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September 13, 2023

YELLOWHEAD COUNTY FCSS HOSTING COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Submitted by Yellowhead County

Yellowhead County FCSS will be holding Community Conversations to discuss the social needs of residents in Yellowhead County.

Yellowhead County is completing a Community Social Needs Assessment to better understand the social needs of County residents.

Gathering the direct perspectives of County residents and youth is key to understanding what the most important social issues are so that we can best support individuals, families, and communities in Yellowhead County.

Resident and youth voices are critical to the process of developing an up-to-date structured plan for offering

relevant, effective, and efficient social services for our rural residents.

One of the ways we are ensuring residents and youth are heard in this process is through social needs assessment community conversations.

Several sessions have been scheduled in communities within the County.

Continued on Page 2

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SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY: MINISTERS WILLIAMS AND TURTON

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Minister of Mental Health and Addiction Dan Williams and Minister of Children and Family Services Searle Turton issued the following statements on World Suicide Prevention Day:

“Every death by suicide is an unimaginable loss for families, friends and loved ones, with the impacts felt by entire communities.

“World Suicide Prevention Day

is an urgent call to action for us all. Suicide can be a difficult subject to talk about, but it is only through open discussion that we can prevent these tragic deaths. By speaking openly, acknowledging our challenges and reaching out to those who may be struggling, we can build resilience and hope.

“If you’re struggling with feelings of hopelessness and despair, please know there is help. It’s important that people know there is a hopeful alternative to suicide. Crisis support is available 24 hours

a day, seven days a week, no matter where you call home. Call or text 2-1-1 or call the Mental Health Help Line at 1-877-303-2642 for support, information and referrals to services.” Dan Williams, Minister of Mental Health and Addiction

“Awareness is so important in supporting mental health – learning to recognize warning signs, developing healthy habits and encouraging our loved ones to seek help when they need it most. Building a strong foundation

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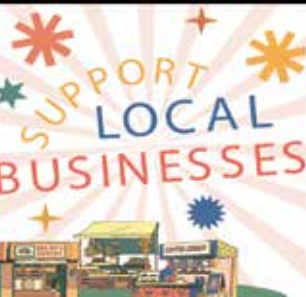
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Yellowhead County FCSS Hosting Community Conversations

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The sessions will be led by a facilitator and are designed to ensure that resident and youth are meaningfully engaged in the needs assessment process. All sessions run between 6:30 PM -8:30 PM and will include refreshments and snacks. Date and locations are as follows:

- September 27th - Wildwood Community Hall
- September 29th - Brule

Community Hall

- October 2nd - Carrot Creek Hall
- October 3rd - Marlboro Hall
- October 4th - Robb Multiplex

Another way we are ensuring residents and youth are heard in this process is through a social needs assessment survey. The survey should take only 10 to 15 minutes of your time. The deadline to complete the survey is October 15, 2023.

The survey can be completed online or by completing a paper copy. The online youth-specific survey can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/r/YellowheadYouth and the resident survey can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Yellowhead-Resident. Hard copies are available at the Yellowhead County offices in Edson and Wildwood or at a Community Conversations session.

Suicide Prevention Day: Ministers Williams And Turton

Continued from Page 1

of mental wellness ensures our children and our families have the skills and tools to overcome any challenge they're faced with.

Kids Help Phone has professional counsellors available 24-7 at 1-800-668-6868. If you would like to speak to a mental health professional, virtual and in-person counselling sessions are available on-

line through Counselling Alberta." Searle Turton, Minister of Children and Family Services



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SUNDAY 9:30AM-3:00PM



JOKE of the week

Paul, late for an important meeting, was searching desperately for a parking spot in a parking lot. Looking up to the heaven's he entreated "God if you find me a parking spot, I promise to start going to church again." The words were barely out of his mouth, when a spot opened up right in front of his car. Paul looked back up, "never mind I found one."



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PARTNERING WITH FIRST NATIONS TO BOOST SURGERIES

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Construction is beginning on a new chartered surgical facility on Enoch Cree Nation that will increase publicly funded surgeries and reduce wait times.

Some Albertans are waiting too long for surgeries. That's why Alberta's government launched the Health Care Action Plan to improve key areas of health care, including lowering surgery wait times. As part of the plan, the number of surgeries happening every year at hospitals and chartered surgical facilities such as the new facility at Enoch Cree Nation will be increased.

The new facility is expected to open by June 2025 and will offer about 3,000 more publicly funded orthopedic surgeries per year, reducing wait times for Albertans.

"The surgical facility at Enoch Cree Nation is an innovative partnership that will reduce wait times and reflects the government's commitment to ensure Albertans have access to the care they need when they need it. We will continue the work to bring down wait times even further and deliver surgeries within the clinically recommended time." Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Health

The facility will be one of the first built on First

Nation land in Canada, and will be operated by Enoch Cree Nation. The partnership between Enoch Cree Nation and Alberta Health Services (AHS) will support a culturally safe facility that will provide high-quality surgical care for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

"Today's groundbreaking marks a significant step in making this surgical facility, the first of its kind in Alberta, a reality. This is the first surgical facility to be run by a First Nation and built on their land and is an example of our government's commitment to working with Indigenous

people as equal partners and an important step forward towards reconciliation in Alberta." Rick Wilson, Minister of Indigenous Relations

"This partnership is an example of reconciliation in action. Maskêkosihk is supporting the Alberta Surgical

Continued on Page 4



PROPOSAL CALL FOR SNOW REMOVAL

Grande Yellowhead Public School Division invites all interested contractors to submit a proposal for the removal of snow, grading and the sanding of all Division owned parking lots at the following locations:

Grand Trunk High School & Evansview School in Evansburg, Wildwood School, and Niton Central School.

The successful contractor must demonstrate that all of the areas bid on will be cleaned and sanded within a 12 hour period after any significant snowfall.

The proposal call should therefore include the type and number of pieces of equipment available to clean, grade, sand and remove the snow from all parking lots and the hourly rates charged including travel time. Include WCB clearance letter and proof of \$2 million liability insurance in proposal.

When submitting a proposal bear in mind the distance between the sites and restrictions on a single operator for a number of sites.

Preference will be given to those contractors that submit their company safety program including safe work practices and up to date equipment maintenance records.

Sealed quotes will be received by Grande Yellowhead Public School Division attention:

Director of Facilities

3656 – 1st Avenue

Edson, Alberta T7E 1S8

Telephone: (780) 723-4471

Toll Free: 1-800-723-2564

Fax: (780) 723-2414

Closing Date:

Friday, September 22, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Grande Yellowhead Public School Division reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications.

Partnering With First Nations To Boost Surgeries

Continued from Page 3

Initiative to bring additional capacity to Treaty 6 territory, address surgical wait lists for all Albertans, and ensure that the medical care we deliver together is done so in a way that respects all cultures, including First Nations people who have made this land their home for thousands of years.” Chief Cody Thomas, Enoch Cree Nation

When a surgeon decides a patient needs surgery, AHS then schedules the surgery and determines whether the patient will have the publicly funded surgery at a hospital or a chartered surgical facili-

ty based on several factors, including the type of surgery.

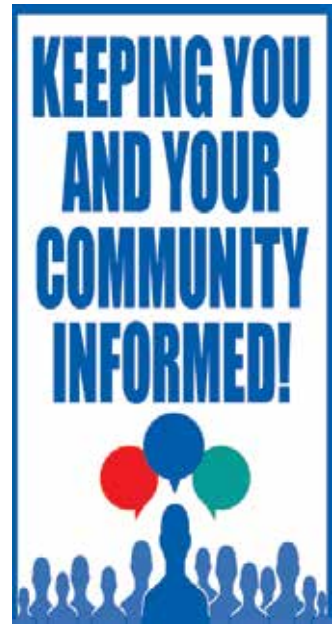
Moving more orthopedic surgeries to chartered surgical facilities frees up operating room space in hospitals to provide more complex surgeries, which reduces wait times for these types of surgeries that require hospital care.

As a result of actions to boost the number of publicly funded surgeries happening at both hospitals and chartered surgical facilities, wait times for hip and knee replacements have significantly improved. As of June 2023, about 56 per cent of hip replacement sur-

geries were completed within target, compared with 41 per cent in June 2022. For knee replacement surgeries, about 49 per cent were completed within clinically recommended time, compared with 25.5 per cent the previous year.

“Patients are at the centre of all we do and every decision we make at AHS, and we know that Albertans want more access to the surgeries they need. The new surgical facility on the Enoch Cree Nation will help us deliver more orthopedic surgeries to patients in the Edmonton region, improving access to the procedures they need

and reducing their wait times.” Mauro Chies, president and CEO, Alberta Health Services



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Caregiver Support Group

*In-Person & Online Group Sessions

This is a valuable opportunity for caregivers to get together and talk about their caregiving journey in a safe and confidential environment. Caregivers can be caring for their parents, their spouses, an elderly friend, a family member, or their children.

Join us for these free in-person & online confidential group sessions:

- **2023 Dates:**
Sept 19, Oct 17, Nov 21, Dec 19
- **2024 Dates:**
Jan 16, Feb 20, Mar 19, Apr 16, May 21, June 18



Take this opportunity to learn from others who are experiencing the same challenges and stresses.

Join us at the Yellowhead County Wildwood Office or online via Zoom every third Tuesday at 4:00 PM.

For more info, call Yellowhead County 780-325-3782 or 1-800-814-3935 or email Karen at kschatz@yhcounty.ca



In-Person & Online Group Sessions

Alzheimer support group



Caregiving can be stressful and difficult—but you're not alone.

Free, drop-in basis.

Meet with others that are going through the same challenges and stresses as you.

The group meets in a safe and confidential environment once a month at the **Tipple Park Museum** or online via Zoom!

2023: September 20, October 18, November 15, December 20
2024: January 17, February 21, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19
Time: 4:00 PM every third Wednesday

Call the Yellowhead County Wildwood Office at **780-325-3782** or **1-800-814-3935** for details, or email Karen at kschatz@yhcounty.ca



Yellowhead County FAMILY TIME



Join us on Wednesdays for some indoor fun!
 Program runs from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

MARLBORO COMMUNITY HALL

- SEPTEMBER 13TH
- SEPTEMBER 27TH
- OCTOBER 18TH
- NOVEMBER 1ST
- NOVEMBER 22ND
- DECEMBER 6TH

There will be new activities and unstructured free play each week.

PEERS MULTIPLEX

- SEPTEMBER 20TH
- OCTOBER 4TH & 25TH
- NOVEMBER 8TH & 29TH
- DECEMBER 13TH

This is a free program for caregivers with children ages 0-5.



Registration is required. Please register by visiting www.yhcounty.ca/registration



2023 COMBINED ASSESSMENT & TAX NOTICES

Yellowhead County mailed the 2023 Combined Assessment and Tax Notices June 8, 2023. The deadline for paying taxes for Non-Residential properties is **July 31st, 2023**, and the deadline for paying taxes for Residential/Farm properties is **September 29, 2023**.

Payment Options:

- Edson or Wildwood Yellowhead County Offices (drop box available after hours at Edson location only)
- At your Chartered Bank or Credit Union
- Telephone Banking
- Internet banking (Your Tax Roll Number is your Account number)
- Courier or Canada Post (postmarked on/or before the 2023 due date)

A penalty will be applied to all 2023 tax levies that are outstanding after the due dates.

If you have not received a notice, or if you have further questions, call the Yellowhead County office at 780-723-4800 or toll free at 1-800-665-6030.

Office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday to Friday.

For more information, please call **1-800-665-6030** or **780-723-4800** or email info@yhcounty.ca

fall HOME RENO GUIDE



REDUCE COLD-WEATHER FIRE RISK

Plenty of things heat up when the temperature drops, including the risk for fire hazards. Fireplaces, stoves, heating systems, candles,

and even electric lights are used more often during the winter than any other time of year, so it makes sense that the risk of home fires increases when the mercury drops

The U.S. Fire Administration says 905 people die in winter home fires each year. Cooking is the leading cause of all home fires and contributes to around \$2 billion in property loss each year. Understanding potential risks

and exercising caution can help homeowners protect themselves, their families and their homes from fire.

Cooking Home heating fires peak between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., when many people are home preparing dinner. The following steps, courtesy of the American Red Cross, can improve safety in the kitchen and reduce the likelihood of a

Continued on Page 7

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fall HOME RENO GUIDE

Reduce Cold-Weather Fire Risk

Continued from Page 6

- home fire.
- Never leave cooking food unattended, as it can take just seconds for fires to ignite.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stove or other appliances that generate heat.
- Clean regularly to prevent grease buildup.
- Make sure appliances are turned off before leaving the

room or going to bed. Heating The National Fire Protection Association warns that heating is the second leading cause of home fires, deaths and injuries in the United States. The NFPA offers these safety guidelines.

- Install heating appliances according to manufacturers' instructions or have a professional do the installation.

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Reduce Cold-Weather Fire Risk

Continued from Page 7

- Fuel-burning equipment needs to vent to the outside.
- Never use an oven to heat a home.
- Keep anything that can burn away from heating equipment, including portable space heaters.
- Clean and inspect heating appliances regularly.
- Turn off portable heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.

Electric

The National Safety Council estimates that between 600 and 1,000 people die each year from electrocution. Electricity also can contribute to home fires. The Energy Education Council offers these safety suggestions.

- Never force plugs into outlets.
- Check that cords are not frayed or cracked. Do not run cords under carpets or place them in high-traffic areas.
- Use extension cords only on a temporary basis.
- Make sure light bulbs are the proper wattage for fixtures.
- Install ground fault circuit interrupters in kitchens, baths, laundry rooms, and elsewhere, making sure to test them regularly.
- Check periodically for loose wall receptacles and loose wires. Listen for popping or sizzling sounds behind walls.

Home fires are no joke and can be prevented with simple safety checks.

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- **Recreation Board**
One position available. 3-year Term. Board meets quarterly on Mondays at 9:30 AM at the County office in Edson.
- **Agricultural Services Appeal Committee**
Three positions available, 1-year Term (January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024). Board meets as required. Training required, costs covered.

Find out more today, visit www.yhcounty.ca!

Note: Board Members must be Yellowhead County residents.

APPLY ONLINE BY OCTOBER 10TH!

Questions? Call us at 780-723-4800 or 1-800-665-6030

Municipal offices CLOSING EARLY on Friday, September 15.



The Yellowhead County offices in Edson and Wildwood will be closing at noon for a staff function.



Yellowhead County FCSS COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

We need YOUR perspective on social needs in Yellowhead County!

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS WILL BE HELD:

- September 27th - Wildwood Community Hall
- September 29th - Brule Community Hall
- October 2nd - Carrot Creek Hall
- October 3rd - Marlboro Hall
- October 4th - Robb Multiplex

ALL SESSIONS RUN BETWEEN 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM AND WILL INCLUDE REFRESHMENTS AND SNACKS.

SCAN ME

to take youth survey



SCAN ME

to take resident survey



Survey deadline: October 15, 2023

Call 780-325-3782 or 1-800-814-3935 for more info



THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ANNOUNCES PROGRESS ON THE CANADIAN DENTAL CARE PLAN

Submitted by Government of Canada

Every Canadian deserves quality dental care, yet one-third of Canadians are unable to visit an oral health professional because they

do not have dental insurance.

As such, the Government of Canada has been working extensively to improve access to dental care services for Canadians, and has reached a key step in the procure-

ment process to administer the Canadian Dental Care Plan.

Today, the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Public Services and Procurement, and the Honourable Mark Holland, Minister of

Health, announced that an Early Work Agreement worth up to \$15 million has been awarded to Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (Sun Life). This interim measure will enable Sun Life to undertake necessary pre-contractual work to ensure the timely launch and successful operation of the Canadian Dental Care Plan while details of the main contract are finalized. This includes work such as recruitment, information technology-related activities and business planning. The main contract is expected to be awarded in fall 2023, pending Government of Canada approval.

Once fully implemented, the Canadian Dental Care Plan will support up to 9 million uninsured Canadians who have an annual family net income of less than \$90,000 in getting the oral health care they need, with no co-pays for those with family incomes under \$70,000. Further information on the plan, which is expected to begin rolling out by the end of 2023, will be communicated by Health Canada in the coming weeks.

ANOTHER RAINBOW SALE

LIVE ESTATE AUCTION SALE FOR MR DOUG STEEVES

of Spruce Grove, AB
Saturday Sept. 16, 2023 @ 10am

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Kochs barber chair, Exercise machine, Peavy amplifier, Large bar, Turbo Hockey (Air hockey game), Birdhouse, Blue Bynou display truck,plus much more.

Higher quality images will be uploaded once the products are organized and setup for this auction.

Go to Rainbow Liquidators Auctions.ca Website for pictures and listing, New items listed daily.

ANOTHER RAINBOW SALE


UPCOMING SALES CONSIGN NOW!

On-Line - Annual Harvest Consignment Sale Estate Sale for the Wamamun Honey Farm also retirement sale for Mr Glen Holland of Jackfish Lake Also moving Sale for Black Gold Radio Station and more coming in every day!! Starts Monday Sept. 25, 2023 - soft closing Friday Sept. 29, 2023

Watch website daily for new additions to auction lists

Terms and conditions: Cash, Visa, MasterCard, Debit, Interac. Nothing to be removed until paid for. Subject to additions and deletions. A 10% handling fee, plus GST will be charged where applicable. Please be conscious of the handling fees and factor them into your bidding. Owner Rainbow Auctions & Liquidators or it's employees shall not be responsible for accidents.

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Darwell Centennial Hall, 780-892-2468

Darwell Seniors, Phone Debra 780-785-2907

Duffield Hall, 892-2425

Entwistle Community League Hall Rentals, Call Barry Osbourne (780) 621-2541

Entwistle Senior's Drop In Centre, Barb 727-2108 or Glennis 727-4367 Mon-Fri

Evansburg Senior's Heritage House, Dennis 727-4186

Evansburg Legion, upper hall 250 people, 727-3879

Fallis Community Hall, Kim/Rick 587-415-8177

Gunn Hall (G.A.R.S.) 780-951-9452

Keephills Hall keephillsrentals@gmail.com (780) 919-6590 keephillshall.com Contact Hayley Butz

Lake Isle Community Hall, PH: 780-892-3121 or Email: lakeislehall@mail.com

Lake Romeo PeaVine Hall, 785-2700

Magnolia Hall, 727-2015

Mackay Community Hall, Darlene 780-795-2350

Manley Goodwill Community Hall, 780-920-3217

Mayerthorpe Diamond Centre, 786-4044

Moon Lake Community Hall, 780-727-2370

Park Court Hall, call or text Karyn 780-712-3918

Parkland Village Community Centre, 780-298-9155 @ PVCCentre

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

Ravine Community Hall, Dawna @ 325-2460

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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!

ANSWER:

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

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

THE HIGHS AND LOWS

Submitted by MLA Shane Getson

No matter who you talk to, there are always the “highs & lows.” It’s just the way of life; just the way it goes it seems. The folks that I admire the most are the ones that are able to capitalize on the highs, and learn from the lows. Mathew McConaughy wrote a book called “Green Lights,” I have yet to read it myself, but I did manage to catch an interview of him speaking about it. He basically documented for himself the things that he was doing when he was getting the proverbial “Green Lights” in his life, and conversely, also documented the “Red Lights” he was getting when things were not going his way. The “Highs and the Lows,” as he discovered, were greatly impacted by what he was able to control himself. I thought that was very insightful and helpful.

Although there are far too many things that are out of our control, some things we can influence. We should look at ourselves and see how we can change our behaviors and perception to get the most out of this life, and the road that we are traveling. Cherish the highs, learn from the lows, and get through them as quick as possible. Help others to celebrate their successes and help them to succeed. Sharing the view from the top of a mountain is always better than trying to tell someone else about it. Lending a hand may take a little extra time that day, but over the years and weeks to come, it will be so very worth it, as things seem to come back to those that help others. Paying it forward as it were.

Over the last few weeks in the office, however, we have seen a disconcerting pattern that I’d like to address. I’m not certain if it is the “Fear Biting” effect or the “lashing out” because of stress or

frustration, but beating up on folks that are trying to help is 100 percent counter-productive. Healthcare gets it far too often from what I’ve heard, as do folks in the service industry. Hitting the helping hand that’s extended is not a solid plan. Climbing that mountain is going to be very challenging, to say the least, but slapping it away and berating the person who is pulling you up when you cry for help is just downright counter-productive. My staff will do all that they can to be there for you, but I have directed them over the last few weeks, quite simply that they are not to tolerate any verbal or written abuse. There are lots of folks that need help, that are not abusive, rude, or obnoxious, and quite frankly they will get the priority of time.

There has been several inquiries regarding “Mandates” and “Protocols” for public safety and health as crops are coming off, and as the kids head back to school. I’m not impressed by the media ramping up the fear meter again either, as it does not help anyone to be running around like chicken little, nor does it help to cause undue stress on an already stressed population. We all had a very long three years of it, and quite frankly, want to get our lives back on track. I can let you know that we sure as heck won’t be running back to the place that we just made it out of because some report looking for social media clicks writes some hyper sensationalized article. Despite what they may believe, there is a cold flu season, always has been and always will be. Simple things keep us healthy: wash your hands a lot, don’t touch your face, and if you are not feeling well, stay at home so you can get over it without getting a bunch of other folks sick. Keep positive, eat well, and keep the probiotics up.

Some folks have been very concerned about the amount

of surveillance out there on our highways and side roads. Well, towns, cities, counties, and even the transportation department uses cameras these days for many reasons for gathering data, and enforcement of rules. I’ve had a few that have taken particular interest in my license plate, and I had the honour of paying them for sending me a picture of it in the mail, letting me know that I was too fast for that stretch of road apparently. For those that are really concerned about surveillance, I’ve suggested that the traffic cameras are the least of your concerns if you have a cell phone and a social media account. The information that is mined from our phone, what is given freely without thinking of your social media presence is simply staggering compared to what a traffic camera could provide. One of the joys of living in the country are no traffic lights, and I can leave my cell phone at home if I choose.

The cost of living, inflation, and the federal policies on how we can obtain our electricity is of major concern. The latest end around the CN-tower-climbing federal minister, who is all cozy with the communist party of China, could have folks doing jail time if they don’t comply with what the Liberal/NDP coalition deems to be clean energy. Their haphazard ideological policies are not gaining traction, because those who know how things are made, how they work, and where food comes from won’t jump over the cliff with them. Simply put, we will not let Albertans freeze in the dark while we sit on a huge number of resources, technology, because some fancy sock wearing trust fund baby says so. We will continue to work at the table to negotiate, but we are just not going to do stupid things because others can’t see reality.

I recently was named Parliamentary Secretary for

Economic Corridor Development, reporting directly to the Premier. I’m very happy to continue this file, and to make even more inroads with other provinces, the USA, and globally as well. I’ll be looking to solidify the concept, as well as to ratify memorandums of understanding with other regions, states, and provinces of the concept that will garner real investment and development. I recently met with the Consulate General of India to discuss further. They have a real need for secure energy supply, as well as food security. They are literally the largest democratic country in the world by population, as well as the most populous nation recently surpassing China. In addition, their economy is very strong, and is projected to rival the USA in the next 20 years. They also just landed a spacecraft on the moon. India is definitely on the rise, and they want to do business with us.

Economic corridors are more than just roads, railroads, airports, powerlines, and pipelines. They are literally conduits between people and regions. The corridors facilitate communications, and long lasting mutually beneficial relationships, that encourage economic growth and prosperity in a responsible manner. This is why the model has gained so much momentum, and why it resonates at local and international levels. Alberta needs to continue to lead in this area. It’s policies like this that build nations, that secure our future, and ensure that generations for years to come will reap the rewards. As you can probably tell, this is one of those highs for me. To be able to help create a framework that will be long-lasting, that will create prosperity, and that will help keep us strong and free.

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