to be completed on or before Aug. 10, 2021;

And that if the work noted above is not completed by the date noted

above, the municipality is authorized to take whatever steps are necessary to complete the work and recover the costs. Carried

Willner: That pursuant to the Tax Enforcement Act, section 3(1), we acknowledge that Form 1, List of Land in Arrears was presented to the Head of Council in duplicate on July 14, 2021. Carried

Moar: That we agree to accept the 2020 Waterworks Financial Overview and Rate Policy and the 2021 Capital Investment Strategy as presented. Carried

Benson: That we adjourn at 9:48 p.m., and set the next regular meeting of Council to be Aug. 16, 2021, commencing at 6 p.m. Carried



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Medstead and District Recreation Association (MADRA) is now accepting tenders for the following position: Cleaning/Kitchen Caretaker - The position consists of the following duties: making sure that the kitchen is in order and cleaning the deep fryer; cleaning of the lobby, bleachers, upstairs lounge, hallways, bathrooms and all dressing rooms; as well as ordering food and supplies as needed. The above position description may change with additions and/or deletions at the discretion of the MADRA executive. Sealed tenders must be received by 5pm October 15th, 2021. Please send tenders to: MADRA, PO Box 86, Medstead, SK, S0M 1W0 or email to Cheyenne Orange, cheyenneorange@hotmail.com 3-41

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

VILLAGE OF LEASK Seeking Municipal Custodian

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- To be cleaned immediately after each rental.

Interested parties are encouraged to submit a tender with expectation of salary to the Village of Leask.

Deadline for submissions will be October 28, 2021

NOW HIRING at Weberg Accounting! Part time & casual position available. Flexible days & hours. Wage will depend on experience. Computer knowledge a must. Fax resumes to 306-747-2252 or email them to andrea.webergaccounting@sasktel.net. 2-42

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: Live out Nanny for family in Leask. Must have transportation to get to and from work. Criminal Record check required. Email resume with references to erickson4153@hotmail.com 4-44

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REAL ESTATE

ESTATE SALE - MUST BE SOLD; Farmland Sale by Tender, (closing Oct. 22/21) - NE&SE 35-26-21-W3, RM of Snipe Lake #259. Call Gerald Muller, C&C Realty, 306-570-7743.

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Office space available for rent. Perfect for massage, mani or pedi room. Everything included. Info call 306-747 2244. 2-41

Advertising Deadline is Friday 4:00 p.m.

Aging gracefully with your borders

By Sara Williams

I'll begin by stating that the title has nothing to do with old ladies running guest houses. Rather, it deals with obtaining continued pleasure from perennial borders with less work.

There was a time when I wanted every perennial available and would accept any given to me with a sense of joy and expectation. Goutweed, Johnny-jump-ups, mullein, 'Cerise Queen' yarrow, windflower and Shasta daisy were all welcomed and made to feel at home. Some of these still consider this home although I've tried to make them feel much less welcome. I was forty years younger, full of energy and enthusiasm, and didn't consider weeding as burdensome a task as I do now.

Experience makes us more discerning as gardeners, and age presumably brings wisdom. So, here are some bits of wisdom that I offer. If I knew then what I know now, this is how would have gardened.

Begin with your soil. Before you plant a thing, add organic amendments to your borders to make them better. Waiting until your plants are in is too late. Use compost, peat moss and well rotted manure. The time, money and work involved are well worth the effort.

Select your perennials carefully. Ensure that the perennials you choose are hardy, long lived, neither invasive nor self-seeding, require little maintenance (staking, dead-heading, insect or disease problems) and provide a long season of interest in terms of flowers and foliage. No plant is perfect, but try to include as many of these characteristics as possible. In the last five years or so I've tried

to eliminate all of those that have failed to fit these characteristics. Of course, I make exceptions. We all have favourites. And some that perform well in one garden may not in another. As well, we acquire new plants and they bring with them unknown qualities.

Some perennials have been with me for more than 20 years. Here are some of my favourites for sun: 'Flame' and 'Gay Paree' peonies, fernleaf peony, the new sturdy New Zealand series of delphiniums, Clematis recta, spring adonis, 'Karl Foerster' ornamental grass, globeflower, marsh marigold, perennial alyssum, dwarf arctic phlox, Joe Pye weed, bugbane, goatsbeard, Siberian avens, Clematis integrifolia, Clematis integrifolia 'Rosea', Clematis douglasii var. douglasii, Siberian iris, intermediate bearded iris, 'Ruby Mist', 'Northern Fire' and 'Brandon Pink' coral bells, gas plant, thyme, Asiatic lilies (in spite of the lily beetle) and daylilies.

And for shade: Hepatica, lungworts, cortusa primrose, English primrose and dusty miller primrose, globeflower, bleeding heart, hostas, and Solomon's seal.

Include dwarf shrubs. Dwarf shrubs are generally more permanent and require less maintenance than perennials. They also provide greater "substance" within a border and a longer and more varied season, especially if you use both deciduous and evergreen species.

For a sunny border, consider some of the following: the shorter potentillas ('Yellow Gem' is particularly nice), 'Goldflame', 'Goldmound', and 'MiniSunglow' spirea. The following dwarf evergreens also do well in sun: mugo pine, 'Ohlendor-

fii' dwarf spruce, 'Little Giant' cedar, weeping Norway spruce, dwarf balsam fir, and 'Globosa' dwarf blue spruce.

For a shaded border try: 'Silver Charm' dogwood, 'Ivory Halo' dogwood, February daphne, 'Annabelle' and 'PeeGee' hydrangea or some of the newer hardier azaleas.

Mulch. I'll begin by stating that I like the appearance of a rich, dark exposed soil. But maintenance now takes precedence over "looks." I've tried and recommended various types of mulch on my perennials borders in the last few decades. Ideally, the mulch should reduce or eliminate weed seedlings, conserve water, last for a couple of years, and be aesthetically pleasing.

My current mulch of choice for perennials is slightly shredded post peelings, less coarse than the post peelings I use on my tree and shrub borders. And they are easy to apply. Scooped them up with a five-gallon pail and place them carefully over the weeded soil surface between the perennials to a depth of about 4 inches.

They turn from golden to silver-grey within a year

and will last for at least two growing seasons. That means two years in which the borders will not need weeding and will require less watering. Ultimately, as the perennials mature and increase in girth, less mulch is visible. Once the mulch has decayed to the point of allowing weed seedling germination, simply weed the border (not an over whelming task if carried out in a timely manner) and add another few inches of mulch. Mulch is not "permanent" but it sure beats weeding three or four times over every growing season.

In a nutshell: improve your soil, be selective about what you plant, add dwarf shrubs, and mulch. Enjoy!

Sara Williams is the author and coauthor of many books including *Creating the Prairie Xeriscape*, *Gardening Naturally with Hugh Skinner* and, with Bob Bors, the recently published *Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens*. She continues to give workshops on a wide range of gardening topics throughout the prairies.

This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS; saskperennial@hotmail.com).



Shaded border.
Photo credit: Sara Williams

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