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March 28, 2023

PARKLAND RCMP ARREST ROBBERY SUSPECTS

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

On March 22, 2023, at approximately 5:35 p.m., Parkland RCMP responded to a report of a robbery in the Calahoo area of Spruce Grove. The victim, a food delivery person, was robbed

at gunpoint by 2 suspects. The victim was not injured.

RCMP attended and located both suspects in the immediate area. A search warrant was executed and the weapon, which was found to be an imitation firearm, was recovered and seized by police.

Two youth suspects have been charged with Robbery with a Firearm and Unauthorized Possession of a Prohibited Weapon.

The names of the suspects will not be released due to their ages.

FIGHTING RURAL CRIME

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Budget 2023 will increase public safety throughout the province with \$27 million to hire more Alberta Sheriffs and by providing new tools to fight rural crime.

The Alberta government is investing \$27.3 million in new funding for the Alberta Sheriffs. Of that, \$10.2 million will go toward adding new positions in several areas, including courthouse security, prisoner transport and traffic enforcement on provincial highways.

An additional \$4.3 million

will create new rural crime initiatives for the Alberta Sheriffs, including two plainclothes teams that will assist RCMP detachments throughout the province with surveillance on criminal targets.

“It is important that Albertans are able to feel safe in their communities. This strategic investment will not only ensure the Alberta Sheriffs can continue the vital work they do every day to keep our communities safe, it builds on strong cooperation with their law enforcement partners to create new and innovative ways of working together to protect Albertans.”

Mike Ellis, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

The new plainclothes teams will enhance the sheriffs’ existing surveillance capacity by extending support to rural RCMP detachments for local investigations. The sheriffs’ existing surveillance unit is part of Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams and focused mainly on serious and organized crime investigations.

Continued on Page 2

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Fighting Rural Crime

Continued from Page 1

The Alberta Sheriffs are also receiving funding to add 20 investigators to the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) unit, which uses civil enforcement to target problem properties where illegal activities are taking place.

Several new positions will be based in regional hubs, which will give the SCAN unit a greater ability to investigate

complaints coming from rural communities and provide police in smaller centres with more options for dealing with criminal activity.

“Alberta Crime Stoppers is pleased to see the Alberta Sheriffs working on these rural crime initiatives and strategies that will make our communities safer.”

Mark Holik, president, Alberta Crime Stoppers

The government is also bolstering efforts to combat rural

crime and support rural policing by expanding the RAPID Response initiative.

Budget 2023 provides funding for the Sheriff Highway Patrol to train and equip its members to assist the RCMP with emergencies and high-priority calls as well.

This initiative builds on the success of a prior move that authorized members of the Sheriff Highway Patrol to investigate impaired driving and other criminal offences. The

Sheriff Highway Patrol has removed more than 2,500 impaired drivers from Alberta’s roads since being given those added powers in July 2021.

“These additional resources for the Alberta Sheriffs will improve our combined ability to suppress criminal activity in rural Alberta. Albertans deserve to feel safe in their communities, and these resources will help us continue to protect the safety and well-being of Albertans.”

Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki, commanding officer, Alberta RCMP

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

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SUPPORTING FARMERS FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

Submitted by Government of Alberta

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

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

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

"Alberta's Farmers' Advocate Office has been a pivotal resource for our farming community, providing in-

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

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

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

ture industry.

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

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

our province." Nate Horner, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation

As part of government's red tape reduction initiative, the office also helps producers navigate government processes and works with various departments, boards and agencies to find efficiencies and reduce regulatory burdens that affect the agriculture industry.

"The Farmers' Advocate Office has always put the needs of Alberta's farmers and ranchers first. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary, we are more committed than ever to providing the resources and support producers need to overcome any challenges they face now and in the future." Peter Dobbie, farmers' advocate



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laura.demeester@mcman.ca
www.mcman.ca

JOKE of the week

A gawky lad from New England came to New York with his girl, and took her to nearby Playland Amusement Park. They had heard a lot about the Tunnel of Love and were especially anxious to try it out. But when they got home, the kids expressed disappointment.

"Shucks," the boy said, "it was dark and damp and uncomfortable. Besides, we got soaking wet."

"How come?" asked a friend. "Did the boat leak?"

The kid looked amazed. "There's a boat?"

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MUNICIPALITIES NEED MORE FUNDING, NOT RECYCLED BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS

Submitted by ABmunis

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

Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) is disappointed

with the starting amount of \$722 million set for the new Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) baseline capital funding for 2024-25. The Government of Alberta had an opportunity to allocate far more than the \$2 billion it did over three years and really tackle the province's \$30 billion infrastructure deficit. We believe it falls about \$3 billion short





of what is needed, and the provincial government's commitment is well below the historical average.

Yesterday's funding announcement does nothing to address the cost-of-living increases that Albertans have been experiencing over the last year. It also fails to ensure Albertans will have the infrastructure they need for themselves

and the thousands of newcomers our provincial government is trying to attract to stimulate economic development and create long-term prosperity.

At the same time, ABmunis is encouraged by the provincial government's willingness to update LGFF to remove the 50 per cent cap on the revenue index factor, which will help ensure that the funding grows with Alberta's economy. We are also pleased to see the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) operating funding has been doubled, from \$30 million to \$60 million.

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

LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY  Visit LSAC.ca to explore the latest County news and events in greater detail.   

PUBLIC WORKS

ROAD BAN NOTICE

This Road Ban Notice applies to all Lac Ste. Anne County road surfaces, and supersedes the County's standing weight restrictions on certain chip seal coat roadways.


PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY granted under the provisions of Section 18(1) of the Municipal Government Act, the Vehicle Axle Weight Restrictions are effective **Monday, March 27, 2023. This Road Ban will remain in place until early June 2023 or as determined by the County.**

The following allowable weight will be permitted on all local roads in Lac Ste Anne County:

Description	Percentage-Axle Weights
All Gravel Surfaced	75%
Cold Mix Surfaced (unless otherwise posted)	75%
Hot Mix Surfaced	75%
Residential Subdivisions	75%
RR 33 from Twp 535 to Hwy 633	50%
RR 13 Hwy 37 North to Hwy 642	50%
Twp Rd 552 between Hwy 43 to RR40	50%
Twp Rd 544 from RR 11 to RR 21	50%
RR30 from Parkland County North	50%

This Notice shall remain in effect until further notice. If you require further information, please contact the Public Works department.

Dated March 27, 2023.



Mike Primeau, MBA, CLGM
County Manager
Lac Ste. Anne County

Managing and Mitigating Infrastructure Strain

Lac Ste. Anne County is responsible for the preservation and maintenance of all municipal roads, highways and bridges within Lac Ste. Anne County which are under the direction, control and management of the County. A very important part of this responsibility is the protection of roadways during the spring thaw. This time of year can create serious structural damage to roads and bridges if appropriate measures are not taken.

When a road ban occurs, signs indicating the allowed axle percentages are posted on all oiled and paved roadways. Road ban signage is not posted on gravel roads; however, all roads will be monitored and road bans enforced by Lac Ste. Anne County Enforcement Services to ensure compliance.

In conjunction with the road ban, please note that Lac Ste. Anne County, North 43 Lagoon Commission, and Darwell Lagoon Commission are implementing a wastewater hauler rate decrease. The rate will be reduced by 50% from \$75.00 per legal load to \$37.50 per legal load, or from \$5.50 to \$2.75 per meter cubed, until Lac Ste. Anne County spring road bans are lifted.

SUPPORTING CANADIANS AGING AT HOME

Submitted by MP Gerald Soroka

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

Public consultations are now open between March 20 until April 14, 2023, giving you the opportunity to have your say about supporting those wishing to stay in their homes.

PARKLAND RCMP THANK THE PUBLIC FOR THEIR SUPPORT



Submitted by Parkland RCMP

The Parkland RCMP would like to thank the community for their support in the days following the tragedy of the fallen officers of

Edmonton Police Services. The "Chase" toy (pictured) was left attached to the door of the RCMP detachment as a show of support for the daily services provided by Parkland RCMP in their community. "Chase"

was one of many reminders received in the days following this tragedy. Parkland RCMP would like to thank the community for their continued support during this time of loss.

PASSPORT STATUS CHECKER

Submitted by MP Gerald Soroka

Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead, wishes to advise that Service Canada has launched a new digital tool to support

the passport system. The Passport Application Status Checker enables Canadians, who recently applied for a passport, to check the status of their passport application online at Canada.ca/passport-status

The new online Passport Application Status Checker provides Canadians with a digital service option for passport services that will result in Canadians having faster access to front-line staff who can continue to

serve them for other passport needs. This new tool will shift the most common call centre inquiry to an easy-to-use, self-serve digital solution.



BUDGET 2023

Creating jobs and investing in what northern Alberta needs

Education and Post-secondary

Funding school projects in southern Alberta, including:

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

Expanding post-secondary facilities and/or programs including:

- Power engineering and instrumentation lab development at Northwestern Polytechnic

Health Care

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

Investing in Northern Alberta

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

For the full details visit alberta.ca/budget



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NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO CLOSE PORTION OF ROADWAY AS HEREIN DESCRIBED

Pursuant to the authority of the County Council and as provided in Section 22 of the Municipal Government Act, Chapter M-26 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the proposal of Council to pass Bylaw 2023-04 and Bylaw 2023-03 to close, for the purpose of sale and consolidation, that portion of undeveloped road in Parkland County in the Province of Alberta described as follows:

Bylaw 2023-03:

MERIDIAN 5 RANGE 5 TOWNSHIP 53

ALL THAT PORTION OF BEACHWAY ROAD AS SHOWN ON PLAN ADJOINING PLAN 2664CL BLOCK A OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 15

EXCEPTING THEREOUT ALL MINES AND MINERALS

Bylaw 2023-04:

MERIDIAN 5 RANGE 3 TOWNSHIP 53

ALL OF ROAD PLAN 3972ET WITHIN SE7-53-3-W5

EXCEPTING THEREOUT ALL MINES AND MINERALS



Map for Bylaw 2023-03

Copies of Proposed Bylaw 2023-04 and 2023-03

Copies of the proposed Bylaws 2023-04 and 2023-03 and location plans are available free of charge prior to the Public Hearing date by making an appointment to visit Parkland County Centre during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday) or by e-mailing linda.murtha@parklandcounty.com.

Date: April 11, 2023

Time: Bylaw 2023-03: 9:30 a.m.

Bylaw 2023-04: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Parkland County Council Chambers, 53109A Hwy 779, Parkland County, AB

Hearing Procedure

This is a formal Public Hearing and Council is prepared to hear and receive formal submissions and presentations (verbal or written) from those who wish to speak to the proposed Bylaws. Written submissions or presentations may either be submitted in advance to Engineering Services (linda.murtha@parklandcounty.com) by 4:00 p.m. March 28, 2023, or submitted at the commencement of the Public Hearing on April 11, 2023.

Anyone wishing to make a verbal presentation to Council should notify Engineering Services in advance of the Public Hearing by 4:00 p.m., on March 28, 2023. Verbal presentations at the Public Hearing will be limited to a maximum of 10 minutes. Anyone wishing to make a verbal presentation who has not made prior arrangements may be allocated a time at the commencement of each Public Hearing. Council advises that this is your last opportunity to comment on the proposed Bylaw as Council is unable to receive further submissions after each Public Hearing is closed.

The personal information you provide will be used for the purpose of the items described above and is collected under the authority of Section 33 (c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. If you have any questions about the collection, use, and disclosure of this information, please contact the FOIP Coordinator at Parkland County, 53109A HWY 779, Parkland County, Alberta T7Z 1R1 (780-968-3229) or email foip@parklandcounty.com

MP SOROKA'S STATEMENT ON THE EXCISE TAX

Submitted by MP Gerald Soroka

Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead, gave the following statement in the House.

"Mr. Speaker, repeatedly, this Liberal government proves they do not care about Canadians. If they did, then inflation would

not be at a record-breaking 40-year high.

Their solution...an automatic escalator on the alcohol excise tax – increasing taxes on beer, wine, and spirits by 6.3% on April 1st, alongside the carbon tax like a sick April Fool's joke.

This tax increase will devastate consumers; beer, wine, and spirits producers

(95% of which are small businesses); and other Canadian entrepreneurs who can barely make ends meet as it is. This tax hike will also have a sweeping negative impact on industries like tourism, food, and hospitality, among many others.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH ALREADY!

Taxpayers should NOT

have to pay for this Liberal government's chronic fiscal mismanagement and they should NOT have to struggle under this cost-of-living crisis. Will this Liberal government AXE the planned excise tax? Yes, or no?

NEW TOLL-FREE POISON CENTRE NUMBER

Submitted by MP Gerald Soroka

Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead wishes to advise that Health Canada has launched a new

toll-free number, 1-844 POISON-X, (1-844-764-7669), in collaboration with four Canadian poison centres, to make it easier for people in Canada to access critical medical advice for

poisonings.

Each year in Canada, over 1,500 people lose their lives and 8,000 are hospitalized due to unintentional poisoning from medications, cleaners, cannabis

products, and many other household items. For this reason, save this toll-free poison centre number in case of accidental poisoning.



REGISTER YOUR EQUIPMENT FOR 2023 WITH YELLOWHEAD COUNTY



Deadline for Registration is April 1, 2023.

All equipment hired by Yellowhead County **MUST** be registered annually by the deadline.

Yellowhead County will select equipment that is the best suited for the work to be done and provide the most cost effective level of service.

For more information or to register your equipment, call the Infrastructure Services Department at (780) 723-4800 or 1-800-665-6030.



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THAT'S ALL SHE WROTE

Submitted by MLA Shane Getson

I'll have to ask your indulgence on this one, as I'm a little more than reflective today, as it could very well be the last time I am going to be speaking in the house as the MLA for Lac Ste Anne Parkland. The last 3.8 years have flown past. I was warned they would, but in the thick of things, you never realize how far you've gone, or how the time has flown until you are near the end of the road.

Truth be told, I kind of dragged out the time before I stood up in the house to deliver my Maiden Speech, I wanted to take the time to do my research on the other MLAs who had represented the same area, and to say I was humbled by the pedigree is an understatement. Some major portfolio ministers, some very solid MLAs, and the longest sitting speaker of the house. Talk about tough acts to follow.

Reading through their maiden speeches, and several others they gave over the years about the characteristics, the people in our area, made me feel a little lest overwhelmed. The same themes were pervasive into present day. It gave me some solace to think of it as not starting at the bottom, but rather continuing in the race, passing of the torch as it were. The benefit I had is that they were still around, and to my disbelief were there in a heartbeat to take my call if I needed advice. Coming to the end of my first term, I get it. It is a fraternity, there is a deep care given to the communities, and the constituency as a whole, and with that you can't help but to give up part of your soul to it as well.

Giving my speech, heck, I was as nervous as a long tailed cat in a room full of rocking chairs... that is no exaggera-

tion. I just took that first deep breath and did my best to tell a story about our area. Where we came from, some of the water features we have, the roads, bridges, industries, but most importantly the people I met over the years, and on the "campaign trail". I've done my best when I'm in there to keep that top of mind, its not my voice, its yours. I am still very humbled that folks gave me this job, and their trust when needed to make the decisions not only that would affect them, but their kids, and grandkids. I have never held back on promoting our area, and our people, more times than not, calling it God's country. I've jokingly said because I said it so many times that the Pope came here to see for himself and blessed our lake to make it official.

Although giving speeches, leading task forces may get some social media play, or even a few seconds on the evening news, the real rewarding work has been often when no one heard at all. I am fortunate to have a solid staff, and not only me, but the folks in our area are so very fortunate to have them. Kristen and Bobby have and will continue to be champions for the folks in our area when they need some help or guidance. Here are just a few of the things we have as a team been able to help with over the last few years.

- Created Bill 31 in short order, that mitigated a potential shortage of supply of clay, gravel, sand, marl by defining them not as mineral, and how they would and could be mined.

- Repealed the provincial Carbon Tax in Bill 1 by proving in a court of law how flawed it really is.

- Engaged Albertans with the Firearms Task Force, addressing concerns related to federal overreach, property

rights, ability to own and use firearms, and proper representation for law abiding Albertans.

- And personally, I got to lead the Economic Corridors Task Force, in which I am also the Parliamentary Secretary. Plus, I led the Career Education Task Force, where I helped develop solid recommendations for career education deliveries.

- I even supported the return of the international airshow in Villeneuve, and further pitched the idea of an accredited aviation course to be taken by local students - in which it is in its second year of operation.

The whole process of politics seems backwards to me in a number of areas, and I'd like to share that with you as well, and now that I've been here for a while, explain to you why it is done. My grandma had told us as kids, there are three things that you don't talk about in polite company, sex, religion, and politics. My parents taught us as kids about manners, and what polite people don't do. You never ask for money, you earn it. You don't bug people on their days off, with their family, or at the supper hour, because they have earned their privacy. You sure as heck don't just drop in on folks unannounced.

Now in Politics, seems like the first three items always come up in conversation, and you are asked to fundraise, door knock, show up at events, and call folks at home to ask for their opinions...on just about everything. I've had to struggle with what I've been taught, vs this industry, and I've had to reconcile with it in the following way for the following reasons.

The Door Knocking and the phone calls are done for voter identification. Parties want to know which way you are leaning, if you are undecided,

or decided, so they know what they need to do to help change your opinion, or to get you the information you need to help you make an informed decision. Additionally, so they can get you fired up enough to pull up your socks and get out and vote on the "Big Day". So really, if we were not so darned apathetic in our democratic freedom to vote, we would not be getting so many random door knocks, or phone calls.

The fundraising, most of the cost goes to advertising and signage. The other large cost centers go for hiring "Professional Door Knocker and Phone Callers", because it is physically impossible to get in touch with folks in such a short timeline as a small team when we are so spread out. If you want to avoid being bothered at home, you could get in touch with the local Constituency Association of the party of your choice (I'm partial to blue myself) and let them know you are on board and will show up to vote. I'll also be out and around...lots, as we are going to be out of session, and obviously heading into an election season very soon. Come on over, tell me what matters to you, and give us your information so we can ID you and not bother you on your door and at home. The biggest thing you can do however, is to come out, and vote. Get everyone you know to vote, get the numbers up so we don't have to call you and remind you, because honestly, we wouldn't have to if we had the majority of the folks in our areas picking their candidates, rather than the historical low numbers. If you want me to be the MLA, and if you think I've done a good job, all the better reason to ensure that I can still be your voice, because I can assure you, all of those that don't want me, will be there in force at the poles an

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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 re-

quire 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. Station-

ary blinds can be cleaned with using an old sock over your hand 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.

Continued on Page 12

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Spring HOME RENO GUIDE



6 Easy Spring Cleaning Projects

Continued from Page 11

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 fur-

nace 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 refrigerator 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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The dawn of spring marks the return of many things, including long hours of sunlight and warm temperatures in which to enjoy that sunshine. But homeowners know spring also marks the return of insects, unwelcome guests that can be difficult or expensive to control once they have entered a home.

As problematic as insect infestations can be, preventing such problems can be simple, especially when homeowners are proactive. The following are a handful of ways to keep insects out this spring and summer.

• Consider potential food

supplies and cut those supplies off. Insects often enter a home in search of food, so cutting off potential food supplies is a great way to prevent insects from coming inside. Give dining areas a thorough cleaning after meals, vacuuming or sweeping the floors beneath dining tables each night before going to bed. (Parents of young children may want to sweep floors after each meal.) In addition, clean pets' bowls each night to be sure there are no food scraps left that may entice insects, and make sure pet food containers are tightly sealed after each

serving. Sinks are another potential food source, so empty food traps after using the sink and run the

garbage disposal as well to remove any food that might be lingering.

Continued on Page 14

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Safeguard Your Home From Insect Infestations

Continued from Page 13

· Address potential shelters. Insects also seek shelter inside homes, and there are many areas in a home that can provide adequate shelter. Cracks around windows and doors and in the foundation provide both entry points and potential shelters for insects. Seal such cracks with caulk, testing the areas by feeling for any incoming air. If you still feel air coming in, there is still some sealing to do. Cracks in cabinets or counters also may provide shelter to insects, so address these areas as well.

· Reconsider exterior lighting. Exterior lighting may be inviting insects into your home. Insects tend to congregate around lights at nighttime, so avoid placing lights right outside entryways. Once doors are opened, insects can then fly right into your home. Keep exterior lights as far away from entryways as possible. If you need lights right outside your doors, install motion-sensing lights that only turn on when you come within a few feet of the door. This reduces the volume of insects that congregate outside your entry-

ways, and lowers the risk that insects will follow you in when you arrive home at night.

· React quickly upon seeing insects. Insect infestations happen gradually, so homeowners should react quickly when seeing a single insect or a handful of insects inside their homes. The slower your response, the more likely one or two intruders is likely to turn into a large infestation. Immediately clean any areas where you see insects, and take more substantial measures if your initial efforts were not enough to

prevent more insects from coming in.

The presence of insects inside a home can be a nuisance, but there are many ways to prevent such infestations and keep unwelcome guests at bay.





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TRAINING MORE DOCTORS AND NURSES

Submitted by Alberta Health Services

Budget 2023 will invest almost \$200 million to expand post-secondary health care programs to train more than 3,400 additional health care professionals.

Alberta has the best front-line health care workers in the world. Alberta's government will work to make sure Albertans can get the care they need when and where they need it. New investments will help train the health care staff the province needs and ensure young Albertans can get into the programs they want, right here at home.

Alberta's government is investing \$72 million over three years to create more than 3,400 new seats in post-secondary health care programs across the province. Alberta's government is also investing \$113 million to add 100 residency training spaces for newly graduated doctors, particularly in rural areas and specialist fields.

"I am excited to announce the creation of more than 3,400 new spaces in health care programs at our universities and colleges. More young Albertans will be able to be trained as doctors and nurses right here in Alberta at our world-class post-secondary institutions." Demetrios Nicolaidis, Minister of Advanced Education

"Through the Health Workforce Strategy and the many other actions we're taking, Alberta will

build a strong, resilient and sustainable health workforce where its workers are supported to succeed as they provide expert care to improve the lives of Albertans." Jason Copping, Minister of Health

In Budget 2023, Alberta's government is working to address the health care challenges the province is facing by:

- Investing \$30 million in health care program expansion to create about 1,800 new seats over the next three years in nursing, health care aide and paramedicine programs.

- Investing almost \$20 million to create 120 new physician seats at the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta.

- o Funding will also help increase the number of rural physicians in Alberta in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.

- Investing \$113 million over three years for medical residency positions to add 100 residency training spaces and fund compensation for academic physicians instructing medical students.

- Investing \$22 million to upskill internationally educated nurses by creating new bridging programs and expanding seats at existing bridging programs to add 1,500 new spaces.

- Investing \$14 million over two years for the targeted recruitment of internationally trained nurses from the United States and the United

Kingdom.

Investments through Budget 2023 are commitments identified as part of the Health Workforce Strategy, which lays the foundation for a resilient and sustainable health care system that provides every Albertan with access to a health home, with the workforce in place to deliver the health services Albertans need today and in the future.

"This investment in our medical schools is a direct investment in the health of Albertans. These dollars will train new physicians, increase opportunities for medical residents and support those who train them, ensuring world-class care in every cor-

ner of the province." Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn, dean, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Alberta

As part of the health care seat expansion, publicly funded post-secondary institutions will be invited to submit proposals to expand seats in health-related programs. Programs could include registered nurses, health care aides, licensed practical nurses, nursing coordinators and supervisors, paramedical occupations, other medical technologists and technicians.

The physician expansion is expected to increase the number of physician

Continued on Page 20

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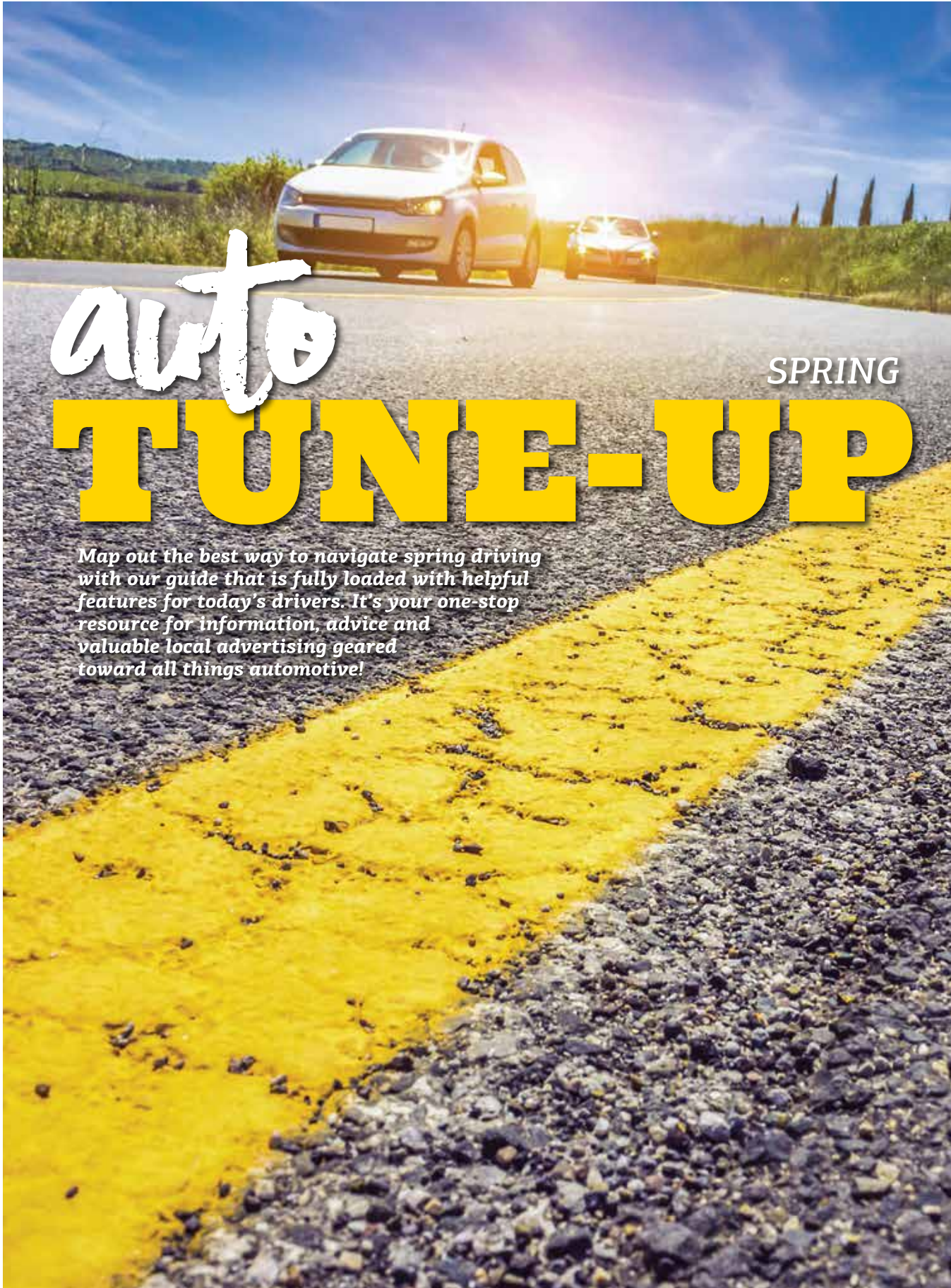
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HOW TO REDUCE VEHICLE EMISSIONS

Recognizing the threat posed by climate change, many people have resolved to live more eco-friendly lifestyles. Reducing vehicle emissions can have a strong and positive impact on the environment and may even benefit motorists' bottoms lines.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, 26 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. can be traced to transportation. But the task of reducing vehicle emissions is not as difficult as it may seem, as there are many steps ordinary citizens can take to cut back on the greenhouse gases their vehicles are producing each day.

Telecommute to

work. Recent research from Global Workplace Analytics, a firm that helps organizations understand and communicate emerging workplace strategies, found that 50 percent of the American workforce holds a job that is compatible with at least partial telework. The company also found that as recently as March 2016 a typical business would save \$11,000 per telecommuter per year, while workers who telecommute can save between \$2,000 and \$7,000 per year. But the financial benefits may pale in comparison to the effects that mass telecommuting can have on the planet. Telecommuters consume considerably less fuel than workers who drive or take mass

transportation to work, and over time that can greatly reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.

Prioritize vehicle maintenance. Poorly main-

tained vehicles can harm the environment and cost motorists substantial amounts of money. The South Carolina Department of Health

Continued on Page 18

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How To Reduce Vehicle Emissions

Continued from Page 17

and Environmental Control notes that something as simple as replacing a clogged air filter, a task that can be completed in a matter of minutes,

can improve gas mileage by as much as 10 percent. In addition, keeping tires properly inflated can reduce drag and improve fuel economy. Such steps also improve vehicle

performance and reduce wear and tear on a vehicle's engine, protecting motorists' automotive investments.

Avoid idling. Conventional automotive wisdom once suggested that idling a vehicle for several minutes can effectively warm up its engine. But the EPA notes that idling is both ineffective and harmful to the environment. Idling for more than 30 seconds can increase air pollution unnecessarily, waste fuel and money and cause excessive wear and damage to engine components. Auto manufacturers now recommend that vehicles idle for no more than 30 seconds before they begin driving, as modern engines take less time to warm up than the

engines of yesteryear.

Drive less. Perhaps the simplest way to reduce vehicle emissions is to drive less. While walking or cycling can be a great and healthy alternative to driving, driving less does not necessarily mean motorists should abandon their vehicles entirely. Instead, drivers can organize weekend shopping and errand trips so they accomplish everything in a single trip. This can free up time and greatly reduce fuel consumption and vehicle emissions.

Reducing vehicle emissions is a great way to help the planet, and such a goal is more attainable than many people may think.



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Obituaries



Doris Catherine Boyd
1931 - 2023

It is with great sadness that the family of Mrs. Doris Boyd of Stony Plain, AB (formerly of Wildwood, AB.) announce her passing on March 15, 2023, at the age of 91 years. Doris will be remembered as a hard-working farm wife who could do any and all chores with great pride and expertise. She was a humorous woman with a very happy disposition. Doris will forever be loved by her daughters Wanita (Duane) and Patricia (Jim); her sons: Brian (Ione), Dan, Allen (Bonnie), and Andrew; her 20 grandchildren and by numerous great-grandchildren. Will also be remembered by her brother Norman (Sheila); her sister Florence; her sister-in-law Annie as well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends. She is predeceased by her husband Leonard; brothers: Jim, Tom, and Bill as well as daughters-in-law Sharon and Hayley. If friends so desire, Memorial Donations may be made in Doris' honor to the Good Samaritan Society - Stony Plain Care Centre, 4800 - 55 Avenue, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1P9, or at www.gss.org/donate/ A Funeral Service was held for Doris at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at Parkland

Funeral Chapel, 3502 - 44 Avenue, Stony Plain, Alberta. Written Tributes may be made to www.parklandfuneralservices.com

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Training More Doctors And Nurses

Continued from Page 15

seats available by 58 per cent over 10 years. Through Budget 2023, Advanced Education is investing more than \$2 million in 2023-24 to support 20 new physician seats at the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary. An investment of more than \$5.8 million will support 60 new seats by 2024-25, and more than \$11.6 million will support a total of 120 seats by 2025-26. Of the 120 new seats, 60 new seats will be added to both the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta.

The physician training expansion investment of \$113 million over three years is part of the Academic Medicine and Health Services Program, which ensures physicians affiliated with Alberta's faculties of medicine are compensated for pro-

viding patient care along with their work related to research, innovation, education, administration and leadership.

The funds include supports to expand the province's ability to train more doctors, particularly in regional centres and rural communities, and 30 additional residency positions for international medical graduates who need more training before they can practise in Alberta. Once the seat expansion is fully realized, Alberta will be licensing more than 100 additional physicians annually who will be ready to practise.

"This funding will help our universities play a major role in health care training. Investing in training of new physicians is part of a larger workforce strategy to improve the health of Albertans. We are proud to be a partner in this endeavour."

Dr. Todd Anderson, dean, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary

In support of internationally educated nurses, Alberta's government is investing \$15 million to support the creation of new bridging programs to add 900 new student spaces. In February, Alberta's government announced that \$7.3 million will be invested to create more than 600 new seats in existing bridging programs at Mount Royal University, Bow Valley College and NorQuest College.

This investment builds on last year's targeted enrolment expansion which added 2,500 new seats in health-related programs, as well as the recently announced investment of \$1 million to explore regional health training centres in Lethbridge and Grande Prairie to support training for physicians in rural ar-

eas.

This is another piece of the government's larger strategy to improve Alberta's health care system, which includes historic investments in health care and expanding health care programs in the province's post-secondary system.

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



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. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

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

ANSWER:

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

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Entries must be received by April 6, 2023.

**Mail to: Easter Bunny c/o Community Voice
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