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April 4, 2023

LEDUC RCMP CONDUCTED WARRANT

Submitted by Leduc RCMP

Leduc RCMP conducted a month-long crime reduction initiative that targeted offenders with outstanding arrest warrants in the Leduc detachment area. The initiative utilized resources from Leduc Crime Reduction Unit, members of Leduc RCMP, as well as the detachment analyst and administrative support personnel.

Members proactively attended multiple residences and arrested offenders for a range of offences including failing to appear in court,

Continued on Page 2

PASSPORT STATUS CHECKER

Submitted by MP Gerald Soroka

Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead, wishes to advise that Service Canada has launched a new digital tool to support the passport system. The Passport Application Status Checker enables Canadians, who recently applied for a passport, to check the status of their passport application online at Canada.ca/ passport-status

The new online Passport Application Status Checker provides Canadians with a digital service option for passport services that will result in Canadians having faster access to front-line staff who can continue to serve them for other passport needs. This new tool will shift the most common call centre inquiry to an easyto-use, self-serve digital solution.

ADVANCE DECLARATION NOW AVAILABLE AT EDMONTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Travellers can submit customs declaration in advance and save time at the

airport

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) is exploring safe, secure and innovative ways to deliver a better and faster border





Continued on Page 2

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Page 2 Community VOICE



PUBLISHED WEEKLY (Zone 1 & 2) AND BIWEEKLY (Zone 3)

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Leduc RCMP Conducted Warrant

Continued from Page 1

assaults and various property crimes.

In total, officers arrested 28 individuals executing 59 outstanding warrants and \$4,050 in fines were paid. Of these warrants 66 were Criminal Code charges and 20 were Traffic Safety Act charges.

In the process of locating individuals, officers seized a small quantity of cocaine and laid a total of 6 new charges against one of the offenders.

"We will continue to work with communities to implement crime reductive initiatives to target known offenders and address the root cause of crime in the area." Says Acting Sgt. Penny Penney, Leduc Crime Reduction Unit. "Efforts are being made to target their criminal activities and hold them accountable before the courts."

Advance Declaration now available at Edmonton International Airport

Continued from Page 1

experience for travellers entering Canada.

Starting today, Advance Declaration is available to all travellers arriving on international flights at the Edmonton International Airport (YEG). Express



NEW FACILITY Chapel & Reception Centre

600 Calahoo Road Spruce Grove, AB 780-962-2749 www.serenity.ca lanes are also available in the customs areas for travellers who complete their Advance Declaration to skip line-ups for Primary Inspection Kiosks (PIK).

Advance Declaration provides travellers with the option to submit their customs and immigration declaration up to 72 hours in advance of their arrival in Canada. Travellers can now spend less time at PIKs when they arrive at the airport, resulting in shorter wait times at the border.

To modernize and expedite the travel experience, Advance Declaration is already available to travellers arriving on international flights at the following Canadian airports:

Calgary (YYC) Halifax Stanfield

(YHZ)		
•	Toronto	Pearson
(YYZ)		
•	Montreal	- Trudeau
(YUL)		
•	Winnipeg	Richard-
son (YV	VG)	
•	Ouebec (lity Jean-

Lesage (YQB) • Billy Bishop To-

ronto City (YTZ)

• Ottawa Macdonald- Cartier (YOW)

• Vancouver (YVR)

Advance Declaration is part of CBSA's Traveller Modernization initiative, which is being implemented over the coming years. Modernizing the travel experience includes the use of digital technologies and tools for both travellers and border services officers.



I submitted 10 puns to a joke-writing competition to see if any of them made the finals. Sadly, no pun in ten did.



April 4, 2023 Community VOICE Page 3 SUPPORTING CANADIANS AGING AT HOME

Submitted by MP Gerald Soroka

Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead wishes to advise that as more seniors are living longer, healthier lives many want to continue living independently in their own homes surrounded by those they care about.

Public consultations are now open between March

20 until April 14, 2023, giving you the opportunity to have your say about supporting those wishing to stay in their homes.

Share your thoughts: Supporting Canadians Aging at

Home https://tinyurl. com/28kks3vf

SUPPORTING FARMERS FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

Submitted by Government of Alberta

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Farmers' Advocate Office.

To commemorate the important milestone, the government has declared March 22 as Farmers' Advocate Day.

The first farmers' advocate, Helmut Entrup, was appointed by former minister of Agriculture Hugh Horner on Jan. 1, 1973. Over 50 years, the Farmers' Advocate Office has fielded more than 150,000 inquiries from rural Albertans and provided a voice for them at all levels of government.

"Alberta's Farmers' Advocate Office has been a pivotal resource for our farming community, providing invaluable support and guidance to ensure that our agricultural industry remains strong and sustainable. The office has always advocated for the needs of farmers and ranchers, ensuring that they have access to the information and services they need to succeed, and we remain committed to supporting this important institution and working together to build a brighter future for Alberta's agriculture sector for generations to come." Danielle Smith, Premier

The original mandate of the office was to protect farmer and rancher land ownership rights

After five decades and 10 different premiers, the Farmers' Advocate Office continues to have an integral role in Alberta's agriculture industry.

Today, the office has expanded its services to meet the changing needs of Alberta's producers, providing support and guidance on a wide range of issues, including land use, environmental regulations, dispute resolution and administrative justice through fair process.

"Over the past 50 years, the Farmers' Advocate Office has been an integral voice of the industry, helping shape the direction of agriculture policy in our province and ensuring the needs of farmers have always been front and centre. I'm honoured to celebrate this important milestone and recognize the contributions the office has made to the success and prosperity of farmers and ranchers in our province." Nate Horner, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation

As part of government's red tape reduction initiative, the office also helps producers navigate government processes and works with various departments, boards and agencies to find efficiencies and reduce regulatory burdens that affect the agriculture industry. "The Farmers' Advocate Office has always put the needs of Alberta's farmers and ranchers first. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary, we are more committed than ever to providing the resources and support producers need to overcome any challenges they face now and in the future." Peter Dobbie, farmers' advocate





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- † Pre-need Funeral Packages
- † Crematorium & Memorial Services

Page 4 Community**VOICE**

LEDUC COUNTY BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEUR CENTRE OPENS, BUSINESS WEBSITE LAUNCHES

Submitted by City of Leduc

This afternoon Leduc County celebrated the grand opening of the new Business and Entrepreneur Centre (BEC) in the heart of Nisku Business Park.

The BEC is the County's platform and facility for nurturing new and diverse economic growth in the region. The building offers flexible work, meeting and event spaces to meet the needs of businesses, from traditional office space to a packaging area for order fulfillment.

The BEC is also home to Leduc County's Economic Development department, which facilitates business programs and workshops for local companies across a variety of industries.

"The BEC will provide us with the opportunity to make connections with and provide support to new and existing businesses, which is a critical step in diversifying our economy. This wouldn't have been possible without the funding we received from the Government of Canada, which allowed us to develop this space and programming. Many years of hard work have now paid off, and we're excited to see our vision come to life."- Mayor Tanni Doblanko

"Opening the BEC is the culmination of one of the largest, most ambitious projects Leduc County has undertaken to date. Since May 2022, the BEC project has already resulted in 20 businesses being created, maintained or expanded, 81 businesses being assisted with challenges or opportunities, and 75 participants being trained through business programming. We look forward to the continued success of this project." -County Manager Duane Coleman, CLGM

This funding was provided as part of the Government of Canada's Canada Coal Transition Initiative. This initiative supports skills development and economic diversification activities to help workers and communities adapt to Canada's transition from coal mining and coal-fired power generation to a clean growth economy with reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Along with the opening of the BEC, Leduc County has launched a new, business-focused website. The website, leduccountybusiness.com, is designed with our business community in mind, making it easy to find information quickly and easily. The new website includes information on starting or growing an existing business, accessing business supports, County facts and figures and information on key sectors and strategies.





MAKING ADOPTION MORE AFFORDABLE

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is increasing subsidies, tax breaks and benefits so that more children can find their forever homes.

Budget 2023 includes \$4 million per year in new funding over the next three years to make adoption more affordable. These new initiatives follow up on the commitment by Premier Danielle Smith to make adoption less arduous for Alberta families.

If the Financial Statutes Amendment Act, 2023 passes, the new \$4-million package to make adoption more affordable for Albertans will cover the cost of dental, vision and other supplemental health benefits for children adopted in Alberta – regardless of whether they were adopted from the government system or through a private, licensed agency in the province. Alberta will become the first and only province to do this.

This funding support, which would take effect this fall, will help remove medical cost barriers to adoption, especially for children with specialized medical needs.

In addition to covering the costs of supplementary health benefits, the provincial adoption expenses tax credit amount would be increased by almost \$4,000, to \$18,210 from \$14,365, to help cover the costs of adoption, matching the federal tax credit. This can be claimed by families adopting locally or internationally, and will be retroactive to Jan 1. The increased credit will be available to Albertans when they file their 2023 taxes in spring 2024.

About 5,000 adopted children in Alberta who have already found their forever family and future adopted children will be eligible for these benefits.

If the legislation passes, the cost of private adoption through licensed adoption agencies in Alberta will be subsidized by \$6,000 for families that earn less than \$180,000. The subsidy would help reduce the cost of adoption by 40 to 50 per cent.

"As an adoptive parent myself, I know first-hand the expenses and red tape and long processes that prospective parents face when considering adoption. These new supports mean more Albertans can welcome a child into their home, and together, they can build their forever family." Searle Turton, MLA for Spruce Grove-Stony Plain

Budget 2023 secures Alberta's future by transforming the health-care system to meet people's needs, supporting Albertans with the high cost of living, keeping our communities safe and driving the economy with more jobs, quality education and continued diversification.

BUDGET 2023

Creating jobs and investing in what northern Alberta needs

Education and Post-secondary

Funding school projects in southern Alberta, including:

- Modernizing Westwood Community High School in Fort McMurray
- Replacing Red Earth Creek School
- Replacing Vera M. Walsh School in Lac La Biche
- Planning a new high school north of Grande
 Prairie
- Planning G.P. Vanier School in Donnelly

Expanding post-secondary facilities and/or programs including:

 Power engineering and instrumentation lab development at Northwestern Polytechnic

Health Care

- Additional funding for the Rural Remote Northern Program to support physician recruitment and retention
- · Funding to expand mental health services for youth

Investing in Northern Alberta

- Replacing La Crete bridge
- Replacing Highway 813 bridge
- Twinning Highway 63 north of Fort McMurray
- Twinning Highway 40 south of Grande Prairie
- Widening Highway 40 north of Hinton
- Upgrading Highway 881
- Upgrading Highway 686
- Funding the Northern and Regional Economic Development Program

For the full details visit alberta.ca/budget

Albertan



Spring to it! Get started on your Home Improvement To-Do list!

Check out our Spring Home Reno guide for ideas, inspiration, advice and valuable local advertising!



Homeowners often aspire to have attractive backyards that look like they belong in a magazine. While these can be picturesque and functional for adults, they may not be entirely practical for homeowners who have young children, especially when the majority of the yard is covered with paving stones or concrete.

When young children are part of a household, homeowners may benefit by designing yards that are both functional and fun. Incorporating safe play areas for kids is one way to unlock the potential of both big and small backyards.

As children run off to enjoy a playground, safety is the last thing on their minds. Kids are most interested in scaling ladders to treehouses or coasting down slides. That's why adults must take it upon themselves to keep injury prevention in mind.

SafestPlayground. com indicates that playground-related injuries routinely result in severe fractures, internal injuries, concussions, and dislocations. In the majority of playground injuries to children younger than age 5, the head and face are affected. Children between the ages of 5 and 9 experience more leg and arm injuries than younger kids. The Consumer Product Safety Commission states 70 percent of children's injuries occur on home playgrounds. More than 28,000 children are injured each year on playgrounds across Canada, according to Parachute, a national injury prevention organization.

When considering playground equipment for the yard, parents need to make safety a priority. The Canada Safety Society advises parents to follow the "5 S's of Playground Safety": Surface, structures, site, supervision, and safety.

• Surface: Parents should assume that children will fall. To lessen the blow of falls, choose playground equipment with a perimeter of six feet of a softer surface, such as sand, pea gravel, rubber pieces or wood chips. This material should be

Continued on Page 8



RENOGUIDE

Create A Safe And Enjoyable Backyard

Play Area Continued from Page 7

Continueu from 1 uge 1

between six and 12 inches deep.

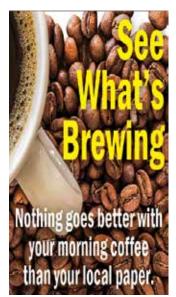
Structure: The structure of the play equipment should be built from sturdy materials Pressure-treated lumber was once the standard, but it's not adviseable for kids' playgrounds, as the chemicals used in the lumber can leach and young children may actually bite or pick at the wood. Use cedar or another wood that resists decay. Once the structure is built, inspect it frequently for damage.

• Site: Look around the landscape for an ideal place to locate the playset. There should be no obstacles that children can hit while sliding or swinging. Avoid overhanging branches and do not place equipment too close to trees or fencing. Try to keep the set out of direct sunlight, which can make components heat up and scald young bodies.

• Supervision: Do not leave children alone while they are playing. Prevent children from using the playset in an incorrect manner.

• Safety: Follow the directions for installation. Make sure all posts are anchored into the ground securely. Railings should be spaced so that children cannot get stuck between them. Check that metal components have not rusted and that there is no additional excessive wear. Be sure that no tools or other dangerous items are left around the yard.

Backyard playgrounds should be built with safety in mind. Learn the rules of play equipment and yard safety.







Though they are often easy to overlook, driveways are durable parts of a home that can greatly impact a home's curb appeal. Driveways endure quite a bit of wear and tear over their lifespans, and homeowners who have not given their driveways much thought may want to start looking for potential trouble signs that indicate a need for some driveway maintenance.

According to the online home improvement resource HomeAdvisor.com, the average cost of a driveway installation in 2015 was just under \$3,700. Those costs are influenced by a host of factors, including the size of the driveway and the material its made of. Damaged driveways do not necessarily need to be replaced, as some may just need minor repairs. But homeowners who see any of the following trouble signs in their driveways may want to consult a professional contractor to determine what their next steps should be.

1. Potholes

Potholes might be most often associated with heavily trafficked roadways, but even driveways are susceptible to potholes. As the ground beneath the driveway expands and contracts, the pavement above that ground weakens and becomes more susceptible to damage. That damage may ultimately lead to large chunks of the driveway breaking down, creating holes as a result. Homeowners who live in areas that experience heavy snowfall may see their driveways develop potholes after they are shoveled or plowed.

Potholes that are not fixed may damage vehicles that drive on the pavement, and potholes may even expand over time.

2. Accumulation of water

Puddles that form during a rainstorm may not be indicative of anything other than a rainy day. But water that pools or runs down the middle of the driveway may indicate drainage problems. Such problems may be the result of structural problems with the slope of the driveway, which can cause bigger issues down the road. When water is not absorbed into the ground or directed away from your home, it can then flow into the house, potentially making your garage or home susceptible to water damage.

3. Cracks

Cracking is one of the more

noticeable issues that can plague driveways. Many driveways experience cracking as materials inevitably succumb to the elements. Driveway cracks may develop for various reasons, including poor initial installation. Tree roots that grow beneath the driveway surface may also contribute to cracking as the driveways ultimately succumb to the pressure created by the growing roots. Some cracks may prove less problematic than others, but homeowners should still speak with a contractor if they notice their driveway is starting to succumb to cracks.

Driveways may not draw the attention of homeowners too often, but damaged driveways that go ignored may ultimately lead to very costly problems.



G&N CONTRACTING G&N CONTRACTING G&N CONTRACTING G&N CONTRACTING CONTRACTING PH: (780) 789-2210 CONTRACTING PH: 780-962-5581 CELL: 780-777-0914 PH: 780-962-9146

Page 10 Community VOICE April 4, 2023 STRENGTHENING RURAL HEALTH CARE

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Budget 2023 expands rural health supports so Albertans can have additional access to modern health facilities and the care they need where and when they need it.

Alberta's government is committed to expanding and modernizing rural hospitals and other health facilities across the province to protect quality health care, grow system capacity and support the best frontline health care workers in the world.

Having access to quality health care when and where Albertans need it includes expanding capacity to provide better access for Albertans living in rural and remote areas of the province.

"We are making sure we have the necessary funding in place to build and strengthen health care in our rural communities and address barriers to care for those looking for support and treatment close to home and family. This work includes programs that focus on how to recruit, retain and even train more physicians, nurses and other professionals in areas outside of the cities." Jason Copping, Minister of Health

Budget 2023 provides \$105 million over three years for the Rural Health Facilities Revitalization Program, including \$75 million in additional funding for capital projects in rural Alberta.

The program supports strategic renovations and developments in health facilities throughout the province, with an emphasis on emergency departments, EMS stations, surgical and dialysis clinics, and other clinical services to improve access to health care in rural Alberta.

Expanding capacity in the health care system also means having health care workers to fill those spots. In response, Alberta's government launched the Health Workforce Strategy to attract and retain the health care workers needed now and create more training opportunities for local students and internationally trained medical graduates.

"All Albertans, no matter where they live, need and deserve access to our health system. Physicians are a critical part of that system, especially in rural areas where we are trusted to support the needs of neighbours, friends and colleagues during all phases of life. It is a special calling to work in rural health care, but it can be tremendously rewarding for those who pursue it."

Dr. Cheyanne Vetter, facility medical director, Wainwright Health Centre

Rural Albertans are especially affected by the nationwide shortage of health care workers. To address this growing need, the Health Workforce Strategy provides \$113 million to add 100 residency training spaces for newly graduated doctors, particularly in rural areas and specialist fields. Creating these new training spaces will provide more opportunities for Alberta students to learn, train and practise in their home communities.

In addition to this investment, a further \$1 million will go toward exploring ways that regional post-secondary institutions, such as the University of Lethbridge and Northwestern Polytechnic in Grande Prairie, can help deliver medical education outside of Edmonton and Calgary.

"Whether it's emergency care or surgeries, primary care or continuing care, Albertans deserve equitable health care services in their communities. I am proud of the investments government is making through Budget 2023, both with infrastructure funding and workforce planning strategies, to help support the future of rural health care in our province."

Garth Rowswell, MLA for Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright

This year's budget also funds the new agreement with the Alberta Medical Association, further stabilizing the health system and focusing on Alberta's rural communities. Under the agreement, more than \$250 million over four years will go to addressing pressures, including recruitment and retention programs so more Albertans can access family doctors, and supporting physicians so their practices remain viable.

Budget 2023 secures Alberta's future by transforming the health care system to meet people's needs, supporting Albertans with the high cost of living, keeping our communities safe and driving the economy with more jobs, quality education and continued diversification.

NEW TOLL-FREE POISON CENTRE NUMBER

Submitted by MP Gerald Soroka

Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead wishes to advise that Health Canada has launched a new toll-free number, 1-844 POISON-X, (1-844-764-7669), in collaboration with four Canadian poison centres, to make it easier for people in Canada to access critical medical advice for poisonings.

Each year in Canada, over 1,500 people lose their lives and 8,000 are hospitalized due to unintentional poisoning from medications, cleaners, cannabis products, and many other household items. For this reason, save this toll-free poison centre number in case of accidental poisoning.

Community**VOICE** Page 11

April 4, 2023 **VOTER REGISTRATION OPENS FOR PROVINCIAL ELECTION**

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Starting today, households across Alberta will begin receiving information in their mailboxes from Elections Alberta on registering to vote in the upcoming Provincial General Election.

Electors are encouraged to register or update their information at www.voterlink.ab.ca., or by calling the Provincial Contact Centre at 1.877.422.8683. The Contact Centre is available from 8:15 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on weekdays and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekends.

Accessing Voterlink

Electors accessing the online registration system can retrieve their voter record by using the PIN and House / Access Number found on their Register to Vote letter or by using their Alberta Driver's Licence or Alberta Identification Card number.

Further instructions on how to register online are available on the Elections Alberta website. Electors that need support to register are encouraged to call the Contact Centre.

Why Register?

Registering to vote in advance of voting days makes the process faster and easier, and for electors with mailing addresses on their identification, registering with both their physical and mailing address expands their options for identification that can be accepted at the voting place.

All electors must be registered to vote at their current physical address before being issued a ballot. While this process can be completed at a voting place it does lengthen the time required to vote.

New Where to Vote Card Options

Where to Vote Cards are mailed to all households in Alberta prior to voting days. The card provides details on the closest advance voting stations and the household's assigned voting location on Election Day. New for this election, electors can now opt-in to receive their Where to Vote Card by email, ensuring they have it handy when they arrive at the voting place. Where to Vote Card selections can be made online during the registration process at www. voterlink.ab.ca or by calling the Provincial Contact Centre.

New Identification Requirements

All electors will be required to show ID to prove their identity and physical address whether they are voting in person, on Election Day, during advance voting, or voting by Special Ballot.

Four ways to do this include:

 Showing your Alberta Driver's Licence or Identification Card.

•Presenting two pieces of ID, both with your name and one showing your current physical address (i.e., a health card, an employee ID, or a utility bill).

·Having someone in your voting area vouch for you.

 Completing an attestation form.

Electors that have a PO box or other mailing address on their identification are encouraged to register to vote with both their physical and mailing address. Electors that are registered with both addresses will be able to use their identification with a mailing address when they vote. Electors that have not registered with their mailing address must bring identification to prove their physical address to register at a voting place.

For additional resources, visit our website:

•Be Ready to Vote

Media

•Explainer video: What ID vou need to vote

Elections Alberta is an independent, non-partisan office of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta responsible for administering provincial elections, by?elections, and referenda

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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

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

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Community**VOICE** SUPPORTING SUSTAINABILITY IN AGRICULTURE

Submitted by Government of Alberta

The new Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership will support the continued growth and prosperity of Alberta's agriculture sector.

In Alberta, the partnership represents \$508 million in funding over five years that will provide grants to programs that support the needs of Alberta's agriculture and agri-food sector.

Alberta's programs will aim to create new jobs and spur growth in the agriculture sector by supporting value?added processing competitiveness, attracting new investment and expanding irrigation capacity that will boost crop production.

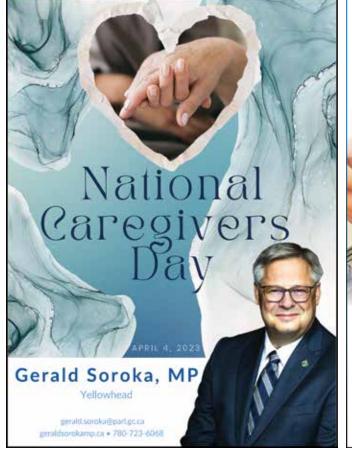
"The new Sustainable CAP provides flexibility to deliver programs that will help producers grow their business and improve productivity while addressing the unique challenges of farming in Alberta. Alberta's producers are among the best in the world when it comes to sustainable practices, and we will continue to support their efforts to feed the world while protecting the environment for generations to come."

Nate Horner, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation

The programs will also continue protecting plant and animal health and animal welfare, managing risks to Alberta's natural resources and investing in producer-led agriculture research. Producers also have access to an enhanced suite of business risk management programs to help them manage significant risks that threaten the viability of their farms and are beyond their capacity to manage.

In total, the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP) is a five-year, \$3.5-billion investment by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments that supports Canada's agri-food and agri-products sectors. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2.5-billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories. Compared with the current partnership, which expires at the end of the month, there is a \$500-million increase in cost-shared funding. Half of this additional funding will help develop and implement the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program, which will support carbon sequestration, and protect grasslands and wetlands on agricultural lands.

The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership comes into effect April 1 and replaces the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP).





April 4, 2023 Community**VOICE** Page 13 MUNICIPALITIES NEED MORE FUNDING, NOT RECYCLED BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS

Submitted by ABmunis

The Government of Alberta re-announced \$2 billion in funding over three years for municipalities yesterday. This funding was originally announced on February 28 as part of the government's provincial Budget 2023.

Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) is disappointed with the starting amount of \$722 million set for the new Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF)

baseline capital funding for 2024-25. The Government of Alberta had an opportunity to allocate far more than the \$2 billion it did over three years and really tackle the province's \$30 billion infrastructure deficit. We believe it falls about \$3 billion short of what is needed, and the provincial government's commitment is well below the historical average.

Yesterday's funding announcement does nothing to address the cost-of-liv-

Hall, 780-920-3217

ing increases that Albertans have been experiencing over the last year. It also fails to ensure Albertans will have the infrastructure they need for themselves and the thousands of newcomers our provincial government is trying to attract to stimulate economic development and create longterm prosperity.

At the same time, ABmunis is encouraged by the provincial government's willingness to update LGFF to remove the 50 per cent

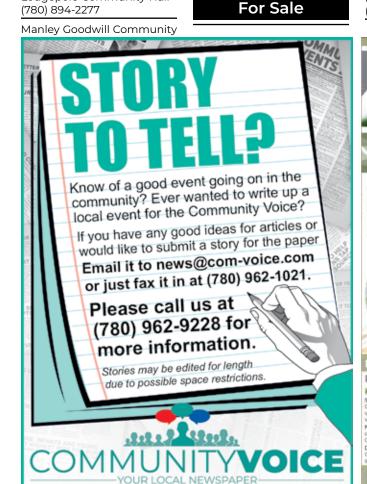
cap on the revenue index factor, which will help ensure that the funding grows with Alberta's economy. We are also pleased to see the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) operating funding has been doubled, from \$30 million to \$60 million.

These improvements are small but significant steps on the path leading to municipal governments being treated like full partners by the Government of Alberta.

Classified Ads - Call 962-9228

Hall Rentals

Lodgepole Community Hall -(780) 894-2277



yearling and two year old reg. Polled Hereford bulls. Very Ouiet dispositions. Donna Beutler 780-986-3609 Leduc (4) 04-18

firewood for sale, spruce, popler, birch we deviler half and full quartz 780-297-9172



If you are a LICENSED, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, you are welcome to submit your announcement FREE of charge, space permitting. You are required to submit your non-profit number. Call (780) 962-9228. Please note that all submitted event listings must be limited to 25 characters or less (including spaces). DEADLINE: 12 noon Friday prior to publication (Thursdays on long weekends).

FARMERS MARKETS

DRAYTON VALLEY: Evergreen Farmers' Market, Wednesdays at the Mackenzie Center of the Omniplex from 10:30AM-1:30PM. WWW. dvevergreenfarmersmarket.ca EVANSBURD FARMERS MARKET: Every Saturday 10am 2pm located right beside Evansburg Tipple Museum 780-505-0905

May-Sept

Leduc Public Market: Every Thursday 10-2 @ City Center Mall. 5201 50 st. Leduc Betty 780-916-1845

BINGO

CALMAR: Every Wednesday night, 7:00PM at the Calmar Legion.

JAMBOREE

DRAYTON VALLEY: Last Sunday of month. Upstairs @ the "55 Rec. Center" Doors at 12PM, Starts at 1PM. 780-542-4378

Edmonton Northwest Senior's Center: 12963 - 120st NW, Every Wed From 1-3:30pm Aug & Sept Admin: \$5 non members \$2 members Yearly membership \$30

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

DEVON: Wed. at 9:30AM at Riverside Baptist Church, 2 Saskatchewan Dr., Devon Contact Brenda at 987-9113 for info

EDMONTON: Thurs 8:30-10AM at Annex of Grace United Church (6215-104 Ave). \$7/month

LEDUC: Tuesday Nights at Peace Lutheran Church, 4606 - 48 St. Leduc. Weigh-ins: 5:45-6:30рм, Meeting 7:00-7:30рм. Call Marie at 780-986-6477.

THORSBY: meeting every Monday morning 9:00AM at Thorsby Fire Hall. Call 780-621-3461

SOCIAL EVENTS

YOUNG AT HEART 50+ LUNCHEON for Parkland County Seniors. 12PM at Stony Plain United Church Basement, \$7 per plate. 3rd Wed of Each Month, Sept - June. For reservations call Audrey 780-963-1782.

CALMAR SENIORS BUS: to West Edmonton Mall - 1st Wed. 9:30AM; Seniors' Birthday Party - every 3rd Wed. 1:30Pм; Meetings - every 2nd Wed of every month. 1:30 рм. (780) 985-3117.

RECREATION: DEVON Volleyball, Mondays 8-10рм, \$2, John Maland High School. Badminton, Fridays 7-9PM, Robina Baker School, \$2. Hockey (Arena), Tues & Thurs, noon (children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult).

PLAYGROUND: INDOOR Mondays, 10AM-12PM, Alder Flats Community Centre. Info (780) 388-3333 No fee. Pleas bring a snack for your child.

JAM DANCE & CARDS: 1st Fri, 7рм, Buck Creek. (780) 514-3781 "KIDS OWN WORSHIP" an hour after-school. 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month. Songs, Crafts, Snacks and FUN! No charge. Call All Saints' Anglican Church. (780)542-5048

MUSICAL JAM SESSIONS: 4th Tues, 1:00рм at Calmar SESSIONS: Seniors Centre. Bring your own instruments and have fun.

JAMBOREE: MUSIC Last Sunday of each month. Upstairs @ the "55 Rec. Center" Doors open at 12рм, Starts at 1рм. 780-542-3768

MUSICAL PROGRAM: every 4th Saturday at the Cloverleaf 2:30рм. Everyone Manor. welcome.

ST. DAVIDS JR. CHOIR is seeking singers ages 7-13. Boys and girls are welcomed. Rehearsals in Leduc Tuesdays 3:45- 5рм. Contact 780-432-7805.

WARBURG ARENA HOSTS FREE SHINNY HOCKEY, Sun 2:30 - 3:45рм & Mon /Wed 4-5:45рм, arena closures & cancellations can be heard on recorded messages, call Arena 780-848-7581

WARBURG ARENA HOSTS SKATING, PUBLIC FREE Sundays 1-2:30PM & Fridays 4-5:45Рм, call arena for closure dates

MEETINGS

AHS: Addiction Services provides assessment and counseling for alcohol, other drugs, tobacco and gambling in Breton on court day Wednesdays. То make an appointment, please call 780-542-3140.

Do you have a problem with alcohol & are you looking for an AA MEETING or someone to talk to? Call Toll Free 1-877-404-8100. Drinking a Problem? There is a Solution, call AA 780-491-1043

ALDER FLATS AG SOCIETY: 3rd Wed, 7PM, Community Centre. Call (780) 388-3318 for more info. **BRETON COUNCIL MEETINGS:** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7рм at the Council Chambers, Carolyn Strand Civic Centre. 780-696-3636.

BRETON DISTRICT AG & SOCIETY Regular Meeting 2nd Thurs. at 7:30рм at Hall.

CITIZENS ON PATROL: 2nd Thurs of each mo, 7:30рм in Entwistle Seniors Blda

DEVON TOASTMASTERS, Thurs. 7PM at St. Georges Anglican Church (2 St. Clair, Devon). Learn and practice the skills required to effectively speak in public we help conquer your fear.

More info: Marc 780-729-4932 DRAYTON VALLEY BRANCH OF ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY: meets 7PM at Drayton Valley Municipal Library every 3rd Wed of the month. For more information call (780) 542-2787 LEDUC MS SOCIETY COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP Are you diagnosed with MS and have questions? This group is for you! Meetings TBD. Contact the Edmonton Chapter, 780-471-3034

MS SOCIETY DRAYTON VALLEY

COMMUNITY GROUP meets every 1st Tuesday of the month, Sept-June from 6-8PM at Norquest College, dates TBA. Info, Terra Leslie at 1-403-346-0290

Winfield Legion Branch 236: Meetings every 2nd Tues. Contact Secretary Treasurer Shelly Oulton 696-3600 or Alfred Farmer 696-2006

YOUR COMMUNITY

Dental Health: Visit the dental hygienist with your toddler. Children 15-24 mos of age are encouraged to have this Free Toddler Mouth Check. For info, contact the Thorsby Health Centre at 789-4800.

Derrick Toastmasters: Serving Drayton Valley and area since 1990 Build Communication, Leadership & Public Speaking Skills Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 7-9pm, Zoom derricktm6538. Contact secretary@gmail.com for information.

Come join GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA, 1st Pipestone Sparks/ Brownies/Guides Rainbow Unit. For more info call Jenny 387-3544 (anytime) or Teresa 901-3817 (evenings)

LEDUC AND DISTRICT SENIOR **CENTRE :** Provides programs and activities to enhance seniors' lives. Drop by for a tour, meet new friends, and see what we have to offer! 780-986-6160 www.leducseniors.ca

Meals on Wheels: Call Deanne Young, Director FCSS 696-3636 Thorsby Well Child & Immunization Clinic, every 1st & 3rd Thurs. of the month. Contact Thorsby Public Health Center for appointment. 789-4800.

Well Warburg Baby & Immunization Clinic, by appointment only, 2nd Wed of month, Cloverleaf Manor. Thorsby Health Unit 789-4800.



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