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VOL. 35, NO. 14

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024

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**COUNTY**

Annual Easter  
 Egg Hunt  
 returns to  
 Marlboro...

see page 3

**SCHOOLS**

YKCS host to  
 Good Friday  
 Pancake  
 Breakfast...

see page 11

**COMMENT**

Carbon  
 Tax  
 hiked!

see page 6

**Town plans to rejoin Rural Renewal Stream**

by Niki Luymes

Council discussed the merits  
 of rejoining the Rural Renewal  
 Stream (RRS) program during

the April 2 Town Council  
 meeting.

This program would allow  
 business to sponsor skilled  
 international workers to come

into the country and work. "The  
 RRS program is a provincial  
 program designed to support  
 the attraction and retention of  
 newcomers in rural Alberta

through a community driven  
 approach that is responsive to  
 local economic development  
 needs and contributes to the

*continued page 2*



Caribou Tufting with Métis Artisan Carmen Miller, was recently enjoyed at the Edson Friendship Centre. Not only did Carmen step the group through a tufting project, she also taught some of the history and traditional knowledge of Caribou Tufting that is only done here in Canada. There were beautiful projects made and wonderful connections. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

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# Town plans to rejoin Rural Renewal Stream

continued from front

economic growth of the community," said Morgan Roberts, Economic Development Officer.

The program goals are to help small businesses with staffing challenges and to help foreign workers find a place in Canada where they can thrive. It is only open to Alberta communities with populations under 100,000. The employees gained through the program are granted employment while they work towards permanent resident status. The number of employees brought in is decided on a federal level. The program then allocates those approved workers to the individual partner municipalities.

This is not the first time Edson has joined the RRS program. Edson was approved as a host community back in 2023. Back then, 86 endorsement letters were written to support local businesses with staffing challenges. Although the program saw support, it became unmanageable due to staffing issues. "In the summer of 2023, Administration made the decision to pause the program due to capacity challenges with running the program, and potentially fraudulent attempts at accessing the program," said Roberts.

After Roberts was hired in 2023, she was able to begin discussions in the community regarding the program and its local impact. She also consulted communities across the province and developed a list of best practices to provide guidance for better risk management of the program, as well as provide guidance for the management of the heavy administrative load that accompanies participation in the program. In Alberta, there are currently 34 rural municipalities that are in partnership with RRS.

More than 75 letters of support have been received from Edson and the surrounding community requesting that the Town of Edson

return to the RRS program. "Implementing the RRS program in our community will provide support to our local businesses as well as benefit our community in growth, stability, and prosperity." To avoid some of the issues seen before, EDO Roberts will be putting together a new system of best practices. Then, should Edson be accepted back into the program, Town Administration will conduct a full review six months after implementation in the community.

The application requirements include an endorsement letter from the Town's Municipal Council. The application timeline is approximately eight weeks from the time of submission by the Town. Only after being approved on the provincial level, will the town actually join the program. Council presented two motions that would begin the application process. The program wouldn't bring any extra cost to Edson or its taxpayers.

Councillor Peter Taylor voiced his support for this program, "We need people employed in Edson. People that are going to come here, pursue homes, send their kids to schools, and everybody wins." He then asked, "What are we looking at in terms of an administration fee?" Roberts replied, "At this point, we are looking at a \$500 fee to be paid by the businesses that are making applications to the program. That fee is not to be passed on to any of the individuals."

Councillor Krystal Cacka echoed this support as a recent Community Futures triage report highlighted the need for workers in our community. "Do we need to ask for allocation to be a host community annually or once you receive that endorsement does that just continue until you decide not to?" Roberts responded, "The application process is for approximately two years but can be extended up to five years."

Mayor Kevin Zahara asked, "How many letters of support and inquires have you received at this

point?" Roberts replied, "At this point I have received over 100 letters of support. We've also had thousands of phone calls in support from employers and job seekers." She added that the process of rejoining the program would reset the applications. The town would only be viewing new applications.

Councillor Greg Pasychny asked if the town was guaranteed a spot in the program once council had passed the necessary motions. Roberts replied that it is not guaranteed. The town needs to create a business plan to outline policies and procedures which would then go back to the province for approval.

Council unanimously carried the motion to authorize Administration to submit an application to become a designated host community under the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program. They also carried a motion to authorize the Mayor to execute an endorsement letter for the Town's application to the Rural Renewal Stream Program to become a designated host community under the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program.

**Woodlands/Carrot Creek Cemetery**  
**AGM**  
**May 1, 2024**  
**7:30pm**  
 at the  
**Carrot Creek Hall**



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~ Obituary ~

## Frances Arlin Miller



Frances Arlin Miller (née Trydal) was born on January 3, 1940, in Edson, Alberta, and passed away peacefully at the age of 84 on March 30, 2024, in Edson, Alberta, surrounded by her family.

Fran lived most of her life in Edson. She loved spending time with her family and friends, spoiling her beloved pets, gardening, walking, fishing, playing cards, dancing and singing along to old country songs. She was a wonderful cook and baker, she had spent many of her working years as a camp cook. Any visitor to her little house was greeted with a warm smile and hug, a treat and a cup of tea.

She is lovingly and forever remembered by her sons Allen (Loretta) and Wesley (Beverley); her grandchildren Jason (Rena), Shane (Sharon), Jeremy, Cara (Jon) and Cory; her great-grandchildren Ryver (Clinton), Alyna (Adam), Ryley, Krymson, Jayden, Abbiegail, Connor, Rochelle, Ralph Vincent and Renmel Jan; her great-great-grandson Ezra; her sister Darlene Mole and brothers Edwin (Colleen), Roy and Randy (Cathy); sister in law Jean MacMillan, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She was predeceased by her cherished husband Doug; parents John and Phyllis Trydal; sister Marian Lafleur; father-in-law Lee; mother-in-law Hilda; brothers in law Alfred, Doug Mole, George Brown and Grant MacMillan; and sisters in law Evelyn, Mary Brown and Irene Stevens.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date at the Pine Grove Hall. The family requests any memorial contributions be made to the Edson Animal Rescue Society (EARS) or the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation, in lieu of flowers.

"Never stop doing little things for others. Sometimes those little things occupy the biggest part of their hearts."

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# Annual Easter Egg Hunt returns to Marlboro

by Niki Luymes

The hamlet of Marlboro celebrated Easter with the return of their annual Easter Egg Hunt. On Sunday March 31, families with kids of all ages could come out to the Marlboro Hall for a fun afternoon of free snacks and activities. This is only the third year the hunt has taken place.

The event started at 12 pm and ran until 2pm. Attendees could stop by whenever they wanted within the timeframe. Once there, kids could spend time hunting for Easter eggs around the park. Once they found enough eggs, they could exchange them for a goody bag full of tasty treats. Alongside that were free hotdogs, treats, and various refreshments. The Easter bunny also made an appearance

during the event, bringing lots of smiles along the way.

This whole event was put on by the Mountainview Rec Society, the group that runs and organizes the Marlboro Hall. They do a several community events each year including bazaars and Christmas. All proceeds go back into the community through free events like the Easter egg hunt.

This year, approximately 38 kids made their way to the event. "We get people from all over, not just from the community, from Edson and everywhere," said Gil Belcourt, President of the Mountainview Rec Society, "There's a lot of people who can't afford things, so we try to do it as cheaply as possible, if not free." The society hopes to continue doing events like this in the future.



On March 31, the hamlet of Marlboro celebrated Easter with the return of their annual Easter Egg Hunt. photos submitted



Marlboro's Mountainview Rec Society hosted their annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 31.



Kids of all ages along with parents and organizers celebrated Easter with the return of Marlboro's annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 31.



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We thank all candidates for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. *Candidates must possess a journey person trade certificate.*

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# Famoso Pizzeria & Ricky's All Day Grill Open in Edson

Famoso Italian Pizzeria + Bar and Rickys All Day Grill have come to Edson with a new location that opens on April 4, 2024, in the Nova Inn at 5625 2nd Avenue.

This is an exciting dual-branded location where guests can enjoy all their Ricky's favourites for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, with the addition of a Famoso Pizzeria providing even more delicious dining options for the residents of the Edson area.

Owners Amanpreet Kaur and Gursimran Singh are delighted to be providing Edson and the surrounding area, as well as out-of-town guests, with high-quality menu options and exceptional guest service while also being proud, supportive members of the community. "We moved to Edson a couple of months ago after getting the opportunity to own a Ricky's and Famoso franchise. Within these two months, we have gotten to know the town and its people. It's a small and welcoming town where we are already feeling like it's a home away from home."

The first Famoso opened in Edmonton in 2007 and is known for their authentic Neapolitan pizza, which has regularly won awards as a guest favourite. Famoso is passionate about authentic Italian pizza, using imported Italian bell ovens, fresh, premium ingredients, and traditional culinary techniques

in pizza making that have gone unchanged for generations.

At Famoso, watching your authentic Neapolitan pizza being hand-tossed by the pizzaiolos in an open-style kitchen is almost as enjoyable as eating it. Plus, dining options are available to guests yearning for even more of a true Italian flavour.

"Ricky's in Edson is a franchise owned by myself, my husband, and my sister-in-law (Ravi), said Kaur. "I was born and brought up in India. I came to Canada as a student in 2018. I was working in a restaurant while I was studying, and during this time, Ravi introduced me to one of Ricky's operators, so I started working at Ricky's. As Ravi was already working at Ricky's, we decided to become part of Ricky's and Famoso's family. We have been in the restaurant business for almost seven years, but this is our first experience being a Franchisee. We are excited about this new venture."

Family recipes inspire the menu and include favourites like Rigatoni Bolognese and Fettucine Alfredo pasta; Italian style sandwiches, great signature salads; a wide selection of craft beers on tap, and of course, Italian-inspired desserts... traditional house-made Tiramisu, cheesecake, and artisan gelato. With a menu that's great for dates, friends, and family dining and delivery, Famoso is the perfect



Edson's Famoso Italian Pizzeria + Bar and Rickys All Day Grill owners Amanpreet Kaur and Gursimran Singh are delighted to welcome you to their new location in the Nova Inn at 5625 2nd Ave.

complement to Ricky's All Day Grill.

Ricky's has been famous for breakfasts since 1962, with menu favourites like Egg Bennies and their signature Brekkie-Bowls. Ricky's also has lunch and dinner options like fresh, never-frozen Alberta beef burgers and mouth-watering sandwiches. And Ricky's is bringing you the best of home

cooking with comfort classics like our homestyle Turkey Dinner, Wine Braised Beef Short Ribs, and Traditional Lasagna.

With fast express takeout, online ordering, and delivery services, guests can also enjoy their favourite Ricky's breakfast or an authentic Famoso Neapolitan pizza, all in the comfort of their own homes.

## Edson Town Council Highlights

April 2, 2024 meeting

**18th Avenue Rehabilitation Project Funding.** Council approved an additional \$100,000, to be funded from the Energy Reserve, to cover higher than expected energy-related costs with the 18th Avenue Rehabilitation Project. The purpose of this project is to replace the old existing infrastructure along 18th Avenue, directly west of 48th Street. This includes the watermain, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, roadworks,

sidewalk, curb and gutter, asphalt pavement, streetlights, and other associated work.

**Airport Funding Advocacy.** Council has endorsed the Town of Edson in joining advocacy efforts for increased regional community airport funding. Edson will join other municipalities from across the province looking to increase awareness and support available for general aviation and economic diversification in Alberta.



The GYPSD Board recently approved the Division's 3-Year Capital and 10-Year Facilities plan - which identifies the modernization of Niton Central School as the Board's first priority. The documents were submitted to Alberta Education which determines annually the project submissions that will be approved. Superintendent Dr. Lewis and the Board also met with MP Gerald Soroka to discuss their advocacy and support for the Kids Help Phone, Settlement Workers in Schools, the National Framework for a School Nutrition Program, expansion of the Northern Living Allowance, rebating the Carbon Tax to School Divisions, and Noah's Law. The Board will be hosting its April 17th Public Board Meeting in Evansburg, at the Tipple Park Museum. - GYPSD

## Pivotal Energy Partners

### Edson NGL Processing Facility

As part of the startup process, Pivotal Energy Partners is required to temporarily test the flaring system at the Edson NGL Processing Facility, starting April 27th, 2024.

During startup, the flare testing activities are to ensure the safe operations of the facility and will run intermittently for 3-4 weeks.

All activities will be in accordance with Alberta Energy Regulator regulations.

If you have any questions or concerns, either before the flaring commences or during, you can reach out to:

[edsoninfo@pivotalenergy.ca](mailto:edsoninfo@pivotalenergy.ca)





# TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2024

**Town of Edson  
Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday  
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## FireSmart™ Work (Parkland School Area)



FireSmart work is scheduled to begin this week in the forested area between Parkland School and 48 Street.

The work is scheduled to take place from April 8 to April 30.

Expect some noise during this time as there will be chainsaw work, brush saws, and equipment such as trailers, quads and vehicles in the area. Please stay clear of the area while work is underway.

\*FireSmart, Intelli-feu and other associated Marks are trademarks of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC).

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## Grief Support Group

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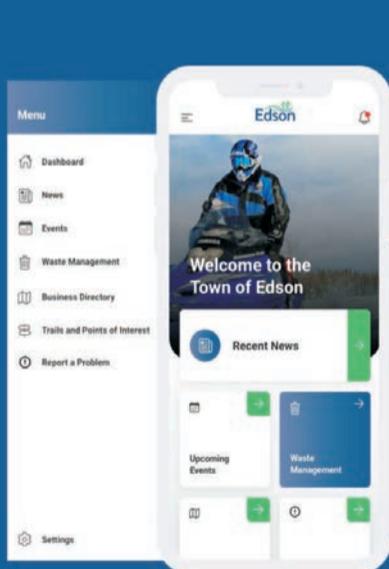
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June 15

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## NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Recent Development Permits approved by the Development Authority, under the Town of Edson Land Use Bylaw 2070 as amended, can be found at <https://www.edson.ca/business/planning/development-permit-applications>. Additional information can be requested from the Planning Department at 780-723-4402 or [planning@edson.ca](mailto:planning@edson.ca).

Any person who is deemed to be affected by the issuance of any one of these permits may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Authority **by 4:00 p.m., on the 21<sup>st</sup> day after the date of issue as published on the Town's website**. On Permitted Uses, grounds for appeal must relate only to interpretation, variance, or relaxation of Land Use Bylaw 2070. On Discretionary Uses, all aspects of the proposed development may be challenged upon appeal. Written notice of appeal, accompanied by the appeal fee as established by Town Council, must be filed through the Office of the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board at Box 6300, Edson, AB T7E 1T7. **Direct Control District Approvals cannot be appealed.**

**SCAN ME**



# Carbon tax hiked

Taxes on taxes on taxes. Carbon tax tensions boiled over on April 1, a day of protest across Canada, as Trudeau's federal Liberal government raised its carbon tax from \$65 a tonne to \$80 a tonne, a 23% increase!



by Dana McArthur  
Member Canadian Association of Journalists

goes up, everything goes up.

Carbon tax, like any fixed cost, is a significant driver of inflation. Rebates, for those who get them, do not begin to cover this. Despite the Liberals' sketchy math, they are not paying you for your carbon emissions. That's why its called a tax.

Discouragingly, the province decided to reinstate its full fuel tax on April 1, adding roughly three cents per litre to the already inflated cost ...plus GST of course!

The carbon tax on a litre of gasoline is now 17.6 cents. Diesel now includes 21.39 cents a litre in carbon tax. The tax will continue to rise annually until it reaches \$170 a tonne by 2030.

According to the federal Conservative party, 7 in 10 Canadians oppose the carbon tax hike.

There are indirect costs of this carbon tax, as companies that pay the price themselves increase the cost of their goods and services to keep pace.

The fact is, companies don't want to break even. They add a mark-up on top their costs, this includes the carbon tax. This increase in tax doesn't just make gas go up, groceries go up, housing goes up, home heating

Collecting Canadian tax dollars doesn't grow a tree and it doesn't reduce the pollution pouring out of China, India, and the USA —with no carbon taxes. It's just a punishment tax that offers no viable alternatives, particularly in rural Canada.

Why does the federal Liberal government seem so focussed on carbon right now when there are so many other important things to focus on like affordable housing, addiction, crime... and inflation?

But perhaps we should be asking the federal NDP this question? After all, they seem to be the tail wagging the dog lately, with their confidence-and-supply deal shoring-up Trudeau's minority.

*Note: The views, opinions, and positions expressed in the column are the author's alone. They do not inherently or expressly reflect the views, opinions and/or positions of The Weekly Anchor or its staff.*

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Publisher/Editor Dana McArthur  
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## Edson RCMP Occurrences

For the week of: Mar 25 to Mar 31, 2024

Traffic violations calls topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences at 27 calls . Other investigations included: Assistance 07; Abandoned Vehicles 0; Alarms/False Alarms 0; Animal Calls 0; Assault 1; Cause Disturbance 1; Fail to Comply with Conditions 2; False/Abandoned 911 Call 5; Family Orders and Agreements 1; Fraud 2, Harassment/Criminal Harassment 1; Lost or found property 4, Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 1; Information File 1; Mental Health Act 2; Mischief or Damage 10; Municipal Bylaws 0; Obstruct/Resist Peace Officer 0; Possess Stolen Property 0; Recovered Stolen Property 0; Sudden Death 0; Suspicious persons 5; Traffic Complaints 04 ; Theft Complaints 10, Trespassing 5; Unlawfully in Dwelling 0; and Wellbeing Checks 2.



The Easter Bunny hopped over to Parkland Lodge on March 30 as a very sweet treat for the seniors. All the residents and their families had an egg-cellent time. Pictured is Shirley sitting with the Easter Bunny. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

## KID'S CORNER



Meet 10 year old Gus who is in Grade 5 at Mary Bergeron Elementary School.

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\*To be eligible for the draw, reported sightings need to be geotagged for confirmation. To learn more about the reporting process, please visit [www.mdgreenview.ab.ca/squeal-on-pigs/](http://www.mdgreenview.ab.ca/squeal-on-pigs/)

For more information, please contact Greenview Agricultural Services at 780.524.7621.



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INSTRUCTOR: Dan Johnston

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- Address Verification  
- Lunch / Snacks



MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN & LAND USE BYLAW DRAFTS

We invite your input for an update to the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and the Land Use Bylaw (LUB).

The Municipal Development Plan communicates the long-term desired land use for the County and serves as a framework of how it is expected to change over time and shape its future.

The Land Use Bylaw regulates the use and development of land and buildings within Yellowhead County to achieve an orderly and efficient pattern of development.

Public Information Sessions

Open Houses start April 15 across Yellowhead County. Join us at these "drop-in" events for landowners, business owners, and residents to discuss the proposed changes to the MDP and LUB. The sessions aim to answer questions and provide background on the proposed changes.

- Marlboro**  
April 15, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Marlboro Community Hall, 1005 21 Ave.
- Wildwood**  
April 16, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Wildwood Community Hall, 4904 51 Ave.
- Edson**  
April 17, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
County Administration Building, 2716 1 Ave.
- Evansburg**  
April 19, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Tippie Park Museum, 4805 48 Street
- Brule**  
April 23, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Brule Community Hall, 5010 Mountain Road
- Peers**  
April 24, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Peers Multiplex, 5113 51 Street
- Cadomin**  
April 25, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Cadomin Firehall, 5215 50 Street
- Hinton**  
April 26, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Hinton Municipal Library, 803 Switzer Drive
- Robb**  
April 29, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Robb Community Hall, 5101 52 Ave.
- Online Open House**  
April 30, 2024, 11:00 am and 6:00 pm  
[www.yhcounty.ca/join](http://www.yhcounty.ca/join)

Public Hearing to be held on: June 25, 2024, 9:30 am  
Council Chambers, County Administration Building, 2716 1 Ave, Edson



Surveys are available online or at the Yellowhead County offices in Wildwood and Edson.  
For the draft document and the online survey, visit: [yhcounty.ca/MDPLUB2024](http://yhcounty.ca/MDPLUB2024)



Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

EVANSBURG'S THRIVE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Now accepting garden box bookings!

Boxes cost \$20 each.  
One box per family for 2024 season.  
Limited boxes available.

For more information, contact 780-325-3782 or email [showe@yhcounty.ca](mailto:showe@yhcounty.ca)



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

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

**MARLBORO COMMUNITY HALL**  
APRIL 10 & 24  
MAY 8 & 22

**PEERS MULTIPLEX**  
APRIL 17  
MAY 1, 15\* & 29

\*Note: May 15th session will be outdoors at Peers Community Park.

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

Light snacks and refreshments provided.  
Registration is required.  
Please register by visiting [www.yhcounty.ca/registration](http://www.yhcounty.ca/registration)



INVITATION TO TENDER  
2024 Contract Road Rehabilitation (Shoulder Pulls) for Yellowhead County

Yellowhead County requests a tender submission from parties interested in performing the work identified below:

Sealed tender marked: TENDER NO. 2024-837  
Project: 2024 Contract Road Rehabilitation (Shoulder Pulls)

Will be received until: 2:00 P.M., April 24, 2024

At the office of: Yellowhead County  
2716 - 1st Avenue  
Edson, Alberta  
T7E 1N9

For the following work: Approximately 71 kilometers of Contract Road Rehabilitation (Shoulder Pulls) within Yellowhead County to be completed.  
Work shall be completed in accordance with the schedule contained within the Scope of Work and the Special Provisions.  
Electronic (PDF) copies of the tender documents are available for free download from the Alberta Purchasing Connection website on or after 12:00 P.M., April 3, 2024, at the following link: [www.purchasingconnection.ca](http://www.purchasingconnection.ca).  
The Tender must be accompanied by a ten percent (10%) Bid Security as stated in the "Instruction to Bidders". Yellowhead County reserves the right to reject any or all tenders. The lowest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.  
For further information, please contact Rex Wallace, Assistant Manager, Infrastructure Services for Yellowhead County at (780) 723-4800.



INVITATION TO TENDER  
2024 Gravel Supply, Haul and Place for Yellowhead County

Yellowhead County requests a tender submission from parties interested in performing the work identified below:

Sealed tender marked: TENDER NO. 2024-839  
Project: 2024 Gravel Supply, Haul and Place for the West Shoulder Pull Program

Will be received until: 2:00 P.M., April 24, 2024

At the office of: Yellowhead County  
2716 - 1st Avenue  
Edson, Alberta  
T7E 1N9

For the following work: Supply, Haul and Place approximately 9,700 tonnes of a Modified Des 4 Class 25 crushed gravel aggregate for the 2024 West Shoulder Pull Program.  
Work shall be completed in accordance with the schedule contained within the Scope of Work and the Special Provisions.  
Electronic (PDF) copies of the tender documents are available for free download from the Alberta Purchasing Connection website on or after 12:00 P.M., April 3, 2024, at the following link: [www.purchasingconnection.ca](http://www.purchasingconnection.ca).  
The Tender must be accompanied by a ten percent (10%) Bid Security as stated in the "Instruction to Bidders". Yellowhead County reserves the right to reject any or all tenders. The lowest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.  
For further information, please contact Rex Wallace, Assistant Manager, Infrastructure Services for Yellowhead County at (780) 723-4800.



INVITATION TO TENDER  
2024 Gravel Supply, Haul and Place for Yellowhead County

Yellowhead County requests a tender submission from parties interested in performing the work identified below:

Sealed tender marked: TENDER NO. 2024-838  
Project: 2024 Gravel Supply, Haul and Place for the East Shoulder Pull Program

Will be received until: 2:00 P.M., April 24, 2024

At the office of: Yellowhead County  
2716 - 1st Avenue  
Edson, Alberta  
T7E 1N9

For the following work: Supply, Haul and Place approximately 10,500 tonnes of a Modified Des 4 Class 25 crushed gravel aggregate for the 2024 East Shoulder Pull Program.  
Work shall be completed in accordance with the schedule contained within the Scope of Work and the Special Provisions.  
Electronic (PDF) copies of the tender documents are available for free download from the Alberta Purchasing Connection website on or after 12:00 P.M., April 3, 2024, at the following link: [www.purchasingconnection.ca](http://www.purchasingconnection.ca).  
The Tender must be accompanied by a ten percent (10%) Bid Security as stated in the "Instruction to Bidders". Yellowhead County reserves the right to reject any or all tenders. The lowest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.  
For further information, please contact Rex Wallace, Assistant Manager, Infrastructure Services for Yellowhead County at (780) 723-4800.



INVITATION TO TENDER  
2024 Wolf Lake - Elk River Supply & Place of Gravel for Yellowhead County

Yellowhead County requests a tender submission from parties interested in performing the work identified below:

Sealed tender marked: TENDER NO. 2024-835  
Project: 2024 Wolf Lake - Elk River Supply and Place of Gravel

Will be received until: 2:00 P.M., April 24, 2024

At the office of: Yellowhead County  
2716 - 1st Avenue  
Edson, Alberta  
T7E 1N9

For the following work: Supply and place approx. 108,000 tonnes of crushed gravel aggregate over the next three (3) years for the Wolf Lake - Elk River Road Summer Gravel Program. Supply and place approx. 12,000 tonnes of crushed gravel over the next three (3) years for spot graveling the Wolf Lake - Elk River Roads.  
Work shall be completed in accordance with the schedule contained within the Scope of Work and the Special Provisions.  
Electronic (PDF) copies of the tender documents are available for free download from the Alberta Purchasing Connection website at the following link: [www.purchasingconnection.ca](http://www.purchasingconnection.ca).  
Copies of Specifications and tender documents may be obtained on or after 12:00 P.M., April 3, 2024.  
The Tender must be accompanied by a ten percent (10%) Bid Security and Consent of Surety as stated in the "Instruction to Bidders". Yellowhead County reserves the right to reject any or all tenders. The lowest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.  
For further information, please contact Rex Wallace, Assistant Manager of Infrastructure Services for Yellowhead County at (780) 723-4800.



Approved Development Permits have been issued authorizing the following:

Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date	Appeal Deadline
D24-035	Plan 8020393 Blk 9, Lot 6A NE-19-53-7-W5 Evansburg	Public Utility (Recycling)	Mar 19/24	Permitted Use
D24-024	SE-21-52-18-W5 South of Edson	Single Detached Dwelling with Attached Garage & Secondary Suite Internal & Existing Manufactured Home	Mar 20/24	Permitted Use
D24-039	SE-1-54-11-W5 Chip Lake Area	Campground (Rental Cabins) Discretionary	Mar 22/24	Apr 12/24
D24-042	Plan 3137RS Lot 7 SW-3-54-17-W5 North Road Subdivision	Existing Additions to Manufactured Home (Covered Decks) & Existing Accessory Buildings (Sheds) - Variance for Side Yard Setback	Mar 22/24	Apr 12/24

Yellowhead County Development Permits are also posted online at [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca). The public is considered officially notified of approved development permits once posted online, in accordance with the Public Notification Bylaw. The Yellowhead County Land Use Bylaw NO 09.21 provides that any person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Authority may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board or Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal dependent on jurisdiction of the appeal authority. Appeals under the jurisdiction of Yellowhead County's Subdivision and Development Appeal Board require a written notice of appeal and a payment of \$300.00 payable to Yellowhead County within 21 day of the publishing of the Notice of Decision. Requirements for appealing the development to the Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/subdivision-appeals.aspx> or by calling 780-427-2444.



**Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM**



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**EMERGENCY DISPATCHER  
CASUAL  
LOCATION: EDSON, AB  
COMPETITION NO. 24-022**

Under the direction of the Dispatch Supervisor the 911 Dispatcher is responsible for 911 call-taking, fire dispatch, Peace Officer Call taking and dispatch and afterhours communications services for Yellowhead County staff, partner municipalities and contracted clients.

The hourly rate range for the casual emergency dispatcher position is \$26.82 to \$29.20.

To apply, please submit resumes online at [www.yhcounty.ca/jobs](http://www.yhcounty.ca/jobs)

A detailed position description can be found in the job posting online. The competition will remain open until filled.

We thank all interested applicants in advance, however only those applicants to be interviewed will be contacted.

Human Resources  
Yellowhead County  
Email: [jobs@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jobs@yhcounty.ca)

The personal information obtained as a result of this advertisement will be utilized for these employment opportunities only, and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



**DO YOU NEED TO PURCHASE  
SPRING DUST CONTROL?**



**Application Deadline May 15**

To apply for Spring Dust Control (Calcium Chloride), **submit payment and application before the deadline.**

The application form is available online at [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca) or at the Wildwood or Edson office.

**1. Applications for Dust Control can be made at our Wildwood and Edson offices.**

**2. Each ratepayer is entitled to an application of Calcium Chloride, 200 metres in length, for a fee of \$242.00.**

(This fee represents approximately 33% of the total cost for the dust control application. Full application costs will apply for any requests over 200 metres.)\*

**3. The fee must accompany the application.**

**4. Spring Applications must be received by May 15, 2024.**

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (780) 723-4800 or 1-800-665-6030.

\*Dust Control Policy #3200.02



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**EQUIPMENT OPERATOR  
LOCATION: EDSON, AB  
COMPETITION NO. 24-023**

Reporting to the Area Supervisor, the Equipment Operator performs skilled work for both summer and winter road maintenance. This work includes a variety of both equipment and labour intensive tasks.

The salary range is currently \$67,937 - to \$84,242 per year. Yellowhead County offers a competitive benefit plan.

To apply, please submit resumes online at [www.yhcounty.ca/jobs](http://www.yhcounty.ca/jobs)

A detailed position description can be found in the job posting online.

The competition will close on April 26, 2024 at 4:30pm.

We thank all interested applicants in advance, however only those applicants to be interviewed will be contacted.

Human Resources  
Yellowhead County  
Email: [jobs@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jobs@yhcounty.ca)

The personal information obtained as a result of this advertisement will be utilized for these employment opportunities only, and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**Project Engineer  
LOCATION: EDSON, AB  
COMPETITION NO. 24-024**

Reporting to the General Manager of Infrastructure and Planning Services, the Project Engineer will assist the General Manger in managing the County's engineering and construction program, and will be responsible for the oversight of the delivery of assigned infrastructure projects; including the County roadway infrastructure, bridge structures, Jasper/Hinton Airport, the County drainage system, water treatment and distribution systems, wastewater collection and treatment systems, and solid waste management.

The salary range is currently \$105,159 - to \$130,397 per year. Yellowhead County offers a competitive benefit plan. To apply, please submit resumes online at [www.yhcounty.ca/jobs](http://www.yhcounty.ca/jobs)

A detailed position description can be found in the job posting online. The competition will close on April 30, 2024 at 4:30pm.

We thank all interested applicants in advance, however only those applicants to be interviewed will be contacted.

Human Resources  
Yellowhead County  
Email: [jobs@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jobs@yhcounty.ca)

The personal information obtained as a result of this advertisement will be utilized for these employment opportunities only, and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



# YKCS host to Good Friday pancake breakfast

by Niki Luymes

People of Edson and area were welcomed to the Yellowhead Koinonia Christian School (YKCS) gym on March 29, for the annual Good Friday pancake breakfast and worship service.

The breakfast was served from 9am to 10:30am, after which the service portion began. This event has been held in Edson for 18 years now.

The doors opened just before 9am for the breakfast and all the preparations and clean-up were provided by volunteers. The food was also donated by local businesses. This year the traditional pancakes were served alongside

breakfast sausages and frozen fruit as optional topping. Other toppings included classics like syrup, butter, and whipped cream. There were also gluten and dairy free options for those that required it.

After receiving their food, attendees could sit and converse with friends and family as they waited for the service to begin. By 10:30am, the event transitioned to the live worship service. The event was put on by the multiple sponsoring churches. This year the message was presented by Pastor Ryan of the Edson Christian Reform Church. Edson Pentecostal Church gathered musicians from multiple churches to lead the worship. The whole event ended

around 12pm. Similar to last year, the organizers also provided activity kits for the younger kids to enjoy during the service.

People of all ages and backgrounds were welcome to the event. Over 350 people participated this year. "It was well received, and

a great celebration of Christ's work," said John Greiner, Pastor of Bethel Pentecostal Church and one of the main organizers. "A shout out to all the volunteers who helped put on the breakfast and look after all the chairs and those kind of things."



It was a great turn out at the Annual Good Friday Pancake Breakfast and Worship service on March 29. Over 350 people came out to enjoy free food and community. photo Niki Luymes



After the free pancake breakfast attendees could enjoy the service. Churches from across Edson came together on Good Friday to celebrate and worship in unity. photo Niki Luymes



Adults and kids enjoyed a free pancake breakfast during the Good Friday celebration at YKCS. photo Niki Luymes

## NOTICE



### Leducor Alberta Limited

will be performing Chemical Vegetation Control where required, in the following areas for

### Alberta Transportation

#### Entwisle

Hwy 16: West of Jct.753 to West of Wabamum  
 Hwy 16A: Hwy 22 to Entwisle  
 Hwy 22: Hwy 16 to Lac St. Anne Cty. Bdry  
 Hwy 753: Yellowhead Cty. Bdry. to Hwy 16

#### Whitecourt

Hwy 43: Eagle Tower Road to Hwy 658  
 Hwy 32: Baseline Road (TR 570) to Hwy 43  
 Hwy 32: Hwy 43 to 43km North of Hwy 43  
 Hwy 33: Hwy 661 to TR 635B  
 Hwy 751: Hwy 647 to Hwy 43  
 Hwy 658: Hwy 43 to Hwy 33  
 Hwy 661: Hwy 33 to RR 41A

#### Hinton

Hwy 16: Jasper Park Boundary to Range Road 213  
 Hwy 40: Pinto Creek Crossing to Hwy 734  
 Hwy 47: Hwy 16 to Hwy 40  
 Hwy 734: Hwy 40 to Yellowhead Cty. Bdry

#### Edson

Hwy 16: Range Road 213 to Hwy 753  
 Hwy 748: Edson to end of Pavement  
 Hwy 748: Edson to Hwy 32  
 Hwy 751: Hwy 16 to Hwy 647  
 Hwy 32: Hwy 16 to Baseline Road (TR 570)

**For Chemical Spray Exemptions—"No Spray Areas", Questions or Concerns Contact Project Coordinator 1-403-370-7866**

### Hay Permits

## Along Provincial Highways (2024) Attention Land Owners

Leducor Highways Ltd. along with Alberta Transportation advises that anyone interested in cutting hay along the highway right of ways will need to apply for a permit. For Contract Maintenance Area (CMA) 504 and 508 submit application to Leducor Highways Ltd. Adjacent landowners will have until July 1<sup>st</sup> to apply. All other applicant permits will be issued within 14 days of receiving the application. There is no fee for the permits.

**\*At the time of application, all persons wanting to cut hay MUST provide proof of \$2,000,000 liability insurance.\***

Note: Some permits may not be issued due to weed infestation problems.

**CMA 504**  
 (Beaverlodge, Grande Cache, Grande Prairie)  
 PH: 587-202-6441

**CMA 508**  
 (Entwistle, Whitecourt, Edson, Hinton)  
 PH: 403-370-7866



**Government of Alberta**

**A** Monthly update on the Oil & Gas and Energy Industry

# ENERGY EDUCATION IN ACTION

## Canada ranks among top global oil producers, surpassing Iraq

### Canada ranks fourth as an oil producer, behind the U.S., Russia and Saudi Arabia

by Rashid Husain Syed

Canada is among the topmost oil producers in the world. As of September 2023, it produced some 4.78 million barrels per day (bpd). Contributing some 5.6 percent to the total global output, Canada is currently the world's fourth largest oil producer, ahead of Iraq.

In the overall global scenario, the United States remains at the top of the list, contributing 14.7 percent to the world's total output. The Russian production of 9.48 million barrels stands second to it, while Saudi Arabia stands just below Russia's crude production.

However, it's important to note that Western sanctions on the Russian oil sector and Saudi Arabia's output restraint as part of OPEC production quotas are affecting the overall output of both countries. In a free market context, these nations could have potentially produced more than they have.

Some recent reports in the media are underlining the strength of the Canadian oil sector.

The country's largest oil and gas producer by market capitalization, Canadian Natural Resources Ltd., churned out 1.42 million barrels of oil equivalent per day in the fourth quarter of 2023, up nearly 10 percent year-over-year to break its all-time quarterly production record, the Canadian Press reported last week.

The Calgary-based company also achieved record quarterly natural gas production with 2.23 million cubic feet per day, capping off record oil and gas volumes for the full year.

The increase came as demand for oil in the U.S. rose 3.4 percent year-over-year in October,

according to a report from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. The report underlined that the U.S. imports far more Canadian petroleum and gas than all other countries combined.

The U.S. market is the largest and the most important market for Canadian energy producers. Overall, Canadian crude oil imports to U.S. refineries for processing have risen from over 1.3 million bpd in 2000 to just under 3.8 million barrels per day in 2022, an increase of 181 percent. According to a recent report from Ven Venkatachalam, Director of Research with the Canadian Energy Centre, the share of Canadian crude in U.S. refinery feedstock rose from nearly nine percent in 2000 to over 23 percent by the end of 2022.

Like all other Canadian oil producers, Canadian Natural Resources Ltd is reportedly awaiting the startup of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion to increase its exports to the U.S. markets. Last week, the company said it was committed to shipping 94,000 bpd on the twinned line that will give Alberta oil producers additional export capacity to the West Coast.

The contents of the exports through the line could be a mixture of heavy and light crude, Scott Stauth, the newly inducted president of the company, was quoted as saying. The project is about 98 percent complete and expected to start service in the second quarter of 2024, according to Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.

Ahead of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion's completion and to take advantage of potential increased exports to U.S. refiners, some Canadian producers are already strategizing to ramp up their output.

Lisa Baiton, the president and CEO of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP), remains optimistic about the industry's trajectory. CAPP is forecasting capital

expenditures for the upstream oil and natural gas sector to reach \$40.6 billion this year, a slight increase from the \$39 billion invested by companies in 2023.

A Canadian Press report, however, quoted Baiton as saying that in the light of the ongoing uncertainty surrounding emissions policy in Canada, the oil and gas companies are cautious in their future moves.

CAPP forecasts Alberta's oil and gas producers will maintain a steady investment level year over year at \$29 billion, with the oilsands expected to contribute around \$13.3 billion of the projected investment.

Pathways Alliance, a consortium of oilsands companies, has proposed spending \$16.5 billion on a massive carbon capture and storage network to reduce emissions from oilsands sites in northern Alberta. However, according to the Canadian Press, Pathway Alliance has yet to pull the trigger with a final investment decision.

Canada remains a key player in a world that will rely on fossil fuels for decades to come.

Toronto-based Rashid Husain Syed is a highly-regarded analyst specializing in energy and politics, with a particular emphasis on the Middle East. Besides his contributions to both local and international newspapers, Rashid frequently lends his expertise as a speaker at global conferences. His insights on global energy matters have been sought after by organizations such as the Department of Energy in Washington and the International Energy Agency in Paris. © Troy

*The views, opinions and positions expressed here are the author's alone. They do not inherently or expressly reflect the views, opinions and/or positions of The Weekly Anchor, its advertisers, or Troy Media.*

## Industry supporters of responsible energy



**A Monthly Update on the Coal Industry**

# ENERGY EDUCATION IN ACTION

## Coal still has a valuable place in the energy mix

**Coal is the unjustly vilified energy source that's here to stay**

by Ian Madsen

The Climate Apocalypse alarmists look more than a little discredited with their claims of solar and wind energy reliability and low cost, global warming escalation, and more frequent extreme weather events.

Their ultimate warning that life on earth is on the brink of extinction due solely to human-generated carbon dioxide emissions appears far-fetched and is likely an exaggeration. It is high time we revisit the very source of energy that has been most vilified: coal.

Coal is the cheapest of all energy sources on a full-cost basis – not the misleading ‘levelized cost’ often cited, which conveniently leaves out essential factors. Coal is flexible to electrical demand fluctuations

and is the most globally abundant fuel.

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), coal is projected to generate more electricity in 2040 than all new renewable technologies, excluding hydro, combined. The IEA estimates that by 2040, there will be 730 gigawatts of new High-Efficiency Low Emission (HELE) coal plants, primarily located in developing countries.

In terms of efficiency, the average coal-fired power plant operates at 33 percent efficiency. However, state-of-the-art ultra-supercritical coal plants boast efficiencies of up to 45 percent, and advancements in technology could see this number rise to 50 percent by the end of the decade.

The IEA and other bodies project that the vast majority of new energy supply will come from coal-fired plants, with nuclear a distant second. Solar, wind, and other renewables are escalating but are still a relatively small proportion of overall supply. This is mainly because of the vast areas required and the high cost of either energy storage – batteries, usually – or baseload power needed to make them at least tolerably semi-reliable.

The benefits of coal are numerous. It is energy-dense, subsidy-free, relies on proven technology and can be easily transported via existing

railways. Additionally, coal is abundant in countries that are not hostile, and existing shipping capacity makes it easy to export to allied nations. The reliance on unstable petro-regimes in Russia and the Middle East has proven to be unwise.

The impact of energy use in Canada, America, and Europe on greenhouse gas emissions is minimal, and the demonization of CO2 – a gas essential for plant life – and coal is misguided.

Natural gas, nuclear energy, oil, and coal all have vital roles to play in sustaining human civilization, until such time as fusion or other innovative technologies become viable alternatives.

Ian Madsen is the Senior Policy Analyst at the Frontier Centre for Public Policy.

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*Note: The views, opinions, and positions expressed in the column are the author's alone. They do not inherently or expressly reflect the views, opinions and/or positions of The Weekly Anchor, its staff, or Troy Media.*



**Sponsored by The Weekly Anchor and industry supporters of responsible energy**

# GERING GRAVEL SALES



**CRUSHED GRAVEL - PIT RUN - WASHED ROCK -  
PEA GRAVEL - SAND - LOADERS - GRADERS**

**CONTRACT TRUCKING**

**723-2443 3024 - 1st Ave., Edson T7E 1N9**

# Second screening of Srvent's 'Dance with the Devil'

by Deanna Mitchener

On April 26, you will have an opportunity to watch the second screening of Srvent's 'Dance with the Devil' at the Red Brick Arts Centre in Edson.

The doors open at 8:00p.m. and the show starts at 8:30. The Red Brick is located at 4818 7 Ave, Edson and has a capacity of 140 guests.

Join Srvent (Spencer Richard) and the cast and crew of 'Dance With

The Devil' at the official second screening where there will be a showcase of the 39 minute short film project. In addition, there will be a 15 minute behind-the-scenes featurette on the making, a short speech from the director, socializing, and celebrating.

Richard said, "The event will have popcorn for free and pop and alcoholic beverages for sale."

Srvent, Edson's own, is an award-winning Canadian rap artist, producer, and filmmaker. His music



A second screening of Srvent's 'Dance with the Devil' will be presented at the Red Brick Arts Centre in Edson on April 26.

## RCMP warn public of texting scam

RCMP are warning about a new text message scam involving speeding violation tickets.

Alberta RCMP, along with other police agencies, have received reports of a new scam that is circulating throughout Canada.

The scam involves the victim receiving a text message stating that their vehicle has been detected exceeding the speed limit and has a link to a website to pay a ticket.

Do not click on the link and do not make any payments to the website.

Local RCMP would like to remind the public that no government or police organization issues tickets via text messaging.

If you receive any suspicious text messages do not reply and do not click any links.

If you are unsure if a message or phone call is fraudulent, RCMP encourage you to contact the person, business, or organization to confirm.

If you suspect you have been a victim of fraud, please contact the local RCMP and the

Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre either by telephone 1-888-495-8501 or online at <https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca>.

Victims of identity fraud should also report the incident to Canada's credit bureaus, Equifax and Transunion.

### Travel log:

## The forgotten dogs of San Felipe

by Deanna Mitchener

For many communities pet rescue groups are a vital part of saving the lives of unwanted pets.

There can be a varied and often heartbreaking list of reasons why people need to give up their pets to a shelter. Then we have people that just drop pets off on a roadside or wherever it's convenient.

It seems that some of these folks think these animals don't matter, but they do. They need food, shelter, and care to survive. They have feelings. They can feel pain, hunger, and loneliness—just like us.

Edson Animal Rescue Society (EARS) is always looking for donations and homes to either foster or adopt a pet.

Here in San Felipe Baja Mexico they face the same challenges, only much worse. Many of the locals are just not educated on the proper care of pets, nor can they afford to have their pets fixed. Many dogs just run the streets looking for food.

The rescue group here in San Felipe was founded by Wendy Sanguinetti and Carol Dougherty. It was first opened in December 2019.

President Carol Dougherty, said, "Our capacity is dependent on the number of puppies we have, but generally it's 100 to 125 dogs. We have very few foster homes, currently about 10, and they are not available during the summer months. Our challenges are many including getting donations and dog food across the border to us. The border allows very little and a 19% duty is added to most things."

"It's also difficult getting dogs across the border. They limit the number of



### Views & News

by Deanna Mitchener

dogs per vehicle to about four. This makes it hard to have a group of pets taken across the border to other facilities or to adopting families," said Dougherty.

"Adoptions of medium and large dogs are very difficult. They usually spend two to three years at our rescue before finally being adopted."

"Another issue is the cost and availability of good vet medications here. We usually end up buying from the USA. Good veterinary care is also a huge concern. We have no vets willing to work after hours and they have no equipment like x-rays or ultrasounds available. Diagnosing is often a guess. Having a rescue in Mexico has so many more problems than in the USA or Canada," Dougherty explained.

Recently, a lady in her 30's was attacked by a pack of dogs while walking on the beach here. Unfortunately, she did not survive. This is a problem here in San Felipe, a lot of dogs run loose and are just not trained or controlled by their owners. Many dog owners simply don't have the knowledge or finances to care for them.

The rescue group here offers a free clinic once a month for anyone to bring their dogs in to be spayed or neutered. This takes donation money and volunteers. As snowbirds, many of the volunteers are only here in the winter months. Once the weather gets too hot or time has run out to be across the border, the volunteers must go.

So please remember, if you enjoy volunteering consider checking out a place to volunteer on your next winter vacation -your help can make a difference.



Wendy Sanguinetti and Carol Dougherty are the founders of the dog rescue in San Felipe Mexico. These two have made a huge difference. photo Deanna Mitchener

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**EDSON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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 Pastor Mesh Hit  
 Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.  
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 6212 - 13 Ave, Edson  
 Office hrs: Tues 9am-1pm  
 Office phone: 780-723-4992  
 Pastor Tyson Moerike (Call or text 403-966-4705)  
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 Edson United Church  
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 Phone: 723-3418  
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 noemi\_sogocio2006@yahoo.ca  
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**What's happening, when and where in the community**

### Community Events

**April 10-May 29:** Family Time. Join us on Wednesdays for some indoor fun! Program runs from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Marlboro Community Hall (April 10,24& May 8,22). Peers Multiplex (April 17 & May 1,15&29). Registration is required. www.yhcounty.ca/registration  
**March 8, April 12:** Join Trail Hall for potluck suppers for more information call 780-728-5641.  
 Volunteer Fair  
**April 14:** Volunteer Fair: Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Location: Griffiths Park Centre (5414 6 Ave). Register for a table at the Volunteer Fair! Limited spots available. Contact the Town of Edson FCSS.  
**April 20:** Women's Wellness Workshop. Time: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Location: Best Western High Road Inn  
**April 19/24:** Adult Card night 7:00pm at Niton Hall Everyone welcome  
**April 20 May 18 June 15:** Grief Support Group 9:30am-11:30am at Griffiths park centre questions contact Sarah at 780-712-3500 or email sarahm@edson.ca  
**April 26-27:** 2024 Edson and District Chamber of Commerce Trade Show. April 26, 2024 @ 12:00 pm - 8:00pm. April 27, 2024 @ 10:00am - 4:00 pm. Location: Edson and District Leisure Centre. Contact: Kathy Arndt 780-723-4918.

**April 27:** Angel Garden Childrens event and Musical coffee house & silent auction 4407 7 ave Edson Holy Trinity Anglican/Lutheran Church 1-2:30 pm crafts and children's games 2:30-4:30 Music and silent auction.  
**April 27:** Niton Jam 1:00pm at Niton Hall everyone welcome  
**Every Thursday:** Seniors Chair Yoga Free. 10-11am Leisure Centre Hospitality Room.  
**First Wednesday of Every Month:** Senior's Recycling Day. Between 10 am and 1 pm, senior citizens are welcome to visit the depot for snacks and refreshments while their staff unloads your sorted recyclables free of charge.

**We are proud to support community events**

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The Weekly **ANCHOR**

# Farm & Field

## News and Views

# Managing herds in drought conditions

“Cattle operations are vulnerable to drought conditions,” says Ann Boyda, provincial livestock market analyst with the Alberta government. “Periods of drought often result in a downsizing of the cattle herd. High slaughter rates are the result of cattle (especially heifers) being pushed into feedlots and not being retained for rebuilding the herd. The practice of selling less-productive animals first generally targets cows that aren’t pregnant or are late-calving and bulls that are inferior.”

Cattle slaughter in western Canada has been higher over the last few years as compared to the historic average (2000 to 2023). The 2023 total cattle slaughter for West Canada (2.56 million head) dropped by 4.3% from 2022, however remained 7.64% higher than the historic average. 2021 witnessed a 6.8% increase in cattle slaughter numbers over 2020 and an 11.7% increase over the historic average.

Female slaughter rates (as a percent of total slaughter) increased from 47.9% in 2022 to 49.6% in 2023 and were higher than the historic average rates (2000 to 2023) for the second and third quarters, indicating periods of contraction. The

fourth quarter 2023 showed signs of stabilizing. As of March 9, 2024, the year-to-date female slaughter rate of 498,654 head is 49.7%, however there were fewer cows slaughtered as compared to last year, 79,628 head versus 86,981 head (an 8% drop). Heifer slaughter increased by 2% over the year-to-date of the previous year.

In 2023 and 2022, there was evidence of higher rates of heifer placement in feedlots based on the percentage of heifer placements to total cattle feedlot placements. The peak heifer placement rate of 53.5% occurred in June of 2023, followed by another high fall placement rate of 47% in September.

“Drought conditions typically impact the cow-calf sector greater. Calves born in spring can remain relatively unaffected by early drought but dry conditions in summer and fall generally result in early weaning as a means of dealing with feed and water shortages,” explains Boyda.

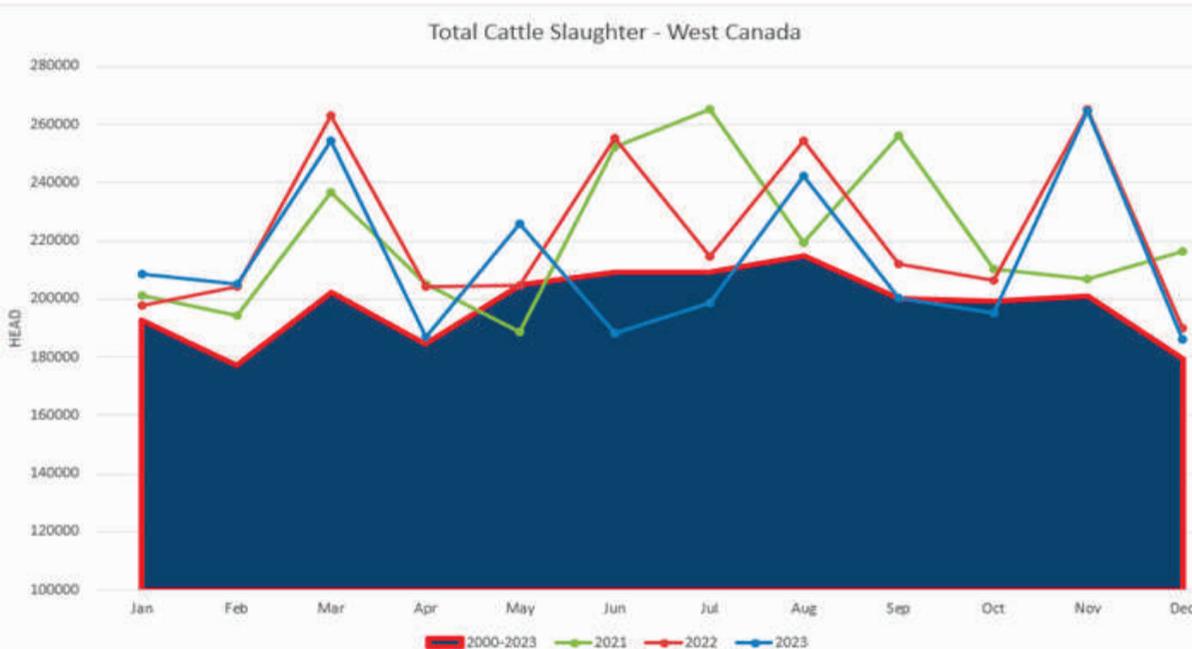
According to supply and disposition data reported by Statistics Canada, the number of calves born in Alberta in 2022 (1,773,000 head) remained relatively constant with that of 2021, however 2023

reported a 4.0% decrease to 1,701,400 calves. This will lead to a decline in calves available for placement into feedlots for 2024.

“A large part of herd liquidation is attributed to drought or dryness. However, it is important to note that financial returns also play a role in downsizing decisions. Record high cattle prices in 2023 eased some of the difficult decision making. Consecutive years of drought conditions in the U.S. was also a factor. Tight U.S. supplies sustained pressure on prices.”

Drier conditions were evident in many parts of Alberta, especially in the southern areas. The Government of Alberta provides updates with respect to snowpack, precipitation, river levels and other key data (Drought-Current conditions).

“It is advisable for farmers to consider early planning to combat weather adversity. Consideration may be given to monitoring body condition of animals, feed budgets and forage availability, management of on-farm water resources, assessment of pastures, and use of feed analyses in costing and balancing rations,” says Boyda. *AgriNews*



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