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The Weekly

ANCHOR

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VOL. 35, NO. 09

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024

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TOWN

Local RCMP hold Town Hall Meeting in Edson...

see page 3

TOWN

Break at Edson Drive Water Booster Station causes temporary shutdown...

see page 13

COMMENT

Trudeau's bloated bureaucracy...

see page 16

County moves to help preserve historical cemetery

by Dana McArthur

The Shiloh Centre for Multi-cultural Roots (SCMR), would like to take ownership of the

historical Empyrean Cemetery located approximately 10 minutes north of Wildwood, near Chip Lake. SCMR is operated by descen-

dants of the regional Black settlers, many having family buried within the cemetery grounds. Between 1905 and 1912, well over 1,000 African-

Americans crossed the U.S. border and helped forge many of Alberta's early prairie communities, including the Wildwood

continued page 2



'That Crafty Lady Edson', Chrissie, stopped by Parkland Lodge for an evening of painting with the seniors. Besides painting, seniors enjoyed wine, charcuterie, and lots of laughs while socializing. Resident Dale Barembuch said, "I really enjoyed this new activity to me. I will definitely be signing up next time it is being offered. I used to love drawing in my younger years, but have never attempted a painting. This just may have brought back a lost appreciation I had for drawing." photo submitted Deanna Mitchener

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County moves to help preserve historical cemetery

area.

During the Yellowhead County Council meeting on February 27, General Manager of Community Services Crystal McNernie presented the Request for Decision to council, from a report compiled by Madison Sharman, the County's Heritage Coordinator.

"Working with the General Cemeteries Regulations, a municipality would have to take ownership of the cemetery and establish a maintenance agreement with SCMR [based in Edmonton] for two years before the Directory of Cemeteries would allow transfer to SCMR," said McNernie.

Yellowhead County would assist in this ownership transfer by being the owner of record for two years, and then transferring that ownership (with Director of Cemeteries approval) to SCMR.

The Empyrean Cemetery is one of Yellowhead County's historical cemeteries. Used primarily by the first African American settlers to Wildwood (formerly named Junkins), the cemetery was used for almost 50 years.

Between 1905 and 1912, well over 1,000 African-Americans crossed the border and helped forge many of Alberta's early prairie communities. Most came from Oklahoma, fleeing the Jim Crow laws which stripped them of their rights when Oklahoma became a state in 1907.

Although there have been no burials at the cemetery since the 1950s, the surrounding community has maintained this space for many decades, McNernie explained.

The original owner of the Empyrean Cemetery, The Imperial Baptist Church of Junkins, has been defunct for 70+ years. With no remaining contacts, the cemetery is not owned by any active group. The cemetery in question is effectively abandoned.

"The legal owner, the Imperial Baptist Church of

Junkins, is now defunct and the trustees that are listed on the title for the church are all deceased and cannot provide direction/authorization for the transfer of title," McNernie said.

Currently, the Ravine Community Association has been maintaining the Empyrean Cemetery. They have been in contact with SCMR and welcome their plan to take ownership/custodianship of the cemetery.

By having Yellowhead County take ownership of the Empyrean Cemetery and having SCMR enter into a management agreement, SCMR will gain a connection to the Cemetery. This will allow the property to be transferred to them by the Director of Cemeteries.

"As a historic cemetery in the County, it is incredibly valuable to have a connected organization offer to maintain the facility and continue to champion its history," said McNernie. There is a projected cost of \$2,500 to complete the land title transfer.

Councillor Anthony Giezen said, "It seems to be one of those instances where this has fallen through the cracks. There's an active group that wants to pursue ownership of this, and the only way that this could happen is through Yellowhead County."

Councillor Patrick Soroka asked, "Do they [SCMR] want to make it an active cemetery again or leave it as historical cemetery?" McNernie responded, "I believe right now it is not an active cemetery and the only burials that are allowed are cremation burials, if you follow the proper documentation. It is a process very similar to how we manage Mountain Park Cemetery right now, there are no full burials presently allowed."

Mayor Wade Williams concluded, "It appears that this is the only way this group can end up

with ownership, and they obviously have connections to this cemetery. For those reasons, I would be in favour of the recommendation."

Council for Yellowhead County voted to direct Administration to pursue the ownership of the Empyrean Cemetery and enter into a management agreement with the Shiloh Centre for Multicultural Roots, with the intent to transfer ownership to the Shiloh Centre after two years of operations.

Meeting Highlights:

- During the meeting, Council for Yellowhead County declined the offer to sit as a non-voting member on the Hinton Destination Management Organization Society Board. The Board was newly formed by the Hinton Chamber of Commerce and is made up of hoteliers and tourism stakeholders in the area.

- Council for Yellowhead County approved the request of \$10,000 from Community Futures West Yellowhead for inclusion in the 2024 final budget. The group is a not-for-profit organization that supports economic development and entrepreneurship in the West Yellowhead Region. They deliver small business loans, tools, training, and events for people wanting to start, expand, franchise or sell a business.

EVENT REMINDERS

March 4: Join us for FireSmart Days 2pm-7pm (Drop in any time) at Galloway Museum

March 8, April 12: Join Trail Hall for potluck suppers for more information call 780-728-5641.

March 10-31: Yoga in Peers, Sundays 6pm-7pm Peers Multiplex ages 12+ register at yhcounty.ca/registration

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Beautiful 3 bed 2 bath home that has been well maintained over the years. Small dining room by the entrance and formal dining room as you pass through the kitchen. Kitchen has stainless appliances and oak cupboards. Living room has lots of natural light and a gas fireplace. Separate entrance and boot room off the formal dining room. The bathroom, 1 good sized room and smaller room are down the carpeted hallway. The 2 car garage is 32x25 ft heated by wood stove. Still lots of room for storage inside even with the vehicles inside.

Open House remaining dates: Sunday March 10 from 11-3 and Monday March 11 from 11-3



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[P]

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Local RCMP holds Town Hall Meeting in Edson

by Niki Luymes

During the RCMP Town Hall Meeting in Edson on February 22, Staff Sergeant Christian Delisle gave an update on the detachment's activities.

The meeting was hosted at the Edson Friendship Centre, and began at 7pm. The event started off with speeches from detachment members highlighting both recruitment and forensic sciences.

S/Sgt. Delisle then gave an overview of the local RCMP priorities over the year. "In 2023/2024, we consulted with the community and elected officials, and three policing priorities were identified. The first one was basically crime reduction/theft reduction in the town and county. The second one was police and community relations. Basically, have the police present at community events in the county and town. The third one was a bit more of an internal priority for us at the RCMP, and that was training."

In order to pursue the first priority the RCMP increased patrols throughout the area. The goal was to complete a combined 1,200 proactive patrols in the county and town. While this project is still ongoing, the current statistics show that there has been a 23% drop in property crime in the county, and a 14% drop in Edson. "Our patrols are not just to be visible," explained S/Sgt. Delisle, "it's also to try and proactively stop and reduce crime."

For the second priority, the detachment set the goal of 45 community contacts throughout the year. This included going to events like the Summer Festival, Peer's Gold Dust Daze, school visits, and other in-person meetings. They have completed 43 in the past year so far. "We are trying to be present at times other than when there's a crisis so we can build that relationship with the community," said S/Sgt. Delisle.

To meet the training priority, the RCMP detachment members focused on 18 different courses over the past year. Their goal was for 10. These courses equip RCMP members to keep up to date with the latest technology and gear, or acquire useful skills. "I have to commend my members, they are out there, they are the ones doing the work. So I have to give them all the credit—we are on track," said S/Sgt. Delisle.

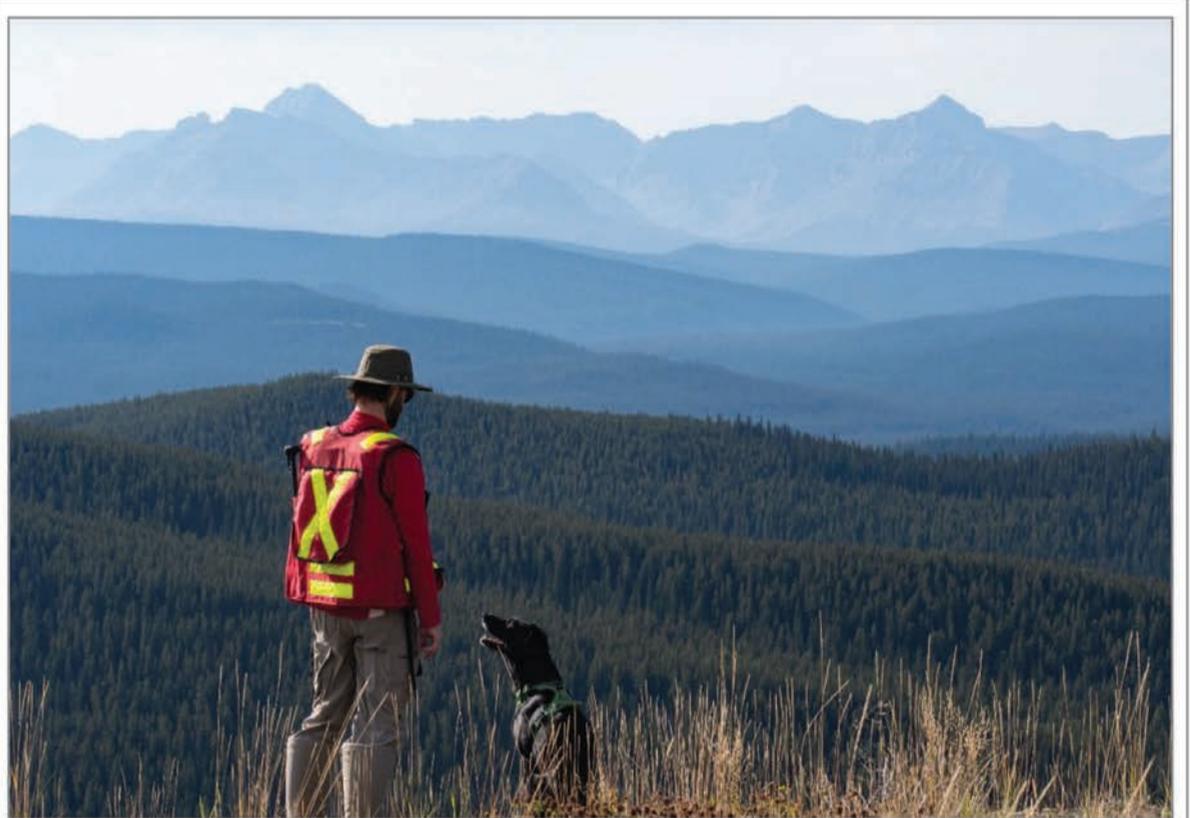
S/Sgt. Delisle then summarized the crime statistics for the 2023 year, when compared to 2022 and 2019. According to the numbers, the town of Edson has seen a 22% drop in total criminal action reports filed when compared to 2022, and a 41% drop since 2019. Yellowhead County has seen a 16% drop in total criminal reports since 2022, and 36% since 2019.

Welcoming questions from the audience, S/Sgt. Delisle encouraged discussion throughout. After the presentation he specifically asked about the communities thoughts on priorities for the coming year. Form the community there were questions about traffic control on Edson Drive, courses on dealing with mental health issues, and reporting concerns.

S/Sgt. Delisle took time to address all the questions and concerns. He then explained that currently the RCMP plans on having similar priorities as last year for 2024. Last year proved to be very successful with positive effects on the community as a whole. Similar priorities would hopefully continue this trend.



RCMP Corporal Wright - Edson Detachment (right) presented an quarterly update to Yellowhead County Council on February 27. 2023-2024 priorities for the Edson detachment include property theft/crime reduction, police/community relations, and training. She noted a 23% reduction in property crime over the same timeframe last year; 355 vs 274 this year. Sgt. Jeff Sutherland, Detachment Commander – Evansburg RCMP listed his detachment's priorities this year includes property crime reduction, working with the Crime Reduction Unit, and prolific offenders—which has resulted in the arrest and charges of 4 prolific offenders who are now before the courts.



Join us for our Annual Open House



Tuesday, March 26
3:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Galloway Museum (Edson)

Thursday, March 28
2:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Parks West Mall (Hinton)

- 🌲 Review our 2024/25 General Development Plan for the Edson Forest Products and Hinton Wood Products Forest Management Areas – these plans outline long-term roads, camps, decking sites, gravel pits, and harvesting over the next five years.
- 🌲 Review our 2024/25 Vegetation Management Plan, including the 2024 plan for herbicide applications.
- 🌲 Learn about our Sustainable Forestry Practices and Certification.
- 🌲 Provide our staff with feedback, concerns, or questions.

For further information or to review/discuss the General Development Plan or Vegetation Management Plan, please get in touch with Yolandi Steenkamp at (780) 865-8978 or email at yolandi.steenkamp@westfraser.com.

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Free online at
WWW.WEEKLYANCHOR.COM

Edson & District Public Library receives large donation for Furniture Fundraising Drive



Vermilion Energy generously donated \$10,000 towards the Edson & District Public Library's furniture fundraising campaign on February 23. From left to right: Library Board Representatives Councilor Peter Taylor, Sheila Buckle, and Robin Corser and Vermilion Energy Operations Superintendent for AB/BC Wally Samson.

The Edson & District Public Library is thrilled to announce that it has received a \$10,000 grant from the Vermilion Ways of Caring program in support of their Furniture Fundraising Drive.

"Vermilion Energy is more than happy to help in the areas we operate in," said Wally Samson, Operations Superintendent for AB/BC with Vermilion Energy, when he presented the donation to the library

Edson's Canadian Parents for French help promote culture



Students' artworks were on display at the Red Brick Art Gallery. photo Niki Luymes

by Niki Luymes

From February 7 to 26th, the Edson chapter of Canadian Parents for French had a delightful display of student artwork set up in the Red Brick Art Gallery.

The display was planned for February to correlate with both Family Day weekend and Quebec's world famous Bonhomme Carnaval, a festival that highlights French culture in Canada.

"In Alberta, many communities offer Carnival celebrations, Edson included. Ecole Westhaven has hosted Carnival events at their French Immersion school for years," said Anna Vander Haeghe, volunteer for Canadian Parents for French, and organizer of the art show.

"A few years ago Canadian Parents for French - Edson Chapter, partnered with the Town of Edson during Family Day to expand the Carnival celebrations into the larger community. The art show offers another way to bring awareness to the Edson public of the French-inspired arts and a fun family-friendly way to tie in Family Day," said Vander Haeghe.

The art show included pieces from over 70 students from Ecole

Westhaven students. Each piece was directly inspired by a famous French artist. This encouraged the kids to be creative, while also highlighting French culture. "We hope that the show inspires families to come with their children to enjoy the beauty of art," Vander Haeghe said.

Canadian Parents for French is a nationally recognized non-profit organization. The Edson chapter has been active in for over 30 years. It is essentially a small group of volunteers that help promote French culture and language within the Edson community.

"We support French Immersion teachers, offer French camps, provide French tutor lists, bring Tire sur la neige (draw on the snow) maple taffy to Family Day, provide scholarship support to French Immersion students, and have brought in Bilingual comedians to Edson in the past." Nationally, the CPF has many resources and great events available to families through their website. "Any new volunteers and donations to the CPF - Edson Chapter are greatly appreciated," added Vander Haeghe.

You can find out more about Canadian Parents for French - Edson Chapter by emailing questions to: cpfedson@gmail.com

on February 23.

"With this generous donation from Vermilion Energy, we will be able to purchase much needed furniture for the children's and teen areas," said Robin Corser, Library Board Chair.

The library is currently fundraising to furnish the new spaces in the renovated and expanded building that will include a larger children's area, dedicated teen zone, and quiet room. "We expect to move back to our former location at 4726 8th

Avenue in June and this \$10,000 donation is a large step towards our goal of raising \$250,000. We are very grateful for the generosity of Vermilion Energy and their support of our library," said Corser.

"If anyone wants more information or would like to join Vermilion Energy on our Wall of Recognition, please contact Connie Hargreaves, Library Director at (780) 723-6691, chargreaves@edsonlibrary.ca," concluded Corser.



Edson Forest Products
A division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.

Important Public Notice

Open Houses on March 26 in Edson and March 28 in Hinton

Edson Forest Products, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd., is proposing to apply Vision Max® (glyphosate) herbicide by ground and by helicopter sometime between August 1, 2024, and September 15, 2024, on approximately 267 hectares of regenerated stands.

This application is part of an Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) approach to the use of herbicides (in this case, as a conifer release tool) on the Edson FMA.

Township	Range	Meridian
45	14, 16 & 17	W5
46	15 & 16	W5
47	15	W5
52	18	W5

For more information, please contact an Edson Forest Products representative at 1-800-293-6955 or visit our open house on March 26 in Edson at the Galloway Museum or on March 28 in Hinton at the Parks West Mall.



Hinton Wood Products
A division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.

Important Public Notice

Open Houses on March 26 in Edson and March 28 in Hinton

Hinton Wood Products, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd., is proposing to apply Vision Max® (glyphosate) herbicide by ground and by helicopter sometime between August 1, 2024, and September 15, 2024, on approximately 4,500 hectares of regenerated stands.

This application is part of an Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) approach to the use of herbicides (in this case, as a conifer release tool) on the Hinton FMA.

Township	Range	Meridian
46	21	W5
47	18, 19, 20 & 22	W5
48	18, 19, 20, 21 & 22	W5
49	18, 19, 20, 21 & 22	W5
50	19, 22 & 25	W5
51	22, 23, 24, 26, & 27	W5
52	21, 22 & 27	W5
54	19, 20, 22 & 23	W5
55	20, 23, 24 & 25	W5
56	18, 23, 24 & 25	W5
57	17, 18, 19, 23 & 24	W5
58	23	W5

For more information, please contact a Hinton Wood Products representative at 1-800-293-6955 or visit our open house on March 26 in Edson at the Galloway Museum or on March 28 in Hinton at the Parks West Mall.



TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2024

**Town of Edson
Office Hours:
Monday to Friday
8am to 4pm
(Closed Stat Holidays)**

INVITATION TO TENDER

Line Painting (ITT-TR-2024-003)

Interested parties should view the bid documents at www.edson.ca/tenders

Closing Date/Time – March 22, 2024 at 16:00:59 (MST)

Submissions attention to: Ryan O'Sullivan, Transportation and Parks Manager
Email: ryano@edson.ca



Town of Edson FCSS - Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

FREE TAX CLINIC

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- **Edson and area residents welcome**
- **Low income, seniors, students**

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- 1 person income \$35,000 or less
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- 3 person income is \$47,500 or less
- 4 person income is \$50,000 or less
- 5 person income is \$52,500 or less and increases by \$2,500 per individual per family thereafter



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Dates: March 13, April 17, May 22, June 19

Time: Wednesday's @ 3:00pm to 5:00pm

Location: Griffiths Park Centre (5414 6 AVE)

Drop-in : NO registration required



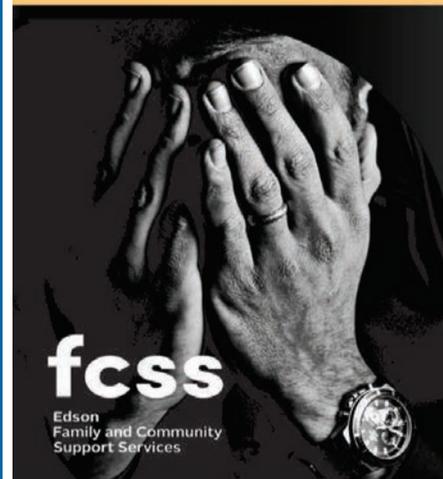
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March 16
April 20
May 18
June 15

9:30 am to 11:30 am

@ Griffiths Park Centre
(5414 6 Ave)

Questions?
Contact Sarah @
780-712-3500 or
sarahm@edson.ca

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.

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 21st 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



Youth Drop-In Nights move to new Griffiths Park Centre

by Niki Luymes

The Town of Edson welcomes local youth out for evenings of fun and community at the weekly Teen Drop-In Group now hosted at the new Griffiths Park Centre.

Each week Edson's Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) team curates engaging activities for Edson and area youth between the ages of 13 and 18.

Previously, the drop in group met at the Kinsman Shack in Kinsman Park. While this space was useable, it was also quite cramped. The new Griffiths Park Centre has more

space of a variety of activities.

"With the Griffiths Park Centre we actually have a small gymnasium now. So, we're able to do some active living activities like line dodgeball, floor hockey, and basketball. Anything that they are interested in trying out," said Sarah McDonald, Program Supervisor FCSS. "We also have a multi-use room so we can do things like trivia nights, painting, or just hanging out." Also, as the weather warms up, the group plans to make use of the outdoor activities provided by the surrounding Griffiths Park amenities.

The program strives to provide a safe space with a variety of activities. While there are planned activities each week, they are always flexible. If the group that would rather play basketball or boards games rather than floor hockey, for example, they can do so.

With the new locations there are also plans to expand and change up the Youth Drop-In programs. "We will be expanding to two groups actually. We're going to split the group from ages 11 to 14, and then ages 15 to 18," said McDonald. "We just saw that there's such differences in these two groups

with what their needs are and what activities they want to do, and also who they want to hangout with."

Currently the plan is for the younger group to meet weekly on Thursdays after school, with the older group meeting once a month on either a Thursday or Friday evening. The exact dates and times have yet to be determined. The FCSS team will be taking a break for the next few weeks just to plan and prep for future events. To keep up on upcoming events and dates visit the Town of Edson website.

Native Women's Association of Canada's National Apprenticeships Program

OTTAWA, ON – Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead wishes to bring to your attention the National Apprenticeships Program (NAP) for small- and medium-sized businesses with funding (\$10,000 grant per position, up to \$20,000 annually) to hire first-year Red Seal apprentices.

The NAP provides an opportunity for

Gerald Soroka
MP Yellowhead



Indigenous women, Two-Spirit, trans-gender,

and gender-diverse people to kick-start their career and to gain paid on-the-job-training in some of Canada's Red Seal classified trades. Funding for the NAP expires on March 31, 2024.

More information can be found at: <https://nwac-nap.ca/apprentices/>

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Speaker

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Private event for ticket holders, members or invited guests only

Tuesday
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Join us for a live performance with Stephanie Harpe and Maria Dunn
Beverages and Appetizers

Wednesday
8:00 am - 8:45 am : Breakfast
8:45 am - 9:00 am : Smudging
9:00 am - 10:00 am : James Makokis
15 minute break
10:15 am - 11:15 am : Stephanie Harpe
11:15 am - 12:00 pm : Hannah and Amy Olson
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm : Lunch
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm : Dr. Lana Whiskeyjack
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm : Mitchel Bowers
15 minute break
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm : Panel Discussion with Alana Peters, Stephanie Harpe, Mitchel Bowers, Maria Dunn, & Kris Marks

Thursday
8:00 am - 8:45 am : Breakfast
8:45 am - 9:00 am : Smudging
9:00 am - 10:00 am : Kris Marks
15 minute break
10:15 am - 11:15 am : Alana Peters
11:15 am - 12:15 pm : Panel Discussion Alana Peters, Kris Marks, Stephanie Harpe, & Mitchel Bowers, Amy Olson
12:15 pm - 12:30 pm : Closing

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Edmonton, Alberta

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JD 5075E FWA Tractor w/ Only 180 Hrs, 540 PTO, Dual Hyd, 3 pth, JD 520M Loader
Frontier RC2072 3 pth Mower
Frontier 3 pth Rake
Frontier 3 pth Rototiller
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JD Bucket
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McFarlane 3 pth Harrows
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Brand New Slings
Rolls of Replacement Winch Line
Generator
Propane Tank
Boiler Shack
Bull Pen
2- Pce Ramps
Battery Charger
Tire Chains
Hubs & Brake Pods
Brake Drums & Pads
Barrels of 5/16", 1/2", 3/8" 7/16" Chain
Pallet Racking
Wet Kit's
PTO Pump
Fire Extinguishers
Welding Rods
Lights & Oils
Plus Much Much More

The Office Trailer will be on Location on March 20th, 2024 Only from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Otherwise Payment must be made by coming directly to our Hwy #16/Rge Rd 185 Office or Rimbey Office or by EFT.
Cash, Cheque or Debit Card. Online Bidding Fees Apply - 4% up to a Maximum of \$800.00 per Item. 3.5% Admin Fee Will Be Charged on Credit Cards. G.S.T. Will Apply On All Items, All Items Must Be Paid For Prior to Pick Up. Listings are Subject to Additions & Deletions



Allen B. Olson Auction Service Ltd.

Rimbey & Hwy #16 East/Rge Rd 185, Alberta

(403) 843-2747 Rimbey - (780) 208-2508 - Hwy #16 East/Rge Rd 185

Toll Free 1-855-783-0556

Email: abolson@telusplanet.net - Homepage: allenolsonauction.com



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

Social Services Resource Fair

March 14, 2024
Wildwood Community Hall
3:00 - 5:00 pm

Open to everyone! No cost! Drop in anytime.

Displays include:

- Yellowhead County FCSS
- Lobstick Literacy and Learning Society
- Lobstick Successful Kids and Families
- Community Futures West Yellowhead
- Yellowhead Libraries
- Yellowhead Emergency Shelter
- AHS Public Health
- Plus Many More

Come out to learn about different social resources available to you.

Free to attend! Prizes! Snacks available!



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



FAMILY WELLNESS DAY

MARLBORO
MARCH 26
11:00a.m. - 1:30p.m.

- BUILD YOU OWN SUB!
- BAKING • CRAFTS
- EXERCISE

BRULE
MARCH 27
11:00a.m. - 1:30p.m.

\$5 per family



REGISTER AT YHCOUNTY.CA/REGISTRATION

Mom's Conference Renew & Rejuvenate

March 14, 2024
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wildwood Community Hall

- Limited free childcare available
- Resource and Information Fair
- Prizes and gift bags!
- Lunch Included

Registration due by March 14
Register at
www.yhcounty.ca/registration
or 1-800-814-3935

\$10



Keynote Speaker:
Nita Knapp
Mental Health While Raising a Family



Septic Sense: Solutions for Rural Living

Online Workshop • March 14, 2024 • 6:30-8:30 PM • \$10/person
Learn to manage and maintain your septic system!



FREE Homeowner Package with registration Valued at \$7.50

If you have a septic system on your rural property, you will benefit from attending this workshop!

Visit www.yhcounty.ca for more information!

To register, call Yellowhead County at 1-800-814-3935 or online at www.yhcounty.ca/registration



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



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Home Support Worker - Casual
LOCATION: Wildwood, AB
COMPETITION NO. 24-020

Reporting to the FCSS Outreach Coordinator, the Home Support Worker is a casual position responsible for providing a range of homemaking tasks and practical services that support clients to live in their own home with as much independence as possible.

The hourly rate for this position is \$19.65-\$21.40. The hours of work are casual and will vary.

To apply, please submit resumes and cover letters online at www.yhcounty.ca/jobs

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

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

Competition will remain open until the position is filled.

Human Resources
Yellowhead County
Email: 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

Records Management Coordinator
LOCATION: EDSON OFFICE
COMPETITION NO. 24-019

Reporting to the Legislative Services Supervisor, the Records Management Coordinator is responsible for the overall coordination and management of the Records Management System and program for Yellowhead County, providing additional clerical support to the Legislative Services team on an ongoing basis.

The salary range is currently \$61,656 to \$76,454 per year. Yellowhead County offers a competitive benefit plan.

To apply please submit resumes online at www.yhcounty.ca/jobs

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

The competition will remain open until Friday March 15, 2024.

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

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

FCSS Program Assistant (Casual Term Position)
LOCATION: Wildwood Office
COMPETITION NO. 24-018

Reporting to the Family and Community Support Services Supervisor, the FCSS Program Assistant is a casual position responsible for assisting with the delivery of programs to children and youth in Yellowhead County.

The hourly wage is \$19.45 to \$21.40.

To apply please submit resumes online, on our web page <https://yhcounty.ca/jobs/>

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

The competition will remain open until March 15, 2024.

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

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

Facility Fleet Maintenance (Term Position)
LOCATION: EDSON OFFICE
COMPETITION NO. 24-017

Reporting to the Manager of Transportation Services, Facilities and Fleet Maintenance is responsible for the maintenance and care of County owned buildings, grounds and other facilities, and vehicle fleet in Yellowhead County

The salary range is currently \$71,688 to \$88,893 per year. Yellowhead County offers a competitive benefit plan.

To apply please submit resumes online, on our web page <https://yhcounty.ca/jobs/>

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

The competition will remain open until March 15, 2024.

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

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.



REGISTER YOUR EQUIPMENT FOR 2024 WITH YELLOWHEAD COUNTY

Deadline for Registration is April 1, 2024.

All equipment hired by Yellowhead County **MUST** be registered annually by the deadline.

Yellowhead County will select equipment that is the best suited for the work to be done and provide the most cost effective level of service.



For more information or to register your equipment, call the Infrastructure Services Department at (780) 723-4800 or 1-800-665-6030.





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

Join the team at Yellowhead County
www.yhcounty.ca/jobs

We are HIRING!
 Seasonal Agricultural Labourer Positions!
 VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR A FULL POSITION DESCRIPTION AND TO APPLY.
2024 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT
 Approx. May 2 to August 30, 2024



Community WildFire Equipment Info Session Open Houses

Peers Multiplex
March 15 4:00-7:00 PM

Wildwood Hall
March 22 4:00-7:00 PM

Yellowhead County is looking for residents who have equipment and are interested in working with Yellowhead County to assist in wildland firefighting efforts.

Stop in to find how you can work with Yellowhead County Fire Department to assist with wildfire fighting efforts.

Get more information and details at www.yhcounty.ca



Approved Development Permits have been issued authorizing the following:

Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date	Appeal Deadline
D24-011	Plan 0828903 Lot 18A NW-20-49-26-W5 Folding Mountain	Single Detached Dwelling	Feb 14/24	Permitted Use
D24-013	NE-25-53-12-W5 Nojack Area	Accessory Building (Weather Shelter) Variance for Height	Feb 20/24	Permitted Use
D24-015	Plan 1323215 Blk 2, Lot 2 SE-12-54-13-W5 North of Niton Junction	Short Term Accommodations	Feb 20/24	Permitted Use
D24-016	Plan 102204 Blk 6, Lot 12 SW-15-50-27-W5 Brule	Accessory Building (Shop)	Feb 20/24	Permitted Use
D24-017	SW-29-56-14-W5 Shinning Bank Lake Area	Addition to Single Detached Dwelling	Feb 20/24	Permitted Use
D24-012	Plan 1124830 Blk 1, Lot 1 NE-32-51-24-W5 East River Road	Vehicle Repair & Sales	Feb 20/24	Permitted Use
D24-001	Plan 9020485 Blk 3, Lot 12 SE-25-50-26-W5 Seabolt Ridge Area	Recreation Resort-Discretionary	Feb 22/24	Mar 14/24
D24-014	Plan 2321611 Blk 2, Lot 1 SW-8-53-22-W Obed Area	Existing Accessory Buildings - Variance for Side Yard Setback	Feb 23/24	Mar 15/24
D24-018	Plan 882184 Lot 6 NW-20-49-26-W5 Folding Mountain	Short Term Accommodation	Feb 23/24	Permitted Use
D24-019	Plan 072291 Blk 1, Lot 4 NW-20-53-15-W5 Pinedale Area	Single Detached Dwelling with Existing Accessory Building (Shop)	Feb 23/24	Permitted Use
D24-021	SW-29-56-13-W5 Shinningbank Lake Area	Single Detached Dwelling	Feb 23/24	Permitted Use
D24-023	SW-2-54-8-W5 North of Evansburg	Single Detached Dwelling	Feb 26/24	Permitted Use

Yellowhead County Development Permits are also posted online at 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.

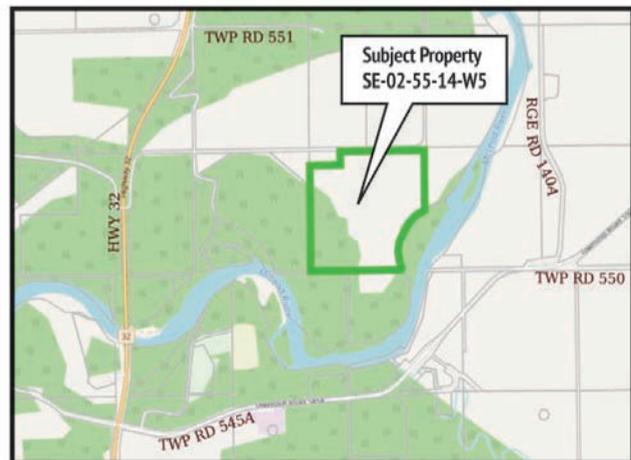
Requirements for appealing the development to the Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/subdivision-appeals.aspx> or by calling 780-427-2444.

SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD HEARING Yellowhead County



A Subdivision and Development Appeal Board hearing has been scheduled for **March 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers, Yellowhead County Administration Building, 2716 - First Avenue, Edson, Alberta, T7E 1N9.**

The purpose of the hearing is to review an appeal received against the approval of **Development Permit D23-118** located at part of the **SE-02-55-14-W5**. Any person who claims to be affected by the decision or permit may be present at the hearing.



Written submissions will be received by the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Clerk, at Yellowhead County, 2716 - First Avenue, Edson, Alberta, T7E 1N9, prior to commencement of the hearing.

Submissions will become public information upon receipt by the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Clerk.



Let's Get Ready to Learn!

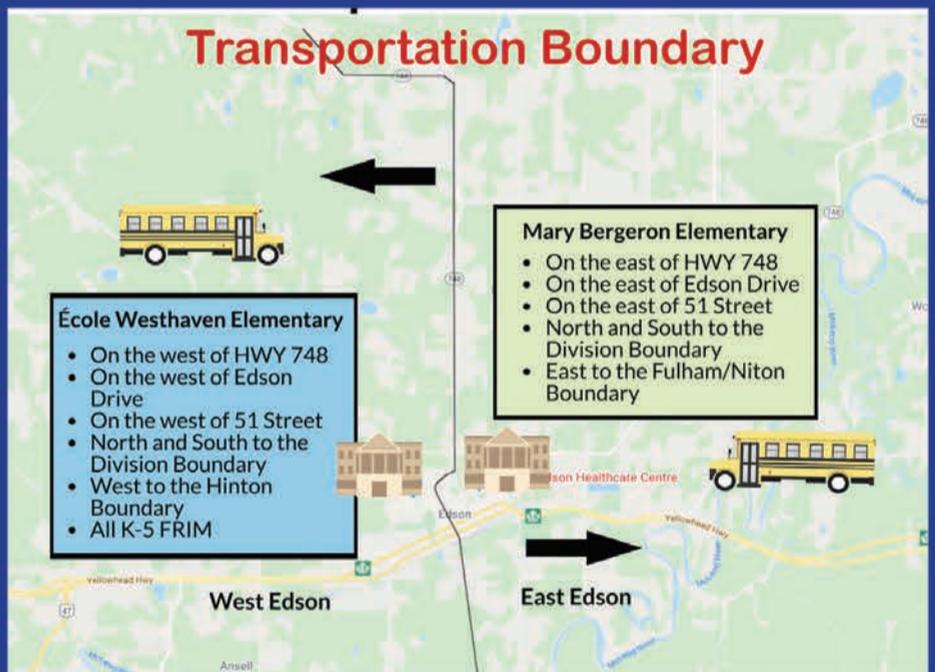
It's Time to Register for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten!



GYPSPD Offers

- Certificated teacher specialized in reading and numeracy instruction
- Play-based, innovative learning
- Early literacy
- Early intervention supports and resources
- Creative and cultural expression

Register by April 30/24 for a chance to win a Chromebook for your family!



Online Registration opens February 1 - spaces for JK and Kinder programs are limited so don't wait to register!

<p>Fulham School English Programs Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 fulhamschool.gypsd.ca 780-693-2186</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE - MARCH 6 9-11 AM</p>	<p>École Westhaven School English Junior Kindergarten Program English, French Immersion, and Montessori Programs Kindergarten to Grade 5 westhavenschool.gypsd.ca 780-723-3397</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE FOR BOTH JK & KINDERS MARCH 13 8:45-10 AM and 5-7 PM</p>	<p>Mary Bergeron Elementary English Programs Kindergarten to Grade 5 mbelementary.gypsd.ca 780-723-5300</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE - FEB. 12 & MARCH 15 9:30-11:30 AM and 1-2 PM</p>
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VISIT SCHOOL WEBSITES FOR MORE OPEN HOUSE DATES & VIRTUAL TOURS
Find out more at www.gypsd.ca

New and improved appliances for Edson Food Bank

by Deanna Mitchener

The Edson Food Bank is thrilled to let the community know they have upgraded their fridges.

Amy Pillage, the Program Coordinator at the Edson and District Food Bank, said, "We were lucky enough to apply for and receive a grant that would allow us to upgrade to commercial and industrial grade fridges. Most of our other fridges are second-hand and donated."

"We've kept a few of the older fridges

in case of emergencies, but are thrilled with these new units. We're also equally thrilled with the ease of installing thanks to our incredible volunteers, including some hard working folks from Bannister GM," said Pillage.

Keeping produce and perishable items at proper temperature is very important when handling foods. So, this is great news not only for the Food Bank, but the community and surrounding area that relies on accessing it.



Plenty of volunteers lent a hand moving upgraded refrigerators into the Edson Food Bank recently.



Putting Business Plans Into Action a Reality for These Successful Young Entrepreneurs!

Board Priority 1: Student Learning



gypsd.ca

communications@gypsd.ca



GNS: Good News Story

If you have ever dreamed of owning your own business, with hard work, solid experience, analytical skills, and a well-designed business plan, you can succeed. École Westhaven Elementary School's Grade 1/2 Montessori class decided that they wanted to put together their own action plan for a coffee shop!

They expressed interest in hosting a coffee shop as part of their service practical learning this term. The students created a list of things they would need to learn in order to be successful which were followed up with presentations and practical learning opportunities on the selected topics.



- These bright young entrepreneurs learned how to:
- make coffee, tea and hot chocolate on their own
 - take an order for a drink
 - fill out an order form
 - recognize the value of Canadian Coins
 - add sums and make change



Students also practiced their communication skills (verbal and written) throughout the process as they politely engaged with a number of adults and students in the building. This multidisciplinary project helped students to deepen their understanding of numeracy, literacy, and practical life curriculums. The students did a wonderful job and thoroughly enjoyed providing yummy treats to the adults in the building.

École Westhaven is the only public school in rural Alberta that offers a Montessori program. It is a student-centered approach that encourages creativity and curiosity and leads children to ask questions, explore, investigate and think for themselves as they acquire skills. The school currently offers a K to Grade 2 program with limited openings so contact the school to learn more about this engaging and exceptional learning option for your young learner in Edson!



West Fraser is a leading diversified forest products company, named for the tenth time as a winner of Canada's Top Employers for Young People for 2023. Are you interested in working for a company that offers both a challenging work environment and a rewarding career path? Edson Forest Products is currently accepting applications for:

Summer Student Employment

- Must be currently enrolled in a two (2) or more year program at a recognized post-secondary institution, leading to a degree or diploma
- Must plan to enroll in the 2024 Fall semester
- Must have strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Must possess our West Fraser values (including integrity, humility, teamwork, frugality, innovation, competitiveness, and respect)
- Must possess the desire to learn, grow and succeed

If this position sounds like the start of a career for you, Submit your resume at www.westfraser.com/jobs. For more information on West Fraser and other career opportunities, visit our website at www.westfraser.com.

West Fraser believes inclusive, diverse teams build a more vibrant workforce, safer operations, and a stronger company overall. We strive to create workplaces and leadership teams that are reflective of the diverse communities we are a part of. We will not discriminate against any applicant for employment on the basis of race, gender, national origin or any other protected legal characteristic.

A Pre-employment Medical and Drug Screening is required.

Apply online at: <http://www.westfraser.com/jobs>

From class to career

NorQuest College supports your career success. Through workplace practicums, you can graduate with experience and receive hands-on training.

Explore our programs at norquest.ca/explore



Break at Edson Drive Water Booster Station causes temporary shutdown



(Town of Edson) February 28, 2024 – Water pressure continues to be impacted in the Tiffin and Edson Drive areas due to a break at the Edson Drive Booster Station.

On Monday, February 26th, a pipe break was discovered at the Booster Station. Upon further investigation the leak appears to be on the INLET pipe entering building, and possibly under the building.

Due to the nature of the break, and potential damage it may cause, the facility will remain closed/isolated until further notice. Once a full assessment of the damage is complete, a plan for repairs will be communicated.

This means the lower water pressure will continue in the zone outlined in the attached map as work continues.

In the event of an emergency such as a structure fire, the system can be started again till the emergency is under control.

We understand the inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience while the situation is dealt with.

Questions or concerns can be directed to the Utilities Department by calling the Edson Public Works Office, Monday to Friday (7:30am-4pm) at 780-723-6461, calling our after-hours emergency number at 780-723-6300, or by emailing utilities@edson.ca.

Tiffin and Edson Drive areas impacted by waterline break at nearby booster station.

Mobile mammography service to visit Edson

(AHS) The Alberta Health Services Screen Test program will be in Edson to provide screening mammograms to eligible individuals aged 45-74.

A mammogram is an X-ray of the breast. Screening mammograms are the best way to find breast cancer early when treatment may work better. Getting screened for breast cancer saves lives.

More information about breast cancer screening and who is eligible can be found by visiting https://screeningforlife.ca/breast/get-screened/#who_should_get_screened.

A mobile mammography trailer will be at the Edson Healthcare Centre (3837 6 Ave.) on March 26-28, April 1-6, and April 8-11.

Appointments are required. Call 1-800-667-0604 to book an appointment or learn more about the program.

Visit <https://screeningforlife.ca/breast/screen-test-mobile-clinics/> for more information and a complete listing of communities that the Screen Test mobile visits.

Screen Test is improving access to cancer screening for thousands of individuals in Alberta communities where mammograms are not readily available.

KID'S CORNER



Meet 5 year old Abby in Kindergarten at Mary Bergeron Elementary School.

Who is your favorite superhero?

Cat Woman, because my favorite animal is a cat and she has cat ears and a suit.



Kid's Corner is sponsored by:
Sand & Gravel Sales/Hauling
Quality Work
Serving Edson & District Since 1974



Canadian Natural

Contract Field Operator

Location: Fox Creek/Whitecourt/Camp, Alberta

Shift: 8 days on / 6 days off, 10 hour days

Description

YOUR OPPORTUNITY:

Reporting to the Production Foreman, you will be responsible for working with the Field team to monitor and optimize well production, pipeline systems and facilities. Troubleshoot equipment and well problems as well as perform ongoing basic and preventative maintenance. You will ensure daily/weekly/monthly reports are accurately completed and archived.

HOW WILL YOU MAKE YOUR MARK?

- Adhere to and engage in safety protocols including hazard identification, equipment lock-out and emergency response
- Troubleshoot equipment problems and perform minor repairs and servicing
- Identify and implement opportunities to increase production through optimization of gas wells, gathering systems and facilities
- Start up or shut down of gas wells, facilities and equipment
- Comply with environmental and safety regulatory requirements and take corrective action as required
- Communicate with operations, maintenance, construction, engineering and management staff
- Daily production accounting
- Ongoing performance improvement including job progression and training
- Remain on-call to provide after-hours coverage for facilities or wells, as needed

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Typically 3+ years of experience in Operations or Maintenance;
- Minimum Grade 12 education complimented by GPO A-D or PFO A-D certification, or a Journeyperson Certification or a Diploma of Technology;
- Valid Class 5 driver's license;
- Developed Computer skills; and
- Strong communication, organizational and team skills, complemented with a strong work ethic.

About Canadian Natural

At Canadian Natural, we strive to live through our mission statement: "To develop people to work together to create value for the Company's shareholders by doing it right with fun and integrity." As a leading oil and gas producer, our diverse combination of assets include light oil, heavy oil, in situ oil sands production, oil sands mining and upgrading facilities, and natural gas. At Canadian Natural, safety is a core value. We conduct all of our operations in a way that identifies, minimizes and mitigates harm to the health and safety of employees, contractors, the public and the environment.

This Operating position is a safety sensitive position and is subject to the relevant requirements of the CNRL Alcohol and Drug policy which includes pre-assignment testing;

All interested applicants, please email or deliver your resume in Microsoft Word format on or before March 15 2024

Email: EdsonAdmin@cnrl.com

Mail: Canadian Natural Resources Limited
5510-1ST Avenue
Edson, Alberta T7E 1V2

EMPLOYERS!

NEED TO HIRE?



Hire a youth participant of Kopar's KEYS Alberta program & receive a wage subsidy up to \$15/hr!



1-877-564-3545

www.koparadmin.ca

**Edson Office:
319 - 59th Street
Edson, Alberta**



Funded by the Government of Canada's Youth Employment and Skills Strategy Program



To place an ad: 780-723-5787 Classifieds go online at www.weeklyanchor.com

CLASSIFIEDS
EMAIL:ANCHORWK@TELUSPLANET.NET

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE:
Tuesday, Noon

FOR RENT

Commercial Property for Lease - 3000 sq.ft., offices, mezzanine, in-floor heating, Sumo, 12' x 12' insulated overhead door, fenced backyard. Contact Marion 780-712-1497

FOR RENT: 2 bdrm, suitable for 1 person only. No children, pets or smoking. Call 780-728-5917 leave message

Commercial shop on 2nd Avenue. 1800 sq ft total. 1200 sq ft of 1800 includes storefront and bay with 14 ft door and 600 sq ft of office space. Call Wayne at 780-712-0660. TFN

Pine Manor Apt: 4102-6 Ave, Edson. 2 bedroom apartment available for February 1. \$1075/month rent, \$1075 damage deposit. Includes heat and water. 780-723-2177 or 780-728-3932

Super Location in town near the highway. Quiet area for resting after work and for pets. 2 bedroom 2 bathroom. Double garage carport. Utilities included \$1500/mth. text Orest 778-875-4853

Half house quiet area. 1 bedroom + den 2 bathroom. Private entrance. The backyard is fully fenced perfect for pets. Huge deck the unit comes with private laundry RV parking and lots of storage space. utilities included. \$1400/mth text Orest 778-875-4853

Completely renovated trailer in Sunset Trailer Park. New windows, floor, paint closet and more. one year lease \$1400/mth short term \$1500/mth text Orest 778-875-4853

HELP WANTED

EYAEYO Cleaning Services Ltd: Looking for 2 Cleaning Supervisor with NOC62024. Wages \$24.10 hourly. Resumes: eyaeyo.cs@yahoo.com mar25

GET YOUR MESSAGE SEEN ACROSS EDSON AND YELLOWHEAD COUNTY. In print and online! The Weekly Anchor Classifieds reach over 10,000 local readers weekly. email: anchorwk@telusplanet.net

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: 10:00 a.m.
- EDSON MENNONITE CHURCH**
6212 - 13 Ave, Edson
Office hrs: Tues 9am-1pm
Office phone: 780-723-4992
Pastor Tyson Moerike
(Call or text 403-966-4705)
Sunday worship - 9:45
- EDSON-PEERS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**
4633-7th Ave., Edson
Ph: 723-5242
Pastor: Ryan Hoogerbrugge
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**
Edson United Church
1214 Edson Drive Edson AB
Phone: 723-3418
- FAMILY OF FAITH CHURCH**
463 72 St., Edson (formerly Glenwood Hall), Telephone: 780-517-7558
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 2:00 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.
- HARVEST OUTREACH MINISTRY EDSON**
(HomeChurch) in Dunamis Centre 5202 -2nd Ave (East Entrance)
Service: Sunday 10am
Ph. 780-725-2222
- CARROT CREEK, NITON JUNCTION & PEERS**
- CARROT CREEK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**
Pastor George Stone
Ph: 795-2132 Church in Peers, Ab
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

AWNA Blanket CLASSIFIEDS

Auctions

Ward's & Bud Haynes FIREARMS AUCTION, Edmonton. Rifles, shotguns, handguns, antiques, ammo, accessories. Call Brad Ward 780-940-8378 to consign your items or collection. FirearmsAuction.ca.

Building Supplies

BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only \$269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach almost 80 weekly newspapers. Call NOW for details. 1-800-282-6903 Ext 225; www.awna.com.

Coming Events

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2024 AUCTION

PROGRAM: Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, Antiques, Militaria, Collections, Estates, Single Items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Toll-Free 1-800-694-2609, Email Us at sales@switzersauction.com or Visit Us @ www.switzersauction.com.

Employment Opportunities

GET YOUR MESSAGE SEEN ACROSS Alberta. The Blanket Classifieds or Value Ads reach over 600,000 Alberta readers weekly. Two options starting at \$269 or \$799 to get your message out! Business changes, hiring, items for sale, cancellations, tenders, etc. People are increasingly staying

home and rely on their local newspapers for information. KEEP people in the loop with our 90 Weekly Community Newspapers. Call THIS NEWSPAPER now or email classifieds@awna.com for details. 1-800-282-6903, 780-434-8746 X225. www.awna.com.

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WE BUY DAMAGED GRAIN - Heated, Mixed, Tough, Light, Bugs, Spring Thrashed....Barley, Wheat, Oats, Peas, Flax, Canola. "On Farm Pickup". Westcan Feed & Grain 1-877-250-5252.
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What's happening, when and where in the community

Community Events

- Jan 10 to Mar 20:** Family Time. Join us on Wednesdays for some indoor fun! Program runs from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Marlboro Community Hall (January 10 & 24 February 7 March 13). Peers Multiplex (January 17 & 31 February 14 March 20). Registration is required. www.yhcounty.ca/registration
- February 15 - March 7:** Pilates at the Robb Multiplex 10:00-10:45am please register online at yhcounty.ca/registration
- February 28 & March 4:** Join us for FireSmart Days 2pm-7pm (Drop in any time) at Galloway Museum
- March 8, April 12:** Join Trail Hall for potluck suppers for more information call 780-728-5641.
- March 10-31:** Yoga in Peers, Sundays 6pm-7pm Peers Multiplex ages 12+ register at yhcounty.ca/registration
- March 11:** Preventing Scams Community Presentations. Evansburg Heritage House-1:30pm Register by calling the Yellowhead County Wildwood office at 780-325-3782 or email kschatz@yhcounty.ca Or at www.yhcounty.ca/registration
- March 12:** Preventing Scams Community Presentations. Peers Multiplex 10:30am Register by calling the Yellowhead County Wildwood office at 780-325-3782 or email kschatz@yhcounty.ca Or at www.yhcounty.ca/registration
- March 14:** Social Services Resource Fair. Open to everyone. Drop in any time from 3:00pm -5:00pm at Wildwood

- Community Hall
- March 14:** Moms Conference 9:00am-3:00PM Renew and Rejuvenate. Register at . At the Wildwood Community Hall
- March 26:** Family Wellness Day. 11:00am-1:30pm at Marlboro Community Hall. Register at yhcounty.ca/registration
- March 27:** Family Wellness Day. 11:00am-1:30pm at Brule Community Hall. Register at yhcounty.ca/registration
- 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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GUEST COLUMN/OPINION

Trudeau's bloated bureaucracy

The number of federal public employees has surged by 40 percent under Trudeau, with no improvement in services.

by Gabriel Giguere

Oscar Wilde once observed that bureaucracy expands to meet the needs of the expanding bureaucracy.

This would seem to be the maxim driving Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's approach to the size of the federal government and its out-of-control growth almost from the day he took office.

By the most recent count, the Canadian government had 357,247 public servants. If all these federal employees were gathered into a single municipality, it would be the 16th most populous in the country, ahead of the city of Markham on the outskirts of Toronto.

Another way to understand this is to consider that there are 100,000 more federal public employees today than there were eight years ago, representing an almost 40 percent increase in the government's labour force over Trudeau's mandate.

Whether you look at this in nominal terms, as a percentage, or in terms of the number of civil servants per 1,000 inhabitants, no other prime minister in the last 40 years has inflated the public service as much.

Given such a mighty increase in staff, one might reasonably assume that the federal government is doing a lot more to help its citizens. Or maybe it is now delivering existing federal

services at lightning speed!

You would be hard-pressed to find many Canadians willing to say this has been the case for them.

Whether because of endless line-ups at the passport office or at customs or interminable waiting on hold with the Canada Revenue Agency, it must be admitted that Trudeau's massive hiring spree has not changed things much in the speed and form of federal service delivery.

If, in fact, anything has changed at all, it's the amount we spend collectively to cover the salaries and benefits of federal government employees.

According to the Parliamentary Budget Officer, total federal employee compensation spending has risen by more than \$21 billion since the Trudeau government took office, reaching \$60.7 billion as per the most recent available data.

To put this \$21 billion in context, it's roughly equivalent to the amount the federal government expects to pay out in employment insurance benefits this year.

That's a heck of a lot of money we're sending to Ottawa to pay for extra civil servants instead of bolstering health and education systems in the provinces or giving taxpayers a bit of a break.

And it's worth mentioning that the effects of an ever-expanding federal public service are not only felt when it comes time to pay taxes.

Given the current business climate, one in which our entrepreneurs are struggling to find qualified workers to

fill their companies' available positions, it's important to recognize that excessive growth in the size of the federal government is detrimental.

At bottom, the larger the pool of workers gobbled up by the federal government, the smaller the number available for private-sector employers.

The outcome of this artificial labour shortage is that our businesses' plans for growth are hindered, and their ability to take on new customers is impaired. This has a significant impact on their revenues and, ultimately, on government revenues as well.

According to data from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, a shortage of skilled workers was responsible for more than \$38 billion worth of business opportunities being turned down by Canada's small businesses last year.

Given our tax rates, one can reasonably assume that this extra business would have provided Ottawa

with a few billion dollars in additional personal income, sales and corporate income tax revenue.

It's also a safe bet that having another 100,000 potential employees in the private labour pool would have helped meet the demand. And they would have had a far more positive impact there than anything we are seeing from federal services.

The Trudeau government would do well to end the hiring spree and conduct a thorough review of its workforce to make sure Canadian taxpayers get the best value for money. Right now, it certainly seems like it isn't the case.

Gabriel Giguere is a Public Policy Analyst with the Montreal Economic Institute. © Troy Media

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Edson RCMP Occurrences

For the week of: Feb 19 to Feb 25, 2024

Traffic violation calls topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences at 16. Other investigations included: Assistance 12; Abandoned Vehicles 2; Alarms/False Alarms 2; Animal Calls 0; Assault 3; Cause Disturbance 4; Fail to Comply with Conditions 0; False/Abandoned 911 Call 7; Family Orders and Agreements 0; Fraud 2, Harassment/Criminal Harassment 1; Lost or found property 3, Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 1; Information File 2; Mental Health Act 1; Mischief or Damage 5; Municipal Bylaws 0; Obstruct/Resist Peace Officer 0; Possess Stolen Property 3; Recovered Stolen Property 0; Sudden Death 0; Suspicious persons 07; Theft Complaints 09; Traffic Complaints 03; Trespassing 6; Unlawfully in Dwelling 0; and Wellbeing Checks 1.

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