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## April 22, 2026

### PARKLAND RCMP ARREST THIEVES IN PARKADE

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

On Apr. 10, 2026, Parkland RCMP received a complaint from a building manager that an individual was checking doorhandles of vehicles in an underground parking area in Spruce Grove. Police arrived at the location and were notified that two male suspects were in a Jeep Cherokee in the underground parking.

Police went into the underground parking lot and the suspect vehicle began attempting to evade police in an aggressive manner, maneuvering around the police vehicle. When the suspects noticed another

police vehicle parked in the way of the parking garage door, they stopped. Police arrested the two suspects without incident.

Daniel Warner, (42), a resident of Onoway, Alta, has been charged with the following:

- Break and enter,
- Mischief under \$5,000 damage to motor vehicle,
- Possess break-in instruments,
- Possess of property obtained by crime,
- Operation while prohibited,
- Flight from Peace Officer,
- Unauthorized possession of a prohibited or restricted weapon,
- Possession of metham-

phetamine.

Brandon Hiltz, (31), a resident of Stony Plain, Alta, has been charged with the following:

- Break and enter,
- Mischief under \$5,000 damage to motor vehicle,
- Possess break-in instruments.

Daniel Warner has been remanded into custody with his next court appearance on Apr. 15, 2026, at the Alberta Court of Justice in St. Albert.

Brandon Hiltz was release with his next court appearance on Apr. 15, 2026, at the Alberta Court of Justice in St. Albert.

### HAPPENINGS AT THE RICH VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR MAY

Submitted by Rich Valley Public Library

May is here and we want to wish all the Moms a Happy Mothers Day. Bring your little ones for Parents and Tots every Wednesday at 9:30am and stay for Storytime and crafts, all children ages 0-5 are welcome to join

us. This program is funded by Lac Ste Anne County FCSS. Yoga is every Tuesday from 11am -12:15pm in the yellow room. The fee is \$15.00 drop-in or \$72.00 for 6. All levels of yoga experience are welcome. For all classes you can register by phone 780-967-3525 or email rvpublib@yrl.ab.ca.

We now accept e-transfers for payments. Watch for all our events on our website or Facebook. The Library is open on Wednesday from 9am-4:30pm and Thursday from 11:30am-7pm. We are located in the basement of the Rich Valley Community Hall.

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# ALBERTA AND B.C. UNCORK WINE DEAL

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Albertans will have more choice and easier access to wine as Alberta and British Columbia renew an agreement allowing direct-to-consumer sales.

The two provinces have renewed their memorandum of understanding to make it easier for Albertans to buy wine from B.C. while ensuring out-of-province wineries pay their fair share of fees from liquor sales in Alberta. The agreement also keeps the door open for Alberta wineries to sell directly to customers in B.C., supporting local businesses by expanding market access.

"Alberta already has the most open liquor market in

Canada, and we're not slowing down. We're knocking down barriers to give consumers more choice while helping local businesses in our province grow."

Dale Nally, Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction

The agreement cuts red tape, provides a path forward to get more Alberta products on B.C. shelves, improves data sharing, and ensures systems work better for consumers, producers and governments. Through this agreement, Alberta continues to lead Canada with the most open and competitive liquor market, giving Albertans access to the widest selection of products.

"I appreciate Alberta tak-

ing the lead in fixing ad valorem and moving full access forward. This progress matters, and we look forward to a permanent solution that supports Canadian wineries. Alberta, by doing this, is showing that it is leading Canada in opening up interprovincial trade. Thank you, Minister Nally and Premier Smith."

Ron Kubek, owner, Lightning Rock Winery

With more than 300 wineries currently operating in B.C., the agreement expands consumer choice and makes the liquor market more competitive. The agreement will remain in effect until March 31, 2027, and may be extended or replaced with a longer-term arrangement.



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**JOKE of the week**

Against his better judgment, the big game hunter is talked into taking both his wife AND her mother along on one of his expeditions. It does not go well. The mother-in-law is, if anything, harder to get along with in the wilds than she was in the city. And to make matters worse, she won't even abide by the simple camp rules designed to keep the safari safe. One night after dinner, the hunter's wife realizes her mother is missing. Panicked, she rushes to her husband and begs him to institute a search. He sighs, and together they set out. But before they've gone far, they hear throaty growling. Soon they come upon a small clearing in which the mother-in-law stands, backed up against thick, seemingly impenetrable jungle brush, and facing a huge male lion. The wife whispers urgently, "What are we going to do?" "Nothing whatsoever," responds her husband. "The lion got himself into this mess, now let him get himself out of it."



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# SUMMER 2026- SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT PEGG GARDEN

Submitted by George Pegg  
Botanic Garden

In Lac Ste. Anne County, George Pegg Botanic Garden combines the beauty of a historic living plant collection with early 1900's farmstead buildings. Open from June to August, visitors can take a tranquil walk along the nature trail or learn about George Pegg's botanical work on a guided tour with our summer staff. There are lots of reasons to visit this summer!

The season starts with our AGM on Sunday, April 26th. Join us in Onoway to meet Lisa Matthias, learn how you can take part in her summer-long Artist in Residence program at Pegg, and see some of her beautiful artwork. As a visual artist and printmaker with a background in botany, Lisa has the perfect mix of talents for Pegg Garden.

Following in George Pegg's footsteps, on Sunday, May 31st we are gathering amateurs and experts of all ages to help us seek out as many living creatures as we can find at the Garden. Our special guest Richard Caners, Botany Curator with the Royal Alberta Museum, is ready to show us how to use iNaturalist to photograph and identify what we find. Richard's expertise is bryology- so bring your moss questions!

Returning for the 7th year, the Tea Party in the Garden is a perfect day to bring a friend for a visit, Thursday, July 23rd. In this beautiful setting, enjoy select teas, delectable desserts, and captivating music by cellist Birch Nero.

August brings a combination event with Art in the Garden and Alberta Open Farm Days on Sunday August 16th. Meet our outstanding local artists, buy some unique artwork, and learn about this area's agricul-

ture heritage. Bring the kiddos and create something wonderful with our Make-&-Take art activity at every event.

All summer visitors can check out our BugQuest research project. Along with school yards, parks, and backyard owners across the country, we are participating to help map Canada's insect diversity.

Alongside the summer staff,

volunteers play a major role in the work we accomplish. We'd love to find a project to match your skills as a volunteer at Pegg Garden. Check our website and follow our social media for details about events coming up. The Garden opens for the season on June 1st.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY COUNCIL ADOPTS 2026 PROPERTY TAX RATE BYLAW, DELIVERING RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE FISCAL MANAGEMENT

**Lac Ste. Anne County, AB – Friday, April 10, 2026**

A newly elected Council has taken a confident step forward in its first year of governance, approving Property Tax Rate Bylaw 12-2026. The bylaw delivers tax rate decreases for both residents and local businesses—with residential municipal tax rates decreasing by 2.00%, and non-residential/small business tax rates decreasing by 2.75%. This outcome reflects a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility, long-term sustainability, and maintaining the services residents rely on.

This milestone decision underscores Council's focus on balancing community needs with prudent financial management, ensuring taxpayer dollars are used effectively while positioning the municipality for continued stability.

"From day one, this Council has been focused on making thoughtful, responsible decisions on behalf of our residents," said Reeve Jurgen Preugschas. "Passing the 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw demonstrates our commitment to living within our means, protecting essential services, and planning for the future without placing unnecessary burden on taxpayers."

The 2026 tax rate was established through a thorough and collaborative budget process, with Council reviewing service levels, identifying efficiencies, and aligning expenditures with community priorities. The result is a measured and thoughtful approach that supports both current needs and future growth.

County CAO Ann Mitchell emphasized the organization-wide effort behind the budget, "This bylaw is the result of extensive work across the entire organization. Our staff carefully analyzed financial pressures, identified efficiencies, and provided Council with the information necessary to make informed decisions. I want to sincerely thank our team for their professionalism, diligence, and commitment to serving Lac Ste. Anne County."

With Bylaw 12-2026 now approved, property tax notices will be issued in accordance with municipal timelines. Residents are encouraged to review their notices carefully and contact the County Administration Office with any questions.

This bylaw represents a strong start for a new Council—one grounded in accountability, transparency, and a shared commitment to the long-term well-being of the community as outlined in the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan. For further information and to explore this core guiding document, please visit [LSAC.ca/strategic-plan](https://LSAC.ca/strategic-plan).

— 30 —

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LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY

# EXPANDING HEALTH CARE ACCESS FOR ALBERTANS

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Proposed legislation would expand access to testing and medications, making it easier for Albertans to get care faster and closer to home.

If passed, Bill 29, the Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2026 would enable self-referred preventative testing, improve timely access to addiction treatment medications and complete Alberta's health system refocusing.

"This legislation puts patients first, supports providers and gives Albertans more choice in their care, helping ensure we have a strong, responsive health system as we move into this new era for health care in Alberta."

Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Primary and Preventative Health Services

Enhancing access to preventative health testing

If passed, Bill 29 will allow Albertans to access certain private preventative health tests without a referral later this year. Preventative health testing is essential for identifying medical conditions at an early stage, when interventions are simpler, less costly and more effective. This change will make it easier for Albertans to take proactive steps in managing their health while helping reduce pressure on the public system.

Details on how self-referred testing will work, including eligible tests and any reimbursement, will be outlined in future regulations.

Improving timely access to critical medications

If passed, Bill 29 will allow authorized prescribers to keep a limited supply of certain prescription medications used in addiction treatment for urgent situations.

In many rural, remote and

Indigenous communities, long travel distances to pharmacies can delay treatment when time matters most. These changes will help people begin treatment sooner by improving access to medications needed for care. Faster access to medication can be critical in stabilizing patients and supporting recovery.

All medications will continue to be dispensed through licensed pharmacies and subject to strict safety, storage and oversight requirements.

"The Alberta Recovery Model is about meeting people where they are and improving access to treatment. Timely access to life-saving addiction medications reduces barriers to care – especially in rural, remote and Indigenous communities."

Rick Wilson, Minister of Mental Health and Addiction Completing the health system refocusing

If passed, Bill 29 also includes final steps to complete Alberta's health system refocusing, supporting a more coordinated and streamlined health system.

Remaining public health functions will be aligned under the Ministry of Primary and Preventative Health Services, helping ensure more consistent oversight and a more streamlined approach to delivering public health services. This work is about reducing fragmentation across the system and improving clarity about where services and re-

sponsibilities sit, so care can be delivered more consistently and efficiently.

Additional amendments will update legislation to reflect these changes and ensure alignment across related acts.

"Early detection of cancer saves lives, plain and simple. We support adding new screening pathways that complement our public health system, ensuring more Albertans can access the early screening needed to identify cancer sooner and improve outcomes."

Wendy Beauchesne, CEO, Alberta Cancer Foundation

"Alberta radiologists understand that screening is critical to early disease detection, leading to better patient outcomes. We value working with government to best enable our community radiology clinics to provide timely, appropriate care to Albertans."

Dr. Rahim Samji, president, Alberta Society of Radiologists "Early access to critical medications can help stabilize patients and prevent more serious complications. These proposed changes would support prescribers in responding quickly when treatment is needed, particularly for patients living with addiction and in communities where distance can affect timely access to care."

Dr. Robert Tanguay, senior medical director of Addiction Services, Recovery Alberta



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# WHITECOURT TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE

Submitted by Town of Whitecourt

Whitecourt Town Council has approved the 2026 Budget with a 4.45% tax rate increase. The budget supports priorities identified by Council and its intention to sustain service levels, while ensuring the continued sustainability and growth of the community. Based on the approved budget, Administration is preparing the Tax Rate Bylaw which will be presented to Council

at the April 27, 2026, Regular Meeting. The 2026 Budget Report will subsequently be published at the end of April and will be posted online at [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca) and paper copies will be available at the Town Office.

Whitecourt Town Council has approved the submission of an expression of interest to the Forest Resource Improvement Program for funding support of a community icon project. The decision was made after receiving a pre-

sentation from a local family suggesting that constructing a landmark attraction would help to grow community pride and attract tourists.

Many communities throughout Alberta and Canada have built "the world's largest" or giant roadside attractions, and it is proposed that Whitecourt construct an icon that reflects the community's heritage, industry, and identity. Should funding be approved, the Town of Whitecourt will consult with the community to

find out what it thinks reflects Whitecourt as an icon.

The Whitecourt Youth Advisory Committee is hosting Town Hall Meetings at Ecole St. Mary School and Percy Baxter School on May 11. The meetings help educate youth on municipal governance and provide an opportunity for members of Town Council to engage with community youth.

A representative from Council and Whitecourt Administration will be attending the 2026 Alberta/Japan Twinned Municipalities Conference.

The following groups will receive Community Clean Up projects under the 2026 program. Each group will provide roadside, playground and sportfield cleanup services to raise funds for their non-profit group.

- Percy Baxter School Grade 8 Coast to Coast Exchange Group
- U13 Girls Soccer Team
- U13 Boys Soccer Team
- U15 Girls Soccer Team
- U15 Boys Soccer Team
- U17 Girls Soccer Team
- U17 Boys Soccer Team
- U19 Girls Soccer Team
- U19 Boys Soccer Team
- Whitecourt Skating Club
- Community Lunch Box Society (completed by Canfor Forest Products)

The Whitecourt Legion Branch 44 is celebrating the centenary of the Royal Canadian Legion on Saturday, May 23, 2026.

The celebration will include a display of military vehicles, a ceremony at the Whitecourt Cenotaph, and Veteran's Supper.

For details on the event, follow the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #44 Whitecourt, Alberta on Facebook.

Members of Whitecourt Town Council will be attending the 2026 Alberta Municipalities Convention in Edmonton

September 23-25, 2026. An invitation will be extended to Woodlands County Council to attend with Whitecourt.

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# Spring HOME RENO GUIDE



## ADD CURB APPEAL TO YOUR PROPERTY

Many people are familiar with the idea that a strong first impression can go a long way. While that idea is most often referenced in regard to personal interactions, it's also applicable to real estate.

When selling a home, homeowners who emphasize curb appeal may find it far easier to sell their homes. Curb appeal refers to the impression a home's exterior makes on people seeing the home for the first time. In 2014, the online real estate database Zillow® surveyed real estate agents and found that curb appeal was one of the five most important factors when selling a home.

Projects that improve curb

appeal can be vast undertakings or simpler projects, and the following are a handful of projects to improve a home's curb appeal that run the gamut from simple to complex.

- Clean up the yard. Cleaning up the yard is among the simpler yet most effective projects to improve a home's curb appeal. When selling their homes, homeowners should clear the yard of any clutter, including kids' toys, grass clippings or items that might be scattered throughout the yard. A cluttered yard suggests homeowners do not care much about their home's appearance, and that may lead buyers to think that in-

difference extended to maintaining the home's interior as well. Many buyers will ignore properties without any external aesthetic appeal, but cleaning up the yard does not require much effort or

expense on the part of sellers. · Make the main entryway more inviting. Creating a more inviting entryway won't be as simple as cleaning up the yard, but it can help

*Continued on Page 8*



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## ing HOME ENO GUIDE



### Add Curb Appeal To Your Property

*Continued from Page 7*

create a strong first impression without breaking the bank. To begin, remove plants and furniture from the front porch or area surrounding the doorway, as such items can create a cluttered feel. If the front door is old, replace it. Custom doors may be expensive, but they might add the wow factor buyers are looking for. If a new door is beyond your means or just unnecessary, repaint the door, ideally in a color that complements the color of your home and the surrounding landscape.

· Address pavement problems. Paving problems are not necessarily an expensive

fix, but the cost of repairing driveways and walkways can add up if it's been awhile since these areas were refurbished. Still, one of the first things buyers will notice when getting out of their cars is the ground they're walking on, so patch and repair or even replace driveways and walkways that have fallen into disrepair.

· Add or upgrade outdoor living spaces. Outdoor living spaces also can set a property apart from others on the market. A recent study from the National Association of Realtors found that buyers would not hesitate to pay asking price for homes with outdoor living spaces. When

adding or upgrading outdoor living spaces, try to de-personalize the spaces as much as possible, as buyers want to picture themselves, and not the sellers, enjoying these areas. Include some comfortable furniture, adequate lighting and a dining area in your outdoor living space as well.

Curb appeal can add a lot to a home, while lack of such appeal can make a home difficult to sell. Homeowners who want to sell their properties for asking price or more should address curb appeal before putting their homes on the market.

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# Spring HOME RENO GUIDE



## HOW TO CLEAN AND MAINTAIN STAINLESS STEEL

No matter the style of a homeowner's kitchen, be it modern, traditional or farmhouse, stainless steel appliances can add a pop of shine and a touch of class. Proponents of stainless steel appliances note their easy maintenance, stylish look and durability. Plus, the neutral tone of stainless steel helps it blend in with just about any color palette.

Stainless steel is lauded for its strength and resistance to corrosion and rust. These attributes make it a popular choice in kitchens, where moisture is an issue. Although they are certainly durable choices, stainless steel appliances require maintenance to keep them looking and performing at their best. Considering that stainless steel also costs more than other finish options, taking the time to learn proper care can help protect homeowners' investments.

Avoid chlorine bleach or other products containing chloride. Although stainless steel is high-

ly resistant to corrosion, it is not completely impervious. Chlorine products can damage the surface of stainless steel appliances and stain them if the chlorine is left to sit.

- Do not use metal scourers or coarse abrasives on the stainless steel because such products may scratch the steel. Steel wool pads can leave behind a residue of small metal particles that may eventually rust.

- Baking soda mixed with a little dish soap can be used to remove some tough dirt and stains. Rinse well and towel dry to avoid streaking.

- Clean and wipe the steel in the direction of the "grain." Usually this means working from the top of the appliance and moving down toward the floor.

- Consult with the owner's manual before undertaking any maintenance or cleaning. The appliance may have a special coating over the stainless steel to help protect

it, and it's best to know what you're dealing with before getting your hands dirty.

- If you will be trying a cleaning product or scouring method, always test it first in an inconspicuous spot to see if it is effective or harmful.

- Julien, a leader in commercial

kitchen equipment, recommends applying cleansers with a soft cloth or sponge. Then wipe dry with a soft, clean cloth or allow to air dry.

Stainless steel remains a popular material in kitchens for sinks and appliances. With care, stainless steel can look like new for years to come.

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# County News Highlights

## MEETINGS & HEARINGS

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

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

### Council Meeting

Thursday, April 23, 2026 at 9:30 am

### MPC Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 9:30 am

### Council Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 9:30 am

## COMMUNITY GROUPS INVITED: ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP FUNDRAISER OPPORTUNITY

[LSAC.ca/news](https://lsac.ca/news)

Local non-profit organizations, clubs, and community groups are invited to take part in the County's annual roadside clean-up program—an opportunity to give back to your community while raising funds for your organization.

In partnership with the annual Alberta Highway Clean-Up, the County is coordinating clean-up efforts on selected municipal roadways. This initiative helps keep our roadsides clean, protects the natural environment, and fosters community pride across the region.

The 2026 clean-up will take place on Saturday, May 2, with a rain-out date scheduled for May 9.

A total of seven (7) locations throughout the County have been identified for this year's program. Participating groups will be assigned a section of roadway and will receive \$200 per mile cleaned (both sides of the road) upon completion. Garbage bags will be supplied by the County; however, groups are responsible for bringing their own approved safety gear, including high-visibility vests.

This is a great opportunity for local groups to support a cleaner environment while earning funds to support programs, events, or community initiatives.

Groups interested in participating are asked to submit a letter of interest including:

- Group name
- Division
- Contact name
- Phone number

Please submit your application by email to [publicworks@lsac.ca](mailto:publicworks@lsac.ca) no later than April 30 at 12:00 p.m.

For more information, or to discuss participation details, please contact the County's Public Works department.

## LOOKING FOR A LOCAL SEASONAL CAMPSITE FOR 2026? LOOK NO FURTHER!

[LSAC.ca/campgrounds](https://lsac.ca/campgrounds)

We have a few sites including power/water hook-ups available at the Lessard Lake Public Campground and the Paddle River Dam Boat Launch Loop Campground. Our Paddle River Dam Peter's Pond Campground currently does not have seasonal sites available, but we are taking names on a wait-list in case sites become available.

Please visit our website or contact the Community Services department for more information on camping in the Lac Ste. Anne County region.

## SAVE THE DATE: PLAYSCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR OPENS MONDAY, JUNE 1!

Looking to register your child in the Onoway Playschool for the upcoming school year? Watch for more information and full details on how to register coming in early May.

In the meantime, please visit [LSAC.ca/playschool](https://lsac.ca/playschool) to scope out program details and mark your calendars for registration day!

## A COUNTY-WIDE ROAD BAN REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR ALL COUNTY ROAD SURFACES

This ban will remain in effect until further notice.

Please visit [CountyRoads.ca](https://CountyRoads.ca) for more information.



Lac Ste. Anne County 56521 Range Road 65, Box 219 Sangudo AB T0E 2A0 Phone 780 785 3411 Toll-free 1 866 880 5722 Email [LSAC@LSAC.ca](mailto:LSAC@LSAC.ca)

**DISCRETIONARY DEVELOPMENT PERMITS**

[LSAC.ca/permits](http://LSAC.ca/permits)

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

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

**Subdivision & Development Appeal Board (SDAB)**

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

**Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT)**

2nd Floor, 1229 91 Street SW Edmonton, AB T6X 1E9  
Email: [lprt.appeals@gov.ab.ca](mailto:lprt.appeals@gov.ab.ca)

**26-D0038**

Lot 5, Block 1, Plan 1822901  
NE 31-53-03 W5M; 53528 RGE RD 35  
Pole barn 40.0' x 48.0 ft (1920.0 sq. ft.) 16.0' walls

**Appeal to SDAB by May 4, 2026**

**26-D0040**

Lot 2, Block 6, Plan 7821310; Eagle Ridge Estates  
NW 15-54-01 W5M; 30, 54228 RGE RD 12  
Garage 40.0' x 32.0' (1280.0 sq. ft.) 8.0' - 16.0' walls, with garage size variance request to section 10.1.29 of LUB regulation: 1200.0 sq. ft. requested: 1280.0 sq. ft. variance: 80.0 sq. ft.

**Appeal to SDAB by May 11, 2026**

**COUNTY ROADSIDE VEGETATION PROGRAM: Sign-up deadline (for new applications and renewals) is May 15!**

The County manages roadside and subdivision vegetation through a combination of mowing and selective herbicide application. Spot spraying typically occurs between May and September.

Those who wish to manage weed and brush control along the right-of-way adjacent to their land can apply for the County's No-Spray Program. Please note that these participation agreements must be renewed each year.

For more information visit [LSAC.ca/weeds](http://LSAC.ca/weeds).

**WONDERING WHY ROAD BANS MATTER?**

[CountyRoads.ca](http://CountyRoads.ca)

**Seasonal road bans are implemented to protect municipal roads during spring thaw and help prevent costly damage.**

Road bans are a routine and necessary measure used by municipalities to preserve road infrastructure when it is most vulnerable. As frost leaves the ground, moisture weakens the road base, making surfaces more susceptible to damage from heavy loads. By placing temporary weight restrictions on certain roads, the municipality can reduce wear and tear and prevent costly repairs.

These measures play an important role in extending the lifespan of local roads and managing long-term maintenance costs. Without them, significant damage can occur in a short period of time, leading to increased rehabilitation needs and higher expenses for taxpayers.

Residents, businesses, and haulers are encouraged to plan ahead and comply with all posted restrictions. Up-to-date information on road bans, including affected routes and weight limits, is available on our website or by calling the County Administration Office.

The County appreciates the community's cooperation and understanding as these temporary measures are put in place to protect the road network during changing seasonal conditions.

**THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE UPCOMING TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP**

**Date:** Saturday, April 25

**Time:** 9 am – 3 pm

**Location:** Lysachok Family Farm, 56510 RGE RD 54, Lac Ste. Anne County

**Cost:** \$20, lunch is provided

**Registration:** is required – at [eventbrite.ca](http://eventbrite.ca) – please search Tree Pruning Workshop with Toso Bozic

**COUNTY'S DUST SUPPRESSION PROGRAM**

Currently Accepting Applications!

The cost is \$6.20/lineal metre plus GST. A minimum purchase of 100 metres is required, with additional application available in increments of 50 metres.

Reduce the impact of dust on your property with the County's Calcium Dust Suppression Program. Visit [LSAC.ca/dust](http://LSAC.ca/dust) for details and to download the application.



# Classified Ads - Call 962-9228

## Hall Rentals

Alberta Beach Agliplex, abagsociety@gmail.com

Alberta Beach & District Seniors 50+ Club. Air conditioning! Space Available! Val: 780-690-1655 or Dianne: 780-217-8482

Anselmo Community Hall, Phone 780-786-4280

Barrhead Royal Canadian Legion: Janet @ 403-938-0012

Bright Bank Hall, 780-968-6813

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

Darwell Centennial Hall, 780-892-3099

Darwell Seniors, Phone Debra 780-785-2907

Glenreagh Community Hall, now with free wifi Bookings call 780-674-4995 Baukje 780-674-1349 Darren

Goose Lake Hall, Contact Ellen 780-584-2452

Gunn Hall (G.A.R.S.) Bobbi 780-270-5830

Hathersage Community Centre, Noreen at 786-2946

Lake Isle Community Hall, HWY 633 rr 55,

lakeislefarmerassociation@gmail.com, contact:780-725-2533

Magnolia Hall, 727-2015

Manley Goodwill Community Hall, 780-920-3217

Mayerthorpe Diamond Centre, Charlotte at 786-4659

Mayerthorpe Legion, 786-2470.

Onoway Community Hall, 780-967-5338.

Onoway Heritage Center - Gym/Classrooms, 967-1015

Onoway Legion , 780-973-5361

Park Court Community Hall, 727-4476

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

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

Ravine Community Hall, Dawna @ 325-2460

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

Rosenthal Community Hall, 963-7984

Sandy Beach Rec Hall, 967-2873

Sangudo Community Hall, 780-785-3221 or 780-785-2259

Stony Plain Seniors Drop in Centre hall available for rent. Capacity 125. Address 5018 51 Ave, Stony Plain. Phone 780-963-4707 or email stonyplainseniors@gmail.com for info.

Stettin Nakumun Comm. Hall, 967-9198

Wildwood Senior Citizens Hall - Bookings - Tammy 780-667-4841 (text or phone)

Whitcourt Senior's Circle Hall 780-778-4950

## For Rent

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## For Sale

Firewood for sale Seasoned Split Firewood Birch Tamerack Spruce/Pine and Poplar 1/2 Cord and Full Cords Pickup/Delivery 780-951-1076

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Woodland Lumber 780-621-2229

## Collectables

**I BUY GUNS / GUN COLLECTIONS, AMMUNITION AND WWI & WWII COLLECTABLES. CALL JAY @ 780-686-1350**

## Help Wanted

driver wanted class 1 or class 3, call 780-777-0914 Economy Asphalt

## Wanted

Pasture for rent. Must have water and befenced. 80 to 360 acres. 780-916-2333

## Services

**Stump Grinding for Hire** - Alberta Beach & surrounding area. Call 780-779-3589

# 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.

**ANSWER:**  
Last Weeks

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

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

# COUNTRY VS. COLONY: IT'S A STATE OF MIND

Submitted by MLA Shane Getson

I hope you had a great Easter! And thank you for supporting your local community paper. Having places where ideas can be exchanged in a thoughtful and civil way still matters—especially when other outlets won't provide space for open opinion. If you have questions or topics you'd like covered, please email or call the office. To those who already have—thank you. I hope you got what you needed.

I've spent a fair bit of seat time on the highway recently, which leaves plenty of time to think. During the last constituency break, I drove four days to spend two days with family and used part of that time to travel sections of the Ports to Plains Alliance route—from the Dakotas through Montana, into Saskatchewan, and back into Alberta.

Soon after, I was on stage at the Eastern Trade Corridor Conference to discuss economic corridors and to bring greetings on behalf of the Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors.

That group is working collaboratively to formally identify an economic and trade corridor on Alberta's eastern side, stretching from Fort McMurray to the Montana border. From there, it ties into the Ports to Plains Corridor, which runs all the way to the Gulf of America through Mexico. This is a bold vision, driven from the grassroots and led by local municipalities. It's exactly the kind of thinking we need more of.

I was pleased to share the

stage with my fellow MLA, Garth Rowsell, who spoke about his work with the Pacific Northwest Economic Region. He highlighted recent capital visits to Alaska, Oregon, and Idaho—states that are eager to increase connectivity and trade with Alberta.

Last year, during a capital visit to Montana, MLA Rowsell and I received a standing ovation in their Senate. We were also joined by the head of the Ports to Plains Alliance, headquartered in Texas, who travelled here only weeks after hip surgery. That level of commitment says a lot about what can be achieved when people work together across borders with a shared purpose.

So why, then, do we struggle to get things done in Canada? Why are Alberta and Saskatchewan so often viewed as outliers—or even as a “problem to be managed”?

I believe the answer lies in our provincial motto: Strong and Free.

I was recently asked what I see as our biggest challenge. My answer was simple—it's a state of mind. In Canada, Saskatchewan and Alberta remain the outliers.

In 1776, the thirteen American colonies made a risky decision. They chose to become a country, cut protectorate ties, and stand on their own. That choice changed their trajectory and attracted people drawn to independence, opportunity, and responsibility.

Canada chose a different path. We remained a colony governed offshore for a very long time. The United States is 250 years old; Canada is just over 150, becoming

a country in 1867 but not fully independent until much later. Our Constitution dates to 1982, meaning our true constitutional independence is only a few decades old.

This has been compounded by the idea—voiced by a former prime minister—that Canada is a post-national state with no real identity or distinct culture of its own.

Our federal leadership often appears to drift between protectorate-style relationships. We are pressed by the United States to meet defence commitments, while at the same time flirting with European-style unions or deeper ties with China. Through it all, we struggle to stop the outflow of capital, talent, and resources, or to adopt policies that truly strengthen our own economy.

In many ways, we remain stuck in a colonial mindset.

What's needed are timely and difficult decisions to truly become a country—strong and free—by removing barriers so citizens can build wealth, pursue entrepreneurship, and stand independently rather than relying on growing government dependency.

When Alberta and Saskatchewan push back against federal overreach or promote trade directly in areas under our constitutional jurisdiction, we are often branded as troublemakers. That criticism usually comes from regions that underestimate how much this part of the country contributes economically and socially to Canada as a whole.

People here don't want special treatment. They simply want Canada to act like

a country. We do not want to be treated as an internal colony to be managed or exploited—especially after years of federal leadership that has struggled to project strength, confidence, and independence on the world stage.

This is a mental trap, but it's one we can escape. Doing so requires recognizing it, standing our ground, and encouraging other Canadians who also want a country that rewards initiative, innovation, and hard work.

That's how we start getting things done again—by becoming builders, manufacturers, and explorers instead of administrators and regulators.

Too often today, policies and regulations provide little additional protection and instead slow approvals through a “nobody moves, nobody gets hurt” mentality. That approach doesn't create safety or prosperity; it creates stagnation. We argue endlessly over critical infrastructure projects while other countries are advancing rapidly in technology, industry, and exploration.

The strong response at the conference suggested many people see this clearly. They understand that progress is possible if we are willing to dream big and stand on our own two feet.

By building strong trading partnerships and committing to long-term projects, we can ensure our great-grandchildren are set up for success—and give them every reason to proudly wave a flag that truly reflects The True North, Strong and Free.

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*Entries must be recieved by May 8, 2026.*

Mail to: Community Voice  
Box 3595 Spruce Grove, AB T7X 3A8

