



## Shellbrook remembers veterans' courage, sacrifice



Alex Taylor lays a wreath on behalf of Shellbrook Elementary School.

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Courage and sacrifice were honoured in Shellbrook on Nov. 10 and 11, as members of the Shellbrook Legion, local schools, and the entire community, found ways to come together to observe Remembrance Day.

### School Ceremonies

Maintaining a new tradition that started in 2022, the staff and students of both Shellbrook Elementary School and WP Sandin High School united for a joint Remembrance Day ceremony on Friday, Nov. 10, filling the high school's gymnasium with the spirit of remembrance.

The high school's ceremony opened with kindergarten students being piped into the gym by bagpiper Dave Hjertaas, who then marched and piped Shellbrook Legion members and attending RCMP officers to their

seats of honour at the front.

Following opening remarks from pastor David Bodvarson, the high school's choir sang "A Million Dreams" from The Greatest Showman to offer a message of hope to all in attendance, and a handful of students were called up to the stage to read their Remembrance Day poetry.

Speaking on behalf of the Shellbrook Legion later in the ceremony, Henri Dagenais shared a few words about Canada's history of being involved with conflicts, from the War of 1812 up to the War in Afghanistan, to highlight the enduring importance of Remembrance Day.

"Some people in Canada are saying that World War Two veterans are dying, and we do Remembrance Day for them, so when they're dead, we should stop Remembrance Day," he said. "This is totally false."

As the ceremony continued, stu-

dents, staff members, and guests from the community were called upon to lay poppies and wreaths in honour of local veterans (and all veterans), and WP Sandin principal Tyler Kuzma closed out the morning with some final remarks.

"Like the majority of us, personally, I have not had to sacrifice anything for the freedoms that we enjoy today. They have been given to us," he said.

"Today, and this coming Saturday, Nov. 11, are days which are valued in our school, and within our community, to honour and remember the brave men and women who fought for our freedom, and give thanks to the men and women who serve today for our continued peace here at home."

### Remembrance Day

The spirit of remembrance remained strong on Saturday morning, when the Shellbrook Theatre was filled with veterans, legion members,

RCMP officers, community members, and dignitaries, all wishing to pay tribute to those who have died for, served, and continue to serve Canada.

This year marked a return to tradition, after the COVID-19 pandemic forced the ceremony to be moved outside and abbreviated for the past three years. With the return to the Shellbrook Theatre, Remembrance Day was observed with all its traditional pomp and circumstance.

The morning began with the presentation of the colours, which was called for by Legion president Helen Dagenais. Then came the procession of honoured legion members and RCMP officers, led by the bagpipers Dave Hjertaas and Kim Bradley and drummer Myron Wall, followed by a rendition of "O Canada" sung by all in attendance.

*Continued on page 2*

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# Shellbrook remembers veterans' courage, sacrifice

**Continued from 1**

The ceremony continued with the invocational prayer from pastor David Bodvarson, the singing of the hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness" by the Helm Family Singers, scripture lessons from St. Agatha's Church and St. Andrew's Anglican Church, and a sermon delivered by Emmanuel Aristide, who focused on the poppy as a symbol of remembrance.

"The poppy was adopted to become the symbol to remember all those who have fought in the first and second World Wars, and all armed conflicts since then," he said. "It's also to remember the blood shed by many soldiers who never

got to come home, those who came home deeply wounded and forever changed by the atrocities they had witnessed, and, above all, to the hope of an eventual end to all wars, everywhere and forever."

"We proudly and humbly wear our poppies. We remember them," he concluded.

In a brief deviation from the agenda, the Remembrance Day ceremony saw Shellbrook Legion vice president Maurice Tanchuk honoured with a Quilt of Valour for his years of service with the RCMP.

Also following the sermon, pastor Randall McLeod led the theatre in a recitation of the Lord's Prayer, pastor

Bodvarson provided the benediction, the Last Post was played, and a wave of silence was observed before David Hjertaas played the lament.

In keeping with tradition, the honour roll of local men and women who have served was read by Nancy Carswell, and after this the Helm Family Singers performed "Danny Boy."

The morning's ceremony also included the traditional laying of the wreaths, and the singing of "God Save the King," before the colours were retired to conclude the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, a lunch was served at the Shellbrook Legion Hall, allowing for time to visit and socialize.



Bagpiper Dave Hjertaas leads Shellbrook Legion members into the WP Sandin High School gym for the schools' Remembrance Day ceremony.



Legion member Anthony Rousseau lays a wreath in honour of his fallen comrades during the Remembrance Day ceremony.



Legion president Helen Dagenais presents vice president Maurice Tanchuk with a Quilt of Valour in honour of his service with the RCMP.



Josee and Ayli Schatkoske lay a poppy in honour of a local veteran.

## Main Street Gallery welcomes new exhibit

By BEVRA FEE  
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

Now in its seventh year of hosting local artist's exhibits, the Main Street Gallery in Spiritwood opened its newest show with works from Chris Hodge. Titled "Landscape Figures," the newest installation is



Artist Chris Hodge (right) guides viewer Laura Beauchesne through "Landscape Figures."

one of abstract art by the North Battleford artist.

With a focus on acrylic for the exhibit, Hodge also creates abstract sculptures in clay and other mediums.

A product of Hamilton, Ont., Hodge spent his career in computer programming before retiring into his passion for art. Primarily an abstract painter, influenced by the simple yet deep texture of his prairie surroundings, Hodge has spent the last five years



Artist and guests engaged in a discussion of art influences and interpretation.

investigating figure work and portraits as an extension of the abstracted landscape. In his paintings, colour simplicity and the depth of layers are a primary concern.

A cozy audience gathered for the opening night reception and artist's talk on Nov. 10, making for an intimate visit through a question-and-answer format.

The Main Street Gallery is free to the public and is located at 216 Main Street.

"Landscape Figures" will run until February 2024.



Opening night guest Ali Sullivan evaluates the exhibit.

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# Spiritwood observes Remembrance Day

By **BEVRA FEE**  
*Spiritwood Herald Reporter*

Spiritwood's Remembrance Day service made its way back to being a fully open public service on Nov. 11, 2023. The evolution post-pandemic saw a half-hour service hosted in the Legion Hall, with memorials set up for veterans and service people, including not only wreaths, but photos of

those who saw active duty and peace-time duty.

Starting at 10:45 a.m., the ceremony began with a welcome message and opening prayer from officiant Delores Beaulac, followed by the marching in of the colour guard and the Last Post with two minutes of silence.

Eighty people filled the Legion Hall nearly to capacity, as Beaulac led the Remembrance

Day service through the Legion Prayer and the laying of poppies at the wreath monument, while the names of local service people were read aloud.

Following the service, the Legion hosted a luncheon where those in attendance enjoyed the opportunity to visit and enjoy the freedom of fellowship. Several new Legion members were on hand to assist with the service this year, including Ray Trach, Troy Blixrud, and Tyler Primeau – all now three years in.

During the week leading up to Remembrance Day, local businesswoman Elaine Robinson created a window display at her long-time family business. Martodam Family Retail, with items on loan from Ken and Bonnie Wasden, showcased a tribute to local soldier Dustin Wasden, who was killed in Kandahar, Afghanistan in 2008 at the age of 25.

Robinson has been a long-time champion of the Spiritwood Legion, but this was the first Remembrance Day where she dedicated a window display to recognize the sacrifice of a local hero.

"I plan to do this every year. I think it is important to really understand and honour the people from this community who lost their lives for our freedoms," commented Robinson.



A window display at local Main Street business, Martodam Family Retail, in honour of Cpl. Dustin Wasden.



Many wreaths were adorned with photos of loved ones lost in service to their country.



Legion Member George Pretli begins the poppy-laying ceremony, while Delores Beaulac officiates the service.



Legion member Troy Blixrud enjoys lunch with his family after the service.

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LOT 3-BLK/PAR 15-PLAN BL1818 EXT 0	143484363	1,899.97	461.00	2,360.97
LOT 15-BLK/PAR 21-PLAN 83B14302 EXT 0	136265485	2,105.39	461.00	2,566.39
LOT 6-BLK/PAR 22-PLAN 60B06225 EXT 0	153313815	1,804.99	461.00	2,265.99
LOT 4-BLK/PAR 25-PLAN 60B06225 EXT 0	118863670	11,322.51	461.00	11,783.51
LOT 4-BLK/PAR 26-PLAN 60B06225 EXT 45	136594558	5,547.64	405.00	5,952.64
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## Liberals disorganized, deluded on climate goals

A full three weeks after it was implemented, the three-year carbon tax exemption on home heating oil enacted by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's federal government continues to be a topic of heated discussion (and for good reason).

Last week saw Pierre Poilievre's Conservative Party and Jagmeet Singh's NDP band together in a rare show of unity to call on the government to expand the carbon tax holiday to all forms of home heating.

The motion was defeated by a margin of 186 votes to 135, as Mr. Trudeau's Liberals were joined by the Bloc Québécois in striking it down.

Though it wasn't reported on by all media outlets, what stood out most about the whole affair was the rationale provided by the Bloc MPs who supported Mr. Trudeau's government.

In their own words, they voted against the Conservative-NDP motion because it would have had "no impact in Québec," which doesn't fall under the federal carbon tax regime.

The Bloc MPs would have chosen to support the bill – and made the lives of their fellow Canadians a little easier – with no risk at all to them or their party. They could have proven wrong all those who say Québec is only interested in being part of Canada when it's beneficial.

Instead, they effectively said, "Not my problem. I don't care."

Undaunted by the failure of their first attempt to make the carbon tax exemption on home heating more equitable for all Canadians, the NDP decided to give it a second try with a motion of its own.

Rather than calling for a carbon tax exemption – a clear nonstarter for Mr. Trudeau and his Liberals, who are too deeply entrenched in their policy to back down at this point – the NDP asked for the GST to be removed from home heating.

It doomed the motion, however, by including additional items, such as a policy to make eco-energy retrofits and heat pumps free and easy to access for low-income and middle-class Canadians, regardless of energy source; and a policy to finance these projects by imposing a windfall tax on the excess profits of big oil and gas corporations.

Indeed, the only silver lining to come



JORDAN TWISS  
~  
News Editor

from last week's discussion of the carbon tax actually came from the Senate, which voted to advance Bill C-234 to third reading.

A win for the agriculture sector, the private member's bill, introduced by Conservative MP Ben Lobb, seeks to expand carbon price exemptions for certain fuels used in farming.

Chiefly, the bill will include natural gas and propane as qualifying farming fuels exempt from the carbon tax.

But it will also scrap the carbon tax to heat and cool buildings used for raising livestock or growing crops, as well as on grain drying and feed preparation.

Speaking to the media, Senator Pat Duncan said passing the bill is a means to correct an unfairness in the original carbon tax legislation.

Would that Mr. Trudeau and his government shared Mr. Duncan's concerns about fairness.

While the carbon tax exemption on home heating oil applies nationally, it disproportionately benefits those living in the Atlantic provinces, where Mr. Trudeau's Liberals have seen an erosion of the support that federal Liberal governments have been accustomed to through the years.

In Saskatchewan, as of 2019, less than one per cent of homes used home heating oil. By comparison, 49 per cent of PEI homes, 36 per cent of Nova Scotia homes, and 22 per cent of Newfoundland and Labrador homes relied on home heating oil in 2019.

Enacting a policy that almost exclusively benefits one group of people over another is the essence of unfairness, and yet Mr. Trudeau's government would have Canadians believe the opposite is true.

Noting the high cost of home heating oil, its large carbon footprint, as well as the limited heating options available to those who live rurally (a fact that is just as true in Saskatchewan as it is in the Atlantic provinces), Mr. Trudeau's government says the three year pause on the carbon tax is all about lowering costs for users, and giving them more time to switch to more affordable home heating pumps.

Further, to help homeowners with the costs of switching – a cost of as much as \$20,000, according to Kate Harland, research lead at the Canadian Climate



Institute – the federal government will now provide up to \$15,000 toward the purchase and installation of a heat pump (up from \$10,000).

Adding another layer of unfairness to the policy shift, the boosted rebates are currently only available in the Atlantic provinces, with no timeline for when they'll be made available elsewhere.

But beyond the simple question of fairness, there's also plenty of cause to question whether this change will be the game-changing incentive Mr. Trudeau's government is hoping for.

In this inflationary hellscape Canadians find themselves in, home heating is just one cost centre putting added pressure on people's wallets. As such, fewer Canadians are looking to, and are much less able to, take on large renovation projects.

And odds are, many Atlantic Canadians will be using their carbon tax savings to pay for basic necessities rather than forking out money to change a behaviour that has been made less expensive for (at least) the next three years.

If this proves to be the case, further questions will be raised about the carbon tax exemption's impact on greenhouse gas emissions related directly to home heating.

Despite being the centrepiece of Mr. Trudeau's climate policy playbook, the carbon tax is already delivering negligible reductions in Canada's overall greenhouse gas emissions.

Mr. Trudeau's end goal is for Canada to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050,

after first reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions to 40 to 45 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.

Despite this, it's only achieved modest reductions in emissions through its first eight years in office, and emissions actually climbed in 2020.

Earlier this year, federal environment commissioner Jerry DeMarco's audit of the federal government's 100-plus climate policies showed just how lost in the woods the federal government is on its environmental policy. It found the government has no idea which of its policies are producing any results.

More troubling, still, a new audit released by DeMarco's office just last week found the numbers just aren't adding up for the federal government to reach its 2030 targets.

DeMarco found that existing federal environment policies will only reduce emissions by about one quarter by 2030 (a reduction of one-third is needed in this timeframe). What's more, DeMarco determined this estimate is based on overly optimistic assumptions, modelling data that lacks transparency, and policies that have yet to be implemented in full.

When it came to power in 2015, Mr. Trudeau's government pledged to put Canada on the map as a global leader on sustainability.

Eight years later, it continues to be a government of big ambitions and little achievements. Its misstep on the home heating oil exemption is just the latest in a legacy of failure.

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## Report from the Legislature

Every November Canadians have the opportunity to remember all those who have served our nation and reflect upon the sacrifices they have made. As we observe Remembrance Day on Nov. 11, let us remember and honour the sacrifices made by those who have served, and continue to serve, our country to defend our freedom.

Earlier this month, our government passed Bill 139, The Saskatchewan Remembrance Observance Act to ensure employees have the right to wear a poppy in the workplace. Protecting this right is a way to honour sacrifices made by veterans and their families.

Saskatchewan continues to receive good news on its strong and growing labour force. From October 2022 to October 2023, 19,300 jobs were added in the province. The unemployment rate fell to 4.4 per cent as of October 2023, the lowest among the provinces, and well below the national average of 5.7 per cent.



HON. SCOTT MOE,  
PREMIER

~  
MLA for Rosthern -  
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We also saw all-time highs for overall employment at 605,300 and female employment at 280,900. A growing labour force allows our province's economy to continue to grow, creating more opportunities and a better quality of life for everyone.

Our province's strong and growing economy allows our government to continue to invest in programs and services for Saskatchewan people. Our government is launching the new Saskatchewan Employment Incentive program to make life more affordable for working families with low incomes.

The new program will provide a financial benefit, supplementary health benefits, connections to employment, and housing supports. By helping parents to enter and stay in the workforce, this program will have lasting, positive impacts on the quality of life of Saskatchewan families.

We continue to invest in Saskatchewan's health care system to ensure everyone can get the care they need, when and where they need it. Work continues under the Health Human Resources Action Plan, our government's four-point plan to recruit, train, incentivize and retain health care workers, and we are seeing strong progress across several areas.

Forty-three Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs) from the Philippines have now arrived in Saskatchewan and are completing on-site clinical training. Upon completion of this training, they will be eligible for licensure and ready to begin work in our health care system

before the end of December.

The 58 paramedic training bursaries announced in July were all awarded to support paramedic training for EMS providers. Due to the high rate of application uptake, our government has invested another \$290,000 to expand the program and award another 35 bursaries.

Our government also continues to invest in the protection of persons and property. The province's new Warrant Intelligence Team officially began operations on Nov. 1, 2023. This team will work to suspend government benefits to prolific violent offenders with outstanding warrants and share information to aid police in their apprehension.

We recently introduced important legislation to lay the foundation for the Saskatchewan Marshals



HON. JEREMY HARRISON  
MLA

~  
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Service, an independent, made-in-Saskatchewan police service. The Marshals will provide an additional law enforcement presence across Saskatchewan and support the RCMP, municipal, and First Nations police when needed. Their duties will include responding to areas with high crime rates, combating gangs and illegal weapons, apprehending prolific offenders and individuals with outstanding arrest warrants, and investigating

farming-related offenses like cattle theft and trespassing.

To protect landowners, our government has passed expanded legislation to ensure landowners who are owed compensation by companies drilling for oil or gas on their property can collect what they are owed. Amendments will give the Ministry of Energy and Resources and the Surface Rights Board of Arbitration more powers to protect landowners. These changes will enable the board and the ministry to enforce delinquent surface rights payments from oil and gas licensees and ensure landowners are properly compensated for property damage.

As we continue to move through the fall session of the Legislature, I look forward to hearing from you. These conversations with constituents help me represent your best interests in the Legislature.

## YOUR TWO CENTS

### The courage of young women and men

Dear editor,  
Every Remembrance Day, you should look at the old veterans gathered at your local cenotaph, standing proudly, or seated with a warm blanket on their lap. Try to imagine what they experienced many decades ago when they were young, and the world was at war.

The great invasion to kick the Nazis out of France took place on June 6, 1944. The largest allied armada of war ships readied for the battle of Normandy. Those onboard would face an array of deadly obstacles; barbed wire, mines, and heavy concrete fortifications containing cannons and machine guns.

This was the beginning of the end of Nazi Germany's grip on Western Europe. Many

years of preparation had taken place to get the allies ready for this day. Canada was already fighting in Italy, slowly pushing their way up the Italian boot. What had been called the soft underbelly of Europe was instead a meat grinder where battles like Ortona were hard won by the men of Vancouver's famed Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, Alberta's Loyal Edmonton Regiment, and Quebec's Three Rivers Regiment.

The D-day landings on the French coast and subsequent liberation campaign, saw Canada fighting against an experienced and ruthless enemy. With every footstep taken, soldiers died and many more suffered injuries, and for some, their injuries would remain with them for their entire lives. The D-day

landings itself cost our nation 359 war dead.

Nearly 80 years have passed, and these brave men and women who were once young have grown old and sadly, very few remain. It is their eleventh hour, probably the last opportunity to properly thank them. The government of France would like to pay tribute to all living Canadian veterans who participated in the D-day landings, Dieppe raid or campaign to liberate France in 1944. If you were in the Canadian army, navy, air force or merchant navy, you may be eligible to receive France's highest award, the National Order of the Legion of Honour.

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# Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

BY JORDAN TWISS

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

(The following council highlights are not the approved minutes of council for Nov. 6)

Shellbrook's Town Council met for its regular meeting in person and via teleconference on Monday, Nov. 6.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, Councillors Bruce Anderson, Larry Batten, Peter Halayka, Cheryl Ledding, Brent Miller, and Kathleen Nording, and the town's CAO, Kelly Hoare.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Otterson, and council began with its customary Treaty 6 land acknowledgement in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation. Then, it approved the meeting's agenda, adopted the minutes of its Oct. 16 meeting, acknowledged received correspondence, and moved on to reports.

In discussion of the Parkland Pool Project Committee and its work to fundraise for a new pool for the community, Mayor Otterson gave an update on the progress made so far.

Including \$200,000 the Town of Shellbrook currently has from the Field of Dreams, the auction of the Shellbrook CN station and the Shellbrook Museum's collection, a donation from the estate of Velma Ell, and other donations, \$300,000 has been raised towards the project.

Currently, the committee has mem-

bers dedicated to finding available grant funding, and the group's next major fundraising event is scheduled for the end of January. Hoare, meanwhile, said town foreman Mike Tanchuk will be consulting with the committee on the physical footprint of the pool to highlight potential infrastructure issues or challenges tied to any locations being considered.

Under the hospital and clinics report, Mayor Otterson and Councillor Anderson both had stories to share of Parkland Integrated Health Centre being very busy in recent weeks. Mayor Otterson also noted that two doctors are nearing the end of their three-year contracts and have signalled their intentions to move on, adding that all the town can do is continue trying to attract healthcare professionals to the community.

Providing an update on the Shellbrook Housing Authority, Councillor Anderson said the town has one family unit currently sitting vacant, but noted that the demand it's seeing is from young, single women with children. He also said the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation is standing firm in its belief the community doesn't need additional properties, and is focusing its efforts more on Saskatoon and Regina.

Under the Mayor and council forum, council briefly discussed the issue of safety in school bus zones (particularly on the north side of Shellbrook Elementary School) after Councillor

Batten brought forward a concern he'd heard from a bus driver.

Elsewhere, Councillor Miller highlighted some complaints he'd heard about the cleanliness of the rink following major events, and Councillor Anderson raised the need for council to have a follow-up discussion about its public meeting earlier this year (in particular, the complaint it heard about the state of the town's roads and the community's "unattractive" appearance).

Up first in new business, council gave first and second reading to Bylaw 2023-11, a bylaw to govern the water and sewer utility rates, which sets out water and sewer rates from 2024 to 2028.

While annual rate increases to water and sewer service and consumptions fees, as well as the monthly infrastructure fee, are planned during this period, the most notable change to the bylaw is the addition of a \$50 per month capital project fee starting in 2024.

Hoare said the fee will be charged up until the completion of the town's project to either build a new water treatment plant or partner with PARWU on an intermunicipal pipeline. She added that it could also remain in place for a time after the project's completion, depending on the town's need for it.

With neither option for the town being especially "economical," Councillor Miller said it's important to begin building up a war chest to be in a

good financial position to take on the project. He also said the town needs to get its water and sewer rates, which are "ridiculously low," to a point where 100 per cent of the town's costs for producing and distributing water are captured in its rates.

As part of this effort to bring rates more in line, the revision of the bylaw also includes a change in measurement of consumption to cubic metres from the current unit of imperial gallons.

The town is currently looking for ratepayer feedback about the proposed changes before final approval is given.

Moving to a number of recreation items, council approved the creation of a \$75 per year family pass for the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre. The pass provides access to public skating and any drop-in activities throughout the year.

Council also set the rate for private rentals of the curling rink at \$142.80 per hour for the entire rink and the meeting area in the basement (Under the Rocks), set the day-time school rate for schools outside of the community at \$32.64 per hour, and set the rental rate for Rogers on the Rocks (the curling rink lounge) at \$150 per hour (including a bartender).

Closing out the meeting, council agreed to provide a \$500 donation to the Shellbrook Kinettes for their Santa Fun Day on Saturday, Dec. 2. Council also agreed to waive the fee for rental of the Shellbrook Community Hall.

## Shellbrook CN Station begins its journey



Shellbrook CN station owner Ken Hamilton readied the building for its big move to his rural property on Sunday evening, getting it up and out of the hole it sat in and moving it a short distance to the west. The work was done ahead of an anticipated final move on Tuesday morning (pending SaskPower being ready in time after the Remembrance Day long weekend).

By JORDAN TWISS, Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

## Shellbrook welcomes new RN, CCA



From left to right, Mayor Amund Otterson presents \$3,000 settling assistance grant cheques to continuing care aide Annette Saccucci and registered nurse Tanja Milakovic on behalf of the Parkland Physician Recruitment & Retention Committee.

Photo courtesy of Kelly Hoare, CAO, Town of Shellbrook

## Saskatchewan Adds over 19,000 New Jobs Over October 2022

Our unemployment is the lowest in Canada at 4.4% with with 19,300 jobs added year-over-year and 9,000 this month. Our government continues to build and protect our economy. Working with our partners to create more opportunities for Saskatchewan residents, newcomers and businesses, ensures that Saskatchewan's growth creates a better quality of life for everyone.

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

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

## Good science should guide ag decisions

Good science should generally rule decisions.

That does not mean that science is never wrong.

What it means at a moment in time is that it's the best information we have available, trumping gut feelings and political agendas and other vague reasons to do something.

Of course, at times the science of today can become obsolete tomorrow as new information is discovered – which is what science, at its heart, is all about.

The results of science, however, are increasingly

under question, and that has merit and also creates its own set of issues.

Take for example a new agriculture development in crop protection products, or the creation of a new crop variety. How quickly should it be greenlit for widespread farmer use?

There are those who suggest Health Canada should drag out the process – more so than say the United States. That would seem to put Canadian producers at a disadvantage, but it should also be seen as a positive that



CALVIN DANIELS

Canada has its own processes.

Trusting the processes you have no direct control over has its risks, which could impact not just producers, but also consumers, so caution always

needs to be the driver of decision making.

Certainly, there is good reason to share information, but Canada-specific processes are still important too.

Does there need to be balance?

Certainly, but trusted Canadian science is a good starting point for approving something new.

Of course, if the Canadian processes really do put a drag on approval, the solution is added resources to fund the processes so they become

more expedient – unless added time is to ensure the best science is utilized, and then again you trust that science.

Certainly, some will read this and think I bow to science too much, but it is more simply a case of I see no better option than scientific results for many developments. Crossing our fingers and trusting something is good and safe without good science behind it makes no sense.

Of course, ensuring good science can be difficult. Often, the party paying for the scientific

research can bring into question the results of the research. Writing the cheques may appear to influence results from the perspective of getting the next cheque.

That is a large factor in why government dollars invested in agriculture research are so critical. Public dollars will at least be perceived to have fewer strings attached, and that is a positive.

Still, in the end, the system must ultimately follow the best science as it's the only reasonable path to follow.

## RCMP investigating sexual assault in Spiritwood

By JORDAN TWISS

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

A 19-year-old man from Spiritwood is facing charges of sexually assaulting a minor.

According to police, the Spiritwood RCMP Detachment received a report about the sexual assault on Nov. 6. Subsequent investigation determined an adult male had sexually assaulted a child under the age of 10 at a residence in Spiritwood.

As Spiritwood is a small community, police have said they won't be releasing the specific age or gender of the child to protect the privacy of the victim and their family. Victim Services have been offered to the victim and their family.

A day after the incident was report-

ed, officers with the Spiritwood RCMP Detachment arrested an adult male suspect in connection with their investigation, and determined he was known to the child. As a result of investigation, 19-year-old Jayden Stephenson is charged with one count of sexual interference and one count of sexual assault.

Stephenson is scheduled to appear in court in Spiritwood on Jan. 9, 2024.

Thorough and sensitive investigation into instances of sexual assault is of the utmost priority for the Saskatchewan RCMP, police say. As part of this investigation – and any other investigation into reports of sexual assaults against children or other vulnerable populations – the Saskatchewan RCMP says it will work to determine if there are

additional victims.

Thus far, investigators have determined that the accused has previously worked or lived in environments where children were present. However, police say they are unable to provide any additional detail at this time to protect investigational integrity as well as the privacy of all involved.

The Saskatchewan RCMP's North

Battleford General Investigation Section is assisting with this investigation.

Anyone with information about this or any other crime is urged to contact their local RCMP detachment by dialling 310-RCMP (7267). Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com).

## GOOD NEWS

### WATCH OUT FOR DETOURS

By DAVID BODVARSON

Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly

Maybe you can identify with Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 16. Abraham had heard from God that God was going to make him a father of many. Yet we read ten years after he received this promise he was still waiting.

I suspect waiting is hard for most people.

I think the preacher had it right when he wrote, "Waiting is not an interruption of our journey but an essential part of it... Waiting is the time for soul making, the time to develop the quieter virtues – submission, humility, patience, endurance, persistence. The quiet virtues take the longest to learn, are the last to be learned, and, it seems, can be learned only through God's delays, the very thing we're most inclined to resist."

Here is the thing though, Abraham and Sarah were people of faith, but in Genesis 16 they tried to help God out. Sarah told Abraham to take her servant, Hagar, as a wife so perhaps they could obtain children from her. But that wasn't God's plan, it was Sarah's. It seems to me Abraham and Sarah took a detour.

David Smallbone thought he had heard right that he was to put on Christian con-

certs in Australia. That was his homeland. He put on a major tour. Things didn't go well. Too many empty seats, and not enough tickets sold. He took a major loss, some \$250,000. Creditors took his home. He was a father of 6.

Smallbone got an offer in Nashville, so they sold what they had left and moved to America. When they got there, he found out his position was filled. David Smallbone experienced an emotional crash, and he couldn't get out of bed for several days. When David Smallbone and his wife told their children what had happened, they got on their knees and asked God to help them.

It was neat what happened next. God provided bags of groceries, a minivan, and odd jobs. The best surprise was a recording contract for David Smallbone's oldest daughter, Rebecca, who was 15 at the time. Rebecca recorded her first Album using an old family name, St. James. Maybe you have heard of her? Rebecca St. James.

All along, God knew what He was doing.

Maybe you have taken some spiritual detours, but be encouraged; it doesn't have to be a permanent road. God can get you back on the right track if you ask Him.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**SPIRITWOOD:** Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 9am - 5pm; Wednesday 9am - 5pm; Friday 9am - 5pm

**LEOVILLE:** Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10am - 4pm; Thursday 10am - 3pm

**SHELL LAKE:** Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 11am - 4pm; Wednesday 12pm - 5pm

**BLAINE LAKE:** Wapiti Library - Wednesday 11am - 6pm; Friday 11am - 5pm; Saturday 10am - 4pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, [www.wapitilibrary.ca](http://www.wapitilibrary.ca).

**BIG RIVER:** Wapiti Library - Wednesday 11:30am - 4:30pm; Thursday 11:30am - 4:30pm. Phone # 306-469-2152

**CANWOOD:** Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Tuesday 10am - 3:30pm; Thursday 2pm - 6pm; Friday 1:30pm - 5pm. Kids Club is Fridays 3:30pm - 4:30pm, Crafter's Choice is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

**DEBDEN:** Wapiti Library hours: Tuesday 10am - 4pm; Wednesday 1pm - 7pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

**LEASK:** Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Tuesday 9am - 2pm; Wednesday 3pm - 6pm; Friday 1pm - 5pm

**MARCELIN:** Wapiti Library - Thursday 2pm - 7pm; Saturday 9am - 2pm. 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 2pm - 6pm; Tuesday 2pm - 8pm; Wednesday 2pm - 8pm; Thursday 12pm - 6pm; Friday 10 am - 5pm (Story Time 10:30am - 11:30am); Saturday 10am - 4pm.

**SHELL LAKE:** 5th Annual Sip & Shop Christmas Market – Friday, November 17, 5 to 9 pm, Shell Lake Lions Hall. \$2 Admission. Over 20 vendors! Food served by Global Pinoy 5 to 8 pm.

**SHELLBROOK:** Shellbrook Arts Council Christmas Craft Sale – Sat., November 18, 10 am to 4 pm @ Shellbrook Community Hall. Homemade lunch available for purchase.

**SHELLBROOK:** St. Agatha's Catholic Church in Shellbrook – Soup & Sandwich – Fri., November 17, 11:30 am to 1 pm. Full Meal Deal \$10. Everyone Welcome!

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## Long drought ends for Texas Rangers

No matter how badly a professional sports team performs, there's always hope for brighter days ahead.

The Arizona Diamondbacks and Texas Rangers are living proof of that, advancing to the 2023 World Series after both teams went through 100-plus-loss seasons just two years ago. During the 2021 campaign, Texas finished dead last in the American League West with a 60-102 record, a distant 36 games behind the division-leading Houston Astros. During the same season, the Diamondbacks were a dismal 52-110 and a solid last in the National League West, an embarrassing 55 games in arrears of division-leading San Francisco Giants.

Now, Texas is on top of the baseball world after their five-game series victory over Arizona, which can legitimately lay claim to being the second-best team in Major League Baseball. It was the first-ever Series' title for the Rangers'

franchise.

So how did they do it? Well, they spent some money. Gobs of money. Offensive stars Marcus Semien was signed as a free agent from Toronto, while Corey Seager, the World Series MVP, arrived in the same fashion from the Dodgers. Those two guys represented a \$500 million commitment. Then they improved their pitching staff, adding Nathan Eovaldi from Boston and Andrew Heaney, a long-time Angels pitcher, via free agency. The two combined for 22 victories this year. Oh, they also signed Jacob deGrom from the Mets, but his season ended in April due to injury.

But good pitching depends on good hitting to be successful, and that's where Semien, Seager, and Adolis Garcia come in. The latter smashed 39 home runs and drove in 107 during the regular season and was lethal in the playoffs, hitting seven homers in 12 games, before suffering a season-ending in Game 3 of



BRUCE PENTON

the World Series. Garcia was sold — yes, sold for cash considerations — by the St. Louis Cardinals in 2020 and hit 97 homers over the next three seasons.

The Diamondbacks, meanwhile, had a larger hill to climb but from 52 wins in 2021, they improved to 74 wins in 2022 — still 37 games from the top — and got into post-season play this year by winning 84 games and earning the NL's final wildcard position, one game better than Chicago Cubs.

Their route to success? After enduring a 16-34 mid-season slump, the D-backs were sparked by

rookie phenom Corbin Carroll, who hit .285 with 25 home runs and 54 stolen bases. Ketel Marte, Christian Walker, and former Blue Jay Lourdes Gurriel, Jr., combined for 82 home runs and pitcher Zac Gallen, 17-9, led a decent pitching staff.

In all, the Rangers and D'Backs have given hope to fans of every struggling professional team that competitiveness, followed by success, capped by championships, might be just around the corner.

It's true: Management and money can combine to eliminate misery.

• TV broadcaster and former NBA star Charles Barkley, on the Memphis Grizzlies' Ja Morant getting suspended for being caught in public with a gun and then having another gun-related video circulate two months later: "Kid can't be that stupid ... he's getting paid close to \$100 million and the only thing you have to do is don't be a fool. Just play basketball. Ain't like it's a real job....

all you have to do is dribble a stupid basketball and stay out of trouble."

• Headline at fark.com: "Nick Saban drives his Ferrari only on Wednesdays, but not if it's raining. This is certainly comforting to Alabama school kids who still don't have enough to eat."

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com., who wonders ... "If women and girls are still tuning into Chiefs' games in great numbers to catch a glimpse of Taylor Swift, can they really claim to be the smarter sex?"

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "If you weren't familiar with the term Frozen Frenzy, it refers to a day like Oct. 24 when all 32 NHL teams played. In Winnipeg, it also refers to any day from November to March when you're late for work and your car won't start."

• Marcus Thompson II in the Athletic, on the slumping San Francisco 49ers, who lost three straight after starting the season 5-0: "This Halloween, the 49ers are

dressing up as mediocre."

• Super 70s Sports, on X: "Is everybody else as excited about the NBA in-season tournament as I'm not?"

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel "I'm not saying no one is watching the Diamondbacks-Rangers World Series, but I think it just got beat in the ratings by a two-hour documentary on antique door knobs."

• Another one from Bianchi: "The New York Giants were down to their third-string quarterback Tommy DeVito in last week's 13-10 loss to the Jets. I think Danny DeVito would have even more effective."

• Former SI columnist Rick Reilly, on X: "You could fit all of Bobby Knight's charm in a shot glass."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Did not have the best Halloween. I went as a Chicago Bear and kept missing the doorbells."

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

## Senior Elks get burned in home opener

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

For the first time since 2016, the Shellbrook Elks senior hockey club played a home opener in front of a boisterous crowd at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre, when the team welcomed the Allan Flames to town on Friday, Nov. 10.

Before the action on the ice got started, however, a moment was taken to remember and honour the winning

legacy of the Shellbrook Elks senior hockey club, as well as the Shellbrook Silvertips, who kept senior hockey alive for the seven years when there was no senior Elks team.

With the stage set for their big return to the ice, the Elks came out fast and strong. But it was the Flames who drew first blood, scoring on a perfectly placed shot between the post and Elks netminder Jon Nelson. Dalyn Hoiness netted the goal, with an assist from Luke Brossart.

Undeterred by this, the Elks continued to play their fast-paced, hard-hitting game. Eventually, a gritty forecheck paid off for the team late in the period, allowing Matthew Flodell to find the back of the net on assists from Jody Blais and Rylan Moe.

The Elks continued to pour on the pressure in the dying minutes of the opening period, and racked up two near-goals, but ultimately ended the period with a 1-1 tie.

The Elks kept their momentum going into the second period, but didn't cash in until after the midway point of the frame, when Flodell tapped in a puck in front of the Flames goal on an assist from Blais.

The Elks had an opportunity to extend their lead later in the period, but a defensive breakdown on a power play allowed the Flames to break out on a two-on-none rush. Brodie Senger made no mistakes with the puck, finding the back of the net on a beautiful shot with an assist from Duane Hoppenreys.

The Elks' power play redeemed itself off the ensuing face-off, as Moe scored on assists from Brendon Canada and Parker Turner. But the Flames' power play had an answer, as Cam Brossart

knotted the game at 3-3 with helpers from Boston Maxwell and Brady Scheau.

Moving to the third period, the Elks seemed to be running on fumes, and their sloppy play put the Flames on a 5-on-3 power play. The Flames took advantage, when Evan Pasternak scored a top-shelfer on assists from Cam Brossart and Tanner Dutcauwich.

As the Elks continued to flounder, the Flames turned up the heat, with Maxwell scoring on a one-timer from the Elks' doorstep. Cam Brossart and Scheau assisted on the goal.

With time winding down,

and a two-goal deficit to overcome, the Elks tried to make the most of a late power play by pulling their goalie for a 6-on-4 advantage. Though they managed to fire plenty of shots on goal with this advantage, none of them were great scoring opportunities.

Instead, it was the Flames who would score one last goal, securing a 6-3 victory on an unassisted empty netter from Pasternak.

With the tough home opener loss, the Elks sit at 1-2 on the season. They return to the road this weekend to face off against the Willow Cree Chiefs on Nov. 18.



Elks forward Rylan Moe lays a big hit on Allan's Tanner Dutcauwich.



Elks forward Matthew Flodell speeds in on the Allan Flames' goal looking to score.



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# Minutes of an RM of Canwood meeting

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

A regular meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Canwood No. 494 was held in the Municipal Council Chambers, at 641 Main Street, Canwood, SK, on Sept. 19, 2023, commencing at 9:05 a.m.

Present: Reeve Lyndon Pease, Administrator Lorna Benson and the following Councillors for their respective divisions: #1 Ralph Korody, #2 Gerald Muller, #3 Gordon Andrews, #4 Mario Boisvert, Absent: #5 and #6.

Delegations:  
10 a.m.: Dwight Diehl, Public Works Supervisor, Municipal Operations Update  
11:45 a.m.: Councillor Indemnity  
Muller: That the minutes of the Aug. 22, 2023, Regular Council Meeting be approved. Carried

Korody: That the public hearing minutes of Aug. 22, 2023, be approved. Carried  
Pease: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month of August 2023 for the R.M. General Account be approved as presented. Carried

Korody: That we approve the payments as listed on the attached account listing for a total of \$807,577.44, Council Direct Deposits for August and Payroll Direct Deposits for 2023 Pay Periods 17 & 18. Carried

Boisvert: That we appoint Councillor Cody Lockhart as the representative to the Emergency Measures Organization Steering Committee for the Targeted Sector Support Grant. Carried

Pease: That we deny the request to abate the 2023 minimum taxes on the NE 10-50-07 W3 owned by Katherine Baker et al, Saskatoon, Sask. Carried

Muller: - That we abate half the 2023 minimum residential land tax (\$350) on Roll No. 2963 on the SE 05-54-07 W3 owned by Teana Buchanan, Debden, Sask. Carried

Pease: That we agree to send as many Councillors as can attend to the Midterm SARM Convention held in Regina, Sask., on Nov. 8 and 9, 2023. Further to this, we appoint Gerald Muller as Official Voting Delegate for the 2023 Midterm Convention. Carried

Andrews: That we appoint Councillor Cody Lockhart and Councillor Gerald Muller to the Division Boundary Review Committee. Carried

Muller: That in the matter of tax enforcement proceedings against Lots 4 and 5 Block 2 Plan BD532, we request the Provincial Mediation Board to expedite the proceedings based on the low value of the property, and further that we authorize Veritas Law to proceed on our behalf to request title to the land. Carried

Pease: That we agree to send Develop-

ment Assistant Jamie Skarpinsky, Public Works Assistant Tammy Molzan and Chief Administrative Officer Lorna Benson to the 2023 RMAA Fall Workshop on Oct. 17, 2023, in Shellbrook, Sask., at a cost of \$105.00 including GST per participant. Carried

Public Works Supervisor Dwight Diehl attended the meeting at 10 a.m.

Boisvert: That we agree to enter into a Services Agreement with Big River First Nation No. 118 to perform road work located south of Big River First Nation, heading south to Victoire about 700 meters between the NE and NW 14-52-08 W3, Plan 74B09484. Further to this, we instruct the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer to sign the agreement. Carried

Boisvert: That we agree the layoff date for Seasonal Employees will be Nov. 3, 2023.

Muller: That the Council of the R.M. of Canwood No. 494 has no objections to the sale of the following Crown Lands and wishes to offer the following comments:

1. The municipality assumes no responsibility for access to the parcels of land;
2. Future development will be conditional to land abutting a developed road (Basic Planning Statement By-law No. 2003-6);
3. The Ministry of Agriculture shall insist on the registration of parcel ties where appropriate with Information Services Corporation (ISC) to ensure access is not jeopardized by future land transactions;
4. The Ministry of Agriculture shall register an interest on titles that currently do not abut a developed roadway to ensure landowners are made aware of access issues; and
5. To the best of Council's knowledge, the following comments can be made with respect to the specific parcels of land in this specific lease:

NW 33-53-06 W3 does not abut a developed municipal roadway;

SE & NE 33-53-06 W3 abuts a developed municipal roadway;

NW 03-54-06 W3 does not abut a developed municipal roadway;

SW 03-54-06 W3 abuts a developed municipal roadway;

NE & NW & SW 04-54-06 W3 do not abut a developed municipal roadway;

SE 04-54-06 W3 abuts a developed municipal roadway;

NE & NW & SE & SW 05-54-06 W3 do not abut a developed municipal roadway;

NE & SE 06-54-06 W3 do not abut a developed municipal roadway;

NE & NW & SE & SW 07-54-06 W3 do not abut a developed municipal roadway;

NE & NW & SE & SW 08-54-06 W3 do not abut a developed municipal roadway;

NW & SE & SW 09-54-06 W3 do not abut a developed municipal roadway;

SW 10-54-06 W3 does not abut a developed municipal roadway;

NE & NW & SE & SW 18-54-06 W3 do not abut a developed municipal roadway;

SE 19-54-06 W3 does not abut a developed municipal roadway. Carried

Boisvert: Further to Resolution No. 12 of April 18, 2023, Regular Meeting of Council, the Ministry of Highways has responded indicating that a delineating light is warranted at the intersection of Highway 55 and Victoire Grid south of Debden. Carried

Muller: That in the matter of lands that are held in trust by Mistawasis Land Holdings Inc. and have been transferred to the Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Additions to Reserve Process, Council identifies tax loss compensation, road maintenance and fire protection as the most relevant concerns for the legal land descriptions associated with the Mistawasis Legacy Trust File 374-14. Carried

Korody: That in the matter of lands that are held in trust by Mistawasis Land Holdings Inc. and have been transferred to the Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Additions to Reserve Process, Council identifies tax loss compensation, road maintenance and fire protection as the most relevant concerns for the legal land descriptions associated with the Mistawasis Legacy Trust File 374-15. Carried

Muller: In the matter of the Critical Wildlife signage at Fur Lake, which was originally erected by the R.M. without legal authorization (per communications with Provincial Protective Services Branch), we hereby authorize Division Two Councillor Gerald Muller to alter the signage by removing the portions that are not enforceable under any legislation. Carried

Public Works Supervisor Dwight Diehl left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Muller: That we approve the Permit Extension Application of Brian and Michele Person to complete the addition construction by Aug. 31, 2024. Carried

Pease: That we approve the Demolition Permit Application of Glen Aiken to demolish an outbuilding Carried

Muller: That we approve the Development and Building Permit Applications of Cody Lockhart to construct an addition on the residential dwelling, with approval pursuant to Section 5.1.1(1)(c) of the Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Boisvert: That we approve the Development and Building Permit Applications of Cody Belair to construct a cabin, with approval pursuant to Section 9.1.1(1)(a) of the Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Muller: That we approve the Council's Indemnity as presented. Carried

Pease: That we now adjourn at 10:50 a.m.

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# WP Sandin girls take second at volleyball Regionals

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

For the second weekend in a row, WP Sandin High School's gymnasium was the home of high-stakes volleyball action, as the school played host to the 3A senior girls' volleyball regionals tournament on Friday, Nov. 10.

The school earned the right to host the tournament after a successful application, and was only tapped to host the tournament on Nov. 6. But with the help of staff, student, and community volunteers, the tournament went off without a hitch.

Joining WP Sandin's team on Friday were five other schools, including Stobart Community School (a team WP Sandin beat to claim victory at the previous weekend's Conferences tournament), Valley Christian Academy (Osler), Nisto Awasisak Memorial School (Cumberland House), Creighton Community School, and Waldheim School.

As was the case for conferences, the six teams were split into two pools of three teams each for the preliminary round, with WP Sandin, Nisto, and Osler VCA in one pool, and Stobart, Creighton, and Waldheim in the other.

WP Sandin kicked off its tournament run with a match against Nisto (who had already fallen to Osler VCA), and pulled out a win in two sets, with scores of 25-19 and 25-17, to put itself in the battle for first place in its pool.

After having only an hour to rest, the team hit the court to face off against Osler VCA and found itself fighting a battle for each point, leading to some exciting back-and-forth rallies. As the first set wore on, WP Sandin gradually carved out its lead with some strong serves, taking the set 25-18.

With a full lineup change for the second set, WP Sandin struggled to find its

footing and kept having to claw its way back into the game. Despite a valiant effort, Osler VCA claimed a hard-fought 25-20 win to force a third and deciding set.

After starting the final set down 3-0 early, WP Sandin dug deep and started to chip away at Osler VCA's lead, eventually securing a comeback win by a score of 15-13 in the third set.

The win over Osler set up WP Sandin to face Creighton in the semi-finals with another short rest between games. Despite this, the home team came out sharp and cruised to a commanding early lead in the first set. Thanks in part to an excellent string of serves that kept Creighton on the back foot, it took the set 25-10.

Creighton would find its second wind in the second set, however, and attempt to claw its way back into the match. But WP Sandin held on and outlasted its opponent to win the set 25-23 and punch its ticket to the gold medal game.

With a place in Provincials secured, all WP Sandin had to do was play its best against Waldheim in the gold medal match-up. Though the team did this, it found itself facing a tough foe and fell behind early in the first set.

The team struggled to find its usual rhythm against Waldheim, and with the help of a few unfortunate bounces off of strong offensive and defensive plays, it dropped the first set by a score of 25-15.

Needing a win to force a third set, WP Sandin was kept on its back foot by the near-flawless play of the Waldheim squad and couldn't settle into its own game. Despite some rallies throughout the second set, WP Sandin ultimately fell short and Waldheim won 25-20 to claim the gold medals.

WP Sandin and Waldheim will meet again this weekend at Provincials in Indian Head and Wolseley.



Ava Ledding jumps for a spike in semi-finals action against the Creighton Kodiaks.



WP Sandin's Josee Schatkoske launches a return volley in action from the gold medal game against Waldheim.

## OBITUARY

### Dorothy Bell Peake



PEAKE, Dorothy Bell

Dorothy passed away peacefully on the evening of Sunday, November 5, 2023 at St. Paul's Hospital, Saskatoon at the age of 93.

Dot was born on the family farm in the Evergreen School District, Leask, Saskatchewan on November 4, 1930. Life in a large family and farm was always busy and exciting. She had calves in the 4-H Club as did many of her siblings. She lived most of her life in Saska-

toon. She attended Robertson Secretarial School, worked at TD Bank in Rosetown, Eaton's for 8 years. She volunteered with RCAF Reserves for 7 years. After Eaton's she worked at the University for several departments. She volunteered as a secretary to the RCAF Association and University Retirees Association for 20 years. Dot made many trips to visit relatives in London and Wales. She also went as a Research Assistant for a professor at the University of Saskatchewan while he was studying at Oxford. She so loved getting together at potluck suppers at Parkside, Leask with family and friends. She lived independently at her condo in Saskatoon right up to the day of her passing which is how she would have wanted it.

She leaves to mourn her son Ken (Colleen) Spence; her grandsons Kris,

Dylan of Estevan, many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents Frank and Arabella Peake; brother and sisters Fred, Evelyn (Harold), David (Edna), Syd (Dorothy), Frank Jr (Ida), Charles (Shirley), Edith (Arnold), Ernest (Lily) and Robert (Frieda).

The family is very grateful to the Royal University Hospital, St. Paul's Hospital and City Hospital for their care and compassion given to Dot. As per Dot's wishes a Graveside Memorial Service will take place at Honeywood Cemetery, Parkside, Saskatchewan at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Thea Katchmar-Mourning Glory-Acadia McKague's Funeral Chapel (306) 955-1600. To share memories of Dot or send condolences please visit [www.dignitymemorial.com](http://www.dignitymemorial.com)

## Changes coming to credit requirements for 2024-25 school year

The Government of Saskatchewan is implementing changes to high school graduation requirements in Saskatchewan to provide students with more choice and flexibility in their education. These changes will be implemented in the 2024-25 school year and will affect students entering Grade 10 in September 2024.

The changes are based on insight and recommendations received from the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation; League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents; First Nation Education Authorities; post-secondary institutions; various Chambers of Commerce and parents. The feedback suggested that students require additional credit flexibility to learn subjects they are passionate about to help them successfully enter the workforce. These changes align Saskatchewan education standards to those across Canada.

"Allowing students more personal choice in their learning to better prepare them for their futures and getting Saskatchewan back to basics is a positive step forward," Education Minister Jeremy Cockrill said in a statement. "We have heard from the education sector that students need to be prepared for a rapidly changing labour market by focusing on the development of transferable skills in areas such as financial literacy."

A new grade 10 Financial Literacy credit will provide the building blocks for students to understand personal finance and the economy. Adding a financial literacy credit also aligns with the majority of Canadian jurisdictions that

require students to learn about financial literacy.

A change to the number of required credits for English language arts (ELA), from five to three, with one requirement at each of the grades 10, 11 and 12 levels will bring Saskatchewan into alignment with other provinces, including British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario, which all require three ELA credits to graduate.

Required credits for social sciences will change from three to two and will bring Saskatchewan into alignment with other jurisdictions. British Columbia and Manitoba each require two credits, while Ontario requires 1.5 credits.

The number of credits required to graduate has not changed and Saskatchewan students will still require 24 credits to graduate. Students will now have more choice and flexibility in how they achieve those 24 required credits. The number of required high school credits remains the same for all other subject areas.

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