



COMMUNITY VOICE

YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

Serving: Alberta Beach, Barrhead, Calahoo, Cherhill, Darwell, Glenevis, Gunn, Lac Ste. Anne County, Mayerthorpe, Onoway, Rich Valley, Rochfort Bridge, Sangudo, Whitecourt, Spruce Grove and Stony Plain.

May 6, 2026

KEEPING ALBERTA'S HIGHWAYS CLEAN

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta observes a remarkable milestone this year as volunteers come together to celebrate 50 years of the province's highway cleanup initiative.

Between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, volunteers wearing bright safety vests will collect trash along Alberta highways to raise funds for community organizations. Drivers are asked to slow down, obey signs and use caution when passing cleanup crews. Participants are asked to be aware of their surroundings, make sure they are visible and obey all traffic

signs.

"Since its inception in 1976, the annual event has seen tens of thousands of Albertans collecting litter and debris from thousands of kilometres of roadside. This grassroots tradition not only helps preserve the natural beauty of Alberta's landscapes but also fosters community spirit and environmental stewardship." Devin Dreesen, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

"The Alberta highway cleanup is one of the most important events for our scouting group, giving our senior cub scouts and younger members a chance to connect and learn while working side-by-side.

This event is a vital fundraiser that provides essential support for group activities. In every sense - fundraising, community service and environmental impact - the highway cleanup is a cornerstone event for our group." Maurice Shevalier, group commissioner, 169 Bowmont Scouting Group

Since 1976, more than \$20 million has been paid to more than 17,000 clubs and organizations that have participated in the annual highway cleanup, representing more than 380,000 volunteers. Those volunteers have collected more than 1.1 million bags of trash along almost 250,000 kilometres of highway.

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ALBERTA RCMP ENCOURAGES ALBERTANS TO PREPARE EMERGENCY PLAN

Submitted by Alberta RCMP

The Alberta RCMP is encouraging community members to prepare an emergency plan in the event of a flood or wildfire. As summer approaches, it's important to be prepared to act quickly in case of a natural disaster.

Keep the following in mind when making an emergency plan for your family:

•Consider the specific needs of your household, including older family members, special health or mobility needs, children, pets and service animals.

•Detail how your family will contact each other during an emergency and make sure family

members have shared and saved each other's contact information. Remember, you may not be in the same location when these events are taking place.

•Determine the best and quickest way to evacuate your home. Include evacuation routes, meeting or muster points, etc.

•If you can't evacuate your home, be prepared to be self-sufficient for three days. This includes having enough food, water and a secondary power source if possible.

•Prepare an emergency kit, or "grab-and-go-bag." Along with water and non-perishables, your kit should include things like medications, personal hygiene items, copies of important documents,

as well as a first-aid kit, manual can opener, phone charger, power bank, flashlight, extra batteries, emergency blanket, extra cash and seasonal clothing.

•Ensure household members know the location of your emergency kit, fire extinguishers, and where water, electric and gas utilities are located.

•Learn the emergency plans for your workplace, school and community in case you're not at home in the event of a disaster.

•Listen to instructions from local police and first responders on how to evacuate your neighbourhood. Don't take shortcuts as you could end up in blocked or unsafe areas.

Continued on Page 2

Landscaping Close-Out Sale

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Alberta RCMP Encourages Albertans To Prepare Emergency Plan

Continued from Page 1

•If you are able, consider making an out-of-town contact, far away enough that they likely won't be affected by the same disaster, that

your family can stay with in the event of evacuation.

Practice your plan frequently so that you're ready in case of emergency. Remember, evacuation alerts warn the public of a poten-

tial or current threat. If an alert is issued, you should prepare to evacuate. Evacuation orders are mandatory and issued when the public must leave the area for their safety.

TOWN HALL

PLEASE JOIN MP MICHAEL COOPER AND MLA SHANE GETSON



MICHAEL COOPER MP
ST. ALBERT—STURGEON RIVER

Thursday, May 21, 2026
5:30 pm TO 7 pm
Cherhill Community Hall
56102 Range Road 53
Cherhill, Alberta

RSVP TO
MICHAEL.COOPER.C1A@PARL.GC.CA
780-459-0809



SHANE GETSON, MLA
LAC STE. ANNE—PARKLAND



SHANE GETSON

MLA for LAC STE. ANNE-PARKLAND

CRIME PREVENTION WEEK

LET'S KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE!



Promoting community safety through crime prevention.

LacSteAnne.Parkland@assembly.ab.ca
#18, 4708 Lac Ste Anne Trail, N. (Box 248)
Onway, AB T0E 1V0 780-967-0760



SHANE GETSON

MLA for LAC STE. ANNE-PARKLAND

HAPPY Mother's Day



LacSteAnne.Parkland@assembly.ab.ca
#18, 4708 Lac Ste Anne Trail, N. (Box 248)
Onway, AB T0E 1V0 780-967-0760

JOKE of the week

Little Johnny was at Sea World, and was having a wonderful time; but he absolutely refused to go to the show to see Shamu, the killer whale. He would not say why he didn't want to go, and nothing grandma, grandpa, mom, or dad said would change his mind about it.

Later, after he got home and was snuggling into his bed to go to sleep, he finally told his Mom his reason:

"Mommy," he said, "I didn't want to go see Shamu because yesterday Aunt Susie told me how exciting the show would be because they 'pick children from the audience to feed Shamu.'"



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		Leduc 780-980-3668

SERENITY FAMILY SERVICE SOCIETY *YOUR NOT-FOR-PROFIT SOCIETY

WHITECOURT TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE

Submitted by Town of Whitecourt

Whitecourt Town Council passed Tax Rate Bylaw 1586 at the April 27, 2026 Regular Meeting, and property owners can expect to receive combined assessment and taxation notices next month. For details on how property taxes are calculated, and how tax dollars have been allocated in the 2026 Budget, read the 2026 Budget Report. The report is available on the Whitecourt website at www.whitecourt.ca/your-town. If you have questions about your tax notice or the 2026 Budget, please email administration@whitecourt.ca.

Town Council received an overview of 2026 assessment figures by the municipal assessor at the April 27 Council Meeting.

- The valuation date for 2026 taxation of properties is July 1, 2025.

- Assessment values for single family homes have increased by an average of 3%. The average house value in Whitecourt is \$354,700.

- Property owners can view the assessment report for their property online. Visit the Whitecourt website at www.whitecourt.ca/live/taxes-payments/taxes-payments under the section titled "Assessment Reports" and follow the link and instructions to view assessment reports.

- Property owners will receive a combined assessment and tax notice in May.

Whitecourt approved the 2025 Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2025. The Town's auditor, Curtis Friesen from Metrix Group, made a presentation to Council and reported that the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Town of Whitecourt as of the end of 2025.

Procedure Bylaw 1585-1 has been adopted and includes updates to Council and Council Committee meeting processes.

Policy 31-016 – Crosswalks has been adopted. The policy states that crosswalks are marked as outlined in the Whitecourt Municipal Design Standards, and that altering of municipal crosswalks is not permitted.

Council has been authorized to attend the Grand Finale of the Touring Stage Event hosted by the Otipemisiwak Metis Government on July 26, 2026 at Festival Park. The event will showcase Metis performances, as well as artisan market.

Whitecourt has awarded the FRIAA FireSmart 2026 Vegetation Management contract to Cortex Management Inc. for \$116,539.78, plus GST. The work will involve vegetation management in approximately 26.9 hectares of land in the east valley area.

The Mayor has been authorized to attend the Summer 2026 Municipal Leaders' Caucus hosted by Alberta Municipalities.

Council has approved a street closure along a portion of 50 Avenue on May 31, 2026 so that The Garage Brewhouse & Pub can host the first annual Rolling Thunder Motorcycle Show & Shine. Details on the event can be found on The Garage Brewhouse & Pub's Facebook page.

Whitecourt has awarded Tourism Enhancement Grant funding to the following organizations:

- \$3,900 to the Whitecourt

Wolverines to assist with hosting the Junior A Spring Identification Camp;

- \$5,000 to the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce to assist with hosting the 3-day Western Canada Rib Fest Tour;

- \$8,200 to the Whitecourt River Boat Association to assist with hosting the Canada Series Jet Boat Racing Championship The Tourism Enhancement Grant Program encourages partnerships with local non-profit organizations to enhance tourism-related events and/or products.

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ALBERTA SECURES MAJOR SOUTH KOREAN PARTNERSHIP

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta secures MOU with Hanwha Group to attract investment and strengthen its role in global energy, manufacturing and defence supply chains.

Mr. Byungkeun Jun, Head of Energy Business Development Division, Executive Vice President, Hanwha Energy; His Excellency Mr. Ki-mo Lim, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Canada; Mr.

Jae-Kyu Lee, CEO, Hanwha Energy Corporation; Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta; Joseph Schow, Minister of Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration; Martin Long, Minister of Infrastructure

Alberta's government has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Hanwha Group to establish a framework for investment across key sectors where Alberta has proven strengths, including energy and natural resources, manufacturing and defence indus-

trial capabilities.

The agreement sets a clear path for investment and long-term partnerships that support economic growth, expand market opportunities and strengthen the province's role in critical supply chains.

"Alberta is earning the attention of global partners because we deliver results. This agreement with Hanwha Group creates new opportunities to bring investment into our province, grow high-value

industries and support good-paying jobs for Albertans. We are focused on turning partnerships like this into real projects that strengthen our economy."

Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta

"On the horizon is major investment with more focus being put on defence manufacturing and energy production. This agreement positions Alberta even stronger as a trusted partner for global investment. By strengthening relationships with international leaders like Hanwha Group, we are supporting economic diversification that leads to real benefit for our province and the people who call it home."

Joseph Schow, Minister of Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration

"Alberta has some of the largest energy reserves in the world. We have the goal of doubling our oil production by 2035 to meet a growing global demand and strengthen energy security for Canada, North America and our trading partners."

Brian Jean, Minister of Energy and Minerals

Hanwha Group is one of South Korea's largest companies, with global operations spanning aerospace and defence, energy systems, advanced manufacturing, shipbuilding, offshore energy infrastructure, and finance and hospitality services. Through the MOU, Alberta's government and Hanwha will explore opportunities for commercial partnerships, information and expertise sharing and long-term economic ties.

"This partnership reflects a long-term view of Canada – not only as an energy partner, but as a strategic industrial counterpart. By aligning capabilities across energy, natural resources, shipbuilding, high technology, advanced manufacturing and other areas, we see an opportunity to contribute to Canada's economic resilience and future industrial capacity."

Jae-Kyu Lee, chief executive officer, Hanwha Energy

The agreement also supports Alberta's growing role in energy security and the hydrogen economy, while reinforcing the province's position in global manufacturing and defence supply chains.

Lac Ste. Anne County 55521 Range Road 65, Box 219 Sangudo AB T0E 2A0 Phone 780 785 3411 Toll-free 1866 890 5722 Email LSAC@LSAC.ca

County News Highlights

MEETINGS & HEARINGS

[LSAC.ca/meetings](https://www.lsac.ca/meetings)

Meetings and public hearings are held at the County Administration Office near Sangudo, they are open to the public and available remotely. Explore the County's online calendar for agendas, minutes, and meeting details.

MPC Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 9:30 am

Council Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 9:30 am

Council Meeting

Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 9:30 am

COUNCILLOR Q&A NIGHT

[LSAC.ca/councillor-q-a](https://www.lsac.ca/councillor-q-a)

This event at the Gunn Community Hall offers a prime opportunity to engage directly with your local leadership. Three of our County Councillors are hosting an open Q&A session to discuss the issues that matter most to you.

- **Date:** May 12, 2026
- **Time:** 7:00 pm
- **Place:** Gunn Community Hall

This will be an open-dialogue session. Whether you have questions about local infrastructure, community services, or future planning, local leaders will be on hand to engage with you:

- **Barry Voltner:** Councillor Div. 1
- **Mike Derksen:** Councillor Div. 2
- **Dale Johnson:** Deputy Reeve, Councillor Div. 3

WHY ATTEND?

This is more than just a meeting—it's a chance to ensure your perspective helps shape the future of our County. Community engagement is the backbone of effective local government, and your input is invaluable.

Don't miss this chance to connect with your neighbours and municipal leaders. We look forward to seeing you at Gunn Hall on May 12!

TRAPPING SEASON IS UNDERWAY

[LSAC.ca/beavers](https://www.lsac.ca/beavers)

The County has been setting beaver traps in problematic locations including ditches and ravines. Residents are strongly encouraged to keep their pets on leashes if they plan to venture into ditches. If you encounter a beaver trap, do not go near or touch it; a beaver trap is a dangerous device. If you are trapping beavers, please make sure to follow the Code of Responsible Trapping, available at [albertaregulations.ca](https://www.albertaregulations.ca).

Finally, as stated in the 2025-26 Alberta Guide to Trapping Regulations: "Fur-bearing animals must be trapped using methods that are proven to avoid unnecessary pain and suffering. The manner in which animals are trapped is a concern of many Albertans, including trappers."

DISCRETIONARY DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

[LSAC.ca/permits](https://www.lsac.ca/permits)

The following development permits have been conditionally approved under the provisions of the Land Use Bylaw. This list does not include permitted uses. Please contact County Planning & Development to request additional information on permits listed.

Anyone who claims to be affected and who wishes to lodge an appeal against any of these developments must do so in writing on the applicable form on or before 4:30 pm on the noted date(s) to the appropriate appeal body:

Subdivision & Development Appeal Board (SDAB)
Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board
Box 219, Sangudo, AB T0E 2A0 Email: appeals@LSAC.ca

or

Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT)
2nd Floor, 1229 91 Street SW Edmonton, AB T6X 1E1
Email: lprt.appeals@gov.ab.ca

26-D0054

NW18-54-03 W5M; 54223 RGE RD 40
Club House 24.0' x 24.0' (576 sq ft) 9.0' walls.
Appeal to SDAB by May 18, 2026

26-D0058

Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 1720041
NW13-57-04 W5M; 4032 TWP RD 572A
Secondary Residence: New Stock Built Home 24.0' x 40.0' (960.0 sq. ft.) walls 8.0' with cement slab deck 24.0' x 8.0' (192.0 sq. ft.).
Appeal to SDAB by May 18, 2026

26-D0053

NW13-55-03 W5M; 55218 RGE RD 30A
General contractor/tempo storage facility for projects, landscaping, building, carpentry, electrical, gas, home, plumbing.
Appeal to SDAB by May 25, 2026



NEW WEBSITE FOR FALL REFERENDUM

Submitted by Government of Alberta

A new website is launching to provide Albertans with information on the upcoming provincial referendum on Oct. 19.

Information is now available online for the upcoming provincewide referendum on key immigration and constitutional questions that stand for a sovereign Alberta within a united Canada. Albertans can visit AlbertaReferendum2026.ca to view the nine ballot questions and access relevant information on these important issues to inform their vote.

“Alberta has been built by people who stand up for what they believe in. From farmers and ranchers to energy workers, teachers and nurses, Alberta is a place where people work toward something greater than themselves. This referendum gives Albertans a direct say in how we build on that legacy, and create a more sovereign Alberta within a united Canada.”

Danielle Smith, Premier

The 2026 referendum will be held on Oct. 19 with the Alberta government putting forward nine questions for Albertans to vote on. The questions on the ballot come out of the Alberta Next Panel’s recommendations following extensive consultations with Albertans, subject-matter experts and policy makers from across the province as part of the Alberta Next townhall process.

The referendum questions propose tangible actions that Alberta’s government could take to strengthen Alberta’s sovereignty within a

united Canada.

Five of the nine questions involve provincial immigration policy. Immigration has always been an important part of Alberta’s history, but federal policies have placed significant strain on classrooms, emergency rooms, and social services, putting pressure on the services Albertans rely on every day. This referendum asks Albertans how provincial policies should respond to keep these systems accessible and sustainable, and to put Albertans first.

Four of the nine questions propose ways the province could work with other like-minded provinces to advance target-

ed constitutional changes. The division of powers established in 1867 and 1982 has been blurred by federal overreach. Provinces have evolved significantly over the last 150 years and should have more autonomy from Ottawa, not less. Targeted constitutional changes would ensure Alberta is freer to navigate the issues faced today.

“This is about putting decisions back where they belong, with Albertans. Through this new website, we’re making sure people can make informed decisions and cast their ballots with confidence as they help shape the province’s future.”

Mickey Amery, Minister of Justice

The vote will be held on Oct. 19 by Elections Alberta. Voting will follow a process similar to a provincial election, with polling stations and paper ballots available to eligible Alberta voters.



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- Acute Care Alberta** - Life-saving, critical, and urgent needs

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Alberta.ca/KnowYourOptions

Alberta

RURAL CRIME AWARENESS

Protect machinery from theft by leaving valuables locked in a shed or storage facility and by marking equipment with your drivers licence and province of issue (an engraver can be borrowed free of charge from most local police detachments).

Protect livestock by checking herds regularly and keeping accurate records of livestock born, sold or purchased.



“Grain Fette” or “Grain Guard” is a unique approach to identifying your crops. Small bits of paper, each one imprinted with your special code number, are mixed with grain as grain is being augered into the storage shed. This is approved by the Canadian Grain Commission. The paper used is also digestible in animal feed.

Utilize the Report-A-Poacher Program. Their toll free number is 1-800-642-3800.

Rural Crime Watch Members are concerned citizens who are watchful for unusual activity in their community. They record information on suspicious people and vehicles and pass it along to local police. Join together with your neighbours to install a crime watch program in your area. Do not approach suspicious individuals on your own.

Jaded Chef
-Sangudo
257-5304

Community Health Pharmacy
785-3784

Sangudo Veterinary Clinic
785-2200

ATB Financial
-Sangudo
785-2737

Ray's Auto Repair & Towing
785-2251

Sonny's Stucco & Drywall
785-2022

Sangudo Custom Meat Packers
785-3353

JH Bar Ranch
-Sangudo
403-874-1615

Harapchuk Trucking Inc.
785-2655

Sangudorenew
780-699-3381

C-5 Chadd Contractors
785-2548

Paddle River Concrete
786-2666

Co-operator's
-Mayerthorpe
co-operators
786-2750

Park Memorial Ltd.
-Funeral Home & Crematorium
786-2533

Paddle Plastics Ltd.
786-4408





















CRIME PREVENTION Week

Use these helpful tips to help keep our community a safe, enjoyable place. Look around your home, school or office and see where you can make a difference.

- Start teaching children at an early age how to avoid drugs and alcohol.
 - Get children involved in organized after-school programs.
 - Start, join or reactivate a neighborhood watch program.
 - Be aware of your surroundings, especially when walking alone at night.
 - Participate in forums which involve local officials, such as city council meetings.
 - Reach out to crime victims, their families or others in the community who need support.
 - Get to know your neighbors - you may find others with an interest in safety, too.
 - Be familiar with members of your local police and fire departments.
 - Make sure all street lights in your area are in working order. Alert local officials if they are not.
- Set up buddy systems for teens going out after dark.
 - Keep an eye out for strange vehicles parked in your area at odd hours or for long periods of time
 - Make sure all young children know how to handle possible confrontations with strangers.

 <p>Mayerthorpe Registries 786-2033</p>	 <p>Mayerthorpe Value Drug Mart 786-0185</p>	 <p>Co-operator's -Mayerthorpe co-operators 786-2750</p>	 <p>Hub Hotel -Mayerthorpe 786-2688</p>
 <p>Pembina West Co-op -Mayerthorpe 786-2093</p>	 <p>Town of Mayerthorpe 786-2416</p>	 <p>Crockett Automotive Repair LTD. 786-2216</p>	 <p>Peter and James Painting Ltd. 777-6051</p>
 <p>Rexall -Mayerthorpe 786-2044</p>	 <p>Vandenberg Collision Ltd. 786-2614</p>	 <p>Paddle River Concrete 786-2666</p>	 <p>Wardley Storage Co. 305-8899</p>
 <p>Paddle Plastics Ltd. 786-4408</p>	 <p>Park Memorial Ltd. -Funeral Home & Crematorium 786-2533</p>	 <p>C-5 Chadd Contractors Ltd. 785-2548</p>	 <p>Smyl Chevrolet Ltd. 778-2202</p>

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Council Meeting

Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 9:30 am

MPC Meeting

Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at 9:30 am

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ILLEGAL DUMPING HURTS EVERYONE

[LSAC.ca/waste](https://www.lsac.ca/waste)

Illegal dumping—leaving furniture, appliances, renovation materials, or household waste on public or private property—is more than just an eyesore. It is a serious violation of both municipal and provincial law that affects the County's safety, beauty, and financial health. For years, this issue has challenged our communities, diverting essential resources away from the services our residents value most.

The County maintains a zero-tolerance policy for illegal disposal. Those caught dumping waste face escalating consequences—both at the municipal and provincial level.

PUT WASTE IN THE RIGHT PLACE

Keeping our County clean is easy when you use the proper facilities. Residents and business owners have several legal, accessible options: you.

- **Transfer Stations:** The County operates eight convenient transfer stations. Please remember to bring photo identification and your valid transfer station card to gain access.
- **Regional Landfill:** For large-scale disposal and construction materials, use the Highway 43 East Waste Commission Regional Landfill located near the Hamlet of Gunn. Visit [hwy43east.ca](https://www.hwy43east.ca) for details.

If you witness illegal dumping or discover a site, please report it immediately. Visit [LSAC.ca/report](https://www.lsac.ca/report) or call the County Administration Office at 780.785.3411 (including after hours). Whenever possible, include the exact location, photos of the debris, and the license plate number of any vehicles involved.

POST YOUR LOCAL EVENT ON THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

[LSAC.ca/myevent](https://www.lsac.ca/myevent)

Located on the County website, the Community Calendar helps residents and local groups put their activities on the map. To qualify, events must be hosted within Lac Ste. Anne County or support regional public-interest initiatives. All submissions are reviewed for compliance with our terms of use before going live. Planning an event? Submit your details to the Community Calendar today!

DISCRETIONARY DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

[LSAC.ca/permits](https://www.lsac.ca/permits)

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Subdivision & Development Appeal Board (SDAB)

Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board
Box 219, Sangudo, AB T0E 2A0 Email: appeals@LSAC.ca

26-D0053

NW 13-55-03 W5M; 55218 RGE RD 30A

General contractor/temp storage facility for projects, landscaping, building, carpentry, electrical, gas, home, plumbing.

Appeal to SDAB by May 25, 2026



FAIL TO PLAN, PLAN TO FAIL: RETIRED FIRE CAPTAIN URGES LOCALS TO START PREPPING FOR DISASTER

Submitted by Amber Goselin

Tradesmen, businessmen, and retirees were among the 10 attendees at the April 8, 2026, community care/preparedness meeting at the Stettin-Nakamun Community Hall lead by Dwight Barton.

Barton and his wife Tracey homestead in the Stettin-Nakamun area. He is a retired fire station captain with the City of Edmonton.

The Bartons felt lead to initiate the meeting after red tape prevented them from donating homemade bread to the local food bank. "Tracey and I just keep running into brick walls when we try to help people...the county said we don't want (homemade bread) because it has to be approved by Alberta Health Services."

They also have concerns about the manufactured "poly-crisis" meant to erode social, economic, and political systems by design. Barton said this includes war, climate lockdowns, carbon credit scores, digital ID and

rations, famine, and mass AI job losses. Inevitably, Barton warned, there will be widespread power outages similar to what is happening in Cuba.

"Things are not normal in the world right now," said Barton. "Get your pantries full, get your jerry cans filled up, and make sure your generators are operational."

"What I believe has been kicked off with this (Iran) war is the undoing of the way we've been living for the past 80 to 100 years. And it's going to be financial, that's obvious. Everybody is already feeling it when we fuel up our vehicles."

Barton said self-sufficiency is the answer, not more government "Waiting for the government to arrive is a very, very bad plan."

Barton said we can look at history to see how famine was used to control populations: "(Joseph) Stalin used the Holodomor - a man-made famine - to starve out tens of millions of Ukrainians and Russians. No one would've guessed it even

then because Ukraine was a breadbasket, just like Alberta and Saskatchewan. Yet these people were starved to death."

One of the attendees noted the ice storms in Quebec, the loss of power, and how quickly people got restless. Without power or preparedness "you can really get left out with your ass in the wind." Other attendees brought up concerns about rural crime/theft, and fuel shortages resulting in world-wide scarcity of products like fertilizer and medicine.

Attendees made a pact to meet at the Stettin-Nakamun Community Hall the first noon after a 48-hour power outage. "If the power goes out for 48 hours, the following noon come to the community hall. If you've got something extra like eggs or bread...jugs of water...bring it," said Barton.

Barton stressed stocking essential supplies, community networking, and investing in energy alternatives go a long way in surviving societal collapse. He also

spoke about the "two is one, one is none" rule should gear break or get lost: "I'm talking about things like flashlights or lanterns. So if you have one really good flashlight, get another one."

Local resident Alan Seres attended the meeting to make new connections: "I don't know all my neighbours around here so I was hoping to meet like-minded people. I like the whole prepping aspect of what (Barton) talked about."

Community-minded resident Clayton Hannah also sees the value of Barton's meeting: "It seems like there are too many factions and people are drifting apart. We need to get these factions together for community or you have nothing. You can't do it by yourself."

The next meeting is May 5, 2026, at 7 p.m. at the Stettin-Nakamun Community Hall, and will include a presentation on radio backup communication.

PARKLAND RCMP AND SMOKY LAKE SUCCESSFULLY RECOVER PEACOCK AND PEAHEN

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

Parkland RCMP and Smoky Lake RCMP would like to advise that on April 26, 2026, two members of the public located and rescued the stolen birds in their crate on Highway 16, near Duffield, Alta.

The members of the public took care of Pete and Hilda

(the peacock and peahen) until they noted through media that they were the stolen birds. The individuals contacted the Smoky Lake RCMP, who aided in the safe return of Pete and Hilda to their owners. The stolen white 2005 Ford F350 bearing British Columbia licence plate SY7996 is still outstanding.

The Parkland RCMP and

Smoky Lake RCMP would like to extend thanks to the members of the public who rescued and returned the birds to their rightful owner. This is a great example of the police and public working together to achieve a positive outcome for everyone involved.

"A happy ending! Smoky Lake RCMP were delighted to assist in bringing Pete

and Hilda back to their owner." Says Sergeant Anita Doktor of the Smoky Lake RCMP.



ALBERTA RCMP CONFIRMING INVESTIGATION INTO INAPPROPRIATE DISSEMINATION OF ELECTOR LIST

Submitted by Alberta RCMP

The Alberta RCMP can confirm correspondence from an individual associated to the Alberta NDP raising concerns about potential misuse of the provincial voter list maintained by Elections Alberta.

The RCMP has initiated an investigation and is

working with other law enforcement partners in the province to determine if any offence(s) have been committed respecting the dissemination or handling of the information contained in the voter list.



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LIVE AUCTION: FARM ESTATE SALE - ROGER GERMAIN

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Direction: From Stony Plain - North on Hwy 43 to Chevron Gas Station to Twp Road 534 - go easy 1km
Auction starts Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m..
Items in this sale include:
John Deere 148 loader, John Deere L118 with 42 inch mower full load, Alice Chambers B - all rebuilt, John Deere - all rebuilt, Massey Harris 55 - rebuilt, Rockwell beaver chopsaw, Yamaha generator 4000 power plant, Yamaha 6000 W power plant, Massey Harris 44 all rebuilt excellent condition, DeWalt chopsaw sliding compound saw, Black & Decker commercial in duty sliding saw, BR 600 blower gas powered, Honda pressure washer GX 200 G5, Air compressor Campbell Hosfield, Kenwood pro drill press, Two car ramps, Rigid shop vac, Large selection of saddles, tack, pack saddles, Large selection of toolboxes, gas cans, assorted tools, cutting blades and tap and die sets. Garden tools, Large selection of sockets drill, bits, tools, grinders, nuts, bolts, booster cables, chain boomers, Assortment of weed eaters - gas and electric , Large selection of chains and boomers, Ropes, cables and electrical wire, Furniture, All household items

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TEAMWORK TEAMWORK TEAMWORK TEAMWORK TEAMWORK

ACTION ACTION ACTION ACTION ACTION ACTION ACTION ACTION

That's what it takes to help prevent crime. During Crime Prevention Week, do what you can to keep your home, neighborhood and workplace safe.



When away from home for extended periods:

- Install timers on a few inside and outside lights.
- Hold mail and newspaper delivery or donate it to a school or hospital.
- Have a trusted friend or neighbor look after your home.



Around the house:

- Do not leave tools or ladders outside your home.
- Make sure external doors and frames are sturdy. Steel or 1 3/8"-thick wood is preferable.
- Installing a security system can add extra protection against crime, fire or accidents.



In the neighborhood:

- Join a neighborhood watch committee, and ask local law enforcement for assistance.
- Get to know your neighbors. It will instill a sense of community and help everyone feel safer.
- Report any suspicious neighborhood activity to the police.

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DRUNKS DRUGGED



IT'S YOUR DUTY TO REPORT AN IMPAIRED DRIVER

TIPS TO SPOT AN IMPAIRED DRIVER

Drivers who are impaired by fatigue, drugs, alcohol or other distractions such as cell phones, are a danger not only to themselves, but also to the innocent drivers around them. If you witness any of the behaviors below, call 911 and tell the operator that you are calling to report an impaired driver. Be prepared to describe the make, model, color and license plate number of the vehicle, and provide its exact location.

Signs of impaired driving include:

- Failure to turn on headlights at night.
- Illegal or sudden turning.
- Turning within an unusually wide radius.
- Nearly striking other cars or objects.
- Sudden or erratic braking.
- Drifting, swerving or weaving.
- Driving with the face close to the windshield.
- Drinking alcohol in the vehicle.
- Driving much slower than the posted speed limit.
- Rapidly accelerating.
- Tailgating.
- Driving in the middle of the road, or with the left tires on the center line.
- Responding slowly to traffic signals

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Spring HOME RENO GUIDE



FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING A HOME OFFICE

As technology has made working remotely easier, more and more professionals are working from home. Working from home

can help working parents save money on childcare costs and help all workers avoid rush hour traffic jams and the costs of com-

muting to and from the office.

The right working environment is essential for men and women who work from home. An envi-

ronment that's conducive to work can help people increase their productivity and make

Continued on Page 15

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Factors To Consider When Planning A Home Office

Continued from Page 14

their employers more likely to allow more employees to work from home. Professionals who are new to working from home may find it takes some time before they can create the perfect working environment, but the following are a few factors to consider when planning a home office.

Space
One of the disadvantages of working from home is that remote workers don't have access to the same level of equipment as in the main office, such as color copiers or scanners. If you want to include even scaled-down versions of such equipment in your office, you will need ample space.

In addition, less spacious home offices can feel too tight and enclosed, making workers uncomfortable and less enthusiastic about working every day. Pick a spot in your home that affords room for your equipment and the ability to move around so you don't feel cramped throughout the workday.

Lighting
Lighting is another factor remote workers must consider when they're planning their home offices. Natural light can provide an energetic boost and improve your mood, so choose a room in your home that gets lots of sunlight during the day. Many professionals who work remotely do so from the basements of their homes, which can make it

difficult to rely on natural light. If the basement is the only location in your home that can fit a home office, look for lighting sources that replicate daylight so you are not working in dark quarters. Speak with your physician about how to arrange lighting to reduce eyestrain caused by staring at a computer.

Connectivity
Connectivity also must be considered when planning a home office. While wireless Internet has made Internet dead zones less problematic, certain areas or rooms in your home may still be touch-and-go with regard to Internet connectivity. Such areas should be avoided when choosing a room for your home office,

Continued on Page 16

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Spring HOME RENO GUIDE



Factors To Consider When Planning A Home Office

Continued from Page 15

as it can be difficult to remain productive if your connection to your office's external server is routinely compromised. Find an area where the wireless connection is always strong.

Distractions
While your home might be empty for much of the day, you don't want to be distracted when the kids come home from school or when your spouse or roommate arrives home from work. Avoid putting your home office

too close to popular hangout areas in your home, such as the kitchen and the living room. Instead, choose a room where you have lots of privacy so you can focus on your work and won't be routinely interrupted.

Working from home can pay

numerous dividends, but professionals who telework must put careful thought into the rooms or areas of their homes where they plan to work.

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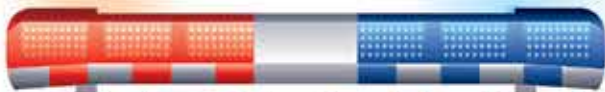
Tips to Protect your Real Estate Investment Dollars

- * Consult public real estate websites to review property listings in the community where the property is located. Compare features, size & locations to establish if the asking price seems reasonable.
- * Get independent representation for your purchase. If the seller objects, consider it a red flag.
- * Check to make sure your representative is a licensed real estate agent. Contact your local Real Estate Board or the Real Estate Council of Alberta. Using a licensed real estate agent does not cost anything from a purchaser's standpoint. Usually all commissions are paid by the seller.

- * Beware of a real estate agent or mortgage broker who has a financial interest in the transaction.
- * Ask your independent representative to provide you with a comparative market analysis of the property.
- * Ask for a copy of the land title or go to a Registry office and ask them to do a historical title search.
- * Insist on a home inspection to guard against buying a home that has been cosmetically renovated.
- * When you make a deposit, ensure your money is protected by being held "in trust".

A grid of 20 house-shaped icons, each containing a business name and phone number. The houses are arranged in four rows of five. Each house icon has a brown roof, white walls, a red door, and a chimney. The text inside each house is as follows:

- Row 1:**
 - Bert's TV: 674-3001, Comfort Corner: 674-4933
 - Barrhead Esso: 877-938-2778
 - Pembina West Co-op: 674-2201
- Row 2:**
 - Stephani Motors Ltd.: 674-2211
 - JS Jewellery: 674-5055
 - McEwen's Fuel & Fertilizers: 674-2146 (Logo: MCEWEN'S FUELS & FERTILIZERS)
 - Fountain Tire - Barrhead: 674-6151
 - Barrhead Glass & Mirror: 674-3398
- Row 3:**
 - A&W - Barrhead: 674-7666 (Logo: A&W)
 - NAPA Auto Parts - McLeans: 674-3381 (Logo: NAPA AUTO PARTS)
 - Barrhead Ford Inc.: 674-2227
 - KNM Sales & Service: 674-2888 (Logo: KNM)
 - Barrhead Denture Clinic: 674-4348
- Row 4:**
 - All Around Manufacturing & Mechanical Ltd.: 674-5115
 - Total Relief Plumbing & Heating: 674-4713
 - Integ Distributors: 674-8977 (Logo: INTEG DISTRIBUTORS)
 - Barrhead Chiropractic - Dr. Peter See: 674-2861
 - Barrhead Machine & Welding Ltd.: 674-2924



CRIME PREVENTION

Use these helpful tips to help keep our community a safe, enjoyable place. Look around your home, school or office and see where you can make a difference.

- Keep an eye out for strange vehicles parked in your area at odd hours or for long periods of time
- Make sure all young children know how to handle possible confrontations with strangers.
- Start teaching children at an early age how to avoid drugs and alcohol.
- Get children involved in organized after-school programs.
- Start, join or reactivate a neighborhood watch program.
- Be aware of your surroundings, especially when walking alone at night.
- Participate in forums which involve local officials, such as city council meetings.
- Reach out to crime victims, their families or others in the community who need support.
- Get to know your neighbors - you may find others with an interest in safety, too.
- Be familiar with members of your local police and fire departments.
- Make sure all street lights in your area are in working order. Alert local officials if they are not.
- Set up buddy systems for teens going out after dark.



LOCK OUT CRIME!



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INVESTMENT FRAUD

Tips on how to avoid investment fraud:

- 1) Investigate before you invest. Ask a lot of questions. Make sure there is a market for your investment. Ask the seller for references and accounting statements. Find out if a government or industry regulatory body supervise the seller.
- 2) Be wary of unexpected phone calls, letters or visits from strangers who offer get-rich schemes.
- 3) Be wary of exaggerated claims of profit in a short period of time. Ask about how you can sell your investment when you decide to seek your investment return.
- 4) Be cautious when someone offers you a time-limited investment opportunity and demands that you invest on the spot. Don't make snap decisions. If it's good now, it will be there tomorrow.
- 5) Beware of claims that there is little or no risk. All investment opportunities involve some risk. Never invest money you cannot afford to lose.
- 6) Beware if you are told you were chosen as one of only a few potential investors.
- 7) Beware when someone hesitates about promptly delivering the goods or services in which you invest.
- 8) Beware if you are given only a glossy brochure about the company. Always ask for a prospectus and other professionally prepared disclosure documents, especially when investing in securities, such as stock in a company. And make sure you read the small print. Some stocks cannot be resold without the permission of the directors of the company. The information you are given should tell you about the stock and the company issuing it.
- 9) Before making a commitment, get a professional opinion. Ask about your advisor's qualifications. If necessary, phone the government department or industry association that licenses or registers him or her. Confirm that the individual is qualified to advise you.
- 10) When in doubt, don't make promises or commitments. It's better to be safe than sorry! Remember, the golden rule to investing: If it sounds too good to be true - it probably is!



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Credit Card FRAUD

Credit Card Fraud Prevention Tips:

1. Keep an eye on your credit card every time you use it, and make sure you get it back as quickly as possible. Try not to let your credit card out of your sight whenever possible.
2. Be very careful to whom you give your credit card. Don't give out your account number over the phone unless you initiate the call and you know the company is reputable. Never give your credit card info out when you receive a phone call. (For example, if you're told there has been a 'computer problem' and the caller needs you to verify information.
3. Never respond to emails that request you provide your credit card info via email -- and don't ever respond to emails that ask you to go to a website to verify personal information.
4. Never provide your credit card information on a website that is not a secure site.
5. Sign your credit cards as soon

- as you receive them.
6. Shred all credit card applications you receive.
7. Never leave your credit cards or receipts lying around.
8. Don't write your PIN number on your credit card -- or have it anywhere near your credit card (in the event that your wallet gets stolen).
9. Shield your credit card number so that others around you can't copy it or capture it on a cell phone or other camera.
10. Keep a list in a secure place with all of your account numbers and expiration dates, as well as the phone number and address of each bank that has issued you a credit card.
11. Only carry around credit cards that you absolutely need. Don't carry around extra credit cards that you rarely use..

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Cherhill Community Assoc. Hall, Kevin 780-785-8153

Darwell Centennial Hall, 780-892-3099

Darwell Seniors, Phone Debra 780-785-2907

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Mayerthorpe Legion, 786-2470.

Onoway Community Hall, 780-967-5338.

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Onoway Legion, 780-973-5361

Park Court Community Hall, 727-4476

Pioneer Centre, Spruce Grove 780-962-5020 or email.

Ravine Community Hall, Dawna @ 325-2460

Rich Valley Community Hall, 967-5710 or 967-3696

Rosenthal Community Hall, 963-7984

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of the week

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ANSWER: Last Weeks

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

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

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