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November 27, 2024

BEAUMONT RCMP REQUEST ASSISTANCE LOCATING MISSING PERSON



Submitted by Beaumont RCMP

On Nov. 17, 2024, Beaumont RCMP received a report that 28-year-old Shawn Edward Robson-Harder has not been seen since Sept. 19, 2024. Shawn was last seen in Beaumont and he could

be in the Edmonton area. Shawn's family is concerned for his well-being.

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2025 CANADA SUMMER JOBS APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYERS

Submitted by MP Gerald Soroka

Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead wishes to advise that Canada Summer Jobs 2025 application period for employers from

not-for-profit organizations, and the public or private sectors is now open. To qualify, private sector employers must have 50 or fewer full-time employees across Canada when applying.

The application deadline is

December 19, 2024, at 11:59pm (PST). Full-time jobs will become available starting on April 21, 2025.

Employers interested in applying for CSJ 2025 funding are encouraged to submit

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REVIEWING ASSISTED SUICIDE POLICIES IN ALBERTA

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is launching a public engagement to gather input about legislation and policies around assisted suicide, also referred to as medical

assistance in dying (MAID).

Medical assistance in dying is a process that allows an eligible person to receive assistance from a medical practitioner in ending their life. To be found eligible, a person must be suffering from a serious and perma-

nent medical condition.

Alberta's government is reviewing how MAID is regulated to ensure there is a consistent process as well as oversight that protects vulnerable Albertans, specifically those living

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2025 Canada Summer Jobs Application For Employers

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their applications electronically on the Grants and Contributions Online Services (GCOS) portal.

Creating a GCOS account is

a one-time process that allows organizations to apply for various Employment and Social Development Canada funding opportunities in a secure web environment.

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found at:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/11/canada-summer-jobs-2025--background.html>

Reviewing Assisted Suicide Policies In Alberta

Continued from Page 1

with disabilities or suffering from mental health challenges. An online survey is now open for Albertans to share their views and experiences with MAID until Dec. 20.

“We recognize that medical assistance in dying is a very complex and often personal issue and is an important, sensitive and emo-

tional matter for patients and their families. It is important to ensure this process has the necessary supports to protect the most vulnerable. I encourage Albertans who have experience with and opinions on MAID to take this survey.”

Mickey Amery, Minister of Justice and Attorney General

In addition to the online survey, Alberta’s government will also be engaging directly with academics, medical associations, public bodies, religious organizations, regulatory bodies, advocacy groups and others that have an interest in and/or working relationship to the MAID process, health care, disabilities and mental health care.

Feedback gathered through this process will help inform the Alberta government’s planning and policy decision making, in-

cluding potential legislative changes regarding MAID in Alberta.

“Our government has been clear that we do not support the provision of medically assisted suicide for vulnerable Albertans facing mental illness as their primary purpose for seeking their own death. Instead, our goal is to build a continuum of care where vulnerable Albertans can live in long-term health and fulfilment. We look forward to the feedback of Albertans as we proceed with this important issue.”

Dan Williams, Minister of Mental Health and Addiction

“As MAID is a federally legislated and regulated program that touches the lives of many Albertans, our priority is to ensure we have robust safeguards to protect vulnerable

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For weeks a six-year-old lad kept telling his first-grade teacher about the baby brother or sister that was expected at his house. One day the mother allowed the boy to feel the movements of the unborn child. The six-year old was obviously impressed, but made no comment. Furthermore, he stopped telling his teacher about the impending event. The teacher finally sat the boy on her lap and said, "Tommy, whatever has become of that baby brother or sister you were expecting at home?" Tommy burst into tears and confessed, "I think Mommy ate it!"

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Reviewing Assisted Suicide Policies In Alberta

Continued from Page 2

individuals. Albertans' insights will be essential in developing thoughtful policies on this complex issue."

Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Health

The federal Criminal Code sets out the MAID eligibility criteria, procedural safeguards and reporting obligations. The federal government has paused MAID eligibility for individuals with a mental

illness as their sole underlying medical condition until March 2027 to ensure the provincial health care systems have processes and supports in place. Alberta's government does not support expanding MAID eligi-

bility to include those facing depression or mental illness and continues to call on the federal government to end this policy altogether.

STRENGTHENING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE ACROSS ALBERTA

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Albertans will benefit from a \$42-million investment to enhance primary care by recruiting more health providers and expanding essential services.

Alberta's government is committed to advancing initiatives that will further strengthen primary health care. As part of this work, the government is actively working to increase access to primary care for all Albertans by implementing recommendations from the Modernizing Alberta's Primary Health Care System (MAPS), a crucial step in that direction.

The final MAPS report highlighted the need to improve access to team-based care. These new grants will specifically enhance access to such care in rural areas, attract more health care providers to these regions and expand integrated support services for vulnerable Albertans.

"These grants are another way we are strengthening primary health care across the province so more Albertans will have timely access to the care they need."

Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Health

Expanding community health supports

To provide more integrated care, Alberta's government is investing \$30 million over two years to expand services

at four community health centres: The Alex Community Health Centre, CUPS Calgary Society, the Jasper Place Wellness Centre, and Radius Community Health & Heal-

ing.

These funds will support a wide range of expanded services, including primary health care for Indigenous and marginalized groups,

mental health services, a walk-in clinic, outreach services and team-based care. The centres will also expand support services

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Strengthening Primary Health Care Across Alberta

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such as housing navigation, recovery support and food access programs.

“This funding connects primary care providers and multidisciplinary teams to vulnerable Calgarians, allowing The Alex to significantly scale up wraparound services and deliver accessible, team-based care that improves health outcomes for at-risk individuals.”

Joy Bowen-Eyre, chief executive officer, The Alex Community Health Centre

“Thank you to the Government of Alberta for investing in the community health centre model. This grant will enable CUPS to expand our services, ensuring vulnerable and marginalized Albertans have access to primary care that is integrated, collaborative and holistic.”

Elaine Wilson, chief oper-

ating officer, CUPS Calgary Society

“With this grant, JPWC’s community health centre is reopening to offer West Edmonton low-barrier, integrated health care and social supports, prioritizing community-led, team-based care to enhance equitable health outcomes.”

Taylor Soroka, vice-president strategy, Jasper Place Wellness Centre

“Through this grant, Radius will expand its integrated health and social programs to further our goals of improving the quality of life and well-being of underserved Edmontonians.”

Tricia Smith, executive director, Radius Community Health & Healing

Supporting rural health care initiatives

Building on the recently announced Rural Health Action

Plan to improve rural health care, \$12 million is being invested over two years into a Rural Team Recruitment Grant and a Municipality Supported Clinics Grant to improve team-based primary health care.

The Rural Team Recruitment Grant and the Municipality Supported Clinics Grant will each provide \$6 million over two years.

The Rural Team Recruitment Grant will support community organizations and clinics in hiring additional non-physician team members to increase capacity and improve access within their clinics. In addition, the Municipality Supported Clinics Grant will assist rural municipalities or regions in enhancing team-based care, allowing them to take over ownership or support the operations of existing pri-

mary care clinics within their communities.

“These grants are wonderful news for rural Alberta. They will support municipalities so they can improve primary care for their residents and will draw more primary care providers to rural communities across the province.”

Martin Long, parliamentary secretary for rural health

“Remuneration, respect, retention and recruitment of rural generalists will ensure the health of all Albertans. This government is recognizing that rural health care is unique, requiring solutions that support being cared for within a patient medical home servicing your rural or remote community.”

Dr. Rithesh Ram, president, section of rural medicine, Alberta Medical Association

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ENSURING A SUCCESSFULLY REFOCUSED HEALTH SYSTEM

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government continues to make progress refocusing the health care system to ensure all Albertans get the care they need.

Albertans deserve a health care system that is focused on what matters – better services, improved outcomes, enhanced local decision-making and more support for Alberta's front-line workers. To ensure these goals are met, Alberta's government committed to refocus the health care system to give Albertans the health care system they need, without disrupting the services they rely on.

Since announcing plans to refocus Alberta's health care system in November 2023, significant progress has been made in several key areas.

Under Alberta's refocused health care system, four fully integrated provincial health agencies are being created to oversee the priority sectors of primary care, acute care, continuing care, and mental health and addiction. Two of the provincial health agencies, Recovery Alberta and Primary Care Alberta, have been established with input from more than 30,000 health care professionals and Albertans.

Additionally, it was recently announced that Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services Jason Nixon would become the sector minister for the new continuing care provincial health agency. He has now taken on this role and will oversee continuing care as the government works toward standing up the new continuing care agency.

"Refocusing the health care system is a complex process that needs to be done right. We're committed to taking the time necessary to develop a better health care system for Albertans and the front-line workers who work tirelessly every day to serve their patients."

Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Health

Acute Care Alberta transition
Acute care, which includes

hospitals, emergency services and surgery care, is a significant part of the health care system, providing critical care to Albertans when they need it most. Alberta's new acute care provincial health agency, Acute Care Alberta, will become a legal entity in early 2025 and begin operating in spring 2025. As work continues, Alberta's government is committed to ensuring there are no interruptions to patient care while keeping front-line workers and all Albertans informed and supported.

The new acute care provincial health agency will work directly with service providers to speed up access to high-quality care, reduce wait times and ensure a patient's journey through the acute care system is efficient and effective.

To support the standing up of Acute Care Alberta, the Acute Care Provincial Health Agency Executive Transition Team has been established. The team includes executive members from Alberta Health and an external special adviser, Dr. Chris Eagle. As a former CEO of Alberta Health Services, Dr. Eagle brings extensive experience in the delivery of acute care services in the province. He will provide valuable insight and expertise that will support the transition of Alberta Health Services from a health authority to a service delivery provider.

Throughout this work, Albertans will continue to access acute care services as they always have, and there will be no impact to front-line health care workers and their continued dedication to delivering health care to Albertans.

Primary Care Alberta now operational

As of Nov. 18, Primary Care Alberta is a legal entity under the leadership of Kim Simmonds, whose first task is to support the transition of operations by setting the agency's vision and mission, implementing policies and processes, and developing plans. Simmonds and her leadership team will work closely with existing primary care teams at Alberta Health

Services to establish the new agency.

"Every Albertan deserves to have a long-term, trusted connection with a family doctor or health care team. We are ready to work to ensure all Albertans have a primary health care home."

Kim Simmonds, chief executive officer, Primary Care Alberta

Primary Care Alberta will coordinate and deliver primary health care services across the province, so all Albertans and their families are supported in their day-to-day health needs while avoiding visiting the emergency department and reducing pressures on acute care services.

Integrated approach to health system planning

As part of the refocusing work, Alberta's government is also taking a new, regional approach to health system planning through seven integrated health corridors.

As a regional grouping within a health care system, a health corridor is designed to reflect how Albertans use health care services in the province based on factors such as travel patterns, access points and local population needs. The corridors consider data related to where Albertans access services and facilities, as well as feedback received during health care refocusing public engagement sessions.

As a result, these corridors will enable an evidence-based approach to planning that will inform decisions about services, workforce and infrastructure across the four new provincial health agencies. This new approach will connect care pathways and support seamless patient journeys throughout the health care system.

"New health care corridors present many opportunities within Alberta's health care system. Further regionalization of services, in addition to a focus on rural needs and representation, will be essential to ensuring our communities get access to the care they need."

Kara Westerlund, president,

Rural Municipalities of Alberta

Health corridors will ensure Alberta's government will be better able to determine current gaps in the health care system and inform investments in those areas, including operational dollars and funding for capital projects. Getting a better regional understanding of how the health care system is being used will ensure decision-making processes reflect the changing needs of Albertans.

Upcoming engagement opportunities

Alberta's government remains committed to maintaining open lines of communication with Albertans as it stands up the new provincial health agencies that will form the backbone of Alberta's refocused health care system.

The input, experiences and feedback Alberta's government is gathering are helping to create a more effective and efficient health care system that meets the needs of Albertans today and for generations to come.

All Albertans are invited to participate in upcoming telephone town halls with Health Minister Adriana LaGrange to discuss the ongoing work to refocus the health system. Town halls will take place on:

- Nov. 19, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Nov. 27, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Nov. 28, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Albertans can register to participate online.

In addition to telephone town halls, Albertans can provide feedback on the refocused health care system online until Dec. 5.

A second round of in-person public engagement is planned for winter/spring 2025 to share information and receive feedback about refocusing work. Those interested in keeping up to date on the health system refocusing work and new engagement opportunities can sign up for an e-newsletter.

13 WINNERS SHARE \$ 298,525 JACKPOT IN SUPPORT IN SPLIT THE POT LOTTERY!

Submitted by Split the Pot Lottery

Congratulations to Split the Pot's Grand Prize Winners!

Alberta's first edition of Split the Pot Lottery announced its 13 Grand Prize winners this morning. The final jackpot payout soared to \$ 597, 050 – a more than healthy figure for its winners and for its 30 participating hospital and healthcare foundations across the province.

One Winner (60% of the final payout) | Winnings: \$ 179,115

1. Annette K. of Drayton Valley, Alberta, Ticket # B-19904155

Two Winners (split 20% of the final payout) | Winnings: \$29,852.50

1. Donna B. of St. Albert, Alberta, Ticket # A-10872436

2. Michael P. of Calgary, Alberta, Ticket # A-26529510

Ten Winners (split 20% of the final payout) | Winnings: \$ 5,970.50

1. Michel T. of Fort McMurray,

Alberta, Ticket # A-22053795

2. Lana B. of Camrose, Alberta, Ticket # B-23101082

3. Michelle M. of High River, Alberta, Ticket # A-13095637

4. Allan S. of Airdrie, Alberta, Ticket # A-15352039

5. Terry K. of Edmonton, Alberta, Ticket # A-16971608

6. Jacquie J. of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Ticket # A-27825714

7. Jerry D. of Frog lake, Alberta, Ticket # A-17589428

8. George W. of Calgary, Alberta, Ticket # A-21036837

9. Daniel J. of Airdrie, Alberta, Ticket # B-11354279

10. Dennis F. of Hythe, Alberta, Ticket # A-12773109

Winners were drawn on Friday, November 15, and revealed to the public this morning on Split the Pot Lottery's website and Facebook page.

Split the Pot Lottery supports 30 hospital & healthcare foundations across the province. It is also one of the largest partnered fundraising initiatives in Alberta. Ticket buyers province-wide have the chance to share in the winnings, and by participating in Split the Pot, they are also

shifting the dialogue, highlighting that we are all connected and that a win for one is a win for all.

To learn more about Split the Pot Lottery and stay in the know about future draws, community members can follow them on Facebook or visit their website, where you can also join their mailing list.

Split the Pot Lottery (AGLC Licence #698984), is a joint venture of Airdrie Health Foundation, Bassano and District Health Foundation, Canmore Hospital Foundation, CapitalCare Foundation, Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation, Coronation Health Centre Foundation, Crowsnest Pass Health Foundation, Drayton Valley Health Services Foundation, Fairview Health Complex Foundation, Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital

Foundation, Glenrose Hospital Foundation, Grande Prairie Regional Hospital Foundation, Hardisty General Hospital Auxiliary Guild, High River Health Foundation, Hinton Healthcare Foundation, Hythe Nursing Home Foundation, Medicine Hat Health Foundation, Mental Health Foundation, Northern Lights Health Foundation, Northwest Health Foundation, Ponoka & District Health Foundation, Regional EMS Foundation, Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation, Strathcona Community Hospital Foundation, Sturgeon Community Hospital Foundation, Three Hills Health Centre Auxiliary, Wainwright and District Hospital Foundation, Westview Health Centre Foundation, Wetaskiwin Health Foundation, Windy Slopes Health Foundation

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NEW SHERIFFS UNIT TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY

Submitted by Government of Alberta

A new team of Alberta Sheriffs will work alongside police to keep crime out of central Alberta communities by targeting problem properties.

Since 2023, Alberta's government has invested more than \$27 million to help fight crime throughout the province. Building on these efforts, the government is now expanding the Alberta Sheriffs' Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) unit with the creation of a new team of investigators in Red Deer. The creation of the Red Deer SCAN team is the latest in a series of measures aimed at enhancing public safety and increasing the Alberta Sheriffs' ability to support police throughout the province.

The move puts more resources on the ground with a team of qualified experts who will investigate properties where illegal activity has been reported and shut them down through court orders when needed. The Red Deer SCAN team – made up of four Alberta Sheriffs – joins existing SCAN teams in Calgary, Edmonton, and Lethbridge, which have proven immensely effective in working alongside local police to shutter problem properties throughout the province.

"Alberta's government will always maintain a zero-tolerance stance toward crime of any kind, and the expansion of the Alberta Sheriffs' SCAN unit reflects that. With the creation of a new SCAN team in Red Deer, we're expanding the unit's coverage even further and putting more boots on the ground where they're need-

ed. Let this be a message to all criminals: you are not welcome here. Communities in the Red Deer area have a right not to be plagued by drug and other criminal activity that create dangerous environments, and Alberta's government will do whatever it takes to keep people safe."

Mike Ellis, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

The Sheriffs' SCAN unit operates under the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act, which uses legal sanctions and court orders to hold owners accountable for illegal activity happening on their property, such as drug trafficking, human trafficking and child exploitation. SCAN augments and supports local police to both investigate and close properties where evidence of criminal activity has been confirmed.

"Ensuring safety for law-abiding Albertans is of utmost importance for Alberta's government and requires a comprehensive approach to effectively combat and prevent criminal activity. This involves enhancing law-enforcement resources, fostering community engagement, implementing crime prevention programs, and promoting collaboration between Alberta Sheriffs and local police. This SCAN team is a game-changer in central Alberta and puts criminals on notice that they are not welcome here."

Jason Stephan, MLA for Red Deer-South

"The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act holds property owners accountable for activities on their property that threaten public safety. Alberta's

SCAN teams support policing efforts by addressing illegal activities on these properties. This additional team will enhance RCMP community safety programs."

Assistant Commissioner Trevor Daroux, criminal operations officer, Alberta RCMP

When a community member reports a problem property to SCAN, the unit begins an investigation. Once the investigation confirms the activity, investigators contact the property owner to try and resolve the issue informally. If informal efforts are unsuccessful, SCAN can apply to the courts for a community safety order to impose restrictions and conditions on the property and its owner, which could include closing the property for up to 90 days. Any criminal activity uncovered when dealing with these properties is turned over to the police to investigate.

"Over the years, SCAN's impact on community safety has been profound. More often than not, we see individuals in these problem properties carrying out drug operations and other criminal activities beside homes, schools, playgrounds and other places where Albertans' safety should never be in question. Crime has no place in any Alberta neighbourhood, and we look forward to working with our policing partners in the Red Deer area to help keep central Alberta communities safe."

Mike Letourneau, superintendent, Alberta Sheriffs

SCAN continues to see tremendous success, having closed problem properties in Lethbridge, Calgary, Spruce Grove and Medicine

Hat in the last six months alone. Since May 2024, Alberta's government has publicly announced the closure of seven problem properties by SCAN, including three in Calgary, two in Lethbridge, and one each in Spruce Grove and Medicine Hat.

"Creating a safer environment for our citizens improves the overall quality of our community in Red Deer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alberta's government, SCAN and all our law enforcement partners who work tirelessly every day to keep our communities safe. This is great news for the City of Red Deer, and together, we can make our community safer. I encourage residents to report any suspicious activity to the SCAN unit."

Ken Johnston, mayor, City of Red Deer

The Red Deer SCAN team's operational boundaries encompass the city of Red Deer and its surrounding communities and rural areas, providing coverage to the central area spanning Ponoka to the north and Olds to the south.



EXPANDING ACCESS TO FAMILY JUSTICE

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is launching a public survey to gather feedback from Albertans on how to improve family justice services.

Alberta's government is committed to supporting Alberta families, improving access to justice and investing in the family justice system. This includes expanding services that help Albertans resolve their family law issues in a manner that promotes family well-being while reducing pressure on the courts. An online survey is open until Dec. 20 for Albertans to share their views and experiences on how family justice services could better support their needs.

"Accessing family justice

services can be challenging during difficult times, which is why it's so important to have a streamlined and consistent process. Alberta's government is committed to improving the family justice system, and we want to hear directly from Albertans about what's working and what needs improvement. If you've used family justice services, we encourage you to share your feedback by taking this survey."

Mickey Amery, Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Family justice services include services like mediation and family court counsellors as a first step to seeking a divorce or resolving spousal support, parenting or child support issues. These pre-court services help Albertans address their family law mat-

ters through simpler and less adversarial processes.

"Family justice services, such as mediation, play a vital role in helping families resolve conflicts and find better solutions collaboratively. Mediation fosters constructive communication and reduces conflict, making it an essential resource for families navigating challenging situations. Hearing directly from those who use these services is critical for driving meaningful improvements. I encourage all Albertans to share their insights by participating in the survey."

Brad Mustard, KC, chair, Alberta Family Mediation Society

"The perspectives of Albertans on their experiences within the family justice system are incredibly important. Just as resolving family conflict necessitates dialogue and collaboration, the family justice system operates as a partnership among the government, family justice service providers, and the families who use the services. We commend the government's efforts to engage with both service providers and families and we hope as many Albertans as possible will make their voices heard."

Arifa Virani, acting executive director, Alternative Dis-

pute Resolution Institute of Alberta

Recent investments in family justice include a \$5-million investment in Budget 2023 to expand pre-court services in Edmonton and Calgary. This focus on pre-court services, called the Family Justice Strategy, will be expanded to Red Deer in early 2025, following an additional \$3-million investment in Budget 2024.

In addition to these investments, Alberta's government launched the Alberta Family Resolution Hub in December 2023. This is an online tool available across the province to help Albertans explore their options and next steps for addressing a family law matter.

Alberta's government held roundtable discussions in October with a diverse group of legal, clinical, academic and community experts to gather their input on the Family Justice Strategy. Together, the public survey and roundtable discussions will help government gain a better understanding of how the family justice system is working, evaluate the success of the Family Justice Strategy in Edmonton and Calgary so far and plan for the implementation of the strategy in Red Deer in early 2025.

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BETTER, FASTER, MORE AFFORDABLE AUTO INSURANCE

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is introducing a new auto insurance system that will provide better and faster services to Albertans while reducing auto insurance premiums.

After hearing from more than 16,000 Albertans through an online survey about their priorities for auto insurance policies, Alberta's government is introducing a new privately delivered, care-focused auto insurance system.

Right now, insurance in the province is not affordable or care focused. Despite high premiums, Albertans injured in collisions do not get the timely medical care and income support they need in a system that is complex to navigate. When fully implemented, Alberta's new auto insurance system will deliver better and faster care for those involved in collisions, and Albertans will see cost savings up to \$400 per year.

"Albertans have been clear they

need an auto insurance system that provides better, faster care and is more affordable. When it's implemented, our new privately delivered, care-centred insurance system will put the focus on Albertans' recovery, providing more effective support and will deliver lower rates."

Danielle Smith, Premier

"High auto insurance rates put strain on Albertans. By shifting to a system that offers improved benefits and support, we are providing better and faster care to Albertans, with lower costs."

Nate Horner, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance

Albertans who suffer injuries due to a collision currently wait months for a simple claim to be resolved and can wait years for claims related to more serious and life-changing injuries to be addressed. Additionally, the medical and financial benefits they receive often expire before they're fully recovered.

Under the new system, Alber-

tans who suffer catastrophic injuries will receive treatment and care for the rest of their lives. Those who sustain serious injuries will receive treatment until they are fully recovered. These changes mirror and build upon the Saskatchewan insurance model, where at-fault drivers can be sued for pain and suffering damages if they are convicted of a criminal offence, such as impaired driving or dangerous driving, or conviction of certain offenses under the Traffic Safety Act.

Work on this new auto insurance system will require legislation in the spring of 2025. In order to reconfigure auto insurance policies for 3.4 million Albertans, auto insurance companies need time to create and implement the new system. Alberta's government expects the new system to be fully implemented by January 2027.

In the interim, starting in January 2025, the good driver rate cap will be adjusted to a 7.5% increase

due to high legal costs, increasing vehicle damage repair costs and natural disaster costs. This protects good drivers from significant rate increases while ensuring that auto insurance providers remain financially viable in Alberta.

Albertans have been clear that they still want premiums to be based on risk. Bad drivers will continue to pay higher premiums than good drivers.

By providing significantly enhanced medical, rehabilitation and income support benefits, this system supports Albertans injured in collisions while reducing the impact of litigation costs on the amount that Albertans pay for their insurance.

"Keeping more money in Albertans' pockets is one of the best ways to address the rising cost of living. This shift to a care-first automobile insurance system will do just that by helping lower premiums for people across the province."

Nathan Neudorf, Minister of Affordability and Utilities

QUEEN STREET DENTAL

Welcomes

Dr. Jean-Francois Tardif



Dr. Jean-Francois "Jeff", CD, DMD, is a seasoned general dentist with over 25 years of experience in the field. Dr. Tardif joined the Canadian Armed Forces while earning his Doctor of Dental Medicine Degree from the University of Montreal and then served as a military dentist for over 20 years. Dr. Tardif's military career was marked by his dedication to his patients and his commitment to excellence.

He received numerous accolades for his service, including being decorated by the Canadian Forces for his long and faithful service.

After retiring from the Canadian Forces at the rank of Major, Dr. Tardif remained in the Edmonton area and continued to work as a dentist contractor for the military. Dr. Jeff is known for his warm and friendly demeanor, his gentle touch, and his ability to put even the most nervous patients at ease. Dr. Tardif's bilingual skills have served him well throughout his career. If you're looking for a dentist with a wealth of experience, a touch of humor, and the ability to make your dental visit as comfortable as possible, look no further than Dr. Jean-Francois "Jeff" Tardif, CD, DMD.

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NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH: MINISTER TURTON

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Minister of Children and Family Services Searle Turton issued the following statement in honour of National Adoption Awareness Month:

“Every child deserves a loving, forever family. During National Adoption Awareness Month, our government is proud to recognize the many Alberta families making a positive, life-changing difference for children and youth by

choosing to adopt.

“Adoption offers young people stability, providing them with a strong sense of belonging and the opportunity to form lifelong connections they can rely on for wisdom and support. Whether a child is being adopted from government care, a licensed agency, private direct placement or internationally, we are grateful for all the adoptive parents who provide unconditional love and nurturing homes to young people in need.

“Alberta is a leader in adoption, creating more ways to make adoption more affordable because building forever families should never be a burden for those yearning to be called mom or dad. These enhanced adoption supports include increased tax credits and a \$6,000 subsidy to reduce adoption costs through a licensed agency by as much as 50 per cent, as well as reducing red tape so the process is smoother for prospective families.

“As an adoptive parent,

being able to provide a loving home to a child in need continues to be one of the most rewarding and fulfilling decisions my family has made and it can be the same for any Albertans considering adoption. Now is the time to open your heart and home to a child or youth in need.”

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Classified Policy

CLASSIFIED RATES INCLUDE GST. 1st 20 Words: First Insertion = \$7.00; Subsequent insertion = \$3.50 each. (Eg: 2 insertions = \$10.50; 3 insertions = \$14.00; etc) Each additional word is .20 cents per word, per insertion.

BOLD/CAPITAL text available for an additional \$1/line. Ads must be paid in advance. No Refunds Allowed on Classified Ads. DEADLINE: is Thurs. 4:00 pm. Classified ads may be called in to the COMMUNITY VOICE office at (780) 962-9228, emailed to: comvoice@telusplanet.net Ads may also be placed on

the web at www.com-voice.com/classified.htm

Hall, 780-920-3217

Hall Rentals

Lodgepole Community Hall - (780) 894-2277

Manley Goodwill Community

SUDOKU of the week

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.

ANSWER:
Last Weeks

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

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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 words or less (including spaces). DEADLINE: 12 noon Friday prior to publication (Thursdays on long weekends).

FARMERS MARKETS

DRAYTON VALLEY: Farmers' Market, Wednesdays starting May -October 4 from 3:00pm-6:00pm at 5015 Industrial Rd. dvagsocietyinfo@gmail.com for information. We have facebook, instagram and a website.

EVANSBURG 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

Devon Handmade Arts & Crafts Sale, 2nd Sunday each month, Community Centre 12-4pm. New Vendors Welcome. More info: 780-652-3304

Mulhurst Bay Farmer's Market. Saturday 11-3 @ Community Hall.

BINGO

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

JAMBOREE

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: 5:45-6:30PM, Meeting 7:00-7:30PM. Call Marie at 780-986-6477.

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

SOCIAL EVENTS

50+ YOUNG AT HEART 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: Meetings - every 2nd Wed of every month. 1:00PM. (587) 988-3636.

DEVON RECREATION: Volleyball, Mondays 8-10PM, \$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).

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

JAM DANCE & CARDS: 1st Fri, 7PM, 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, 1:00PM at Calmar Seniors Centre. Bring your own instruments and have fun.

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

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

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

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

WARBURG ARENA HOSTS FREE

PUBLIC SKATING, Sundays 1-2:30PM & Fridays 4-5:45PM, 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. To 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 7PM at the Council Chambers, Carolyn Strand Civic Centre. 780-696-3636.

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

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

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

DEVON: Paint night, 4th Wednesday of the month, 7-9 pm. Info at artsdevon.org or phone 780-652-3304.

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: Jan, May, Sept. Contact Secretary Treasurer Gordon Watson 780-542-1243

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 Contact derricktm6538.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 Dianne 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.

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





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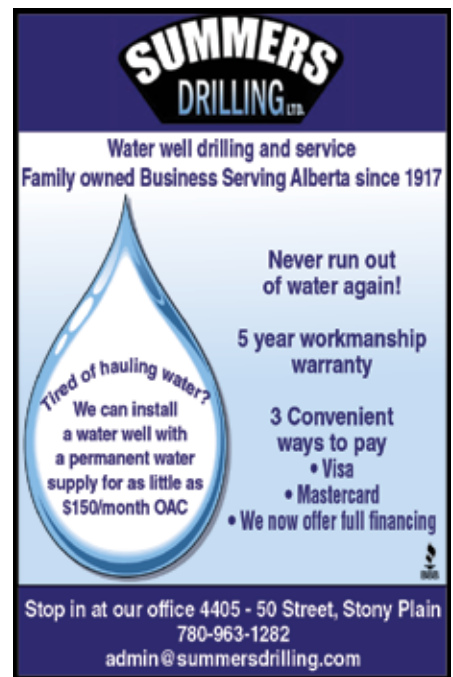


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PHONE: _____ **TOWN:** _____

Entries must be recieved by December 19, 2024.

**Mail to: Santa Clause c/o Community Voice
Box 3595 Spruce Grove, AB T7X 3A8**

NOTE TO PARENTS: Please ensure that your phone number is legible.