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August 20, 2025

THORSBY RCMP RECOVER MULTIPLE STOLEN VEHICLES

Submitted by Thorsby
RCMP

On July 15, 2025, at approximately 1:38 p.m., Thorsby RCMP received a report of a suspicious male passed out in a vehicle on a rural property in Leduc County.

Thorsby RCMP attended the property and located a male inside a pickup truck attached to a flatbed trailer. The male was slumped over in the driver's seat of the vehicle. Thorsby RCMP confirmed the identity of the male and arrested him for an outstanding war-

rant. Further investigation resulted in Thorsby RCMP locating a loaded firearm inside the vehicle on the passenger seat.

Thorsby RCMP confirmed the trailer attached to the truck the male was occupying to be stolen.

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THORSBY RCMP REQUEST ASSISTANCE LOCATING MISSING MALE CONCLUSION

Submitted by Thorsby
RCMP

Thorsby RCMP is advis-

ing that Matthew Holbrook was located deceased. The circumstances are not suspicious.

RCMP sends condolences to his family and friends.

DRAYTON VALLEY RCMP CONDUCTS ARREST AFTER RECEIVING ERRATIC DRIVING COMPLAINT

Submitted by Drayton Val-
ley RCMP

On Aug. 1, 2025, the Drayton Valley RCMP received a complaint about an erratic driver on Highway 22. Drayton Valley RCMP members made patrols in the area and were able to locate the suspect vehicle. A traffic

stop was conducted to determine the sobriety of the driver, resulting in members observing illegal goods inside the vehicle. A subsequent search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of over 200g of Fentanyl, bear spray, a knife and drug paraphernalia. RCMP members also located several items

of Lululemon clothing with security tags still on them, which were later discovered stolen from a Calgary Lululemon on July 31, 2025.

As a result of the investigation, 48-year-old Clairmont, Alta., resident Brent Darling was charged with:

- Possession of a controlled

Continued on Page 2

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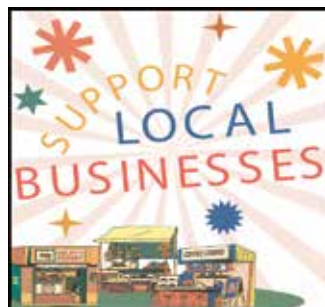
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Thorsby RCMP Recover Multiple Stolen Vehicles

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Several other vehicles located on the property and surrounding treeline were confirmed stolen and recovered by RCMP. The approximate value of all recovered items was \$427,000.

Riley Garrett (29), a resident of Edmonton, was arrested and charged with the

following:

- Careless use of a firearm;
- Possess a weapon for a dangerous purpose;
- Occupy a motor vehicle knowing a firearm inside;
- Possess a firearm without a license;
- Possession of a loaded firearm with readily accessible ammunition;
- Possession of proper-

ty obtained by crime over \$5,000 (x7);

- Fail to comply with an order (x2);
- Operate motor vehicle while prohibited.

Garrett was transported to Edmonton Remand Center awaiting his next court appearance.

Drayton Valley RCMP Conducts Arrest After Receiving Erratic Driving Complaint

Continued from Page 1

substance for the purpose of trafficking;

- Possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose (x2);
- Operation of motor vehi-

cle while impaired; and

- Possession of property obtained by crime under \$5000.

Darling was brought before a justice of the peace and released on conditions.

He is to appear before the Alberta Court of Justice in Drayton Valley on Aug. 19, 2025.



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JOKE of the week

Our first day at a resort my wife and I decided to hit the beach.

When I went back to our room to get something to drink, one of the hotel maids was making our bed. I grabbed my cooler and was on my way out when I paused and asked, "Can we drink beer on the beach?" "Sure," she said, "but I have to finish the rest of the rooms beforehand."

Welcome BACK-TO-SCHOOL



School is in! Let's practice school bus safety. Wishing all of our local students a safe, happy & successful school year!

Andrew Boitchenko
MLA FOR DRAYTON VALLEY-DEVON

DRAYTONVALLEY.DEVON@ASSEMBLY.AB.CA TOLL FREE: 1-800-542-7307

DESIGN PHASE BEGINS FOR HIGHWAY 621 IMPROVEMENTS

Submitted by Brazeau County

Alberta's government is partnering with Brazeau County to make Highway 621 safer and more efficient for vehicles carrying oversize and overweight loads.

A design consultant will be hired to complete planning, engineering and design work for 30 kilometres of grade widening between Highways 22 and 753. The upgrades will improve safety, support Alberta's heavy load corridors, and strengthen the province's economic competitiveness by making it easier for industry to move goods. Brazeau County will lead the hiring of the consultant and deliver the design work.

Highway upgrades will accommodate a 7.32-metre-wide load (with a permit) passing a 2.6-metre-wide regulated commercial truck. Highway 621 carries approximately 1,300 vehicles per day, with 8.5 per cent truck traffic (about

87 trucks daily).

The design phase is expected to take two to three years, subject to right-of-way acquisition and utility relocations.

Highway 621 is part of Brazeau County's Western Economic Corridor, and is the only route in the region that accommodates over-dimensional traffic to Whitecourt, Grande Prairie and Peace River. This critical link supports resource industries, agriculture, and emerging sectors like hemp and geothermal, connecting them to markets across Alberta and beyond.

"Upgrading Highway 621 is about more than just paving a road – it's about building a more efficient transportation network that connects Alberta's industries to markets while keeping our economy competitive," says Devin Dreeschen, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors. "This investment will help ensure that heavy loads and critical goods can move

safely and reliably for years to come."

"Highway 621 has been a long-standing concern for residents across the Drayton Valley-Devon region," says Minister of Sport and Tourism Andrew Boitchenko. "As MLA, I heard loud and clear from constituents that safety and infrastructure improvements were urgently needed. Today, I'm proud to stand with the Government of Alberta and Brazeau County to announce that we're getting it done—delivering on our commitment to make this vital corridor safer, more efficient, and better equipped to sup-

port local industries and communities."

"This project has been sought after for quite some time, and we are grateful to Minister Dreeschen and Minister Boitchenko for making this project a go," says Brazeau County Reeve Bart Guyon. "This will make the road safer and more accessible for industry. Brazeau County and Alberta move on wheels, so we are grateful to have this project go ahead. It will be very well-received by our residents, businesses, and industries."

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Online auction starts Monday, September 1, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.
Online auction will start soft closing on Friday, September 5, 2025 at 12 noon

Pickup - Saturday, September 6, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed Sunday, September 7, 2025

Pickup - Monday, September 8 - Wednesday September 10, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 pm.

(To be sold off site) Mobile home and shed are located at:
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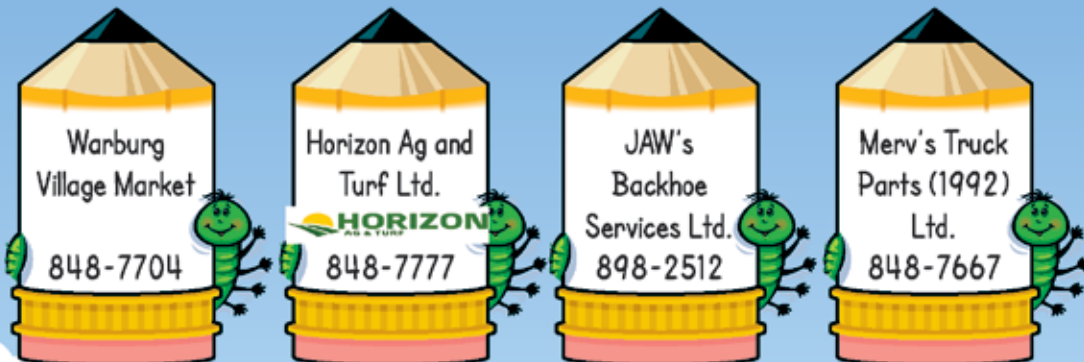
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BACK 2 School

WHAT'S YOUR ROLE?

- Motorists must watch for children crossing roads, and prepare to slow down and stop.
- No Matter what direction motorists are traveling, they must STOP when approaching a stationary school bus with alternating flashing red lights - unless the bus is on the opposite side of a divided highway.
- Always be aware of and respect "Point, Pause and Proceed", used by Alberta school children when crossing roads. Stop for pedestrians.
- Parents should plan to have a safe place for kids to go in case they miss the bus. Remind them to never take rides from strangers.
- Take the time to discuss school bus safety with your children. Teach them how to be street smart and ride safe.
- Alternating flashing amber lights means a bus is slowing down to stop. Slow down and prepare to stop too.

THIS SAFETY MESSAGE IS SPONSORED BY THESE CARING LOCAL BUSINESSES





Safety First!

Children who walk or ride bicycles to school should also obey the rules of the road. Be sure you see the kids off every morning, and consider checking in with the school or calling kids' cell phones to confirm they arrived safely.

This Safety Message is sponsored by these caring local businesses

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BACK-TO-SCHOOL

DID YOU KNOW?

- Red means STOP. The penalty for passing a school bus with its alternating flashing red lights activated is \$402 and six demerit points.
- School buses in Alberta transport nearly 250,000 youngsters twice a day.
- Transport Canada reports that school bus travel in Alberta is 16 times safer than commuting in the family vehicle.
- The biggest bus danger to children is when they are getting on and off the bus.
- More than 6,300 school buses are driven by conscientious, dedicated drivers every school day in Alberta.

This safety reminder is brought to you by these caring businesses:

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SCHOOLS IN!

PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY!

The kids are going back to school again.
Please watch out and slow down near schools!
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EARTH-FRIENDLY TIPS FOR AUTUMN

Autumn is upon us, and with the change of seasons comes the fall to-do list that must be completed before the arrival of winter weather. Many outdoor jobs are best completed before temperatures drop, while others can be tackled indoors to help save energy and prepare for increased time spent inside the home.

Outdoor cleanup

Autumn means leaves are falling from trees and littering landscapes. Clean-

ing up leaves can be a time-consuming task, but it's necessary to promote the health of lawns and other plants. Grass that is completely matted down with leaves can become starved for light and moisture, and lawns may even rot when forced to spend winter beneath fallen leaves.

One eco-friendly timesaver is to shred leaves with a mower (a manual mower is preferable) and leave them as topdressing for the lawn. As long as

the grass blades can be seen within the leaves, the lawn should be fine. Shredded leaves will decompose and add necessary nutrients and organic matter to the soil naturally.

Leaves also can be used in annual flower and vegetable gardens to improve the soil. Mulch made from shredded leaves can be placed on the soil around trees and shrubs. This helps to reduce weed problems and protects root systems from harsh tem-

perature fluctuations.

Clothing donations

It's time to pack away summer clothing and once again fill closets and drawers with sweaters and jeans. Before packing away your summer wardrobe, conduct an inventory to determine if there are any items you no longer use. Donate these items or use them as rags when cleaning.

Keep some short-sleeved shirts accessible so you

Continued on Page 11

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Earth-Friendly Tips For Autumn

Continued from Page 10

can layer them under sweatshirts and sweat-ers. The heat from layering will be trapped against your body and keep you cozier, reducing your reliance on HVAC systems to stay warm.

Home repairs

Check the roof for any missing shingles. In addition, look for spots where animals or insects may be able to gain entry into your home. Seal these areas and repair any leaks. This will make your

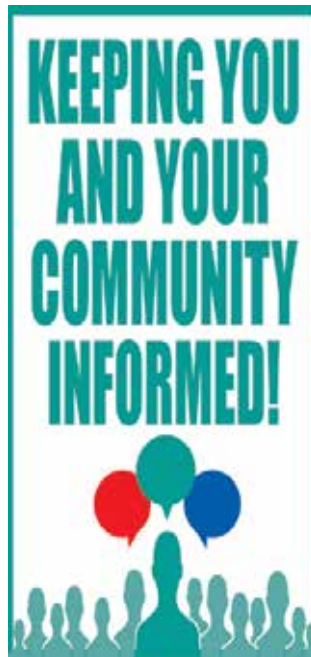
home more efficient later on when winter hits its stride.

Remove window air conditioners for the winter. If they can't be removed, seal them with caulking or tape and cover them with an airtight, insulated jacket. If you have forced-air systems, move furniture away from the vents so that air can flow better around the home and keep it comfortable.

Check weatherstripping around windows and doors and make

the necessary adjustments. Installing additional insulation also can help reduce energy consumption.

A few tips can help homeowners prepare for autumn in eco-friendly ways.



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MAKE LIGHTS SPARKLE

As days get shorter and natural light is less abundant, interior lighting becomes ever more important. Chandeliers, pendant lamps, recessed lighting, and tableside lamps are most effective when they are clean. HGTV experts say dirty lights can give off up to 20 percent less light than clean ones. Dirty fixtures also waste energy.

Lighting fixtures that are within reach are easy to tackle, but what about those fixtures that hang or have multiple crystals, globes or bulbs? These tips can cut down on the time needed to give lights a thorough cleaning.

• Stock up on the

right cleaning supplies. Microfiber dusting cloths are smart choices because they can help trap grime and tend to be machine-washable and reusable. Extendable static-charged dusters are another handy item to have around, particularly for fixtures that are hard to reach.

• Dust regularly. Dusting regularly can prevent the buildup of grime that's difficult to wash off. Try to dust light fixtures weekly or biweekly. The more frequent the fixtures are dusted, the less time each cleaning session will take. Soft cloths can remove the dust from most bulbs and exterior surfaces. Lamp

shades may need more attention. Use a lamb's-wool duster to attract dirt so it doesn't leave a residue on the lampshade.

• Deep-clean at table level. Deep-cleaning at table level is more manageable. Remove any glass accents and set them out on a cushioned surface so they do not break. Soft cloths dampened with a vinegar solution should remove most of the dirt on chandelier crystals and the globes or outer glass coverings of other types of fixtures. Take a photo of the lighting fixture prior to cleaning so you'll know how to replace removed parts correctly once everything is clean

and dry.

If you cannot remove a fixture for cleaning, use a sturdy stool, a spray bottle with your cleaning mixture and a soft cloth to wipe away the dirt. Remember to place something absorbent beneath the light to catch any drips. Do not spray liquids directly onto light bulbs; otherwise, you can damage the bulb and the electrical components.

It's best to exercise caution when cleaning lighting fixtures. Turn off the light itself and shut off the circuit breaker to avoid the risk of shock or burns from hot bulbs.

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WAHKOHTOWIN: A COLLABORATIVE MIXED-UNIT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN LEDUC

Submitted by City of Leduc

Construction of Wahkohtowin, a new 59-unit housing project located at 5404 47 Street in Leduc, is expected to begin soon. The development is the result of a collaborative partnership between TLA Group of Holding Companies, the City of Leduc, the Leduc Regional Housing Foundation, and Habitat for Humanity Edmonton.

"Wahkohtowin," a Cree word meaning kinship, reflects the vision behind the project: to create an inclusive and sustainable community where people from diverse economic backgrounds can live and thrive together. Once complete, Wahkohtowin will offer a range of one-, two- and three-bedroom units for both rent and ownership, including non-market housing options. Occupancy is anticipated by late 2026.

The 60,000-square-foot building will also include commercial space envisioned for a daycare and medical centre—two amenities identified

as community needs. The site design includes thoughtful landscaping, such as pollinator-friendly plants and a variety of tree species.

"This project represents the kind of innovation and collaboration we need to address housing affordability in our community," says Bob Young, Mayor of the City of Leduc. "Wahkohtowin brings together partners who share a common goal—building a city where everyone can find a place to call home."

The City of Leduc initiated the project through a negotiated request for proposal and redistricted the land to Direct Control before selling it to TLA Group of Holding Companies to move the vision forward. TLA Group of Holding Companies, an Edmonton-based company specializing in attainable housing, is leading the construction and ownership of the property. By capping its profit margin at 15 per cent, the company is maximizing benefit for the community.

"This project demonstrates

what's possible when we come together with a shared purpose—to create attainable, dignified housing for all," said Chris Bradley, Managing Partner at TLA Group of Holding Companies. "Wahkohtowin is more than a housing project; it's a commitment to long-term community building."

The Leduc Regional Housing Foundation will manage and maintain the building on behalf of TLA once construction is complete, ensuring ongoing access to non-market housing for those who need it most in the region.

Habitat for Humanity Edmonton has also contributed to the project by pre-purchasing units for its homeownership program. "This initiative embodies our shared commitment to fostering a community where housing is accessible, secure, and supportive of long-term growth," said Dr. Ann-Marie Reddy, President & CEO of Habitat for Humanity Edmonton. "We're honoured to be part of the project and creating more opportunities

for individuals and couples to achieve stability and self-reliance and thrive in Leduc."

The Government of Canada has committed an investment of \$456,000 toward Habitat Edmonton's four ownership units. Hard working Albertans will partner with Habitat to purchase these homes.

"Housing is more than a roof over your head – it's a place where people find safety, stability and a sense of belonging," says the Honourable Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure and Minister responsible for Pacific Economic Development Canada. "Investments in projects like the one in Leduc will make a positive difference in the community for decades to come."

Since 2019, the Government of Canada has supported Habitat for Humanity Canada in reaching a goal of building 804 homes across Canada through a \$65.1 million investment from the Government of Canada's Affordable Housing Fund.

LEDUC RCMP INVESTIGATING SHOOTING IN DIAMOND ESTATES

Submitted by Leduc RCMP

Leduc RCMP are investigating a shooting that occurred in the early morning hours of Aug. 7, 2025, in the

Diamond Estates neighborhood.

At approximately 2:15 a.m., a dark-coloured sedan entered the area and remained for roughly 20 minutes. At

around 2:30 a.m., the suspect vehicle fired 18 shots toward a residence before fleeing the scene at approximately 2:35 a.m. No injuries were reported. While the

investigation is in its early stages and specific details are limited, police do not believe this to be a random incident.



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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).

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

JAM DANCE & CARDS: 1st Fri, 7PM, Buck Creek. (780) 514-3781
"KIDS OWN WORSHIP" an hour after-school, 1st and 3rd Thursdays

each month. Songs, Crafts, Snacks and FUN! No charge. Call All Saints' Anglican Church. (780)542-5048

MUSICAL JAM SESSIONS: 4th Tues, 1:00PM at Calmar Seniors Centre. Bring your own instruments and have fun.

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

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

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

WARBURG ARENA HOSTS FREE PUBLIC SKATING, Sundays 1-2:30PM & Fridays 4-5:45PM, call arena for closure dates

MEETINGS

AHS: Addiction Services provides assessment and counseling for alcohol, other drugs, tobacco and gambling in Breton on court day Wednesdays. To make an appointment, please call 780-542-3140.

Do you have a problem with alcohol & are you looking for an **AA MEETING** or someone to talk to? Call Toll Free 1-877-404-8100.

Drinking a Problem? There is a solution, call AA 780-491-1043

ALDER FLATS AG SOCIETY: 3rd

Wed, 7PM, Community Centre. Call (780) 388-3318 for more info.

BRETON COUNCIL MEETINGS: 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7PM at the Council Chambers, Carolyn Strand Civic Centre. 780-696-3636.

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

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

DEVON TOASTMASTERS, Thurs. 7PM at St. Georges Anglican Church (2 St. Clair, Devon). Learn and practice the skills required to effectively speak in public - we help conquer your fear.

More info: Marc 780-729-4932

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

DRAYTON VALLEY BRANCH OF ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY: meets 7PM at Drayton Valley Municipal Library every 3rd Wed of the month. For more information call (780) 542-2787

LEDUC MS SOCIETY COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP Are you diagnosed with MS and have questions? This group is for you! Meetings TBD. Contact the Edmonton Chapter, 780-471-3034

MS SOCIETY DRAYTON VALLEY COMMUNITY GROUP meets every 1st Tuesday of the month, Sept-June from 6-8PM at Norquest College, dates TBA. Info, Terra Leslie at 1-403-346-



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