

# Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

## Carol Festival makes holly jolly return in Shellbrook



**Madison Graham receives a small gift from Santa following the conclusion of the Carol Festival.**

For the first time since 2019, it felt a lot like Christmas at the Shellbrook Theatre, as the Shellbrook & District Arts Council's Carol Festival made its long-awaited return to the holiday season schedule.

With this year's show being billed as the 35th annual, the Carol Festival is one of the longest-standing traditions in the community. But while few small-town events have such longevity, Arts Council member Judy Hjertaas says it was phenomenal to see the steady stream of people flow into the theatre once again — especially given how frightful the weather outside was.

"When you organize a project, you always hope that the weather will be good and everybody can come. When it started to howl and blizzard, we weren't sure what would happen," she said during her introductory remarks ahead of the Carol Festival.

"We are so impressed and amazed that you've come through the storm to come to our 35th anniversary of having the Arts Council Carol Festival. Look at how many have come."

Planning for the Carol Festival typically begins in September, with calls to past performers and then call backs closer to the show date. Once the Arts Council has its line-up reasonably solidified, programs need to be printed and volunteers need to be gathered to work sound, lights, and the stage for the show.

From there on, it's all a matter of hoping that there are no last-minute changes — this year, Rod Gjerde was unfortunately unable to make it.

"We're very impressed with all the talent that comes to perform on stage," Hjertaas said. "We all realize that it doesn't just come naturally. There are a lot of lessons

involved. There's a lot of practicing involved. There's a lot of parents who believe in their kids. To be on stage takes hours, and hours, and hours of practice."

This year's Carol Festival was a prime example of this. As audience members entered the Shellbrook Theatre, they were greeted by a piano prelude featuring the talents of Terry Martin.

Once showtime rolled around, it fell to MC Brent Miller to introduce the 10 individual and group performers, starting with Kerri English and her students, who played a number of Christmas selections to kick the night off on an instrumental note.

Up next, the mother-daughter pairing of Lydia and Madison Graham, accompanied by Kerralynn Bloom, delighted the crowd with "O Holy Night", and the Schuttes, including Leslie, Diana, Jaden, Sadie, Re-

becca, and Leeland, kept it in the family with "Christmas for Cowboys" and "Oh Come All Ye Faithful".

Making a spirited return to the Carol Festival, the Shellbrook & District Accordion Group, featuring Dave Hjertaas, Larry Brossart, Leo Stieb, and guests Myron Wall (drums) and Lauren Cromartie (drums and vocals), performed "Jolly Old St. Nicholas", a Christmas medley, and "Christmas Time's a Comin".

Closing out the first act, Janaya Fuller sang "Winter Song" and "Skinny Love," and acclaimed singer, songwriter, and musician Cindy Aarestad performed "Glory, Glory, Glory in the Highest", and "The Good News Kids Medley". Then, leading into a brief intermission, the community took part in a sing-along of "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World".

*Continued on page 16*



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# Canwood Elders go on library trip

On an unseasonably warm Nov. 24, the Canwood Library hosted residents from Canwood's Whispering Pine Place.

The residents enjoyed listening to Gerda Bruner read a story about her family immigrating to Canwood and travelling to Saskatchewan. After the story, the residents got to watch a movie and listen to some music, as well as enjoy some delicious snacks and coffee provided by members of the library board.

Erica Archer, the recreation coordinator for Whispering Pine Place, is the architect behind recreation opportunities like these. However, she acknowledges that the outings wouldn't be possible without the community's wheelchair accessible bus, which allows for up to four wheelchairs to be hooked up, and for more passengers to ride in regular bus seats.

Accessibility within

the broader community is also key. For this reason, she appreciates the Canwood Library's elevator, as it opens the facility's doors so that all residents, no matter their abilities, are able to come and enjoy what the library has to offer. It also means her residents can look forward to many more visits in the future.

While a trip to the library might be a simple thing for many of us, Archer says a lot of careful thought, planning, and coordination go into planning outings for her residents, whether it be the most recent visit to the library, outings to play with the Shellbrook Mamas group, or taking in the Walter Willoughby Horticulture Society's annual show.

"When getting ready to go on an outing we have to make sure we have at least two recreation staff and, depending on where the outing is, sometimes some extra volunteers,"

Archer explained.

Once the staff and bodies are in place, there's a whole checklist of preparations to go through, both to ensure everyone gets a chance to partake in the outing, and to ensure they can do so safely and comfortably.

This checklist only grows longer in the winter, but Archer feels the preparation and hard work is all worth it, as being active and seeing different people and places provides her residents with a change of scenery and helps lift their spirits.

"I think these opportunities — the Canwood Library especially — are good for long-term care residents because lots of our residents are local and grew up around the area," Archer said. "Many of them used to go to this same library years ago, and some even worked there. This takes them back to a different time in their lives and now they are able to enjoy it all over again in a different way."

Archer adds that the residents are always thankful for outings like these, and to be able to be involved in their community and listen to historical stories like Gerda Bruner shared at the library. For her part as recreation coordinator, Archer says the experiences of her residents are equally rewarding for her.

"When I bring them

to different places in the community and see them smiling and enjoying themselves, I know that

I am doing my job as a recreation coordinator," she said. "That is what it's all about — improving

the overall quality of life of the residents at Whispering Pine Place in Canwood."



Residents from Canwood's Whispering Pine Place take in a movie during an outing at the Canwood Public Library.

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# Spiritwood Lions host Senior Appreciation Supper

The Spiritwood Lions' Annual Senior Appreciation Supper marked its comeback on Saturday, Nov. 12, after taking two years off due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The first senior supper was held in 1981, making this the 40th year for the

event.

This event is held in partnership with several other local entities, including the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood, which helps out with a cash donation, and the Town of Spiritwood, which donates the use of

the Civic Centre. The bulk of the work is done by the Lions, though help from others outside the club has been critical to the supper's success. This year, the club also had salads donated by both Scotiabank and Prairie Centre Credit Union.

The doors of the Spiritwood Civic Centre opened at 5 p.m. and the supper was served around 5:30 p.m. During pre-supper time, coffee and tea was served with some dinner music playing in the background.

For many years, entertainment was provided by Brian McGowan on the piano. Unfortunately, due to health issues this year, he arranged for a substitute. As such, this year's entertainment was provided by Dave Isaak, Claire Schira, Leon Charbonneau, Ruby Larson, and her granddaughter Lily Blais.

Shortly after supper, there were greetings brought by Premier Scott Moe as MLA for the Rosetown-Shellbrook constituency. This was followed by brief messages from Bryan Wingerter on be-

half of the Town of Spiritwood, and Bevrá Fee on behalf of the RM of Spiritwood. A response from Spiritwood Seniors Association president Armand Smith followed these remarks.

In due course, door prizes were drawn, and a half an hour of musical entertainment was presented by Patti Heisler, accompanied by Claire Schira.

All told, 128 people attended the supper, including workers, enter-

tainment, and the special guests at the head table. Of the attendees, 102 were seniors.

According to Lions member Cheyenne Orange, the main purpose of this supper event is to take a moment to appreciate the seniors for all the work they have done to help make Spiritwood the great community it is.

"This year's event was extremely successful, and we look forward to putting it on again in the year 2023," Orange said.

## Two receive RM of Shellbrook scholarships



Two young scholars have received \$500 scholarships from the RM of Shellbrook to assist them with their post-secondary studies. Allison Oleksyn (left) is enrolled in the Combined Bachelor of Kinesiology/Bachelor of Education Program at the University of Saskatchewan. Shelaine Pritchard is enrolled in the faculty of Education at the University of Regina.

### Christmas Hampers

Shellbrook, Parkside, Holbein, Mont Nebo & Canwood

Those requesting Christmas Food Hampers, pick up an application form from any church, Bigway or Parkside General Store. Complete the form and make sure the application is sent to:

Ministerial Association Food Bank  
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Holbein, Sask.  
S0J 1G0


Post marked by Dec. 11, 2022 (no later)

Hamper pick-up: December 20, 5:30 - 7:30

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### CALL FOR BOARD MEMBER

The Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research invites applications for the following:

**MEMBER, GDI BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**WESTERN REGION I** (Meadow Lake, Cochin, Leoville, Pierceland, Glaslyn, Chitek Lake, Livlong, Rush Lake, Brightsand, Spiritwood, Midnight Lake, Dorintosh, Paradise Hill)

**Overview:** The GDI Board of Governors has representation from the (12) Regions of the Organization, who are ratified by the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) of the Métis Nation—Saskatchewan (MN—S). The PMC Member who is assigned the Education portfolio sits as the Chairperson of the Board of Governors. All persons selected to the Board of Governors will be for a period of three years. A member who is an employee/staff person/manager of an affiliated organization of the MN—S shall not be permitted to sit on the Board of Governors of the Institute.

**Responsibilities:** The Board of Governors oversees the Gabriel Dumont Institute and is responsible for its operation and governance in all matters, including: to adopt policies for the effective operation of GDI; to formulate a strategic plan and to oversee its implementation; to approve annual budgets, audits and programs; to function as ambassadors for GDI and to encourage students and potential students in their study and career plans; to represent GDI to all levels of government, persons of Métis ancestry and to the public generally; and to appoint a Chief Executive Officer to be directly responsible for implementation of policy and the day-to-day management and operations of GDI.

**Qualifications:** All appointments to the Board must be of Métis ancestry with knowledge of the cultural, historical and social circumstances of Saskatchewan Métis. Ideally the collective skills on the board will represent a number of different disciplines and perspectives. Some of the preferred skill and training areas include education or post-secondary education; finance and administration; business; human resources (personnel); law; and communications. Individuals with extensive Métis culture and language experience are encouraged to apply. This will ensure a wide range of skills and perspectives are available when decisions are considered. A criminal record vulnerable sector check must be completed and accompany the resume submitted.

**Process:** Candidates can apply directly to the MN—S region or the Institute, who in turn will forward the application to the appropriate MN—S region for consideration. The MN—S region then submits the name of their selected representative forwarded from a duly called and administered regional council meeting. The name of the new board member is then sent to the PMC for ratification. Finally, the name is forwarded to the Minister of Advanced Education.

**Starting Date:** 2023 (Once process is complete - 3-year appointment with the possibility of renewal)

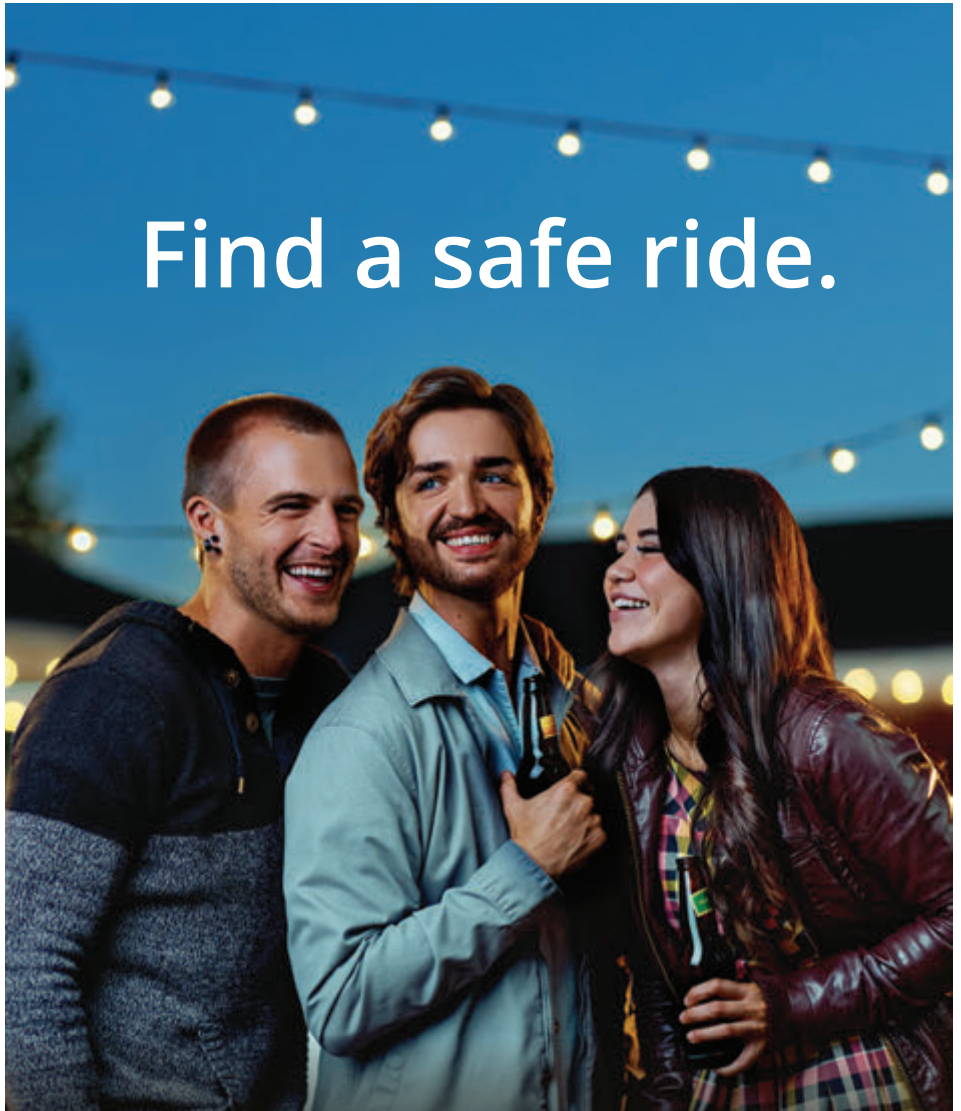
**Deadline for receipt of applications:** December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Please submit resume to one of:**


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| Loretta King<br>Western Region I, Regional Director<br>Métis Nation - Saskatchewan<br>Box 134 Dorintosh, SK S0M 0T0<br>Phone: (306)236-7544<br>Email: <a href="mailto:redaking11@gmail.com">redaking11@gmail.com</a> | Rhonda Pilon<br>Executive Assistant<br>Gabriel Dumont Institute<br>917 - 22nd Street West<br>Saskatoon, SK S7M 0R9<br>Phone: (306) 242-6070<br>Email: <a href="mailto:rhonda.pilon@gdins.org">rhonda.pilon@gdins.org</a> |
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## Sask., feds miss target on gun crime debate

As the world has spent year after year watching tens of thousands of Americans be injured or killed by gun violence on an annual basis, it's become near impossible to have a nuanced discussion about guns.

If you support gun owners and their "right to bear arms," you're dismissed as another Redneck Rambo, barely a half step removed from Neanderthals (intellectually, at least).

Similarly, if a government even suggests it's going to implement any form of gun control in the aftermath of a tragic incident of gun violence, it's accused of attempting to disarm the population – with the disarmament, of course, being a precursor to the implementation of some even more nefarious tyrannical agenda.

None of this dialogue, if it can be called such, is helpful. Indeed, it only assures no progress is made on what is a very important issue.

As the opposing camps dig in their heels and bicker back and forth, the topic of gun violence slowly recedes from the public consciousness, becoming little more than white noise... until the next instance of gun violence begins the cycle anew.

Perhaps Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was hoping to break the cycle of doing nothing when he first introduced gun control legislation, mostly targeted at prohibiting AR-15-style weapons, through Bill C-21 in 2020.

His government's intention with recent proposed amendments to the legislation that will ban even more types of guns, is a little harder to understand.

The amendment moves to ban "a firearm that is a rifle or shotgun, that is capable of discharging centre-fire ammunition in a semi-automatic manner and that is designed to accept a detachable cartridge magazine with a capacity greater than five cartridges of the type for which the firearm was originally designed."

Based on this language, the legislation will effectively outlaw almost all types of semi-automatic firearms in Canada, including a number of guns that are



JORDAN TWISS

~  
News Editor

popular among hunters and sport shooters.

Understandably, the proposed amendment has drawn criticism. And most of it is deserved.

Mr. Trudeau's government has never met a square peg it couldn't force into a round hole by enacting ineffective legislation to make it look like an issue is being addressed.

Much of its environmental and climate change has done just that, delivering only minimal greenhouse gas emissions reductions – despite Mr. Trudeau's excessive verbal emissions about Canada being a global leader in sustainability.

The proposed amendments to Bill C-21 are much the same.

Should the Trudeau government instruct the RCMP to enforce its buyback scheme for the prohibited weapons, there will without a doubt be fewer guns in Canada. However, most of these guns will be taken from law-abiding citizens who know better than most how to use them responsibly.

Meanwhile, there will be no significant reduction in the criminal use of guns, which increased by 81 per cent between 2009 and 2019 (though, homicide rates with guns have been holding steady or declining in recent years).

This is because Mr. Trudeau clearly isn't paying attention to Statistics Canada's data on criminal gun use.

According to a report covering the same period of 2009 to 2019, handguns were involved in about 75 per cent of violent robberies, and 60 per cent of homicides, other violations causing death, and attempted murders. Handguns were also involved in 54 per cent of sexual offences and 51 per cent of firearm-specific violent offences in 2020.

That said, the report also pokes some holes in the arguments of those who oppose the Trudeau government's gun control legislation by attributing all the gun violence to "gangsters in Toronto."

According to the same report, only about six per cent of gun crimes were related to gang violence.

Additionally, rates of gun crime in 2020 were found to be highest in Sas-



katchewan, Manitoba, and the Territories, and were mostly higher in rural areas than urban regions, which the report says can be attributed to a number of reasons, including more firearms ownership.

Nuance, again, becomes the key word here, and neither side of the gun debate seems capable of it.

With its hands effectively tied by Ottawa, the government of Saskatchewan is doing what little it can through the Saskatchewan Firearms Act to protect the rights of lawful firearms owners.

The legislation, once passed, will require and oversee fair compensation for any guns being seized, require forensic and ballistic testing of seized guns, and establish licensing requirements for businesses or individuals involved in gun expropriation.

It will also establish a provincial firearms regulatory system to promote the safe and responsible use of guns. The Saskatchewan Firearms Office will administer the legislation, and also take on an expanded role in prosecuting non-violent regulatory firearms offences.

This all seems like a perfectly reasonable response to another piece of flawed federal legislation... until we get to the point where Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety Minister Christine

Tell says the government could reduce RCMP funding if the RCMP is directed to enforce the federal government's gun buyback program.

You read that right... in a province with a crime severity index two times higher than the national average, where overstretched and understaffed rural RCMP detachments struggle to keep pace with the number of calls to service they receive, the Sask. Party's strategy to protect the "rights of lawful firearms owners" is to make all of us less safe.

In other words, in Saskatchewan, the "right" to own a firearm supersedes the right to adequate police services and safe communities.

So much for being "tough on crime" Conservatives, I guess.

If the Trudeau government's Bill C-21 can be said to be a useless document that won't do anything to address gun crime in Canada, the Sask. Party's threat to reduce RCMP funding is worse, because it will be actively harmful to Saskatchewan residents.

Worst of all, though, is that no one in any government seems interested in exploring the root causes of gun crime and addressing them in any meaningful way.

Perhaps we're not so different from our southern neighbours after all.

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Phone 306-747-2442 or Fax 306-747-3000

Editorial: [chnews@sbchron.com](mailto:chnews@sbchron.com)  
Advertising [chads@sbchron.com](mailto:chads@sbchron.com)

### C. J. Pepper, Publisher

Jordan Twiss, Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter  
[jordan@sbchron.com](mailto:jordan@sbchron.com)/[chnews@sbchron.com](mailto:chnews@sbchron.com)

Natasha Cabase, Spiritwood Herald Reporter  
(306) 914-3890 or [tashacabase@gmail.com](mailto:tashacabase@gmail.com)

Meghan Penney, Composition/Pagination  
& Advertising Sales [chads@sbchron.com](mailto:chads@sbchron.com)

Karen Stene, Bookkeeping/Reception  
[accounting@sbchron.com](mailto:accounting@sbchron.com)

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

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# VIEWPOINT

December 8, 2022

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## Report from the Legislature

This past week, Saskatchewan was the hub for agriculture as thousands of people descended on the province for the year's most anticipated event, Canadian Western Agribition.

Once again, Agribition hosted 10,000 school-children for programs that passed on the knowledge of where our food comes from, advocated proper animal care, and the importance of the agriculture industry. Canadian Western Agribition showcases our agriculture sector and helps us share our sustainability story with the world. Local producers continue to lead in sustainable agriculture practices, technology, innovation, science, and breeding genetics, which helps build public trust and knowledge of the industry.

Like the agriculture sector, Agribition positively impacts our pro-



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vincial economy. The show injects an estimated \$70 million into the Saskatchewan economy each year thanks to attendance, sales, and business agreements made during the week. Traditionally, over 120,000 people attend the show from over 80 countries.

It is a pleasure to see this event return to Regina each year, promoting one of the strongest in-

dustries in our province. Our government is proud to support Saskatchewan farmers with several programs and services, such as the Crop Insurance Program or funding for water management projects. In 2021, Saskatchewan set a record with \$17.5 billion in agri-food exports, producing 98 per cent of Canada's lentils and 80 per cent of the national durum crop. As we look to increase our exports by 50 per cent by 2030, the agriculture sector will play a large role in that vision. Increasing exports will create more jobs and support a growing province.

Saskatchewan is set to kick off 2023 with vigour and enthusiasm. There is so much to be proud of after facing one of the most challenging economic times in recent history. By working together and creating a

positive business environment, our province is seeing financial growth when many other jurisdictions are staving off a recession.

We are on track to balance the budget, with the Mid-Year Financial Report forecasting a \$1.1 billion surplus. The increase is largely the result of high potash and oil prices, and higher revenues, reflecting solid economic growth. Our government is using higher-than-expected revenue to help people and businesses address higher costs due to inflation while reducing debt.

The Four Point Affordability Plan announced earlier this year was made possible because of this economic success. We are delivering a one-time Saskatchewan Affordability Tax Credit cheque of \$500 to all adult residents who have filed a 2021 tax return in



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the province, exempted the PST on fitness and gym memberships, along with other recreational youth activities, extended the small business tax rate reduction and are paying down \$1 billion in provincial debt. Putting more money back in your pocket while retiring debt strikes the right balance and helps our province move forward.

The good news does not end there. Based on

an average of private sector forecasts, Saskatchewan's real Gross Domestic Product is forecast to have grown by 5.3 per cent in 2022 and is projected to increase by 1.9 per cent in 2023, the highest growth among the provinces in both years. Saskatchewan has the second-highest credit rating in the country when considering all three major credit agencies.

Businesses and international investors see this positivity as a solid indication of success, leading to new investments, more jobs, and increased family support. Our government will foster that growth and re-invest in the programs and services that make a difference in day-to-day life. The future is bright for our province, and 2023 will certainly be an exciting time to live in Saskatchewan.

## Finding the truth about vaccine injuries

Recently, I raised the issue of vaccination injuries in the house with a delegation of vaccine-injured visitors.

In session, neither Premier Scott Moe or Minister of Rural and Remote Health Everett Hindley would offer to meet with the delegation, as has been the convention during the 14 years I have been an MLA. Instead, the Minister minimized their injuries, stating that statistically, there are only .004 per cent of serious adverse events recorded in Saskatchewan.

However, some members of the delegation (and many more who have contacted my office), tell me that at first, their doctors acknowledged that their injury is vaccine-related, then backtracked, and will not make the report. This suggests vaccine injuries are seriously under-reported.

Earlier this fall, I identified seeming statistical discrepancies in the first 10 months of vaccine injury reports compared to the next 11 months.

Those stats show that from Dec 30, 2020, to October 26, 2021, there were 1,229 adverse reactions to the injections, of which seven were deaths (this information was obtained through a Freedom of Information request). At that time 1,649,640 injections had been given.

Stats reported by the government as of Sept 18, 2022, show a total of 1,320 adverse reactions. That means only 91



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more adverse effects were reported in the next 11 months, during which an additional 920,000 injections were given.

That is a drastic change in ratio. (Also keep in mind that this is over 2.5 million injections for a population of 1.2 million, which more than doubles the risk of adverse reaction per person.)

It is cause to wonder if the criteria for reporting adverse reactions was changed from 2021 to 2022. If so, why and by whom? Or is it because doctors are not accurately reporting adverse reactions for fear of losing their license or being sanctioned, even though they are legally obligated to make the report?

Could this also be why we are seeing medical professionals leave our province or retire early?

Last session, this government created special legislation to protect businesses and organizations from liability for demanding that employees, contractors, and students be vaccinated.

Today, there are still Saskatchewan employers requiring their employees to either take the still experimental mRNA injections (*Editor's note: the vaccines are not experimental, and have gone through standard testing*), pay hundreds of dollars a month for testing, or lose their jobs. Even people who have already experienced severe adverse effects are not granted exemp-

tions. This, after Pfizer admitted to the European parliament that they never even tested their vaccine to see if it prevented transmission. We now know it does not. (*Editor's note: Pfizer's CEO, Albert Bourla, was transparent about this as early as Dec. 3, 2020, and said the effect of COVID-19 vaccines on transmission would have to be studied. Furthermore, it's not uncommon for any vaccine to not be tested for its ability to reduce transmission until after it is being administered.*)

Perhaps the government should create legislation to protect doctors and medical professionals from sanctions for speaking out about the harms they are witnessing, or for making adverse reaction reports. Taking the muzzle off of doctors is a first step that Health Ministers Merriman and Hindley could take to begin rebuilding trust in the Saskatchewan healthcare system.

It would also go a long way to retain existing healthcare workers and the new ones being recruited. Government could do more to create incentivized healthcare seats in our own post-secondary systems, so our own Saskatchewan

people can more easily step into those careers.

For reasons that were not disclosed to us, Minister Hindley had a change of heart and DID meet with the delegation after some had already left the building. My hope is that he will realize the information this government is relying on is skewed, and put in place a transparent process where Saskatchewan citizens can easily report their experiences.

### TENDER

Lake Country Co-op Agro is currently accepting tenders for the provision of **Janitorial Services** at our new Shellbrook Agro retail facility located at #400 - 7<sup>th</sup> Street East, Shellbrook, SK.

Scope of work includes daily cleaning of Office and Retail Store facility.

Responsibilities to include:

- Floor maintenance (sweeping, washing, vacuuming)
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Successful Applicant must be:

- Honest, trustworthy and bondable
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Duties expected to commence January 16, 2023.

Tender submissions to clearly state qualifications and expected compensation (monthly).

Tenders to be received in writing by **5PM December 16, 2022**.

Attention Jeff Rothwell, Manager,  
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Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0 or email to  
[jeff.rothwell@lakecountrycoop.ca](mailto:jeff.rothwell@lakecountrycoop.ca)

For further information or to view facility please contact Jeff Rothwell @ 306-747-7361 or 306-747-2122.



LAKE COUNTRY

# Silvertips mauled by Tigers, burned by Flames

The Shellbrook Silvertips continued their journey through the 2022-2023 regular season over the weekend, hosting the Kinistino Tigers on Saturday night and hitting the road against the Allan Flames on Sunday.

In what could have been an easy chance to pick up their second win of the season against a Kinistino team that had only 10 skaters, the Tips very quickly learned why the Tigers have gone undefeated this season.

## Tips (3) vs Tigers (6)

Both the Tips and the Tigers came out of the opening face-off with speed, but it was the Tigers who got the best of the early action. Capitalizing on an over-aggressive play by the Tips defence, Tyler Patterson made the most of a textbook give-and-go play, scoring with assists from Tyrell Wenig and Trevor Wilton.

The Tigers continued to prey upon the Tips as the period wore on, and a four-minute penalty by the Tips gave them the momentum they needed to pile on the goals.

The Tips' penalty kill held on for dear life through the first half of the Tigers' power play, eventually breaking when Ryley Regnier took a pass and sniped it top shelf just shy of two minutes into the man advantage. Chase Gallant and Wilton assisted on the goal.

With two minutes of power play time left to work with, the Tigers made the most of it, as Brett Boyer tallied on a soft wrist shot that squeaked through the five-hole of Tips

goalie Jonny Nelson. Tanner Shultz and Ethan Rheume provided assists on the goal.

As the penalties started to go the other way, the Tips' power play was kept on its toes by the Tigers on its first attempt. Finally, with time winding down in the opening frame, the power play managed to break through.

Shayden Smith tallied first, on a beautiful setup from Braidon Turner and Dallas Galloway. And moments later, Turner scored a goal of his own, earning assists from Parker Turner and Devon Dicus.

The Tips came out looking stronger in the second period, and for a moment it seemed like the Tigers' short bench was beginning to take its toll. However, Gallant quickly proved the Tigers wouldn't go down without a fight, as he rushed in on the Tips' goal and flipped a sharp-angled shot past Nelson to put Kinistino up 4-2.

Undeterred, the Tips started to find their rhythm through the middle of the period, eventually burying a juicy rebound in front of the Tigers' goal to close the gap to 4-3. Nathaniel Martin scored the goal, on assists from Braidon Turner and Dicus.

Once again, the Tigers had an answer, as Boyer made the most of some soft defensive play by the Tips and buried a setup from behind the net. Kent Porter and Shultz assisted on the goal.

In a third period in which they were down but certainly not out, the Tips fell victim to a bad roughing call by the officials, but

the penalty kill held strong this time around. Meanwhile, on offence, the Tips began to rack up the scoring opportunities. But they kept coming up just short, and did themselves no favour by taking two penalties later in the period.

In the end, with their goaltender pulled in the final minutes, the Tips never really got a strong scoring chance. Instead, Shultz buried an empty netter, with assists from Porter and Regnier, to give the Tigers a 6-3 win.

## Tips (3) vs Flames (4)

Travelling to Allan in search of a much-needed win Sunday evening, the Tips found themselves in a heated battle with the Allan Flames.

Keith Mitchell got the back-and-forth action going early in the first, scoring on assists from Dalyn Hoiness and Devon Gieb.

Meanwhile, the Tips' penalty kill put in some work later in the period, allowing Nathaniel Martin to break free and score an unassisted short-handed goal. But the Flames' power play roared back, as Hoiness scored on an assist from Evan Pasternak to put Allan back on top.

After more than 20 minutes without a goal, both the Tips and the Flames exploded offen-



Silvertips forward Braidon Turner tries to bury a loose puck in front of the Kinistino goal.

sively in the last three minutes of the second period.

John Martin got things started for the Tips on the power play, scoring on an assist from Nathaniel Martin. However, the Tips' power play got careless after this, and the Flames made them pay by scoring two short-handed goals.

Cam Brossart netted the first goal with an assist from John Usselman, then Luke Brossart tallied on a helper from Griffin MacLeod.

Closing out the flurry of scor-

ing, Braidon Turner struck unassisted with less than a minute remaining in the period to close the gap to 4-3.

With 20 minutes to tie things up in the third period, the Tips fell just short to cement their loss, falling to 1-7 on the season.

The Tips have another road and home split this weekend, beginning with a Friday night game in Dalmeny against the Dalmeny Sabres. On Saturday night, they'll welcome the Waldheim Warriors to the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre.



Silvertips Nick Martin (5) and Shayden Smith (14) look on, as a deflected shot sails into the Kinistino goal.

## Innovative fuels for Small Modular Reactors

If Canada is to meet its target of net-zero emissions by 2050, our country must transition to a diverse, innovative range of alternative sources of energy.

Mouna Saoudi, a materials scientist at Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL), is using the Canadian Light Source at the University of Saskatchewan to explore how advanced nuclear fuels for small modular reactors (SMRs) could be used to help fill the gap between fossil fuels and renewables.

"SMRs would be an efficient way to reach net zero by 2050, which is an ambitious but hopefully achievable goal," says Saoudi.

SMRs can power electrical grids, provide process heat, and offer energy solutions for various industries — such as remote mining operations.

Saoudi is currently investigating how types of advanced nuclear fuels behave under different reactor conditions.

"My main focus is characterization of advanced nuclear fuels for potential use in small modular reactors," Saoudi says.

The advanced fuels combine uranium oxide — the main element used in nuclear fuel for decades

— with the naturally occurring and abundant element thorium in oxide form. Saoudi says that there are many advantages to mixing the two elements, including increased efficiency and better in-reactor performance.

Using the HXMA beamline, Saoudi was able to confirm the similar distribution of the two elements, uranium and thorium, in the mixed fuel oxides. Saoudi believes this was the first time the CLS has been used for this type of study.

Saoudi has been working with USask researcher Andrew Grosvenor from the Department of Chemistry. Their findings were recently published in the *Journal of Nuclear Materials*.

The CLS allowed Saoudi and her collaborators to investigate the electronic and local structure of the fuel — crucial information needed to identify the optimum fuel composition that would have better in-reactor performance than that of uranium oxide.

"For this project specifically, we needed to do this experiment at the Canadian Light Source," Saoudi said. "I hope that in the near future we will be using the facility for other experiments."



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

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



# AGRICULTURE

December 8, 2022

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Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

## Cultivating healthy minds and farms

When it comes to our health there are all kinds of suggestions of how to go about being healthier.

It ranges from fitness centres to those on diets that avoid flour or meat or rely only on foods available hundreds of years ago, to those pointing to the healing qualities of certain herbs and crystals. Figure out the one that works, and you should be physically better off.

But what about our minds?

While it is widely promoted to be healthier physically, and many are at least keeping an eye on that element of their lives, it still seems less attention is paid to mental health.

It's not that there are not services to help when we feel that our mind is overwhelmed and the decisions we might be making are detrimental, but rather that seeking that help is still difficult for many.

We are all right telling a medical professional we have headaches or a sore back, but often far more reluctant to talk about our thoughts.

So, what has this all have to do with a column on agriculture?

Well, the topic of mental health was delved into as Sheldon Kennedy was the speaker recently at the Grain Expo Conference at Canadian Western Agrib-



CALVIN DANIELS

ition.

Kennedy, an advocate for abuse survivors, was invited by Agribition CEO and long-time friend from Swift Current, Shaun Kindopp, to speak on the challenges and impacts of mental health and addictions issues.

Kennedy said the farm sector is far from immune from mental health issues. In fact, the stats are scary, suggesting "one-in-four farmers contemplated suicide in the last year."

But Kennedy said if you consider the pressures they face, it is understandable they feel a lot of stress.

The investment that goes into planting a crop, worries about whether it will rain and if it does whether it might be too much, and of course the season end prices for what is harvested, are all stressful.

While farmers can't avoid the stresses of the career they have chosen, the key is to understand "ways to manage it," said Kennedy. "It's managing

the stresses."

Kennedy's message is not new, but needs to be retold to reinforce the importance of mental health of the farm.

In fact, back in 2017, Kim Keller, a farmer and co-founder of Saskatchewan Women in Agriculture, said a University of Guelph study shows the level of stress being faced.

Keller told those who were attending a panel discussion about the Farm Fitness and Finance Forum at the Grain Millers Harvest Showdown in Yorkton that fall, that a study showed 35 per cent of farm respondents faced depression. Meanwhile, 42 per cent said they faced high stress on a daily basis, and 58 per cent dealt with anxiety.

But perhaps the most concerning data was that 40 per cent also said they wouldn't seek help, she said.

Keller said that resistance to find help has dire implications.

"In the [United] States, farmers are twice as likely to commit suicide than the general public," she said.

Mike Neilson, a rancher near Willowbrook, told the conference he went through life threatening cancer and that created stress and impacted his mental health. He said it can come down to "a deci-

sion to be mentally well, to feel good about yourself... One main thing I had to learn... was to put myself first."

Neilson said finding a balance when things are wearing on your mind is difficult, especially on a livestock farm.

"The cattle industry is a unique industry, in that you really can't take a break from your animals," he said. "There's no days off so to speak."

It was a theme Kennedy picked up on in a recent interview with this reporter, where he noted there is the isolation as farmers operate on their farm away from co-workers who might sense something being wrong.

It can be easy to start to over think problems when driving the tractor around and around a field cultivating.

"The longer we struggle in our heads, the more

steam [the problem] picks up," said Kennedy.

And on the farm, you live the business.

"You drive down that lane you see the work that needs to be done," said Kennedy.

Kennedy has been talking about mental health issues for some 30 years, and says things have gotten better, but one senses there is far more progress which needs to be made.

## Premier Moe leads trade mission to Washington

Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe has undertaken a mission to meet with key stakeholders in Washington D.C., to identify opportunities to strengthen and expand the critical mineral sector in North America, while also exploring ways to address global energy concerns.

"The United States continues to be Saskatchewan's single largest and most strategically important trading partner," Moe said. "During this time of global uncertainty, it's important that we as a province continue to work with our closest allies, particularly through securing vital resources, and promoting energy security."

Exports to the United States increased 51.5 per cent from \$13.1 billion in 2020, to \$19.9 billion in 2021. Saskatchewan's top exports to the US were crude oil, potash, and canola oil.

"There is also tremendous opportuni-

ty for Saskatchewan to strengthen our ties with our American neighbors," Moe said. "Particularly in the areas of critical mineral development and processing, a field in which Saskatchewan is quickly becoming a world leader."

Saskatchewan has occurrences of 36 of the 50 commodities on the United States Critical Minerals List essential for global economic security, a growing population, and a low-carbon future.

Critical minerals are used in the manufacturing of batteries that power portable electronic devices and electric vehicles, and rare earth elements are poised to play a significant role in the economic growth of the future.

Saskatchewan is home to the first-of-its-kind minerals to metals rare earth processing facility in North America.

The Premier will return to Saskatchewan on Dec. 8.

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Mon., Dec. 12, 2022

Regular Sale 8:30 a.m.; Presort Sale 11:00 a.m.

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Bred Cow, Heifer & Pair Sale 1:00 p.m.

Producers wishing to market cattle prior to sale day please contact the office 306-763-8463 for delivery.



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# Sask. government introduces flurry of bills

With the holiday season fast approaching, the Government of Saskatchewan is taking action on a number of priorities it outlined in its speech from the throne at the end of October, starting last Thursday with the Saskatchewan Firearms Act.

The legislation is a response to amendments to the federal government's Bill C-21, which bans "a firearm that is a rifle or shotgun, that is capable of discharging centre-fire ammunition in a semi-automatic manner and that is designed to accept a detachable cartridge magazine with a capacity greater than five cartridges of the type for which the firearm was originally designed."

Premier Scott Moe has said the bill would effectively criminalize 75 per cent of Saskatchewan owners. The government says its bill aims to "protect the rights of lawful firearms owners."

"This Act will help address concerns of responsible firearms owners and enhance public safety across Saskatchewan," Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety Minister Christine Tell said in a statement. "We take public safety seriously and support ini-

tiatives that reduce the criminal use of firearms, while preventing gang violence and stopping illegal guns from entering our province."

The Saskatchewan Firearms Act will:

- establish licensing requirements for businesses or individuals involved in firearms expropriation;
- require and oversee fair compensation for any firearms being seized;
- require forensic and ballistic testing of seized firearms; and
- establish a provincial firearms regulatory system that will promote the safe and responsible use of firearms.

The legislation will be primarily administered by the Saskatchewan Firearms Office (SFO). The SFO will also take on an expanded role in prosecuting non-violent regulatory firearms offenses.

"Since inception, the Saskatchewan Firearms Office has successfully handled public safety files and continues to work closely with police to ensure that gun safety laws are properly enforced," Chief Firearms Officer Robert Freberg said in a statement. "The

enhanced mandate this legislation provides will expand our office's ability to promote responsible firearms use and improve community safety."

The government has dedicated approximately \$3.2 million this fiscal year to begin development of several firearms initiatives, including:

- establishing a Saskatchewan Firearms Ballistics Lab to support police services and provide timely access to Saskatchewan-based ballistics and firearms expertise;
- establishing a Firearms Compensation Committee to determine the fair market value of any firearms, ammunition and related accessories being expropriated by the federal government;
- enhancing training and education regarding safe storage and firearms licensing; and,
- launching a made-in-Saskatchewan marketing campaign to promote firearm safety and best practices.

Additional firearms officers are being employed with the SFO in a con-

tinued effort to support the law-abiding firearms community, while also investigating incidents associated with mental health, domestic violence and illegal activities involving firearms.

On Monday, the government moved to modernize the province's liquor laws with the introduction of an amendment to the Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act, 1997.

"Reducing red tape in Saskatchewan's liquor laws increases flexibility for the public and creates new opportunities for communities and business, while remaining committed to ensuring the socially responsible sale and service of beverage alcohol," Minister responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) Lori Carr said.

- Among the changes:
- Providing municipalities and park authorities with the discretion to designate outdoor public places such as parks for consumption of beverage alcohol by individuals of legal drinking age;
  - Simplifying the recorking provisions for permittees;
  - Allowing homemade beer, wine, and cider to be served at family events that are permitted with a special occasion permit

including products manufactured at a U-Brew/U-Vin facility; and,

- Removing the requirement that applicants publish their intentions to obtain a liquor permit in local newspapers.

The changes are being made following discussions with stakeholders. The Bill amending the legislation is expected to pass in spring 2023.

Finally, the government introduced the Saskatchewan Revenue Agency Act, one of many pieces of legislation it promised as part of its push for greater autonomy.

"This Act is among the steps our government is taking to protect and defend Saskatchewan's economic autonomy, industries and jobs from federal intrusion and constitutional overreach," Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Donna Harpauer said in a statement.

The new Act creates the framework for a new Treasury Board Crown corporation, the Saskatchewan Revenue Agency (SRA). The SRA would be responsible for administering taxes and related programs in Saskatchewan, including taking control of the provincial portion of the corporate income tax system from the federal

government.

The Bill is basic in its design, containing standard provisions required to establish a new government agency, including its purpose, powers, overarching governance structure, accountability, and regulation making authority.

The government says the in-depth, multi-year work will now begin on establishing the structure of a new provincial corporate income tax system. Developed strategies will maximize value for taxpayers and address Saskatchewan's needs, the government says.

"The Saskatchewan Revenue Agency Act is the first step in a larger undertaking related to transforming the province's corporate income tax system. This transition demonstrates that our government will take the necessary action to stand up for Saskatchewan," Harpauer said.

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## PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

### LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

### PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
306-747-3572  
Shellbrook  
Adult Study  
9:30 a.m.  
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship  
Pastor David Bodvarson  
306-747-7235  
Canwood  
Summer: 10 a.m. - Worship  
Pastor Bob Wrench  
306-468-2138  
Leask Gospel Tabernacle  
Sunday 11 a.m.  
306-466-2296

### 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.  
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook  
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service  
Canwood - Christ Church  
Sunday, 2 p.m. - Service  
Rev. Wendell Brock  
306-460-7696  
H.C. Service with Rev.  
Brock - 1st Sunday of the  
month

### MENNONITE

**BRETHREN CHURCH**  
Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel  
109 Railway Ave. W.  
Blaine Lake  
306-497-3316  
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  
Sun. Worship - 11:00 a.m.  
(10:30 a.m. June - August)  
306-468-2525

### 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. Mariusz Zajac  
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. Mariusz Zajac  
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook  
Mass - Sunday 9 a.m.  
St. Henry's - Leask  
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.  
Mistawasis  
1st & 3rd Sundays 1:30 p.m.  
Fr. Tuan Doan

### 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

## 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 1:30 p.m.  
Rev. Sarah Urano

### UNITED /ANGLICAN

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

### CATHOLIC SUNDAY

Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m.  
Leoville - 9:30 a.m.  
Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m.  
SATURDAY  
Medstead - 6 p.m.  
Everyone Welcome  
Fr. Ramel Macapala

### COWBOY CHURCH

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

### LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

### 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

### MENNONITE BRETHREN

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

### Gideons International of Canada

Battlefords Camp  
Phone Art Martynes  
(306) 389-4633

### 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

### BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service

### PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

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



# Wilson becomes Sask. United Party Leader

There's a new provincial political party in Saskatchewan, and it already holds a seat in the Legislature.

The Saskatchewan United Party has now been registered by Elections Saskatchewan, and its first leader is Saskatchewan Rivers MLA Nadine Wilson, who has been sitting as an Independent in the legislature since Sept. 2021 after resigning from the Sask. Party Caucus over claims she misrepresented her COVID-19 vaccination status.

Since then, she has been a constant voice for those who oppose the COVID-19 mandates imposed by both the provincial and federal governments, as well as those who claim to have been adversely affected by vaccines. She has also called on both governments to launch formal inquiries into their handling of the pandemic.

Speaking to reporters following Question Period in the Legislature last Thursday, Wilson appeared somewhat surprised to learn she

was the Sask. United Party's new leader.

"Apparently, I am. I don't have my papers, but this is what people are telling me. They read it somewhere," she said.

The Sask. United Party began as a steering committee in December 2021. The party's leadership says the committee was founded in response to "overwhelming calls from all corners of the province both in rural and large municipalities, as to the political, economic, and

social crisis taking place in Saskatchewan."

The steering committee says it spent four months investigating these concerns, and chose to form a new provincial political party, "with the aim of bringing the province back together and healing the many divides which have existed as a result of the mismanagement, incompetence, and in some cases, perceived misfeasance of various levels of the current Government of Saskatchewan."

Many of the Sask. United Party's concerns were about the current Government of Saskatchewan's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in particular Premier Scott Moe's comments last fall that life would "get uncomfortable" for those who refused to be vaccinated.

At the time of these comments, Saskatchewan was in the midst of the highly infectious Omicron wave, which overwhelmed the province's ICUs and forced patients (al-

most all of them unvaccinated) to be moved to Ontario for care.

Joining Wilson in the Sask. United Party's ranks as an advisor is former Battlefords-Lloydminster MP and Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, who says he was left "politically homeless" after Premier Moe's comments last fall. Ritz says there's a lot of angst in the province over the COVID-19 pandemic and is critical of how both the federal and the provincial governments have handled it.

"We're looking at lots of money that has been spent with no accountability really attached to it yet," Ritz said when the party made its initial announcement about seeking official recognition as a political party. "We're looking at a health-care system that is still overburdened with backup surgeries and so on that were never taken into account."

"At the end of the day, it's the lack of a plan," he add-

ed. "Saskatchewan has a lot of autonomy within this confederation we call Canada that I don't think they're exercising the way that they could."

Apart from its focus on the pandemic, the Sask. United Party says its guiding principles include human rights and civil liberties for all, an improved and localized health system, a school curriculum free of ideologies, a focus on provincial over national and international interests, accountability, consultation, and transparency, small government with less bureaucracy, economic prosperity, balanced budgets and lower taxes, improved social programs, personal responsibility over government intrusion, and environmental stewardship.

However, Wilson says she plans to be a voice for everyone in the province.

"Whatever the people of Saskatchewan want me to bring forward," she said, "I'm there to listen for them."

## Minutes of Spiritwood Town Council meetings

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

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held in the Council Chambers at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street, on Oct. 25, 2022, at 7 p.m.

In attendance were, Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Jim Bedi, Councillor Brad Nemish, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor Ragnar Latus, Councillor George Pretli, and Acting Administrator Brenda Beaulac. Absent was Councillor Kiera Andres.

A quorum being present, Mayor Gary von Holwede called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented to form part of the minutes. Carried

Council: That the minutes of the Oct. 11, 2022, council meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve NLEDC Oct. 17, 2022, funding request of \$20,000. Carried

Latus: That the correspondence be filed as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the Accounts for Ratification, Payments #1055-1062 in the amount of \$7,700. Carried

Nemish: That we approve the accounts for payment; Cheque No. 32287-32299, and payments #1063-1067 & 10665 in the amount of \$49,390.15. Carried

Bedi: That the Bank Reconciliations for the month of September 2022 be filed as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Financial Statement for the month of September 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the verbal reports be accepted as presented. Carried

Bedi: That Bylaw 545/22 - a bylaw to Incur Debt for Physician Housing be read a first time. Carried

Wingerter: That Bylaw 545/22 - a bylaw to Incur Debt for Physician Housing be read a second time. Carried

Latus: That Bylaw 545/22 - a bylaw to Incur Debt for Physician Housing be given three readings at this meeting. Carried

Council: That Bylaw 545/22 - a bylaw to Incur Debt for Physician Housing be read a third time and finally adopted. Carried

Nemish: That we approve forwarding the outstanding utility accounts past due 90 days as of Nov. 24, 2022, to the Tax Roll as attached to form part of the minutes. Carried

Wingerter: That we charge SARCS for 50 per cent of the Civic Center rental to cover the caretaker wages and utility costs for the Community Christmas Party (Festival of

Treats) on Dec. 2, 2022. Carried

Wingerter: That we ratify the decision to hire Sue Kahl as the SARCS full time Events and Recreation Assistant for the maternity leave position at a rate of \$20/hour effective Oct. 17, 2022. Carried

Latus: That this meeting be adjourned at 7:53 p.m. and that the next meeting of Spiritwood Town Council be held at 7 p.m. on Nov. 8, 2022. Carried

### Nov. 8

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held in the Council Chambers at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street, on Nov. 8, 2022, at 7 p.m.

In attendance were, Deputy Mayor Jim Bedi, Councillor Brad Nemish, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor Ragnar Latus, Councillor George Pretli, Assistant Administrator Brenda Beaulac, and Administrator Rhonda Saam.

A quorum being present, Deputy Mayor James Bedi called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented to form part of the minutes. Carried

Wingerter: That the minutes of the Oct. 25, 2022, council meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Nemish: That the correspondence be filed as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the Accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 32300 to 32303 and Payments #1068 to 1089 in the amount of \$45,870.23. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the accounts for payment; Cheque No. 32304 to 32331, and payments #1090 to 1093 in the amount of \$101,707.81. Carried

Latus: That the verbal reports be accepted as presented. Carried

Councillor Bryan Wingerter contacted all the out-of-town residents regarding snow removal services.

Nemish: That we ratify the appointments of Jim Bedi and Gary von Holwede as the Town Elected Official appointments on the SARCS board as of Oct 26, 2022. Carried

Pretli: That we approve the funding request from SARCS of \$60,000 for general operation expenses. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve Lottery License #220062-021 for the Spiritwood High School Grad Toy Bingo. Carried

Nemish: That this meeting be adjourned at 7:22 p.m. and that the next meeting of Spiritwood Town Council be held at 7 p.m. on Nov. 22, 2022.

## 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 12 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 - 4:30 pm; Wednesday 3 pm - 7pm; Friday 10:30 am - 4:30 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.

**SHELLBROOK & AREA:** Christmas Hampers (Shellbrook, Parkside Holbein, Mont Nebo & Canwood) Those requesting Christmas Food Hampers, pick up an application form from any church, Bigway or Parkside General Store. Complete the form and *make sure* the application is sent to: Ministerial Association Food Bank, PO Box 97, Holbein, Sask., SoJ 1Go, post marked by Dec. 11, 2022 (no later). Hamper pick-up: December 20, 5:30 - 7:30. Phone Dave Bodvarson 306-747-7235 or Dave Whalley 306-747-2804.

**SHELLBROOK:** Time to get LIT! Register your home for the *Twinkle Tour* by December 8: shellbrooktwinkletour@gmail.com Tour: December 10. \$300 - 1st place, \$200 2nd place, \$100 3rd place.

**SHELLBROOK:** Kinette Club of Shellbrook & Shellbrook Recreation - *Santa Fun Day* - Saturday, December 10 from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm at the Shellbrook Community Hall. Pictures with Santa, Christmas Crafts, Cookie Decorating, Santa Letter Writing, Hot Chocolate. Please bring a non-perishable food item.

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# Minutes of an R.M. of Leask meeting

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

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 held in the Leask Community Hall on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2022.

Council Meeting was called to order by Reeve Craig Hamilton at 9 a.m.

Present were Acting Reeve Craig Hamilton, Administrator Riannon Nelson and the following Council members: Keith Junk - Division No. 1, Real Diehl - Division No. 2, Gordon Stieb - Division No. 3, Joan Sanftleben - Division 4, Matthew McNeice - Division 5, and Clarke Gossen - Division No. 6.

Gossen: That we acknowledge Matthew McNeice Division 5 Councillor elected by acclamation in the 2022 by-election. Carried

Junk: That the oath of office by Councillor Matthew McNeice be accepted. Carried

Diehl: That the minutes of the Aug. 17, 2022, Regular Council Meeting be approved as presented. Carried

Stieb: That the minutes of the Aug. 24, 2022, Special Council Meeting be approved as presented. Carried

Sanftleben: That the minutes of the Sept. 22, 2022, Special Council Meeting be approved as presented. Carried

A Conflict of Interest was declared by Reeve Hamilton, Councillor Junk, Councillor Diehl, Councillor Sanftleben and Councillor Gossen.

McNeice: That regarding the Code of Ethics complaint #1-2022, Council delegates the authority to appoint an investigator to the Designated Officer. Carried

Gossen: That Council Indemnity be approved for payment as presented for September and October. Carried

Junk: That we approve the payments as listed on the attached "List of Accounts for Approval" for a total of \$518,470.31, Council Indemnity for September, Payroll Di-

rect Deposit for Pay Periods 16 & 17 for 2022. Carried

Diehl: That we approve the payments as listed on the attached "List of Accounts for Approval" for a total of \$139,924.71, Council Indemnity for October, Payroll Direct Deposit for Pay Periods 18 & 19 for 2022. Carried

Stieb: That we receive the Bank Reconciliation for August 2022. Carried

Sanftleben: That we receive the Bank Reconciliation for September 2022. Carried

McNeice: That we approve the Statement of Financial Activities for August 2022. Carried

Gossen: That we approve the Statement of Financial Activities for September 2022. Carried

Junk: That we acknowledge the Administrator's call for the first meeting of Council to be held on Nov. 10, 2022. Carried

Diehl: That we set Nov. 10, 2022, at 9:15 a.m. for the Bylaw 5-2022, Public Hearing at the Leask Municipal Office located at 231 1st Ave South in Leask, SK. Carried

Stieb: That we set Nov. 10, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. for the Bylaw 4-2022, Public Hearing at the Leask Municipal Office located at 231 1st Ave South in Leask, SK. Carried

Sanftleben: That Bylaw 06-2022 attached hereto and forming a part of these minutes, being a bylaw of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 to repeal bylaws, now be read the first time. Carried

McNeice: That Bylaw 06-2022 attached hereto and forming a part of these minutes, being a bylaw of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 to repeal bylaws, now be read the second time. Carried

Gossen: That we agree to give third reading of Bylaw 06-2022 at this meeting. Carried

Junk: That Bylaw 06-2022 attached hereto and forming a part of these minutes, being a bylaw of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 to repeal bylaws, now be read the third time and adopted. Carried

Diehl: That we advise the Community Planning Branch of the Ministry of Government Relations that we recommend approval of the Application to Subdivide Land of Jaran Farms, Leask, Sask., for the purpose of subdividing Parcel A from the NE 19-47-05 W3 as the site exceeds the minimum site area requirements of Section 5 of the Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2-2020. Carried

Stieb: That the administrator report be accepted as presented. Carried

Sanftleben: Be it resolved Council acknowledges an application to the Ministry of Government Relations' for approval of potential funding in the amount of \$25,000 from the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative Cost-Shared Grant for future capacity building in partnership with the following municipal partners: R.M. of Great Bend No. 405, RM of Mayfield No. 406, RM of Meeting Lake No. 466, RM of Blaine Lake No. 434, RM of Round Hill No. 467, RM of Redberry No. 435, RM of Spiritwood No. 496, RM of Leask No. 464, and RM of Medstead No. 497.

Be it further resolved Council commits to fund the pro-rated portion of 25 per cent municipal contribution amount;

And be it further resolved Council authorizes the Administrator to execute the funding agreement should it be approved by the Ministry. Carried

McNeice: That we apply for a credit card in the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 for Jayson Smith for Rural Municipality business. Carried

Gossen: That we contact Butler to arrange to have them complete our top cut on our main roads. Carried

Junk: That we authorize the weed inspector to address the Toad Flax weed on the Meadow Grove Road and we acknowledge this will be over the 2022 budgeted figure. Carried

Diehl: That we agree to a Regional Emergency Operations Committee with the purpose

being to create a regional EMO coordinator. Carried

Stieb: That we acknowledge the letter received from Julia Lamontagne regarding the D'Amour Road proposed name change. Carried

Sanftleben: That we send a registered letter to Christine Melnyk notifying her that her behavior towards RM staff was inappropriate on Aug. 26, 2022. All communications in the future shall be directed through her division Councillor. Carried

McNeice: That we instruct the Administrator to make application to Affinity Credit Union for Business Online Banking for customizable access and audit controls to better manage our accounts and added security. Carried

Gossen: That we offer the position of Superintendent of Public Works to Jayson Smith at \$45.00 per hour during a 3-month probation period then increasing to \$48.00 per hour. The use of the RM truck with fuel card and four weeks holiday. Carried

Junk: That we designate Leask Happy Homesteaders Hall at 231 A 1st Ave South, Leask, SK as the polling place for the 2022 Municipal Elections. Carried

Diehl: That upon consultations with Municipal Advisory Services and SARM Legal, we amend the election Procedure Policy for the Organized Hamlet of Pelican Cove to follow Section 25 of The Municipalities Regulations. Carried

Stieb: That we authorize all of Council and the Administrator to attend the Mid Term Convention in Saskatoon Nov. 16 and 17, 2022, with voting delegates being Councillor Gossen and Councillor Diehl. Carried

Sanftleben: That we send a letter of support for the Rural Municipality of Blaine Lake No. 434 to Premier Moe requesting increased funding for the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program. Carried

McNeice: That we appoint Sheila Kiszka as a Nomination

Officer (in the absence of the Returning Officer). Carried

Gossen: That we send the current union contract to SARM Legal for review before negotiations begin this fall. Carried

Junk: That we send a letter of support for the Redberry Lake Biosphere region expansion. Carried

Diehl: That we reimburse Sandra Evans for cutting grass on municipal reserve in Island View for the amount of \$250. Carried

Stieb: That we recognize Employee Erin Robertson's 7 years of service with the Village of Canwood. Carried

Sanftleben: That we acknowledge the information provided by Patricia Henbid regarding her dock and send a letter of response. Carried

Gossen: That we send our employees to Dwayne Tanchuk for Power Mobile Equipment training. Carried

Junk: That regarding SE 14-46-04 W3 converting to reserve status we notify Beardy's & Okemasis' Cree Nation that there is a cemetery located on the property. Carried

Diehl: That we purchase a used A-Frame with new cylinder from Capital I Industries as per quote 5998KI for Unit #16. Carried

Stieb: That we authorize the purchase of 2 One-Way Snow Plow from Capital I Industries as per Quote 5984KI in the amount of \$73,000 plus applicable taxes with January 2023 delivery. Carried

Sanftleben: That the Superintendent of Public Works written and verbal reports be accepted as presented. Carried

McNeice: That we tender the Western Star Tandem truck with a close date of Nov. 9, 2022. Tenders will be opened at the Nov. 10, 2022, council meeting with the highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Carried

Gossen: That the correspondence be received and filed. Carried

Junk: That this meeting be adjourned at 2:18 p.m. Carried

What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

## Argos' Grey Cup victory a boost for CFL

Talk about the Winnipeg Blue Bombers ensuring their dynasty status with a third-straight Grey Cup victory — and that talk would certainly have been expanded upon in this space — was short-circuited by the Toronto Argonauts at Mosaic Stadium in Regina Nov. 21, bringing to an end quite an eventful Canadian Football League season.

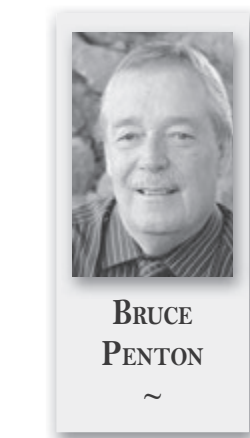
The Bombers, dominant all season and 33-7 in the last three years, counting playoff games, are still the model teams strive to emulate, but a blocked field goal by the Argos in the dying seconds gave Toronto a 24-23 victory in an exciting season finale. Argos' backup QB Chad Kelly replaced McLeod Bethel-Thompson in the second half, and was pinpoint sharp in his passing and evasive while on the run. The highlight for the Bombers was a 102-yard punt return for a TD by Janarion Grant.

Having the Argonauts win the Grey Cup is a

positive for the CFL, which needs all the attention it can get from Canada's largest city, where the Maple Leafs, Blue Jays, and Raptors dominate the sporting scene. Still, with Toronto-based TSN having rights to every CFL game, one would think the promotion by the network would be excessive. Sadly, it's not, as TSN tends to go overboard on promoting the National Football League, shunting the CFL to the lower shelf.

However, the CFL appears to be on the rise. Remember the 2021 talk about Dwayne (The Rock) Johnson spearheading a group which wanted to incorporate the CFL into a proposed XFL? That didn't fly, thankfully, and the CFL has done quite well on its own, thank you very much.

While Most Outstanding Player Zach Collaros and the Bombers dominated the regular season, the biggest story of 2022 was written by a quarterback from On-



BRUCE  
PENTON

tario, Nathan Rourke, who almost overnight became the face of the league. Rourke — a rarity as a Canadian QB — was named starting quarterback of the B.C. Lions after Michael Reilly retired at the end of last season, and almost immediately became a folk hero — in B.C. at least. The Lions, who were 5-9 and 5-13 in their two previous seasons (2020 was wiped out), posted an 8-1 record in their first nine games (the Lions surpassed the 40-point mark in four of those wins) before Rourke suffered a foot injury in a game against Saskatchewan on Aug. 19.

He missed two months before starting the last regular-season game of the year. Rourke still finished with 28 touchdown passes and rushed for 329 yards (8.1 yards per carry) and was named the league's Top Canadian player.

As a Canadian by birth, but schooled in football at Ohio University, Rourke has garnered more than a little interest from NFL teams. He reportedly worked out with a couple of them in November and while CFL fans would love to see him succeed at the highest level, they'd also love to see him perform his magic for the next few years north of the border.

• Taking a shot at beer quality, Late Show host Stephen Colbert, on the Budweiser announcement that its warehouse full of beer, after the Qatar government banned stadium suds' sales, would go to the winning country: "Now why would you ruin their celebration like that?"

• Headline at the Brit-

ish newspaper iSport, after England and the U.S. played to a 0-0 World Cup tie: "Football o Soccer o"

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha: "Happy Thanksgiving. This year I'm thankful for the Indiana, Rutgers and North Dakota football programs or else the Nebraska Cornhuskers would be about to finish 0-12."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "At the World Cup, I don't want to say the FIFA referees are corrupt, but they wear a coin machine on their belts to make correct change for on-field bribes."

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "Do you think Abraham Lincoln would have declared Thanksgiving a national holiday if he had known it would mean the Lions play every year?"

• Columnist Norman Chad, on Twitter: "If Gisele had filed for divorce from Tom Brady during a Buccaneers game, she would've gotten flagged for roughing

the passer."

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "Winnipeg kicker Marc Liegghio missed his last convert in the Grey Cup, which the Blue Bombers lost by one point. Note to the Bombers: Liegghio ... Let him go."

• Headline at theonion.com: "British World Cup Attendees Accused Of Smuggling Alcohol Into Stadium Through Bloodstreams"

• Headline at fark.com: "Ronaldo becomes first man to score in five World Cups. He also scored a goal in each of them."

• Another fark.com offering: "England vs. U.S.A. World Cup match is serious business. The loser has to keep James Corden."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "The U.S. men played to 1-1 (Wales) and 0-0 (England) ties in World Cup pool play. Hey, if at first you don't succeed, tie, tie again."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

## Elks split pair of weekend games

The Parkland U18 AA Elks capped off a busy week of hockey with a Friday night home game against the West Central Wheat Kings, and a trip to North Battleford to face the North West Stars.

Fresh off two losses during the week, the Elks were hoping for a return to the win column. As has been the case for much of the 2022-2023 regular season campaign, the weekend brought a mixed bag of a win and a loss.

### Elks (4) vs Kings (3)

Having already bested the Wheat Kings in their first meeting of the season, the Elks came into Friday night's game at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre knowing they had what it takes to win. And they proved it near the midway point of the first period, when Corvan Stewart opened the scoring on an assist from Bronson Parker.

The Wheat Kings had an answer just a few minutes later, in the form of a goal from Dawson Rusk, assisted by Hudson Bretzer. However, the Elks managed to remain just one step ahead, thanks to a goal from Cody Morash. Kendon Skalicky and Brendan Aug assisted on the goal.

Continuing the back-and-forth well into the second period, it was the Wheat Kings' turn to get on the board and knot the game up at 2-2. Emerson Cey tallied, with an assist from Bretzer. And late in the period, the Elks' reclaimed their lead

on a goal from Kaiden Couture, assisted by Luke Evans and Chase Hansen.

Early in the third period, Evans gave the Elks the insurance marker they needed with a helper from Kamden Shewchuk, and a rare assist for goaltender Hunter Nakonechny.

With an assist from Austin Burton, The Kings' Jace Reichert would pull his team back within one just a couple minutes later, but the Elks hung on for dear life to skate away with a 4-3 victory.

### Elks (1) vs Stars (3)

Having squeaked out a win against the Wheat Kings on home ice Friday night, the Elks travelled to North Battleford on Sunday afternoon looking to keep the momentum going against the North West Stars. In the end, penalties may have been the only thing that kept them from doing so.

The game was too close to call, until an Elks penalty allowed the Stars' Caleb Pockrant to draw first blood for his team, with assists from Hayden Meszaros and Tyson Ziegler. The power play was also a boon for the Elks, however, allowing Luke Evans to tie things up at 1-1 on assists from Brody Anderson and Colton Sommerfeld.

Though getting shots on goal didn't prove to be a problem for either team throughout the game, the next goal, scored by the Stars, didn't come until after the halfway point of the second period. Once again, it came on the power play in the form of a goal by Meszaros. Devante Pratt and Pockrant earned assists on the play.

Though the Elks tightened up their defences and played a cleaner game through the final period, their power

play failed to make the most of the two opportunities it was given. Even pulling the goalie in the final minutes of play didn't tip the scales in the favour of the Elks, instead allowing Pratt to score an empty netter with one second remaining on the clock to put the Stars up 3-1. Pockrant and Meszaros assisted on the goal.

With the win and the loss (after their two losses during the week), the Elks now sit at 6-9-1-0 on the season, good enough to keep them in ninth place in the Centre Four Conference standings.

The Elks will continue to be busy as the Christmas season approaches, playing a pair of home games against North East and the Saskatoon Sabercats on Thursday and Friday night, respectively, before hitting the road for a Sunday showdown with the North West Stars.

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## GOOD NEWS

### NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES

“Not forsaking the assembling together of ourselves as is the custom with some, but encouraging one another, and so much more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:25)

The writer of Hebrews, by writing this verse, is saying; Some evidently had stopped attending services. Maybe due to persecution we are not told.

The writer of Hebrews in this verse, when talking about assembling together, is referring to the local, physical gathering of believers. Notice the emphasis in this verse is on not what a believer gets from the assembly, but rather what he can contribute to an assembly.

Faithfulness through church attendance, someone pointed out, “encourages others and provokes them to love and good works.”

One strong motive for faithfulness is the coming of Christ.

I read since 1946 church attendance has been on decline. Some suggest we are competing with things like kids’ sports schedules, or the cottage on the weekend. Now, in this age we are living through, people can watch church on demand at their convenience.

The word church, or in Greek, *Ekklesia*, simply means “called out ones.”

I read recently why church is important.

1. Well, you become part of a community. It is a big family.

2. It is a loyal community “Regardless of what you’ve done or what you may be going through, the Christian family has a proven history of not giving up on people, no matter their past or present.”

3. We become part of the greatest humanitarian non-profit movement this world has ever seen. Tom Morris put it this way “We (the church) are the only organization on the planet that exists for the benefit of its non-members.” Indeed, churches have spear headed orphanages, hospitals, schools and universities.

4. Church helps to develop “inner and outer being.” It has been put this way, “No other place on the planet develops character and morality like the church does.”

5. Last but not least, church is a place where we experience God.

Blessings,  
Pastor D. Bodvarson, SPA

## Changes reduce barriers for out-of-province workers

Minister of Immigration and Career Training Jeremy Harrison announced new, comprehensive regulations that reduce administrative credential recognition barriers faced by workers from other provinces and those trained internationally, enabling them to work in regulated occupations in Saskatchewan more quickly.

“Under these regulations, regulatory bodies will have 50 days to assess an internationally trained applicant’s training, experience, and qualifications and indicate if they are qualified to work in Saskatchewan or what specific steps they need to take to become qualified,” Harrison said in a statement. “Additionally, workers certified in other provinces or territories will receive recognition of their certification within 20 days. These will be the fastest processing times in Canada.”

Saskatchewan has incredible opportunities in nearly all regulated occupations. The introduction of these regulations will reduce the red tape and regulatory burden associated with the assessment of credentials in these oc-

cupations, allowing individuals to begin working sooner here in the province.

“I hear from employers every day that the biggest challenge they are facing is an acute labour market shortage. These changes will directly reduce the impact this has on Saskatchewan by expanding the talent pools and increasing the human resources necessary to support the continuing growth of our province,” Harrison said.

The regulations, entitled The Labour Mobility and Fair Registration Practices Regulations, were brought in under The Labour Mobility and Fair Registration Practices Act, which was introduced earlier this year. Examples of regulated occupations include: professional engineers; physicians; surgeons; lawyers; teachers; and registered nurses.

The province is also developing the International Credential Recognition Grant (ICRG) to assist newcomers with foreign qualification recognition costs required to obtain licensure. Providing up to \$6,000 per application,

this program will target internationally trained, health care workers who already reside in Saskatchewan but have been unable to obtain licensure. By implementing aggressive timelines and providing navigation and financial supports for internationally trained newcomers, Saskatchewan is becoming a top destination of choice for skilled workers.

With the Government of Saskatchewan’s Health Human Resources (HHR) Action Plan showing solid progress, these regulatory changes will improve the pathway for internationally educated healthcare professionals to transition to Saskatchewan. In November, the Minister of Health, officials from the Saskatchewan Health Authority, and the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training participated in an HHR-based mission to the Philippines to attract health care professionals to the province.

Further details for prospective international applications are available online at: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/jobs-working-and-training/labour-mobility>.

## OBITUARY

### Elayne Kirsten Tarzwell



Elayne Kirsten Tarzwell  
November 10, 1941 –  
November 29, 2022

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Elayne Kirsten Tarzwell on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, after a short, but courageous battle with cancer. She was 81 at the time of her passing.

Elayne was born on November 10, 1941 in Canwood, Saskatchewan to Amil and Gertrude Grimm. After the death of her cherished father, Elayne moved with her mother and siblings to Parkside, Saskatchewan, which is the place she always considered home.

After a precocious childhood on the Canadian prairies, Elayne entered the Misericordia

School of Nursing in Edmonton, Alberta in 1962. After graduating from the University of Alberta in 1965, she moved to Fairview, Alberta where she began a long and storied career as a public health, hospital, and doctor’s office nurse. In 1991 the family relocated to Didsbury, Alberta, where Elayne again held a variety of nursing positions.

Along with her professional career, that included being a member of the Fairview Hospital Board, Elayne selflessly volunteered her time with the Kinnettes, Girl Guides of Canada, Canadian Cancer Society, and Eastern Star. She was also an avid curler, downhill skier, hockey/baseball mom, and later in life began to hike in the Rocky Mountains.

It was in Fairview where Elayne met and married her beloved husband Donald Bryce Tarzwell in 1966. They had their daughter Heather Dawn in 1969 who was followed by their first son Bryce Donald in 1972.

Their second son, Kirby Amiel, was born in 1979. Nothing brought Elayne more joy than her

grandchildren. Granddaughters Emerson and Saylor were born in 2001, and grandsons Kane and Kable were born in 2003 and 2013, respectively.

Elayne was predeceased by her father Amil Grimm in 1953, brother Alfred Grimm in 1981, brother Maurice Grimm in 1982, mother Gertrude Grimm in 1994, sister Vivian Martin in 2000, and sister Norma Grimm in 2007. She is survived by her husband Donald Tarzwell, daughter Heather Tarzwell, granddaughter Emerson Dubé, grandson Kane Dubé, son Bryce Tarzwell, daughter-in-law Marcia Tarzwell, granddaughter Saylor Tarzwell, grandson Kable Tarzwell, son Kirby Tarzwell, and daughter-in-law Gabrielle White.

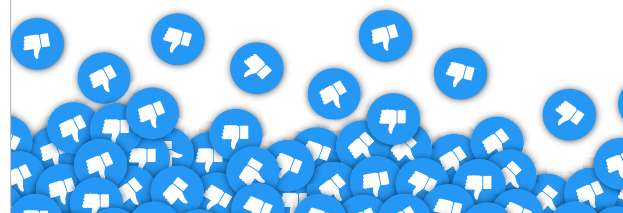
A yet to be scheduled memorial will be held for Elayne in Parkside, Saskatchewan. If friends desire, memorial tributes can be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Heartland Funeral Services Olds entrusted with arrangements. Condolences may be made or viewed at [heartlandfuneralservices.com](http://heartlandfuneralservices.com)

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#### CORRECTION

In the Dec. 1st edition of the Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald, in Benny Bittner’s obituary it read “Benny was predeceased by a brother-in-law – William Schapansky” which should have read “William Donald”. Beau “Lac” Funeral Home apologizes for the error.

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The family of Lietta Adrian would like to thank everyone for their support in the past month upon Lee's passing. Thank you for the phone calls, visits, gifts of food and flowers, and offers of condolence. We appreciate the kind services of Tammy Smart and the staff at Beau 'Lac' Funeral Home. Thank you also to Pastor Dave Whalley for his thoughtful service, to Neil Zentner and Jaxx Duerksen for their gift of music, and to the Canwood Legion ladies for the delicious lunch. Sincerely, Lietta's family.

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## How to care for your poinsettia

By Jackie Bantle

Many special occasions have particular flowers or plants associated with them. Christmas is no exception. The poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*) has been linked with Christmas celebrations in North America for the past century.

The poinsettia occurs naturally in northwest areas of Mexico and can be found growing wild in deciduous tropical forests along the western coast of Central America as far south as Guatemala. The 'blooming red flower' is not a true flower but rather a collection of colored bracts or modified leaves. The bracts change from green to red when the consecutive daylight hours each day are less than 12. The actual flowers of the poinsettia are the small yellow structures in the center of the leaf bracts at the growing point of the plant.

The poinsettia was named after Joel Roberts Poinsett, the first U.S. foreign minister to Mexico. On his return home to South Carolina in 1829, he brought back cuttings of the native poinsettias to grow in his greenhouse. At the turn of the 20th century, Albert Ecke started field cultivation of poinsettias near Los Angeles, California, selling dormant plants to his customers. In 1919 Albert's son, Paul Ecke Sr., took over the farm and started selling them as cut flowers at roadside stands in Hollywood and Beverly Hills. By 1963, Paul Ecke Jr. had joined his father in the poinsettia business and developed the first commercial quality poinsettia cultivars grown in pots. Paul Ecke Sr. became known as "The Poinsettia King".

When selecting your poinsettia, choose a healthy plant with sturdy branches. Ensure that the true yellow flowers are present. Never purchase one that is displayed with a paper or plastic sleeve around it as plants that have been sleeved too long lose their leaves prematurely.

Transporting poinsettias home in the winter can be challenging. Wrap the poinsettia in a paper or plastic sleeve surrounded by newspaper and place it in an inflated closed plastic bag. The extra air helps insulate it. Take it home in a warm vehicle. Once home, remove the plastic and paper wrapping as soon as possible. Place

your poinsettia in an area with bright, filtered light – not direct sunlight. Avoid exposing it to warm or cold drafts. Poinsettias prefer temperatures between 19-22°C.

Water poinsettias sparingly but thoroughly once the top 1-2 cm of the media is dry. Do not allow them to completely dry out, but never let them sit in water. Allow the excess water to drain from the pot. If you decide to keep your poinsettia as a house plant, fertilize it once a month with a soluble fertilizer low in nitrogen and high in phosphorous.

As the days become longer, the new bracts that emerge will be green in colour. To initiate colored bracts for the next Christmas season, place it in a dark location for a minimum of 12 hours each day beginning in September. This 12 hour 'dark period' must be completely uninterrupted by light. By early November, new colored bracts will start appearing.

Some people avoid purchasing poinsettias because they are said to be poisonous. While the plant sap can be irritating to people and pets, it is not poisonous. Studies have shown that a 20 kg dog or child would have to eat between 500-600 bracts or drink a 2kg of the sap before it would be toxic. The sap is very bitter so if a pet or child started to eat the plant, the bitter taste would turn them away from further consumption.

Whether it is the traditional red poinsettia or one of the newer pink, peach or speckled types, with proper care you'll enjoy your poinsettia throughout the Christmas season and beyond.

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



Red poinsettia bracts with tiny yellow flowers.  
Photo Credit: Jackie Bantle.



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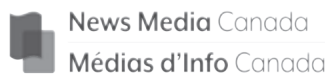
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# Carol Festival makes holly jolly return in Shellbrook

**Continued from 1**

The show took a comedic turn when it resumed after the intermission, as Myron Wall and Jody Smart performed a Christmas gift skit, then Lauren Cromartie returned to the stage (accompanied by Dave Hjertaas on the keys) to sing “Christmas in Kilarney”.

Continuing with the show, Dean Person lent his guitar stylings and voice to “White Christmas” and an original tune called “Snow”. And finally, Val Wonderham closed out the show with “Star in the East” and “Silver Bells”, with accompaniment by Janet Gray and guest vocals from Kim Zawislak and Debbie Helm.

As has become tradition, the show concluded with the performers gathering on stage to serenade the audience with “We Wish You a Merry Christmas”. At the same time, Santa Claus made a special appearance to hand out gifts to the performers (graciously donated by Lake Country Co-op).

The Shellbrook & District Arts Council held its first meeting on Oct. 13, 1987, making this not only the 35th anniversary for the Carol Festival but for the organization as a whole. Arts

Council member Judy Hjertaas reflected on the council’s history and humble beginnings, starting with when it booked Sylvia Tyson to play the Shellbrook Theatre with no money.

That same year, the Carol Festival was born out of the need to raise funds, and that seed money has allowed the Arts Council to carry out all of its many projects over the years, while also giving back to the community.

As the Arts Council has gotten back in the swing of things post-COVID, one of its recent acts of community service was a \$1,000 donation to Shellbrook Elementary School. This donation will allow the school to take in the Broadway North Youth Company’s production of *Beauty and the Beast* at Prince Albert’s EA Rawlinson Centre.

“Everybody gets the opportunity to see what is out there, and how amazing it is to go to live productions. And it may influence what they do with the rest of their lives, being able to attend such things,” Hjertaas said.

Hjertaas also teased upcoming donations to WP Sandin High School, and the long-term care facility at Parkland Integrated Health Centre.



The Shellbrook & District Accordion Group and guests, from left to right: Lauren Cromartie, Myron Wall, Larry Brossart, Leo Stieb, and Dave Hjertaas.



Janaya Fuller showcased her vocal and instrumental skills on two numbers.



Cyndi Aarestad closed out the first act with a couple of holiday tunes.



The Schutte Family performed a pair of songs. In no order: Leslie, Diana, Jaden, Sadie, Rebecca, and Leeland.



Though singing lead isn’t normally his thing, Dean Person lent both his guitar and his voice to a pair of tunes.



Madison and Lydia Graham perform “O Holy Night”.



Myron Wall and Jody Smart brought some comedy to the show, with a skit about the latest “smart-phone”.



A select group of Kerri English’s more experienced students perform a tune before being joined by the full group.



Closing out this year’s Carol Festival, Kim Zawislak, Val Wonderham, and Debbie Helm sing “Silver Bells”.