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VOL. 32, NO. 34



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**TOWN**

Dependent care costs no longer a barrier to serving on Town Council...

see page 3

**COUNTY**

Coal policy committee presents to council...

see page 11

**COMMENT**

Stay open plans needed...

see page 6

**PROVINCE**

Increase to AgriRecovery funding...

see page 16

# River Race and Family Fun Day!

by Shaylyn Thornton

Families and individuals were invited out to the Medicine Lodge Rodeo

Grounds on August 14 to take part in a River Race and Family Fun Day held by Power Fitness.

Carla Rand, Power Fitness

Founder and Owner, said she "wanted to create a fun community event for families to enjoy being active and outside together."

Event attendees got to enjoy a variety of activities, including races for the whole family by Run with Jayne Coaching,

*continued pg 2*



Sack races were another great activity to take part in at the River Race and Family Fun Day put on by Power Fitness at the Medicine Lodge Rodeo Grounds. photo Three Tree Photography

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# River Race and Family Fun Day!

*continued from front*

organized games for the kids led by Bobbie Luymes, bouncy houses by Melissa Newcomb, sparkly tattoos by Danielle Cole, an on-site concession by Manna Restaurant, wagon rides by Birdy and Dusty Cooper, mini ponies by Carson Ranch, and live music organized by Janine LeBlue.

“The live music was a way to bring fitness and art together for everyone’s entertainment,” explained Rand. Local photographer Bradley Wari of Three Tree Photography was also out and about taking photos of the event.

Rand’s team had their work cut out for them when it came to putting the event together. “Planning for a first event like this is a lot of work but the staff at Power Fitness are incredible and each team member was responsible for one part of it,” said Rand.

Their efforts paid off. “The day went so well. The weather was beautiful – perfect for this type of

event,” Rand said. “We had a good turnout for our first event like this. Everyone loved it and they want us to do it again next year.”

In addition to the many people and businesses listed above who helped out with the event, other sponsors included gold sponsor McPhee Construction, silver sponsor Craig Waterwell Drilling, along with ATB Financial, Dusty Trails, and Jensen’s Lifestyle Clothing. “I couldn’t have done this without our sponsors,” said Rand.

“I also want to thank all my staff at Power Fitness Online for their hard work to put this on,” Rand added. “And a huge thank you to the Edson and Hinton communities for coming out and taking part in this event. It was such a blessing to hear all the positive feedback.”

Up next for Rand and her team is a free community workout sponsored by the Town of Edson on August

26 at 7pm at Centennial Park. “This is for all ages and stages,” Rand noted.

Also upcoming is Rand’s 40<sup>th</sup> birthday party on September 10 at 4pm, to be held at her residence near Peers. Anyone is welcome to attend the event, which will have “live music, supper, and fun for everyone.”

If you are interested in more information about these events or to RSVP, contact Carla through her website at powerfitnessonline.com.



These kids had a great time participating in races at the Power Fitness River Race and Family Fun Day on August 14. photo Three Tree Photography

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**BLUE RIDGE LUMBER INC.**  
Vegetation Management Program

Blue Ridge Lumber Inc., on approval from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, will be conducting our vegetation management program on or after August 17, 2021 until September 10, 2021. Approximately 2070 hectares of harvested area will be treated. The purpose of the chemical treatments is to manage competing vegetation.

All treatment locations are listed in the following townships:

**Legal Locations of planned Herbicide Treatments**

Township	Range	Meridian
69	10, 11	5
66	8, 9, 10, 13	5
65	8, 11	5
64	8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17	5
63	9, 12, 13, 16, 23, 24	5
62	9, 10, 11, 13, 17, 22, 24	5
61	11, 24	5
60	9, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21	5
59	19, 21	5
58	19	5
57	18, 20	5
56	17, 18	5
55	18	5
52	14	5
51	14, 21	5
50	12, 13, 14	5

Access to all areas will be posted with signs and all applications will be conducted in accordance with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry regulations. For more information, please contact Shari Greenlee at 780-648-6224.

**THIS WEEK’S FEATURE**  
**Mint Homes Ltd.**



Features: One bedroom and two bathrooms Spacious bungalow with excellent street appeal Den off the foyer can double as a guest room Vaulted ceiling over great room Walk-in pantry in large open kitchen Huge master suite Curved landing leads to full basement

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Sq.Ft: 1518

Beds:2 Baths: 2



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# Dependent care costs no longer a barrier to serving on Town Council

by Adrienne Tait

The cost of caring for a dependent is no longer a barrier to serving on Town Council should one wish to do so. For any adult Edson resident whose decision not to run for Council was based on incurred costs for care of a dependent, regardless of age, that barrier has now been lifted or lessened.

"This is a barrier in all levels of politics," said Councillor Currie, "We all lose pay but people who require childcare or senior's care have to pay to be here."

The 4:3 split vote decision regarding council remuneration for reimbursement of care of a dependent resulted in the policy being approved.

The issue was first addressed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 27.

The remuneration policy shall contain an additional Family Reimbursements clause which states, "Upon submission of receipts, members of Council shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred for the care of children or dependent family members requiring supervision while attending meetings, conferences, conventions or seminars in an official capacity, providing the Council member has direct duty of care for the dependent. Such reimbursements shall not exceed \$2400.00 per calendar year."

Councillor Chouinard objected to the policy stating his belief the wording was "too vague" and requested the matter be further discussed at retreat. Chouinard said the salary, meeting schedule and conference schedules are all known prior to running and should be taken into account when a candidate lets their name stand.

He did, however, state he would support a policy that provided reimbursement for special or emergency meetings.

Councillor Bevan also objected to the policy but would have agreed to cover costs for special meetings or events that could not have been predicted prior to running for Council.

Councillor Sorensen voted in favour of the policy change and said, "It is important that everyone has equal opportunity to run, and that while Councillors knowingly give up income and benefits from their regular jobs when they accept their seat, out of pocket expenses shouldn't be a factor."

The taxable benefit Policy will go into effect for the next elected Council and could cost the Town up to \$17,500 per year depending on usage.

# Federal election called; local candidates prepare for short campaign

On August 15, 2021 Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau visited Rideau Hall to ask for dissolution of Parliament.

Gov. Gen. Mary Simon approved the request, triggering the election writ, and formally beginning Canada's 44th federal election, with Canadians heading to the polls on September 20.

By calling an election now, Trudeau avoids any chance of a non-confidence vote bringing down his two-year-old minority Liberal government.

Main contenders in the election include: Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau, Conservative Party of Canada Leader Erin O'Toole, NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh, Bloc Québécois Leader Yves-François Blanchet, and Green Party Leader Annamie Paul.

With a campaign that will last only 36 days (the minimum campaign length permitted by

law) opposition parties objected to the early call. Canada's next fixed election date was October 2023.

In response to the criticisms, Trudeau said Canadians deserve a chance to decide who should guide the country out of the pandemic. "To the other parties, please explain why you don't think Canadians should get a choice, why you don't think that this is a pivotal moment. I'm focused on our real plan. I'm focused on the path forward."

Currently the Liberals hold 155 seats; the Conservatives have 119; the Bloc Québécois 32; the New Democrats 24; the Green Party two; and independents hold five.

At O'Toole's campaign launch, he stated, "This election is not about the next week, the month, or the next year—it's about the next four years. It's

about who will deliver the economic recovery Canada needs."

Singh sated during his campaign launch, that Trudeau is only seeking a majority. "Why does he want a majority? It's certainly not because he wants to help people more."

Canada's Chief Public Health Officer Dr. Theresa Tam says that thanks to Canada's high vaccination rate, a federal election can be conducted safely by putting in place health and safety protocols.

Candidates can begin registering with Elections Canada on August 17; registration closes at 2 p.m. on August 30.

Running in the Yellowhead riding as of August 18 are: incumbent Conservative MP Gerald Soroka; and Todd Muir (Maverick Party).



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ELECTRICAL: 240V/50A  
WEIGHT: 650 LBS DRY, 2850 LBS FILLED  
WATER CAPACITY: 1000L  
JET COUNT: 34  
SIZE: 79 X 79 X 35 IN  
PUMP: 1 X 2 SPEED 5HP  
HEATER: 1 X 5.5 KW  
INCLUDED: COVER & FILTER  
SEAT COUNT: 6

**FEATURES:**

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- LED Lighting

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\*\$9000  
24 months equal payments with no administration fees with purchases using a Triangle Mastercard

**SPECIFICATIONS:**

ELECTRICAL: 240V/50A  
WEIGHT: 850 LBS DRY, 3500 LBS FILLED  
WATER CAPACITY: 1200L  
JET COUNT: 44  
SIZE: 84 X 84 X 35 IN  
PUMP: 2 X 2 SPEED 5HP  
HEATER: 1 X 5.5 KW  
INCLUDED: COVER & FILTER  
SEAT COUNT: 6

**FEATURES:**

- Aromatherapy
- Interchangeable Jets
- Bluetooth Audio
- Ozone
- Waterfall
- LED Lighting



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# TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2021

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(Closed Stat Holidays)**

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8TH ANNUAL

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- \*Teams may be female, male or co-ed
- \*\$20/player
- \*Open to anyone ages 5+, teams will be put into categories after registration

**Registration will close Sept 7th**  
Registration forms available at Repsol Place, [www.edson.ca](http://www.edson.ca), or download it off the Road Hockey Rumble Facebook page

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If you would like more info or to sponsor please contact:  
Nikki Kachmarchyk ([nikkach@hotmail.ca](mailto:nikkach@hotmail.ca)) 780-728-5062 or  
Stacie Eldstrom ([stacieszwecc@hotmail.com](mailto:stacieszwecc@hotmail.com)) 780-517-5255



Feedback is Welcome!

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Land Use Amending Bylaw No. 2262

Council will hold a Zoom Public Hearing to consider a proposed amendment to Land Use Bylaw No. 2070 on

**Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm through Zoom Meeting online**

If approved, the following changes will be made to Land Use Bylaw No. 2070:

Definitions for "adjacent", "appeal board", and "lane", will be added to Section 6—Definitions; and

Section 27—Appeals and Procedures will be repealed and replaced with simplified wording that references the *Municipal Government Act*.

To view details of the application, please see: [www.edson.ca/bylaws](http://www.edson.ca/bylaws)

You may submit written comments by emailing: [engineeringandplanning@edson.ca](mailto:engineeringandplanning@edson.ca); by mailing: Planning—Town of Edson, PO Box 6300, Edson AB T7E 1T7; or by hand delivering to the Civic Centre drop off box at the front door entrance.

Submissions must be received by the Town prior to the Zoom Public Hearing for Councils consideration.

Any person, group, or person acting on behalf of anyone who claims to be affected by the proposed bylaw, may make representation during a Public Hearing through Zoom online. Oral presentations are subject to a five (5) minute time limit and must be sent ONE WEEK PRIOR to the Zoom Public Hearing.

Registration will remain open until the beginning of the Public Hearing on **September 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm.** Register to present virtually at [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_fux2q5IhReCuByvPcRgvKg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fux2q5IhReCuByvPcRgvKg)

or contact [engineeringandplanning@edson.ca](mailto:engineeringandplanning@edson.ca) for meeting details.

Personal information contained in submissions are collected under the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act). This meeting will be recorded and shared.

## Running for Council



A reminder that the nomination period for the 2021 general municipal election is open and the election is just a few months away.

Nomination papers may be filed until 12 noon on nomination day (September 20, 2021).

The election will be held on October 18th, 2021.

A number of changes were made to the election act since the last municipal election. This includes information on the nomination period, campaign contributions, transparency, and more. You can find details here --> <https://www.edson.ca/town/town-council/election-act-changes>

For more information on what it takes to be on Edson Town Council, as well as nomination forms and procedures, please visit [www.edson.ca/runforcouncil](http://www.edson.ca/runforcouncil).



# TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2021

**Town of Edson  
Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday  
10am to 3pm  
(Closed Stat Holidays)**



## COMMUNITY REGISTRATION NIGHT

HOSTED BY THE TOWN OF EDSON

Come check out what the Edson & Area Recreation, Arts, & Culture Organizations have to offer this fall.

**Tuesday, August 31st  
5-8 pm  
Repsol Place Lobby**

Organizations reserve your table here:  
[edson.ca/recedson](http://edson.ca/recedson).  
Deadline is August 29th.

Now open for applications!  
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## Town of Edson Small Business Loan

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<http://westyellowhead.albertacf.com/edson-small-business-loan>

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THE EDSON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND THE TOWN OF EDSON PRESENT:



# COUNTRY FAIR



**Saturday, August 28 | 2 PM to 11 PM  
RCMP Centennial Park**

- 2:00-6:00 GUIDED WAGON RIDES (STAGING IN WEST PARKING LOT OF THE PROVINCIAL BUILDING) \$2/PERSON, \$10/FAMILY PROCEEDS TO EDSON AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
- 2:00-7:00 BENCH SHOW UNDER THE BIG TENT
- 2:00-7:00 OLD TIME GAMES AND RACES
- 2:00-8:00 INFLATABLE GAMES
- 2:00-8:00 COTTON CANDY & POPCORN BY E.A.R.S.
- 2:00-8:00 PETTING ZOO
- 2:00-11:00 - FOOD TRUCKS
- 3:00 BIKE PARADE (STAGES FROM GRIFFITH'S CENTRE)
- 6:00-11:00 BEER GARDEN RUN BY EDSON TUMBLERS GYMNASTICS CLUB
- 6:30-10:45 LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING WITH TYLER BABIUK
- 10:45 FIREWORKS

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER FOR THE BENCH SHOW OR BIKE PARADE VISIT  
[@EDSON.CA/ARTINTHEPARK](http://EDSON.CA/ARTINTHEPARK)



**Feedback is  
Welcome!**

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Land Use Amending Bylaw No. 2261

Council will hold a Zoom Public Hearing to consider a proposed amendment to Land Use Bylaw No. 2070 on

**Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm through Zoom Meeting online**

If approved, "Retail Establishment" will be added

as a permitted use to the C-2 Service Commercial District in the Land Use Bylaw No. 2070.

To view details of the application, please see: [www.edson.ca/bylaws](http://www.edson.ca/bylaws)

You may submit written comments by emailing:

[engineeringandplanning@edson.ca](mailto:engineeringandplanning@edson.ca); by mailing: Planning—Town of Edson, PO Box 6300, Edson AB T7E 1T7; or by hand delivering to the Civic Centre drop off box at the front door entrance.

Submissions must be received by the Town prior to the Zoom Public Hearing for Councils consideration.

Any person, group, or person acting on behalf of anyone who claims to be affected by the proposed bylaw, may make representation during a Public Hearing through Zoom online. Oral presentations are subject to a five (5) minute time limit and must be sent ONE WEEK PRIOR to the Zoom Public Hearing.

Registration will remain open until the

beginning of the Public Hearing on **September 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm.**

Register here at [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_fux2q5IhReCuByvPcRgvKg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fux2q5IhReCuByvPcRgvKg)

or contact [engineeringandplanning@edson.ca](mailto:engineeringandplanning@edson.ca) for meeting details.

Personal information contained in submissions are collected under the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act). This meeting will be recorded and shared.

# The Weekly ANCHOR

## Comment



# Stay open plans...

After 16 months of on-again/off-again restrictions, businesses are finally beginning to emerge from the third wave of this pandemic —and yet most of them continue to struggle.



**From the Publisher's Desk**  
Dana McArthur  
Member Canadian Association of Journalists

owners and employees. Many businesses would simply not survive.

The CFIB's preliminary survey results show 79% of businesses are concerned about further lockdowns and 87% want provinces to commit to a stay open strategy while protecting the health care system.

The CFIB's proposed stay-open plan includes:

- Clear, evidence-based communications around risks and any decisions leading to additional restrictions.

- Direct provincial funding in place prior to announcing additional restrictions.

- The attention of government and the public on hospitalization rates rather than case counts.

- More use of rapid testing, if needed.

- Proof of vaccination for travel and large events, if needed.

By announcing a clear policy to keep businesses open, the provinces have an opportunity to clearly demonstrate that extraordinary measure will only be used now as a last resort —and not a first response.

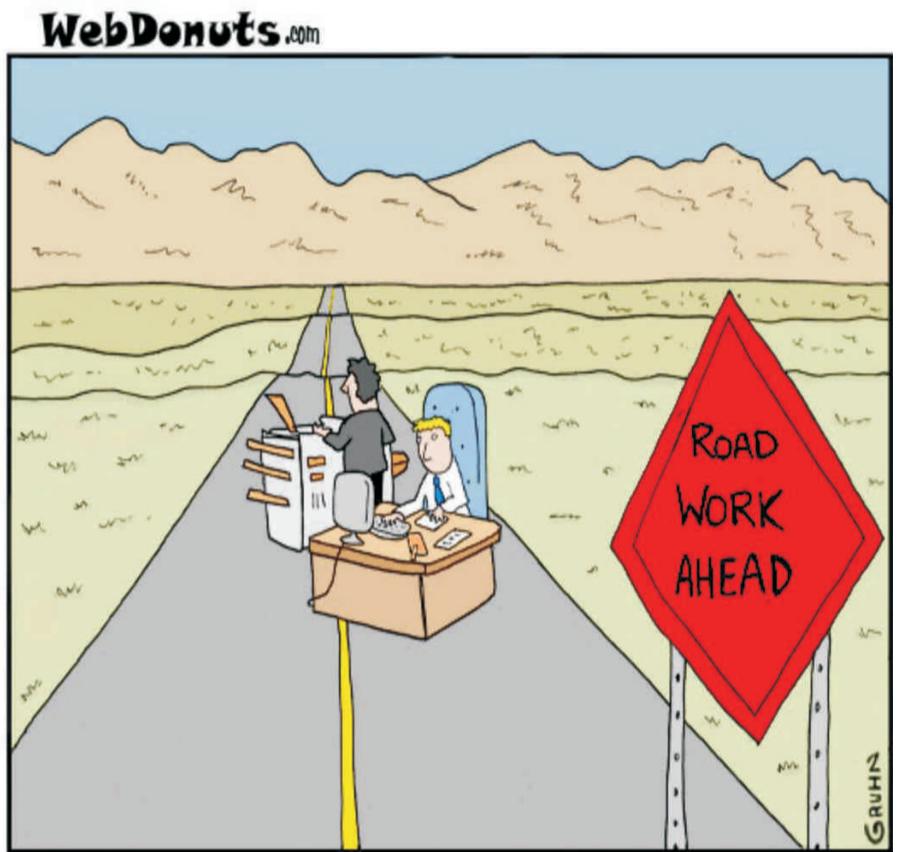
Please remember to give local businesses every possible chance to earn your business. You won't be disappointed with the friendly service and quality offered locally. As an added bonus, you will be helping local employment, and in turn, keeping your community a vibrant place to live.

Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) data shows that 68% of small businesses are fully open, 45% are fully staffed —and only 35% are making normal sale.

In a letter to Canada's premiers, the CFIB stated, "Small businesses made significant sacrifices to protect society from COVID-19. Since March 2020 they have struggled from lockdown measures and restrictions that fully or partially closed Main Street for months. While businesses are relieved to be able to open again, the reality is they are reopening to significant ongoing revenue declines, staffing shortages and a cashflow crunch."

The provinces have introduced various reopening plan outlining different stages, objectives, and criteria in order to move ahead with small business reopening. The CFIB is now asking the provinces to provide businesses with reassurance and certainty by committing to a stay-open-plan.

9/10 Canadians in the private sector work for a small to medium-sized business. Small businesses employ nearly 70% of the total private labour force. Any lockdowns or significant business restrictions in the fall would be financially and emotionally devastating for these business



## Edson RCMP Occurrences for the week of Aug 9 - Aug 15, 2021

Between August 9 – August 15, 2021, traffic complaints topped the list of Edson RCMP investigations at 35. Other investigations included: Alarms/False Alarms 2; Assault 4; Assistance Calls 14; False/ Abandoned 911 call 2; Fraud 2; Harassment/Criminal Harassment 2; Lost/Found Property 6; Mischief or Damage 15; Suspicious Persons or Vehicles 19; Theft Complaints 15; Traffic Collisions 8; Traffic complaints 35; Trespassing 6; Uttering Threats Against Person 1; Wellbeing Check 6; and Traffic Violations 9.

## AgriRecovery Funding

Gerald Soroka  
MP Yellowhead



OTTAWA: Gerald Soroka Member of Parliament for Yellowhead wishes to advise that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has announced \$100 million in AgriRecovery funding to further support farmers facing continued extreme weather due to the drought and wildfires. This funding is designed to match all

provincial AgriRecovery submissions on the 60-40 cost-shared basis outlined under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

Once assessments are completed, work will be expedited to finalize an agreement with each province.

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Your Local Independent Newspaper

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# East Crossing Road residents seek speed limit reduction

by Shaylyn Thornton

At their August 17 meeting, Yellowhead County Council heard a speed reduction request for the East Crossing Road (Township Road 534). The speed limit of the East Crossing Road is currently 80km/hour but concerned locals would like to see that reduced to 60km/hour.

In January 2010 County Administration reviewed the County's bylaw authorizing speed limits on roadways and found that there were numerous roads with speed limits ranging from 30 km/hr to 90 km/hr. The number of varying speed limits made it difficult for the traveling public to follow.

Bylaw 11.10 was approved by Council in February 2010 to create a more uniform set of speed limits in the County, with all but 7 sections of roadways excluded from the bylaw. In 2016, Bickerdike Road was added to the list of excluded roadways and had their speed limit reduced to 60km/hour in Bylaw 16.16.

In a letter to Council, residents of the East Crossing Road stated that prior to that bylaw coming into place, the speed limit of the road was 60km/hour and was changed to the 80km/hour without any consultation with local residents.

Traffic has since continued to increase along that road, due to the shortcut factor for access (via Range Road 165) to Old Highway 16 from Secondary Highway 748 as well as a growing populations of residences accessed via the East Crossing Road.

In 2018, even before an increase of pipeline traffic, a traffic count was done and at that time it was found that an average of 300 vehicles per day made use of the road. The letter from the residents noted that the counts also recorded the excessive speeds of many of the vehicles.

"The 20 residents living along this 1.5 miles of road are concerned about the safety issues raised by the excessive speed of many vehicles. The local residents drive the road at a reasonable speed with respect to their neighbors," read a portion of the letter. "The problem appears to be the shortcutters wanting to make up time, hence using the shortcut. 80 kmh means 90+ to many of these drivers."

The letter also discussed safety concerns for children getting off of school busses, as well as residents wanting to walk, jog, bike, or ride horses along the road.

Councillor Dawn Mitchell spoke about the safety concerns for East Crossing Road Residents. "You have a number of residents and users on this East Crossing Road that are concerned about safety and I think that can never be overlooked," she said. "It was 60, they tried 80 for awhile and it's not working. I do not see an issue with moving it back to 60."

Councillor Shawn Berry said that he noticed "just about every landowner along the East Crossing Road" had signed the petition requesting the lowered speed limits. "I'm in favor of their petition and I'd like us to move forward with that," he said, acknowledging that he thinks the current limits are "a dangerous situation."

CAO Luc Mercier suggested that Yellowhead County could take another look at their speed limit guidelines. Mercier noted that, while there can't be a "cookie-cutter approach" for all speed limits, there could be something documented in policy to reflect when changes to speed limits should be made.

"If we have East Crossing Road that has X amount of residents, X amount of traffic...and it has a certain traffic count per day, and we decide to change the limit for 'safety reasons' based on that, how many other roads do we have in Yellowhead County that would meet that same mandate?" asked Mercier. "I believe we should

look at those also. So if we take an approach today on a certain road we should be consistent across the County. And I think that can easily be done if we just take one step back on this East Crossing Road."

"I would request that Council direct Administration to come back with a proposal that would kind of encapsulate those reasons, and in addition to that look at other roads that have similar type issues," Mercier said. "We come back to rationalize this first and put it down on paper as to when we would look at a speed reduction. And I think that can easily be captured based on what

I'm hearing on this specific issue." Councillor David Russell agreed. "I support what our CAO said. That's a good approach to take, it's broad and it's not specific to one road. It's going to open up possibilities, so I agree with that."

"My recommendation is that Council direct Administration to bring a matrix back for Council deliberation on when to change speed limits on gravel roads," Mercier said.

Councillor Dawn Mitchell moved Mercier's recommendation, and Council voted to carry it. Once a matrix is in place the East Crossing Road should see a speed limit reduction, as requested by residents.




## Fineline Stationery/The Source

### Welcomes all to meet the new owners

### September 10, 2021

### 11:00 - 4:30

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- Burgers & Hotdogs
- Beverages
- Popcorn & Snacks
- Face Paint & Balloons




**from Rachel's Party Paint**







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- 50/50 Raffle
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(excluding The Source products, toner, ink, paper, and homemade products)
- 15% off office furniture orders



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

## Clubroot Scouting

August 30 - September 30



Inspectors will be scouting for Clubroot in canola and other Brassicaceae fields in Yellowhead County from Aug 30 to Sep 30.

If you have any questions please contact the Yellowhead County Agriculture office at 1-800-814-3935.

### Prevention Tips?

[www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca) [www.clubroot.ca](http://www.clubroot.ca)



Post-secondary Ag or Enviro student?  
Yellowhead County resident?  
Apply for a \$500 bursary!

Two \$500.00 bursaries for students residing in Yellowhead County and enrolled or accepted in a post-secondary program related to agriculture or environmental sciences.

Deadline for applications is August 31, 2021.

Successful individuals may apply year after year however priority will be given to individuals that have NOT received the award in the past.

Please visit the link below for more details and to apply for this bursary!

Details here: [www.yhcounty.ca/grants](http://www.yhcounty.ca/grants)



### Approved Development Permits have been issued authorizing the following:

Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date
D21-131	Plan 0828903, Lot 18A NW 20-49-26-W5 Folding Mountain	Single Detached Dwelling with Two Covered Decks & Attached Garage	Aug 9/21
D21-118	SW 32-54-08-W5 Evansburg Area	Existing Manufactured Home	Aug 10/21
D21-123	Plan 2904MC, Lot 15 NW 10-55-15-W5 Bear Lake	Single Detached Dwelling with Attached Garage and Covered Deck - Variance for Top of Bank Setback	Aug 10/21
D21-129	SE 07-54-07-W5 Evansburg Area	Accessory Building (Garage)	Aug 10/21
D21-132	Plan 0122249, Blk 1, Lot 1 SW 22-55-12-W5 Hattonford Area	Storage Building - Residential - Discretionary & Storage Container - Discretionary & Variance to Rear yard Setback	Aug 10/21
D21-133	NW 07-56-14-W5 Shiningbank Area	Accessory Building (Shop)	Aug 12/21
D21-134	Plan 0224354, Blk 2, Lot 1 SW 15-55-14-W5 McLeod Valley Area	Accessory Building (Shop)	Aug 12/21
D21-137	SW 19-54-16-W5 Edson Area	Single Detached Dwelling and Home Business Minor (Logging Truck Business)	Aug 16/21
D21-136	Plan 0323500, Blk 1, Lot 4 SE 24-53-18-W5 Edson Area	Single Detached Dwelling (Additional) with Covered Entry, Covered Patio & Attached Garage - Discretionary	Aug 17/21

Yellowhead County Development Permits are also posted online at [www.yellowheadcounty.ab.ca](http://www.yellowheadcounty.ab.ca). The public is considered officially notified of approved development permits once posted online, in accordance with the Public Notification Bylaw.

The land use bylaw provides that any person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Authority may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by filing a written notice of appeal, containing reasons, with the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board for Yellowhead County accompanied with payment of \$300.00 within Twenty One (21) days after notice of the approval is given. Any other questions or concerns please contact Yellowhead County Planning Service: 1-800-665-6030.



JOIN OUR LOCAL Seniors & Student Pen Pal Program!

Interact with young people in a meaningful way and connect to the "future of our community".

Students of all county schools are participating, and are writing letters to older adults, who are invited to sign up and write back!

Handwritten letters are a great way to share memories and create new friendships! Join us to build more social connections for both the older adults and students.

Sign up today:  
Call 1.800.814.3935 or 780.325.3782!  
Or email [kschatz@yhcounty.ca](mailto:kschatz@yhcounty.ca)



JOIN -THE- TEAM

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Evansburg ~ Niton ~ Wildwood ~ Robb  
Peers ~ Brule ~ Edson Area  
& Highschool Cadet Program (16+)

Fall Recruitment - September 9 Deadline



[www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca)



### Requesting Quotations for Snowplowing of Local Roadways Within Yellowhead County

Yellowhead County is requesting quotations for the services of snowplowing of local roadways in the Cadomin Maintenance Area.

Quotation packages can be picked up beginning Wednesday, August 18, 2021 from the Yellowhead County office located at 2716 - 1st Avenue, Edson, Alberta.

The quotation shall be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 in a sealed envelope, clearly marked and addressed as follows:

Yellowhead County  
2716 - 1st Avenue  
Edson AB T7E 1N9

"Cadomin Area Snowplowing"

Interested parties are invited to attend an information session on Monday, August 30, 2021 at 2:00 pm in the Airport Terminal located at the Jasper-Hinton Airport.

For further information regarding this request, please contact Matt MacDonald, Manager of Transportation, at (780) 723-4800.

# ACCESSORY BLOWOUT SALE

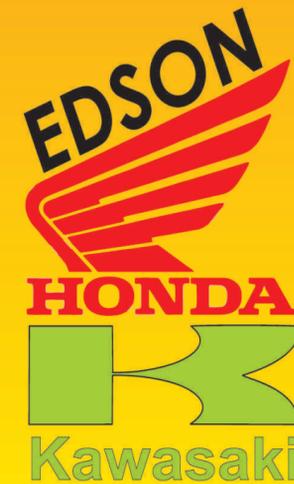
AUGUST 23 ~ 27



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JERSEYS ~ PANTS  
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GOGGLES  
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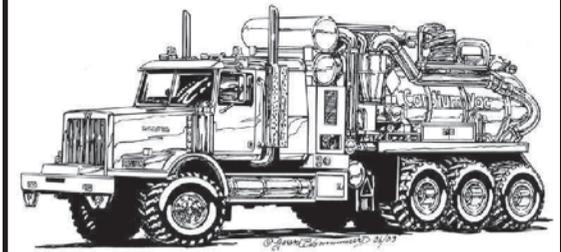


227 - 57th Street (780) 723-6608

[www.edsonhondakawasaki.com](http://www.edsonhondakawasaki.com)



The Dangler Academy Hockey Development Camp was in Edson from August 16-20 at Repsol Place. The camp taught a variety of age groups including U7/U9, U11, U13, U15, and U17/18, with a mix of on-ice and off-ice skill development. Pictured is the U7/U9 group learning stick handling skills from their coaches. photo Shaylyn



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or call 1-800-575-2355 for more information.

# Coal Policy Committee presents to County

by Shaylyn Thornton

At their August 17 Governance & Priorities Committee meeting, Yellowhead County Council heard from Alberta's Coal Policy Committee regarding their engagement in the province.

The Coal Policy Committee was established in March and was appointed to “engage with Albertans and develop a report that describes Albertans' understanding of coal development and provide recommendations for a new coal policy.”

After developing and leading a widespread engagement process, with the goal of capturing the views of all Albertans, the committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Minister of Energy. The committee will provide an engagement report to the Minister of Energy on October 15, 2021, and their final report is due November 15, 2021.

The Committee is made up of five members who represent a wide-range of perspectives on coal development, such as Executive Director of the Hinton and District Chamber of Commerce Natalie Charlton who has experience advocating for alternative energy resources, former Alberta Minister of the Environment (under Premier Peter Lougheed) Fred Bradley, and Piikani Nation member and small business owner Eric North Peigan.

Chair Ron Wallace and member Bill Trafford took the lead on the presentation, explaining the Committee's engagement processes and terms of reference. Wallace explained that a series of questions guides their engagement:

- Do Albertans want to supply coal to meet global demand and if so how do Albertans want to develop coal in Alberta?
- What should be the nature, scope, and extent of restrictions in a Coal Policy?
- Should surface mining ever be considered for Category 2 lands?
- What, if any, parts of the Coal Policy should be changed or removed, and why?
- What parts of the Coal Policy should be clarified?

The information and perspectives discovered through the Committee's engagement with Albertans will be compiled and used to “develop a modern coal policy to protect the areas Albertans cherish while allowing responsible resource development in appropriate places.”

Even before the Committee was formed, a survey polled Albertans on their opinions on coal policy. Approximately 24,750 people responded with many differing thoughts and opinions.

Since then, the Committee has heard many more perspectives from across the province, both through written submissions and through more than 30 in-person/virtual engagement sessions. The Committee shares all submissions and updates on their website in an effort to have “communication go both ways,” explained Wallace.

Wallace said that they have been “very pleased” with the number and quality of submissions but that there are “no easy answers” to creating a coal policy. “Alberta is in many ways at a crossroads, and the decisions that will be taken by the government over the next little while will be material, one way or another,” said Wallace. “There is not a lot of middle ground.”

Councillor Penny Lowe congratulated the Committee members for their work on gathering perspectives from across Alberta. “You've broken down a barrier and you've done it with something that I think is extremely important, which is communication,” she said. “Quite often there's a disconnect in communication between levels of government, all sorts of things, and it seems like you have managed to break that down. A lot of people out there, all they want to do is be heard and have their thoughts considered.”

Councillor Shawn Berry asked whether there was an overview of opinions brought forward thus far. “Do you find that people are giving positive

statements about the coal industry? Or is it overwhelmingly negative?” he asked.

Wallace responded, “It's about 85% against. That's what our emails are running right now. And when I say 'against' what I'm saying is that there is a big community of people who are looking at the industry through the narrow lens of climate and carbon. They're not looking at the broader range of security of energy supply or of economics.”

Wallace noted that the same exact letter was received from approximately 4,000 different sources and that it is difficult to know “whether that community is reflective of the broader community in Alberta or if it's a group of activists that have gotten together.”

The coal industry in Alberta has been bringing a new level of technology in existing mines and the responsible regulation that they're following is “being done at a very high level – probably being done at a higher level than anywhere else in the world,” said Wallace.

Wallace also said that anyone looking solely at carbon emission numbers is “missing at least 2/3 of the argument.” He cited the example of Germany spending 1 trillion Euros on renewable energy, only

to see their carbon emissions rise. “This is such a complicated issue,” said Wallace.

Deputy Mayor Wade Williams, who chaired the meeting in Mayor Eglinski's absence, shared his own experiences and opinions on the coal industry. His more than 20 years of coal mining experience led him to see mines all the way through to reclamation, in which he said they do a “wonderful, wonderful job.”

“Alberta coal is some of the lowest sulfur coal in the world, and I think us exporting coal to other countries is helping them keep their emissions down with the lower sulfur coal being mixed with other coals,” Williams said. “I think if we don't have our coal on the boats going across the ocean we're shooting ourselves in the foot.”

“I'm totally in favor of coal mining... I think it's a resource that we have to continue to push forward,” Williams said, thanking the Committee for the presentation.

Wallace thanked the Council for their opinions and said that it is important that people know that all opinions are “welcome” and appreciated.

You can share your own thoughts on coal policy in Alberta at [www.alberta.ca/coal-policy-engagement](http://www.alberta.ca/coal-policy-engagement).



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- focus on kindergarten readiness skills

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Left to right are Peter Ganter church board chair, Jean Linklater church Treasurer and community Kitchen coordinator, Alaina Linklater helper extraordinaire, Carol Ganter church HR chair, and Kandis Jones executive administrator.

## Expanded thrift shop opening

by Rev Kimberly Roy

About 100 people celebrated community (Edson Strong) with us on August 11. We provided a free Volunteer and Customer appreciation BBQ and invited everyone to share in the grand opening of our expanded thrift space.

People commented that the space is much bigger, easier to navigate, and there are way more items to choose from.

We also announced our new hours of Wednesday to Saturday 11-3pm!

We are so happy to support Edson families and hope they will continue to support this amazing outreach project.

Without donations, volunteers and shoppers—this would not be possible. Thank you Edson!

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## KID'S CORNER



Say hello to 3-year-old Rayne Elzinga, who enjoys playing with her sisters and her pets, and playing outside. Rayne's favorite toy is her orange fox stuffy. Her favorite animals are her kitten and her baby duck, and Rayne says if she could be any animal she would be a lion because "they say roar." This summer, she has enjoyed playing with her kittens and camping. Rayne's favorite color is pink, her favorite snack is milk and cookies, and her favorite tv shows are Mickey Mouse and Bluey.



Kid's Corner is sponsored by:  
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Beautifully appointed 3 bedroom 2 bath 20x76 mobile home. This beauty even comes with a media room and gas fireplace. Complete with all appliances, fully fenced yard with shed and deck.

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### JOKES FOR KIDS

**Q: WHAT MUSIC FRIGHTENS BALLOONS?**

**A: POP MUSIC!**

# Surprise Lake Camp: 70 years and still going!

submitted by Arthur White Owl

On the weekend of August 7th and 8th the Surprise Lake Society held a celebration marking 70 years of existence of the Surprise Lake Camp.

It all began back in 1948, when Charles Irwin, a farmer from Carrot Creek, suggested to the United Church that the lake would be a good site for a church camp.

Suggestions so often turn into dreams, and when people stepped into the dream away it went... to become a reality. Rev. Jim Norquay and his wife Marg, an outdoor-loving couple from Mayerthorpe spearheaded the effort. Support and resources came from numerous United Church congregations who saw the value of nature in the lives of young people.

It all started simply enough and despite "mishaps and idiosyncrasies of its development, Surprise Lake grew into a modestly sized residential campsite".

The lives of thousands of campers, staff and volunteers have been touched by a Surprise Lake experience. There are so many local families who sent their kids or grand kids out to camp. Surprise Lake was unique in that parents who volunteered at the camp could bring their children along to be looked after by young people.

It is amazing to see over the history of the camp that so many of those young kids went on to be campers, councillors, then directors and even serve on the Society board. There is a history of "Surprise Lake Camp, Camping in a Semi-Wilderness Setting" written by Andriel Pitter (Stoeckel) that captures memories of many people who built and were part of the camp. It's a great read if you've ever been a camper out there.

The anniversary weekend was a time of renewing friendships, touring the camp, tie dyeing, eating of course, reconnecting and enjoying shared memories. Some special "old"

friends came out to the camp and were happy to see that the camp was being rejuvenated. These folks were involved in the camp and contributed many volunteer hours.

A favourite story came from Rod Gow, a camper from age 7 to 17. When Rod was a teenager he had a wet suit and a snorkelling outfit. He and another fellow had the job of cutting weeds growing around the diving dock. He was looking down in about 3 feet of water when he saw something shiny. He reached down and picked up a beautiful ring. Amazed, he took it to his mother who was the camp nurse at the time. She in turn took it to the director who thought it would be proper to hold on to it while they looked for the owner. Word spread through the camp that a ring was found. Shirley Reynolds, a cabin leader at that time, saw the ring and said that it was her engagement ring that she had lost 7 years earlier. Insurance had bought her a new one and when she put the found one on, she had 2 identical rings. One hardly used.

Another highlight was a campfire program led by Bushrat (Doug Ahlf). The camp has always had good music. It was fun to see and hear "old kids" singing goofy action songs of their youth and loving it. One of the "kids" sitting around that fire was the grandson of Charles Irwin.

Fast forward from 1951 to 2021. So much has changed in society and in our lives.

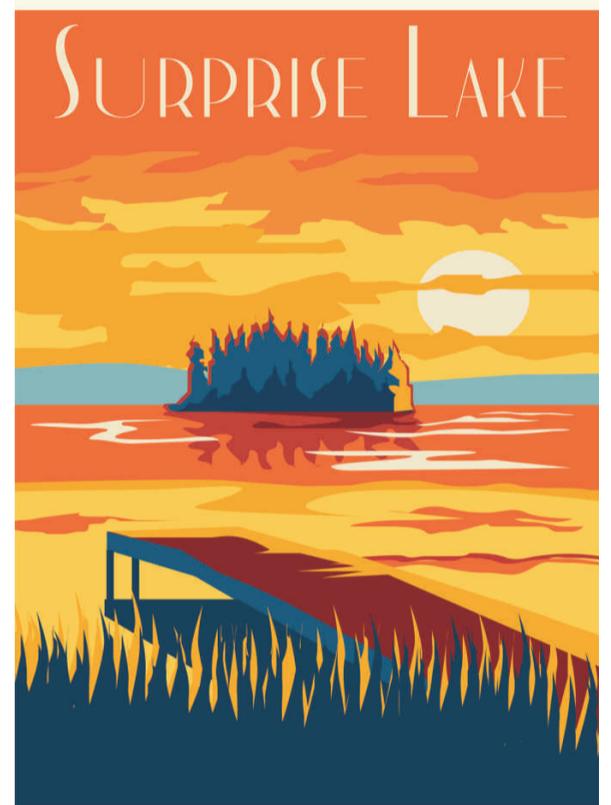
The camp has also had to change. A few years ago, the Surprise Lake Society faced a hard choice; either close the camp permanently or strike a new direction. Nobody wanted to close and the decision was unanimous to try something new. So here we are aimed at the next 70 years.

We have changed the format of the camp to a community hall type rental facility that can still host kids summer camps as well as workshops and seminars. The camp is sprouting in new directions.

There wouldn't be any growth however if we

didn't have the means to move forward. We wouldn't be where we are today without the Yellowhead County Recreation Board helping out with some grants. Numerous businesses have donated time, material and services to further the cause. Surprise Lake Camp would not have existed without dedicated volunteers and it is just as true today. We have a growing base of hard working volunteers determined to build something lasting for the future. It is amazing to see how the dream is coming together again.

To find out more about Surprise Lake Camp or to get involved, go to the website: [surpriselake.ca](http://surpriselake.ca) and sign up for the newsletter.



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Office Reopens: August 30 (9-3)

Meet the Teacher/ Supply Drop off: September 2 (4-7)

First Day of School (Gr. 1-12): September 7

First Day of Kindergarten: September 8

All School Chapel (all welcome): September 8 (8:45)

Preschool Orientation: September 17

**CONTACT US: 780-723-3850**

[www.ykcschool.com](http://www.ykcschool.com)

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~ Obituary ~

**PLANTE, Christine Flora Delphine**

*Date and Place of Birth:*  
November 1, 1941, Drinnan, AB  
*Date and Place of Death:*  
August 10, 2021, Edson, AB



On August 10, 2021, Christine Flora Delphine Plante (nee:Gauchier), of Marlboro, Alberta, beloved wife of Leonard Plante (2014), passed away at the age of 79 years.

Christine is survived by her children, Margaret (Dennis) Larson of Red Deer, AB, Tama (Gilbert) Belcourt of Marlboro, AB, Angela Plante of Edson, AB, Dawn (Ben) Belcourt of Marlboro, AB, Casey (Rebecca) Plante of Skeetchestn, BC and Christy (Shaun) McGee of Olds, AB. Also surviving are 13 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren as well as numerous other relatives and a host of friends.

Christine was predeceased by her husband, Leonard Plante, her parents, Johnny and Margaret Gauchier, grandchildren, Chad Larson, Jesse Belcourt and Erica Plante, siblings, Reggie Gauchier, Rod Gauchier, Jimmy Gauchier, Lloyd Gauchier, Carol Paul, Colleen Miller and Donnie Gauchier.

Wake services will be held at the Marlboro Community Hall on August 16th, 2021, at 7:00 pm and funeral services will follow on Tuesday, August 17th, 2021, at 11:00 am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Edson, AB with Father Thomas Reddy Basani presiding.

In lieu of other tributes, donations if desired may be made to the Diabetes Association 220-6223 2 Street SE, Calgary, AB T2H 1J5 in memory of Christine Flora Delphine Plante.

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~ Obituary ~

**Douglas Maggs**

April 7, 1957 – August 8, 2021



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Douglas George Maggs in Edson, Alberta on Sunday, August 8, 2021 at the age of 64 years.

Doug was born and raised in Edson, working for the Edson Forestry Service, Department of Highways, Sox's trucking, Johnson & Herbert Construction, and Anvil Range Mining over the years.

He enjoyed fishing, hunting, woodworking, playing hockey, attending Reflections, and was an animal lover; caring for numerous family dogs Casey, Missy, Fifi, Poncho and Jody throughout his life.

He is lovingly remembered by his mother Jean (Maggs) Haney of Edson; sister Audrey of Edmonton; brother Darrell (Sue) of Calgary; and sister Sheila (Rick) of Rosalind; as well as nieces and nephews Stacy, Michael, Taryn, Riley, Jesse, Kara and their families.

Doug was predeceased by his father George Maggs; maternal grandparents Jean & Melville Cornelius; and paternal grandparents Annie & William Maggs.

Doug was a beloved son, brother and uncle and will be greatly missed.

A Memorial Service will be held at 1:00 pm on August 26, 2021 at the Glenwood Cemetery in Edson, Alberta with a reception to follow at the Mennonite Church.

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**What's happening, when and where in the community**

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Family Fun Kits** Register to borrow a kit from FCSS Yellowhead County 780-325-3782 or 1-800-814-3935

**Story Walk** now at Wildwood. Look at Yellowhead County's ad inside the paper for details.

**YELLOWHEAD-OPOLY:** An interactive twist to one of your favorites. Register at 780-325-3782 or email abarrett-hamilton@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca

**NEW Outdoor activity** challenge Pump Track Sticker Book: Pick up your free sticker book at County offices in Edson and Wildwood. Contact by phone 780-723-4800 or email [jmateri@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca](mailto:jmateri@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca)

**July 14-Sept 1:** Youth Interagency Wild

Wednesday Ages 11-17 For mor info check out Edson.ca/yia Register online or in person at Repsol Place

**August 24:** Babysitting Course Ages 11+ held at Tipple park Museum 9AM- 3:00PM Register at 780-325-3782

**Poker Derby** and Pork Roast Supper on August 28, 2021. Registration starts at 11:00 am at the Beaver Meadow Hall (55518-RR 123 Yellowhead County). For more info contact Gladys at (780) 723-1435, Pat at (780) 712-0049 or Carolyn at (780) 706-4708.

**August 28:** WOP MAY COUNTRY FAIR RCMP Centennial Park 2pm-11pm

**August 31:** Community registration night 5-8pm at REPSOL PLACE LOBBY

**September 1:** Outdoor Movie ages 13-17 Poltergeist Free at Pine Grover soccer field for more info please visit the YOUTH INTERAGENCY facebook page

**September 10** Fineline Stationery meet the new owners BBQ 11AM-4:30PM

**First Wednesday** of Every Month: Senior's Recycling Day. Between 10 am and 2 pm, senior citizens are welcome to visit the depot for snacks and refreshments while their staff unloads your sorted recyclables free of charge. See the Senior's Day Facebook Event for more details.

**We are proud to support community events**



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**Pine Grove Hall Association** is now taking bookings for the hall. Capacity is 180 people. Full kitchen with annual health inspection. Camping available. Horseshoe pits, grassy baseball field with backstop and a covered outdoor pavilion. Call 780-723-2818 and leave msg.

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**Edson Lions Club Hall** is taking bookings for meetings, weddings, gatherings and reunions. Upstairs holds 145, downstairs hold 104. Catering available by the Elks. Camping available. Edson Lions is a non-profit society. Phone 780-723-3169.

**Entwistle Hall Rentals** contact Cheryl at 780-515-1755 or Tracey at 780-898-2317.

**Edson Legion Hall** seats 350 for dinner and dance, and 400 for convention style seating for birthdays, funerals, meetings and special events. Wheelchair accessible, catering available and ample parking. The Edson Legion is a non-profit organization. Call the office at 780-723-3455 to book events.

**Park Court Hall** call or text Karyn at 780-712-3918.

**Wildwood Community Hall** To book please contact: Marjorie Russell at 780-325-2180 or Mary Anderson at 780-514-6105.

*\*Regional hall services may be temporarily limited. Please call ahead.*

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

**EDSON**

**BETHEL PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
6350 - 13th Ave., Edson. Phone 723-3007

Pastors John & Roberta Greiner: Heather & Daniel Greiner  
Sunday service: 10:30 am Morning worship,

**EDSON ALLIANCE CHURCH**  
5525-2nd Ave., Edson Ph: 723-5776 Pastor Bryan Walter 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting;

**EDSON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4719 - 9th Ave., Ph: 723-3982 Pastor Mesh Hit

Sunday Services: 10:45 a.m. **EDSON MENNONITE CHURCH**  
6212 - 13th Ave., Edson Telephone: 723-4922. Sunday Worship 9:45 am. Sunday School 11a.m.

**EDSON-PEERS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
4633-7th Ave., Edson - Ph: 723-5242 Pastor Dan Meyer

Worship: 10:30 a.m. Edson - Nursery provided Sunday School **EDSON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
1133-55 St. Edson - Ph: 723-5490.

Saturday Morning Service at 11:00 a.m. Sabbath School at 10:00 a.m.

**EDSON UNITED CHURCH**  
Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Rev. Kimberly Roy

1214 Edson Drive, Edson, AB Phone: 723-3418

**FAMILY OF FAITH CHURCH**  
463 72 St., Edson (formerly Glenwood Hall), Telephone: 780-517-5558

Sunday: 10:00 am - Coffee and Donuts; 10:30 am - Morning Service

Pastors: Pastors John and Ingrid Huizing vfm@shaw.ca

**HOLY TRINITY** (An Anglican/Lutheran Faith Community)  
Rev. Johnny Pooten 780-723-4366

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE (All services at 10 am Sunday mornings):**

1st & 2nd Sunday at St. Catherine's Building 623 50th St.; 3rd and 4th Sundays at Grace Building 407-7th Ave.;

5th Sunday - call for location. Please phone for other information.

**THE NEW JOSHUA GENERATION FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**  
4911 B 3rd Avenue, Edson, AB

Sunday Worship at 2:30 p.m.; Fellowship after service. Rev. Noemi Sogocio, Senior Pastor, 780-600-0050;

noemi\_sogocio2006@yahoo.ca **SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
4803 - 6th Avenue, Edson Telephone: 723-3661.

Pastor Father Thomas Basani (SAC)  
Mass: Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

Call office for weekday Mass times.

**CARROT CREEK, NITON JUNCTION & PEERS**

**CARROT CREEK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
Pastor George Stone - Ph: 795-2132 Church in Peers, Alberta Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Non-denominational - Everybody Welcome! **COMMUNITY COWBOY CHURCH**

Niton Junction Hall Tuesdays, 7 p.m. 780-712-3502

**GREEN GROVE UNITED CHURCH**  
Niton Junction - Ph: 795-2568 Sunday Services

**EVANSBURG/ENTWISTLE WILDWOOD**

**ENTWISTLE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Pastor - Micah Brookhart Office: 780-727-2829

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. **WILDWOOD CHAPEL**

4820 54 Avenue, Wildwood Alberta, Phone 780-325-3999 Pastors: Bjorn & Karin Bidell Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.; Mid-Week Prayer: Thursday 7:30 p.m.

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# Farm & Field

## News and Views



**PATTERSON'S PART SUPPLY**  
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# Federal government increases AgriRecovery funding to up \$500 million to support farmers facing extreme weather

August 15, 2021: The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, announced that the Government of Canada has increased total AgriRecovery funding to up to \$500 million to address extraordinary costs faced by producers due to drought and wildfires. This includes initial funding of \$100 million announced on August 6, 2021.

Given the extraordinary circumstances that farmers in Western Canada and parts of Ontario are facing, this increased funding ensures the federal government is ready to contribute to eligible provincial AgriRecovery costs on the 60-40 cost-shared basis outlined under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. The Government of Canada and the governments of British

Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario continue to work with the utmost urgency to complete joint assessments of the disaster and launch support programs. This will include direct assistance to affected livestock and agricultural producers, and help them with added costs of obtaining livestock feed, transportation and water.

Producers can also apply for interim payments under AgriStability to help them cope with immediate financial challenges. The Government of Canada and the governments of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario have agreed to increase the 2021 AgriStability interim benefit payment percentage from 50% to 75%, so producers can access a greater portion of their benefit early to meet their urgent needs. British Columbia and Manitoba have also opened up late participation in AgriStability to farmers who did not register in 2021 so they can benefit from this important income support.

In addition to this support, the Government of Canada announced designations for

Livestock Tax Deferral on July 22, 2021, and August 6, 2021, for prescribed drought regions in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario. This will allow beef producers who are forced to sell a significant amount of their breeding herd due to drought conditions to offset the resulting revenues with the costs to replace the herd.

"Our Government is doing everything it can to support farm families so they can get through these challenges today, and be better positioned for a sustainable future.

Today's commitment of up to half a billion dollars shows we stand ready to contribute our share toward AgriRecovery programs with the provinces. We are united in our goal of ensuring that farmers are fully supported through this crisis," states the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food.

The government of Alberta has announced a commitment of \$136 million.

Minister Bibeau continues to urge provinces to accept the Government of Canada's offer to raise the

AgriStability compensation rate from 70% to 80%. This would provide farmers across the country an additional \$75 million per year, benefitting distressed farmers who need help now more than ever.

During a crisis such as this, farmers facing the stress and uncertainty of providing for their families may suffer serious mental health impacts. Those needing help are encouraged to reach out for support, and can contact The Do More Ag Foundation, a not-for-profit organization focusing on mental health in agriculture across Canada.

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