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May 13, 2026

LEDUC RCMP LAY CHARGES IN SHOOTING

Submitted by Leduc RCMP

On May 1, 2025, at 5:18 a.m., Leduc RCMP received a report of a home being shot at in the Royal Oak subdivision of Leduc County. Upon arrival, police observed that a home had been shot with 4 bullets. There were no injuries. The Leduc RCMP General Investigation Section took carriage of the investigation. Police discovered that two suspects parked a pickup down the road, walked

up to the residence where one suspect shot a handgun at the home. Both suspects return to the pickup and left the area. On May 5, 2025, members of Edmonton Police Services located and seized the suspect vehicle.

As a result of the investigation, on April 18, 2026, officers from Leduc GIS and the Drumheller Detachment with assistance from the Interview Assistance Team arrested one of the suspects. 32-year-old Edmonton resident, Tyler

Lloyd Melnick, has been charged with recklessly discharging a firearm.

Melnick has been taken before a Justice of the Peace and remanded into custody for future court dates at the Alberta Court of Justice in Leduc.

Police continue the investigation into identifying the second suspect.

Despite these charges, police have yet to determine the motive in this case.

RODEO SEASON RIDES AGAIN

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is supporting rural communities as they saddle up for rodeo season.

Each year, more than 100 rodeos take place in communities of all sizes across the province, drawing hundreds of spectators to fairgrounds, arenas and exhibitions. From multi-day stampedes and professional competitions to youth events and international rodeos, these events fill hotels and campgrounds, support small businesses and create

opportunities for visitors to experience Alberta's western hospitality.

Alberta's government continues to invest in agri-tourism through supports for agriculture societies and stampede associations to host, grow and promote rodeos across the province. Through Travel Alberta, more than \$1.3 million has been invested between 2023 and 2026, to help rural communities host and promote rodeos, expand regional tourism opportunities and attract more visitors to rural Alberta. Often led and powered by dedicated volun-

teers, rodeos remain a cornerstone of Alberta's culture and a growing force in Alberta's tourism sector.

"Rodeos are a great example of authentic experiences that share our western heritage with visitors as they visit and stay in rural communities. Growing agri-tourism means supporting local businesses and jobs across the province as more people explore rural Alberta."

Andrew Boitchenko, Minister of Tourism and Sport

"The opening of Alberta's rodeo season marks an

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Rodeo Season Rides Again

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exciting time steeped in tradition, celebrating the province's vibrant heritage and deep-rooted connection to Western culture. Rodeos have long been a gathering point for communities across Alberta, honouring the skills, courage and spirit of ranching life. As the season begins, it serves as both a tribute to Alberta's historic identity and a lively reminder of its enduring legacy."

RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
Last year alone, 43 rodeos held under the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA) banner drew more than 525,000 fans, an increase of almost 100,000 attendees over the previous year. These events generated hundreds of millions of dollars in local economic impact and returned almost \$1.7 million directly to community groups and initiatives.

"Rodeo is a signature Alberta experience, rooted in agriculture and powered by the values of hard work, dedication and perseverance. Professional rodeos alone generate hundreds of millions of dollars in economic impact and attract more than half a million attendees, and the events reinvest millions back into their communities annually, delivering lasting benefits far beyond the arena."

Denny Phipps, chief executive officer, Canadian Professional Rodeo Association
Rodeo season supports reinvestment in communities. From upgrading arenas, improving fairgrounds and maintaining facilities, these investments help keep the gates open and spur rural development year-round. Rural areas rely on these facilities, which support steady, year-round work for livestock breeders, veterinarians, feed suppliers and trainers, ensur-

ing the economic benefits of rodeo continue long after the final ride.

"Rodeos strengthen local economies by supporting small businesses, creating jobs and attracting tourists from all across Canada and the United States, something Cardston is uniquely positioned to do as a border community. They also create experiences for youth and families, fostering a sense of belonging and community pride while supporting mental health and well-being."

Erik LeMieux, president, Cardston Ag Society
By continuing to invest in rodeos of all sizes, Alberta's government is strengthening rural communities, supporting agri-tourism and ensuring the province remains a premier destination for competitors, fans and visitors alike.



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UAH, STOLLERY ED INTRODUCES NEW SAFETY POLICIES

Submitted by UAH & Stollery ED

The University of Alberta Hospital (UAH) and Stollery Children's Hospital are introducing new safety measures to prioritize the safety of patients, staff and visitors in their emergency departments (ED).

All patients and visitors will now be limited to one bag per person prior to entry into the ED. The UAH/Stollery Protective Services team will have methods in place to secure extra bags if required.

Reducing the number of bags in the ED will

help staff and physicians maintain a safe work environment by keeping spaces clear of tripping hazards, and ensuring chair and table space is available for patients and their support people. Exceptions will be made for those who require additional bags for medical devices or supplies, or childcare items.

Additionally, all patients seeking care at the UAH ED may be accompanied by only one visitor or support person. Limiting visitors or support people to one at a time, per ED patient, will help reduce noise and provide more room

for those who need to be there. Exceptions may be made for patients requiring additional support as determined by the care team.

Visitor restrictions will not apply to patients and families in the Stollery ED. More than one parent or guardian, and/or siblings, will continue to be able to accompany patients in the Stollery ED.

Patients or caregivers who have questions about the one-bag- or one-visitor-per-patient policy can reach out to Patient Relations online or at 1-855-550-2555. Other care options are

also available, including HealthLink, urgent care centres and family physicians.

Alberta Health Services provides acute care services for more than five million Albertans at hospitals, urgent care centres and health centres across the province. Our mission is to provide excellent and accessible patient-focused health-care for all Albertans. Our current focus is on reducing emergency department wait times, increasing access to surgeries and improving patient flow.



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6 EASY SPRING CLEANING PROJECTS

Warmer days are here and what better way to spend them than cleaning? Although enjoying the great outdoors is probably high on many a to-do list come spring, by the end of winter, homes can probably do with a much-needed overhaul. Owners and renters can rely on temperate days to throw open the windows and engage in some easy spring-cleaning projects. The earlier one begins spring cleaning, the more quickly he or she will be

able to head outside and bask in the warm spring sun.

Spring cleaning tasks can be stretched out across several days to make the jobs more manageable. While certain spring cleaning tasks can be time-consuming, many projects can be started and completed in 30 minutes or less.

1. Look up Start by looking up at ceilings, molding and ceiling fans. Chances are strong that some

cobwebs and dust have formed in these areas. Always begin cleaning by working from the top downward so you don't have to clean any tables, countertops or floors twice. Static-charged dusting cloths work well to catch and contain dust. Use a pillowcase on ceiling fan blades to clear the dust and keep it from cascading to the floor.

2. Blinds and curtains Heavy window treatments can be removed and replaced with more

gauzy fabrics. This lets in more light and warmth from the sun. Many curtains can be freshened up right in the laundry, but blinds may require a bit more effort. If the blinds can be snapped out of the brackets, place them in a tub full of vinegar, dish soap and water. Allow them to soak and then rinse with the shower nozzle. Stationary blinds can be cleaned with using an old sock over your hand

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Spring HOME RENO GUIDE



6 Easy Spring Cleaning Projects

Continued from Page 6

dipped in a vinegar-and-water solution.

3. Change linens

Remove and launder bed linens. While the linens are in the wash, thoroughly dust all furniture and vacuum the carpets. Move furniture so you can reach areas where dust gathers, such as under the bed or dresser.

4. Grout cleaner

Grade school science lessons can be put to use as you look to remove

stubborn dirt. Combining baking soda and vinegar produces a reaction that causes the formation of gassy bubbles. These bubbles can help to break up dirt that clings to crevices, such as grout between tiles. Some light scrubbing and then subsequent rinsing can rid surfaces of hard-to-remove dirt.

5. Vacuum vent intakes

Many houses are heated by forced-air systems. The air intake vents can become clogged with

dust and other debris. Vacuum these vents so that air flow is not impeded. Let the heat run for a few minutes to catch any small particles that become dislodged, and then change the furnace filter.

6. Clean out the refrigerator

Now is a great time to remove any of those mystery containers growing fuzzy experiments in the back of the refrigerator. Take the food out of the refrig-

erator and use a food-safe cleaner to scour the shelves and inside of crisper drawers

Spring cleaning is a necessary task, but it doesn't have to be a headache. Break up the work into manageable chunks of time, and projects won't feel like such a hassle.




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RCMP MAJOR CRIMES INVESTIGATING MASKWACIS HOMICIDE

Submitted by RCMP Major Crimes

On May 1, 2026, at approximately 10:20 p.m., Maskwacis RCMP was dispatched to a possible stabbing in Louis Bull First Nation. Officers

responded, as well as EMS, and located a victim bleeding from a neck wound. First aid was rendered; however, the 21-year-old Louis Bull resident, was declared deceased at the scene.

RCMP Major Crimes Unit

was called and has taken carriage of the investigation. An autopsy was completed on May 4, 2026, at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Calgary, and the manner of death was confirmed to be homi-

cide.

If you have any information regarding this homicide, please call the Maskwacis RCMP detachment at 780-585-3767

MESSAGE TO ALBERTANS FROM THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

Submitted by Chief Electoral Officer

RE: Unauthorized Use of List of Electors

"We are hearing from hundreds of Albertans concerned about the impacts of the unauthorized use of the List of Electors by the Centurion Group Ltd.," said Gordon McClure, Chief Electoral Officer. "People are unhappy, scared, and anxious about the situation. We have heard countless stories about the risks people face having their information made public, including stories from domestic violence survivors, law enforcement, marginalized communities, and more. We at Elections Alberta hear you, and share your concerns in a very real way. Our staff are among the 2.9 million Albertans who are on the List of Electors. We agree this is an extremely serious situation.

"We have been asked why Elections Alberta did not act sooner; who has the information and how it is being used; how to find out if you are on the list; what can be done to prevent a similar situation in the future, and the impact on citizen initiative petitions. This message contains the answers we are able to share at this time."

Why did Elections Alberta not start an investigation sooner?

Elections Alberta is held to a very high standard on what we can and cannot investigate. The legislation requires that we must have "reasonable grounds to believe an offence has occurred" to start investigations. "Reasonable grounds" is a much higher standard than "grounds to warrant" (the previous standard in

the legislation), or "what might seem obvious" based on a complainant's suspicions or beliefs. This is similar to the amount of evidence that, in a criminal matter, police would need to arrest someone. Elections Alberta takes all complaints seriously, whether or not it is able to start an investigation.

Keep in mind, Elections Alberta is prohibited by law from com-

menting on any complaint or investigation that may or may not be happening.

A typical complaint progression looks like this:

- A complaint or information is received.
- A complaint or information may not provide the evidence needed. If it does not, we are not able to initiate an investigation.

• We will seek clarification from the complainant where possible.

• Where an investigation is not started, we hold the information and monitor the situation.

• As time progresses, if enough information to establish reasonable grounds is received, we start an investigation.

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Message To Albertans From The Chief Electoral Officer

Continued from Page 9

In the case of the unauthorized use of the List of Electors, as soon as we were able to share information on the injunction, and the data breach, we made two public statements, in the interests of the public, sharing as much information as we could.

I issued a cease and desist letter on April 28, 2026, sent representatives to ensure the database was not being accessed at a Centurion Group event on April 29, and had an emergency injunction issued by the Court of King's Bench on the morning of April 30, 2026.

We are now working closely with law enforcement and other agencies on this matter, and are doing everything we can within the limits of the legislation.

Who has the information and how is it being used?

The Court Order directs the Centurion Project Ltd. and the Republican Party of Alberta to, within four days of the Order:

- Identify every person or entity the Centurion Project Ltd. and the Republican Party of Alberta have provided a copy of the List of Electors, or a portion of the List of Electors, and

- Identify every person or entity the Centurion Project Ltd. and the Republican Party of Alberta have permitted to access the information from the List of Electors or portion of the List of Electors, and

- Provide to the Chief Electoral Officer all contact information the Centurion Project Ltd. and the Republican Party of Alberta have for these people or entities.

In our news release yesterday, we highlighted details of the injunction obtained and served.

What steps can be taken to prevent a similar situation in the future?

As the legislation is currently written, Elections Alberta cannot prevent an unauthorized distribution or use of a List of Electors provided to a registered political

party or other authorized entity. Elections Alberta may only ensure compliance with and enforcement of the legislation. Elections Alberta administers provincial electoral legislation in Alberta that is passed by the Legislative Assembly. Elections Alberta does not write legislation.

On May 9, 2025, the Chief Electoral Officer wrote to all members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta outlining several concerns with Bill 54: Justice Statutes Amendment Act before it was passed. The Chief Electoral Officer's letter included a specific section on "Changing the Threshold for Investigation to the Criminal Law Standard of "Reasonable Grounds".

The letter warned that:

"[u]nder Bill 54, for an investigation to begin, the Election Commissioner will need to be satisfied that a breach of the Legislation has occurred, before they can speak to anyone about the allegation, or gather and review any records. Practically this means that the onus will fall on a complainant to provide a substantively completed investigation in order for the Election Commissioner to look into a matter."

The letter went on to describe the potential impact on Albertans:

"The proposed changes will eliminate the majority of the compliance activities undertaken by the Election Commissioner and impact Albertans' trust that the rules... are being followed."

Elections Alberta can confirm that requiring "reasonable grounds" in Legislation has indeed impacted Albertans in this and other matters, as predicted in that letter.

In addition to the recommendations provided in its May 9, 2025, letter to the Legislative Assembly, Elections Alberta is preparing further recommendations for legislative changes that will strengthen our democratic system.

What is the impact on Citizen Initiative Petitions?

The Legislation prevents Elections Alberta from confirming or denying whether the name of a person who inquires is on a sig-

nature sheet for a Citizen Initiative petition. The Legislation also prevents Elections Alberta from removing the name of person at their request from a signature sheet for a Citizen Initiative petition.

Elections Alberta's role is to validate and verify the petition signature sheets as they are delivered by the proponent or petition applicant.

Consequential amendments to the signature verification processes

The Chief Electoral Officer has directed that the Citizen Initiative petition verification process be amended. Verification after today's date will include determining if any of the seeded names from the Republican Party of Alberta's List of Electors are contained in any incoming petition. If any of the seeded names are included, further scrutiny will result.

This updated process will apply to "A Referendum Relating to Alberta Independence" petition, the "No New Coal Mining in the Eastern Slopes of the Rocky Mountains" petition, and the two current recall petitions. The updated process will also apply to all petitions in the future.

The amendment is in addition to the existing steps that Elections Alberta takes to verify the petition signature sheets. Elections Alberta staff currently contacts a statistically valid random sample of electors whose signatures are on the petition to verify their information and signatures, using the contact information recorded on the petition signature sheets.

Final comments

Elections Alberta supports the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta's April 30th statement regarding the need for legislation that protects the personal information of Albertans that is in the hands of registered political parties.

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

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Classified Ads - Call 962-9228

Hall Rentals

Lodgepole Community Hall - (780) 894-2277

Manley Goodwill Community Hall, 780-920-3217

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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 -October4 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, monthly sunday market Community Centre 12-4pm. New Vendors Welcome. More info: 780-652-3304 www.artsdevon.org

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)

DEVON MUSIC JAM & DANCE: 4th Friday of ea. Month @ 1:30 pmPioneers 73 Club, 29 St. Lawrence Ave. Admission \$10.00

- Musicians \$5.00 More info - 780-991-2425

INDOOR PLAYGROUND: 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, 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.

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 Monday 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



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