Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Spiritwood Museum gains fifth building



Anderson Moving Company floated the Zarudski log cabin from Mildred to the Spiritwood and District Mueseum.

The Spiritwood and District Museum was fortunate to have a building donated to add to their collection this past March. The log cabin, which used to stand out at Mildred, was owned by the Zarudski family.

The original cabin was built in the late 1920s when Walter and Sophie Zarudski's parents immigrated to Canada and settled down in the area. Over the years, the building had begun to deteriorate so the siblings decided to have a replica built on the same site to use as a summer house. All of the original furnishings were kept in the replica.

In recent years the building was not getting much use, so Walter and Sophie made a decision to donate it to the Spiritwood and District Museum along with all of the original furnishings, kitchen items, and décor.

The Zarudskis donated half of the money to have the building floated in to town while the remaining half came from the museum's funds. Fundraising bake sales, looking after funeral lunches, and donations were the main ways that the museum obtains funds according to Vice President Roberta Wasden.

The log cabin, which has an entire-

ly wood interior, has two small bedrooms with an L-shaped kitchen and living area.

Roberta, along with other members of the Spiritwood and District Museum were out on March 13 to watch the building get moved into town. The move was done by Anderson Moving Company from Prince Albert, which brought the building to town via Highway 3. The building was transferred from the trailer to its foundation on Monday, March 15.

The museum members were all very excited to add the log cabin to their building collection and are hoping to be open this summer, dependant on COVID-19 restrictions. The buildings they have are filled with "anything you could want to find," according to Roberta. They have a plethora of agricultural tools, crafts, and community organization items from the surrounding area and a few from beyond.

Despite not being able to host their usual fundraisers like the popular pre-Easter bake sale, the museum has been fortunate to continue receiving donations throughout the year. Normally, the museum would be open through the months of July and August and would be staffed by a summer student.

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Deficit grows in Sask Party's second pandemic budget

In its second budget delivered under the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Saskatchewan Party government projects optimism, even as it predicts its revenues and expenses will leave it with \$2.6 billion worth of red ink.

That's the deficit projection in the province's 2021-22 budget, which was released Tuesday afternoon and forecasts a steady improvement in Saskatchewan's fiscal path over the next three years.

The deficit projection is based on an anticipated \$14.5 billion in revenues, thanks to across-the board increases in revenue sources, the introduction of a tax on vaping and no-burn tobacco products, and a new road use fee for electric vehicles.

Meanwhile, expenses are expected to rise by \$1 billion, reaching \$17.1 billion in the fiscal year.

Despite this, and despite the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic forced it to abandon its initial promise to balance the budget by 2024, the Saskatchewan government is setting a new goal for returning to the black.

In its projections, it will record a \$1.7 billion deficit in 2022-2023, followed by a \$1.2 billion deficit in 2023-2024 and a \$770 million deficit in 2024-25, before returning to balance in 2026-27.

"This Budget builds. This Budget ensures Saskatchewan is ready for growth, as our economy recovers and more investment comes into our province," wrote Finance Minister Donna Harpauer in her minister's message introducing the budget.

"The 2021-22 Budget charts a clear course for our province through the remainder of the pandemic and into the strong recovery that will follow."

So what can the people of Saskatchewan expect for all of the red ink?

For starters, continued investment in the province's COVID-19 response. The province has dedicated \$4.8 billion in supports to help people and businesses weather the storm of the pandemic, \$1.5 billion of which will be in the 2021-2022 financial playbook.

This includes \$90 million through the Ministry of Health for the provision of testing equipment, personal

protective equipment, and funding for additional operating costs due to the pandemic, including the mass vaccine rollout, support for contact tracing measures, the expansion of testing and assessment sites, and additional lab capacity.

There will also be further \$20.7 for the Safe Schools Plan, to provide necessary supports to classrooms across the province.

On the healthcare side, this year's budget sets a record of \$6.54 billion in spending, up \$359.0 million or 5.8 per cent from last year's budget. This increase includes the aforementioned \$90 million for the province's pandemic response plan.

As part of the healthcare spending, the Saskatchewan Health Authority will receive a \$3.96 billion operating grant, while mental health and addictions service will see a record \$458 million investment.

The mental health spending includes \$7.2 million for targeted mental health and addictions services, including specific youth-focused initiatives, investments in suicide prevention and expansion of harm reduction and addictions treatment.

The province will also look to right the ship in long-term care, after the pandemic hit facilities across the province especially hard throughout 2020. To this end, the budget includes \$6 million to hire 100 continuing care aides as part of a broader three-year, \$18.4 million plan to hire a total of 300 aides.

Elsewhere, seniors will see their ambulance fees cut to \$135 from \$275, and the province will spend \$1.4 million to put an additional STARS helicopter in the skies.

On education, the government is expecting to spend \$3.75 billion this fiscal year, up \$391.3 or 11.6 per cent from the 2020-21 budget.

Of this, \$2.66 billion will cover K-12 education, with \$1.96 billion going to the province's school divisions, and \$678.5 million will go to post-secondary education.

The government is also increasing the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship to \$750 from \$500, and increasing childcare funding by \$75.5 million. This increase will create an additional 176 new licensed home-based spaces and 51 new licensed centre spaces, as part of the province's four-year commitment to provide 750 new licensed child care spaces.

Social services also sees a modest increase in its budget, climbing to \$1.56 billion from \$1.49 billion last year.

Factored into this increase is an additional \$3.5 million for the Senior's Income Plan, which will increase monthly payments by \$30 starting July 1. There's also a \$19 million increase to the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability program, and \$9.1 million to address current and anticipated needs

of people with intellectual disabilities.

The province is also giving a \$6.7 million funding boost to third-party service providers, including \$4.2 million to those working with people with intellectual disabilities, and \$2.5 million to those working with at-risk youth and families.

As a key pillar of the government's pandemic recovery plan, capital spending will total \$3.1 billion for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. This includes \$162 million for healthcare capital, with \$7.6 million earmarked for an 80-bed long-term care facility in La Ronge and \$1.4 million designated for ongoing work and design plans for the Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert.

The capital budget also includes \$830 million to maintain provincial roads in highways, with \$520.1 million being invested in twinning Highway 3 west of Prince Albert and multiple stimulus passing lane projects on Highways 2, 3, 12, 14 and 16.

Rounding out the infrastructure budget, the government anticipates spending \$189.9 million on education capital.

In a low-key year for agriculture, the portfolio will see funding of \$386.9 million. This is an increase of \$23.1 million, or six per cent.

Of this, \$150.1 million will go to the Crop Insurance Program and provide average coverage of \$275 per acre. A further \$32.9 million is earmarked for agriculture research.

In a few miscellaneous budget items, the province's Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization will receive \$4 million, in addition to previous \$15 million commitment to support the Centre for Pandemic Research, and \$4.2 million to support vaccine development and construction of a vaccine manufacturing facility.

Municipal Revenue Sharing, meanwhile, will be totalled at \$276, and the budget factors in a few previous announcements, including the one-time SGI rebate, the 10 per cent cut in Sask-Power bills, the reduction of the small business tax rate to 0 per cent, and the Saskatchewan Home Renovation Tax Credit.





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TOWN OF BIG RIVER NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Town of Big River for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection at the office of the Assessor from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 9th, 2021 to June 8th, 2021.

A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person wishing to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the Assessor at 306-469-2112 (Town of Big River) or 1-800-667-5203 (SAMA).

Any person wishing to appeal an assessment is required to file a "Notice of Appeal to the Board of Revision", by June 8^{th} , 2021, with Aileen Swenson, Secretary to the Board of Revision, 31 Wilkie Rd., Regina, SK, S4S 5Y3, (secretary@gkplus.com), along with the applicable fee of \$100.00, made payable to the Town of Big River, which will be returned if the appeal is successful.

Dated at Big River, Saskatchewan this 9th day of April, 2021.

Noreen Olsen Assessor

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

R.M. OF CANWOOD NO. 494

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Rural Municipality of Canwood No. 494 for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection at the Office of the Assessor from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 9, 2021, to June 9, 2021.

A bylaw pursuant to Section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed, and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person wishing to discuss the Notice of Assessment or potential appeal may contact the Assessor at 306-468-2014 (R.M.) or 1-800-667-5203 (SAMA).

Any person who wishes to appeal an assessment is required to file a "Notice of Appeal to the Board of Revision," by June 9, 2021, with Aileen Swenson, Secretary to the Board of Revision, 31 Wilkie Rd., Regina, Sask., S4S 5Y3, (secretary@gkplus.com) along with the applicable fees(s), made payable to the R.M. of Canwood No. 494, which will be returned if the appeal is successful.

Dated at Canwood, Saskatchewan, this 8th day of April, 2021. Lorna Benson, Assessor

Big River completes water system upgrades

As the Town of Shellbrook continues to pursue the idea of building a water pipeline in partnership with the Prince Albert Rural Water Utility and surrounding Rural Municipalities, the Town of Big River has quietly completed major upgrades to its own water treatment and distribution system.

The multi-year project began in 2017, when the Town of Big River submitted an infrastructure project grant application under the New Building Canada Fund's Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component Small Communities Fund program.

The application for the project, which bore an estimated price tag of \$3.3 million, was eventually approved, with funding to be divided equally between the Town of Big River, the provincial government, and the federal government.

The project began in the summer of 2018, starting with work on the sewer lift station wet well, including the installation of two discharge submersible sewer pumps and a rail assembly. According to a Town of Big River brief on the project, this upgrade was made to accommodate the increase in excess water that would result from the planned transition to a reverse osmosis water system.

In its brief, the town says reverse osmosis was the preferred water treatment system option because it would reduce ammonia concentrations and improve the overall treated water quality.

Work continued in two parts in 2019, starting with the installation of two new water wells in the summer

and the beginning of the water treatment plant expansion in December.

Finally, in July of 2020, the Town completed construction of a new pump house at its remote reservoir, then installed approximately 450 metres of new supply line for the distribution system to increase water pressure on Waite Street.

The raw water lines from the new wells were tied into the water treatment plant, and the new water treatment system was deemed operational as of December

As per the Town of Big River's project brief, the full project included:

Building upgrades to the existing Water Treatment Plant including: construction of a building expansion for a pre-treatment filtration system and a reverse osmosis treatment unit, heating and ventilation, and related mechanical, controls, and electrical system.;

Raw water supply and upgrades included drilling and installation of two new water wells (one pumping well and one back up well), raw water supply piping, hydrogeological research, rehabilitation of one existing well, four well pumps, gravel and fencing around the new wells, and decommissioning of the two existing wells;

Distribution system revisions included the construction of a pump house building, construction of approximately 450 meters of a new supply pipeline to the elevated reservoir pumps, mechanical and electri-

Replacement of two pumps, rail installation, and

electrical to the sewer lift station.

The Chronicle reached out to the Town of Big River for more information regarding what necessitated the project, but didn't hear back prior to publication.

TOWN OF SHELLBROOK

www.townofshellbrook.ca



The Town of Shellbrook currently has an excellent opportunity for a part-time Customer Service Representative/Office Assistant.

If you are enthusiastic, enjoy a challenge and love working with the public in a fast-paced office environment; then we want you on our team! In this role, you will need the ability to multi-task & pay close attention to detail. Excellent communication and problem solving skills will be beneficial. A strong background in Microsoft Office is required.

Competition closes when a suitable candidate is found.

Résumés may be submitted to the Town Office at

71 Main Street, or by

mail: Box 40, Shellbrook, SK, SOJ 2E0 email: cao@townofshellbrook.ca fax: (306) 747-3111

COVID case identified at Shellbrook Elementary

With new daily COVID-19 cases ticking upwards, the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division (SRPSD) has identified a case at Shellbrook Elementary School.

The single case was announced by SRPSD director of education, Robert Bratvold, on Saturday evening after being confirmed by the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

The affected classroom, connected staff, and the broader school community have been made aware of the case, which impacts one Grade 2 classroom at Shellbrook Elementary School.

That classroom, and the connected staff members, will have to isolate until April 10. However, since there is no evidence the case was transmitted or acquired at the school, Bratvold says in person learning is slated to resume following the Easter breaks.

"Schools remain safe places to learn. Both the Local Medical Health Officer and the provincial Chief Medical Health officer continue to indicate that because of the protocols in place, schools are safe and are not significant source of transmission," Bratvold said in a statement.

"The division deeply appreciates the support that students, parents and community members have demonstrated, especially as the number of cases in our region climb. We all share responsibility to minimize the risk of COVID transmis-

Despite the challenges, Bratvold says it's important that students, families and community members continue to:

- be diligent in performing the daily health screening and self-monitoring;
- stay home if ill;
- call the HealthLine at 811 if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms;
- practice proper hand hygiene;
- maintain physical distancing as much as
- wear a mask when appropriate; and
- do whatever we can to keep each other

As always, no further details about any of the case will be shared out of respect for

Rabbit Lake Housing Authority Maintenance/Caretaker **Contract Position**

The Rabbit Lake Housing Authority is now accepting applications for a Contract Maintenance/Caretaker.

Rabbit Lake.

The successful candidate will report to the Board of Directors and be responsible for regular seasonal ground maintenance and for performing minor repairs. Basic working knowledge of carpentry, plumbing, heating, electrical, appliance repair and general maintenance is an asset. Must be able to perform manual labour and lifting tasks.

For further details, please contact Joan Dzialo at 306-230-8296. Please submit written resume and remuneration expectations by April 10, 2021 to:

> Attention: Marlene Martens, Chairperson Rabbit Lake Housing Authority Box 128 Rabbit Lake, SK S0M 2L0



The vaccine lies must end

What do polio, smallpox, diphtheria, mumps, measles, and rubella all have in common?

They're all highly infectious – sometimes even fatal – diseases, of course.

But they're also names you rarely hear anymore, thanks in no small part to vaccines.

Vaccines aren't perfect, mind you. Their very nature means there

is always a risk of adverse side effects, and, in exceedingly rare cases, death.

But ask yourself this: would you rather live in a world in which polio kills half a million people each year, as it did in the 1940s and 50s?

Or, would you rather live in a world in which polio is little more than a distant nightmare?

The same question could be asked again for smallpox, which killed an estimated 300 million people in the 20th century.

It could also be asked for the rest of the aforementioned diseases, all of which have astronomically high-



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

er rates of severe illness or death than their respective vaccines.

Assuming they've read this far without throwing their newspapers away in disgust, the hard-line vaccine skeptics in the audience are no doubt preparing any of the half-dozen or so arguments they trot out every time the topic of vaccines come up.

There's the infamous vaccine-autism link,

which has been discredited in study after study since Dr. Andrew Wakefield first published his research findings.

In 2010, the British General Medical Council found Dr. Wake-field had acted unethically towards the 12 children in his study, and revoked his license to practice medicine in the U.K.

Also among the findings against Dr. Wakefield were that he hid the funding source for his research, namely lawyers acting on behalf of families involved in lawsuits against vaccine manufacturers.

While Dr. Wakefield has since

said the vaccine-autism link "isn't proven," he continues to advocate against vaccines and his efforts have inspired a generation of vaccine hesitancy.

Other anti-vaccination arguments include claims that vaccines are part of some shady government conspiracy to microchip the population. Advocates for this claim seem to be unaware that microchips are injected by a much larger needle than is used for a standard vaccine.

Finally, there are those who cite the historical harm done by vaccines, typically by bringing up the United States' Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

This is a legitimate reason to ask questions and raise concerns about vaccines. Vaccines aren't perfect, and there should always be recourse for compensation.

Per the program's own numbers, there were 4,153 compensations paid out between 2006 and 2017.

In that same period, 3.45 billion vaccinations were administered, meaning a compensation rate of about 1.2 per every 1 million vaccines administered.

Of course, one mustn't dismiss



the suffering of those adversely impacted by vaccines. However, the question must be asked: why are vaccine skeptics more worried about the 1.2 in a million who could experience severe side-effects from vaccines than they are about the far greater number dying from preventable illness?

It's okay to be nervous about vaccines. It's good to ask questions and

demand answers, – especially as concerns about an extremely rare brain clot linked to the AstraZeneca vaccine take the media spotlight.

But those answers should come from your doctor, not from some internet conspiracy theorist.

If we want a world without diseases, and without this seemingly unending COVID-19 pandemic, the vaccine lies must end.

Trying to wake up

Dear Editor,

Some time ago I submitted an article in which I requested that someone might send me a copy of "Trump For Dummies." No one sent one, probably because it was still badly needed by its still confused owners.

Now I need a copy of "Math For Dummies," possibly written by Psychology. An article by Mr. Jones in your March 11 paper sadly reported that psychology says that "80% of Canadians have an average or below IQ." My lack of "curiosity" might explain why, but no matter what "psychology" says, I still believe that it is impossible to have 80% below the average in any collection of data.

I must agree with the writer's statement that "too often we elect mediocre politicians." Per-

haps we should make more people feel that we would be happy to have them represent us. We should encourage our most respected and capable people to leave the comfort of their present careers and devote their talents to serving us as our leaders. If we elect persons who are craving for power, perhaps have an undisclosed agenda, and perhaps have the charisma to attract us, and the money to advertise themselves, we should expect disappointing results, and we should "wake up."

Sadly also in our society, too many people show not enough "curiosity" and just listen to, and believe, what they want to believe. A case in point is the large number of Americans and Canadians who still prefer to believe that somehow the election was stolen from Trump. It doesn't seem to matter that all the judges involved, either Republican or Democrat, declared that no significant fraud, which could have changed any results, had occurred.

As for Canadian news, is there any proof that all, or any, of the three news networks get money and/or pressure to influence what they present as news? We know that the CBC is government supported so, if preferred, one can watch news from Global or CTV.

I think we all need to feel concern over American democracy when an armed insurrection can attack the White House, endangering elected government members, and still not get rebuked by the former president and so many others who call themselves Republicans. What would have been the result if the outnumbered police had fled for safety?

Also, the recent shocking demonstrations of Asian hate, African American hate, and hate of Americans should make us think. We need to remember that Europeans have bullied the rest of the world's peoples for hundreds of years. If "lack of curiosity," or ignorance, or lack of humanity, or lack of Christian principles, is the reason we practice racial superiority, it is at our peril. The European nationalities are a small minority of the world's people. If someone has such hatred for hornets that he kicks their home, he shouldn't be surprised that actions of hate are soon aimed at him.

As Earl implies in his article, it is time for us all to wake up.

Fred Grant, Sandwith, Sask.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: In the interest of readers of this newspaper, we will publish opinions of our readers. Letters To The Editor are most welcome; however, they must be signed and include writer's contact information and will only be published with the writer's name on it. Letters should be limited in length and be typed or clearly written. We reserve the right to edit letters depending on available space.

Member of









Minutes of an RM of Leask meeting

(Where necessary, the following minutes may have been edited for clarity or brevity)

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 held in the Leask Community Hall on Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021.

Council Meeting was called to order by Reeve Hamilton at 9:01 a.m.

Present were Reeve Craig Hamilton, Administrator Riannon Nelson and the following Council members: Keith Junk - Division No. 1, Real Diehl - Division No. 2, Joan Sanftleben - Division No. 4, Robert Girod - Division No. 5, Clarke Gossen - Division No. 6, By Telephone: Gordon Stieb - Division No. 3.

Gossen: That the Declaration of Results for the By-Election held on the 10th day of February, 2021, be accepted as presented. Carried

Gossen: That the oath of office by Councillor Joan Sanftleben be accepted. Carried

Diehl: That the minutes of the Jan. 13, 2021, Regular Council Meeting be approved as amended. Carried

Junk: That the minutes of the Jan. 26, 2021, Special Council Meeting be approved as presented. Carried

Sanftleben: That we amend Res #280/20 to correct payment numbers duplicated. The resolution is amended as follows: That we approve payment for the accounts as presented Cheque #12997 - 13057 and 5339 - 5357 in the amount \$286,883.91 and payroll payments #2249 - 2267. Carried

Junk: That the RM of Leask No. 464 adopts the Purchasing Policy as presented. Carried

Sanftleben: That the RM of Leask No. 464 adopts the Overtime Policy as presented. Carried

Junk: That the RM of Leask No. 464 authorizes the administrator to sign the time bank agreement with employee Robert Gallant. Carried

Girod: That the RM of Leask No. 464 authorizes the administrator to sign the time bank agreement with employee Jonathan Nelson. Carried

Gossen: That the RM of Leask No. 464 authorizes the Reeve to sign the time bank agreement with employee Riannon Nelson. Carried

Girod: That the RM of Leask No. 464 adopt the Snow Clearing Policy as presented. Carried

Diehl: That the RM of Leask No. 464 adopt the Ridging Policy presented. The Superintendent of Public Works will ensure Snow Ridging Easements are signed by the land owner before any ridging shall occur going forward. Carried

Gossen: That the RM of Leask adopt the Custom Work and Maintenance for The Policy Organized Hamlet of Pelican Cove as presented. Carried

Sanftleben: That the RM of Leask No. 464 acknowledge the Organized Hamlet of Pelican Cove has withdrawn the application from the Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan QBG No. 1094 of 2020. Carried

Superintendent of Public Works Vince Mitchell arrived 11:02 a.m.

Junk: That the RM of Leask No. 464 agree to sell four used grader tires to the Village of Leask at the price of \$400 per tire. Carried

Diehl: That the RM of Leask No. 464 authorize the Superintendent of Public Works to purchase four grader tires for Unit #14 in 2021 Budget. Carried

Junk: That the RM of Leask No. 464 purchases 2 deer signs, 4 sharp curve signs with lower speed limits and 2 truck approaching/turning signs for Division 1. Carried

Diehl: That we authorize the equipment committee and Superintendent Michell to inspect the gravel truck. If they are of the opinion the truck would meet the RM of Leask No. 464 needs, we agree to the maximum purchase of \$32,500 and applicable taxes. Carried

Junk: That Council Indemnity be approved for payment as presented. Carried

Gossen: That we approve the payments as listed on the attached "List of Accounts for Approval" for a total of \$202,005.32, Council Payments for February, Fire Chief Direct Deposit for February and Payroll Direct Deposit for Pay Periods 1 & 2 for 2021. Carried

Junk: That we receive the Bank Reconciliation for January 2021. Carried

Sanftleben: That we receive the Bank Statement for January 2021. Carried

Girod: That we accept the Budgetary Control Report for February as presented. Carried

Diamond North Credit Union's

2021 Virtual Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:30 pm

The Annual General Meeting is open to the public and our members are encouraged to join. Our Board and CEO will share the Annual Report and highlight our ongoing commitment to our members and

The AGM provides our members an opportunity to engage with the Board and Executive

Online through Zoom Meeting

Interested attendees must register before 5:00 pm April 9 at diamondnorthcu.com/AGM

2020 Consolidated Financial Statements and Annual Report will available after April 2nd at diamondnorthcu.com/statements



Gossen: That we contact Community Planning for direction and input to the rezone request for SW 19-48-07 W3. Carried

Sanftleben: That the administrator report be accepted as presented. Carried

Diehl: That we authorize the Reeve, Deputy Reeve and Administrator to sign the RBC Master Client Agreement for Business Clients Signature Card. Carried

Junk: That the RM of Leask authorizes Administrator Riannon Nelson to apply for a "No Fee Cash Back Business Mastercard" in the RM of Leask No. 464 name. Further to this Administrator Nelson shall be authorized a card limit of \$5,000. Superintendent of Public Works Mitchell shall be authorized a credit limit of \$5000. Mastercard in Superintendent Mitchell's name will be cancelled. Carried

Sanftleben: That we cancel penalty added to Roll #1227 in the amount of \$30.15. This property is reserve status land and exempt from taxation. Carried

Diehl: That the Reeve and Administrator be authorized to sign the Gravel Agreement for the SW 35-47-08 W3 with the registered land owner Perry Dicus. Carried

Junk: That the R.M of Leask No. 464 allocates their population for the Sask Lotteries Grant 2022 as follows:

- Leask Sports Centre: 394
- Leask Library: 78
- Village of Marcelin: 56
- Marcelin Library: 78
- Town of Shellbrook: 80

Girod: That effective June 1, 2020, the rates for custom work by municipal Work equipment will be charged as follows to the R.M of Leask No. 464 ratepayers (rates available at municipal office).

It is further agreed that the minimum charge for any custom work will be \$50.. Non-Ratepayers will be charged an additional 50% of the above rates with an agreement to be made in advance of the commencement of work. Carried

Diehl: That the municipality obtain Positional Personal Coverage for Council at the rate of \$38,442 for 2021. Carried

Sanftleben: That Bylaw 1/2021 attached hereto and forming a part of these Minutes, being a Bylaw of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 to rezone Parcel G, Plan 92B06722, now be read the second time. Carried

Junk: That Bylaw 1/2021 attached hereto and forming a part of these Minutes, being a Bylaw of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 to rezone Parcel G, Plan 92B06722, now be read the third time and adopted. Carried

Council went in camera at 3:53 p.m.

Council out of camera 4 p.m.

Junk: That TAXervice, on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464, be authorized to proceed under the Tax Enforcement Act to acquire title for the following described land: NW 30-48-04 W3 Ext 0, Title No. 144098196, NE 25-48-05 W3 Ext 0, Title No. 144098174. Carried

Stieb: That TAXervice, on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464, be authorized to proceed under the Tax Enforcement Act to acquire title for the following described land: BLK/ Par B – Plan 99PA19155 Ext 1, Title No. 139737965 Carried

Sanftleben: That the correspondence be received and filed. Carried

Stieb: That this meeting be adjourned at 4:22 p.m. Carried

PUBLIC NOTICE

Resort Village of Pebble Baye Public Notice – Basic Planning Statement Amendment

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Resort Village of Pebble Baye (RV) intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, to amend Bylaw No. 2/84, known as the Basic Planning Statement (RPS)

INTENT: A new discussion item and new policies would be added to the residential objective and policy section to provide context and guidance for the development of personal storage lots on lands directly north of the existing municipal boundary. Guidance for "Conservation" land use designation would be added. The entire portion of the BPS dealing with objectives and policies for future development would be replaced to guide future development, zoning, and municipal restructuring. The BPS Map 1 showing land use designations would be replaced with a new map showing areas outside of the existing municipal boundary for intended future land use.

AFFECTED LAND: The replacement of Map 1 would apply to all lands within the RV. NW ¼ 31-48-07-W3M would be affected by new policy for "Conservation" land use designation and Zoning. The balance of the new land use designation, objectives, and policies would apply only to future development and areas outside the current RV boundary; policy for existing development within the RV is unchanged. A copy of the proposed amendment with the new BPS Map 1 is located for public view at www.northboundplanning.ca/public- notification.

REASON: The RV is in the process of restructuring its boundaries to include an area north of its existing northern boundary which includes a couple residential parcels, some agricultural land, and a number of parcels used primarily for off-site storage of residents of the RV. It is advisable for the RV to provide guidance and specific policy as it relates to restructuring of its boundaries and future development in the urban fringe. Should restructuring occur, the RV wishes to have policy guidance in place to direct any future land use and development. Policy implementation for the "Conservation" land use area is being introduced for clarity.

PUBLIC INSPECTION: The RV does not maintain a dedicated office space. Upon request, hard copy (at cost of printing and postage) of the proposed amendment is available through the mail; a free digital copy is available at www.northboundplanning.ca/public-notification.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council will hold a public hearing on **May 7, 2021**, at **7 PM**. Due to current and anticipated COVID public assembly, distancing guidelines, and restrictions, the public hearing will be held digitally with the ability to participate via the ZOOM app or by toll-free phone. **Please note that public hearing is specific to the proposed BPS amendment; the merits any active proposal for municipal restructuring is not being considered as part of the BPS amendment process.** Written submissions are encouraged and must be received by **May 5, 2021**. Parties interested in making in-person representation are required to register in advance by **May 5, 2021**. Please contact the RV Administrator for specifics related to participation via ZOOM. For additional information, please contact (306) 468-3104 or resortpebblebaye@gmail.com. Written submissions can be mailed: c/o Terry Lofstrom – Administrator, Box 449, Canwood, SK SOJ 0K0

Issued at the RM of Canwood this 1st day of April, 2021.

Terry Lofstrom – Administrator – Resort Village of Pebble Baye

Minutes of a Town of Spiritwood meeting

(Where necessary, the following minutes may have been edited for *clarity or brevity)*

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held via Sasktel Teleconference Call on March 9, 2021 at 7 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor George Pretli, Councillor Kiera Andres, Councillor James Bedi, Councillor Brad Nemish, Councillor Shannon Beaulac, Assistant Administrator Brenda Beaulac, and CAO Rhon-

A quorum being present, Mayor Gary

von Holwede called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

George Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That the Accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 31325 to 31337 & CAFT payments 297-319 in the amount of \$52,162.30 be approved as presented. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 31338 to 31358 in the amount of \$13,322.91 be approved as presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of January 2021 be approved as presented. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we hire Provincial Pothole & Paving for hot mix asphalt repairs in town for two days as per their daily rate of \$6,250 plus tax. And, we hire them to perform any asphalt repairs adjacent to the sidewalk on Block 1 & 2 of Main Street as required resulting from the sidewalk repairs project. Carried

Bryan Wingerter: That we obtain quotes for curbstop in need of repairs on the west side of Block 1 & 2 Main Street. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we sell the Heil Garbage Compactor - 20yd Rear Load, in its as is condition, to Bruce Rogers in the amount of \$300 plus applicable taxes with the condition of payment and removal by April 30, 2021. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

George Pretli: That we advertise for two full-time summer student positions for the 2021 season in the Spiritwood Herald and on-line with Sask-

Advertising Deadline is

Jobs for one week, as well as on the Town Facebook page. This position will run from approximately June 21 to Aug. 31, 2021 for approximately 10 weeks. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Car-

Bryan Wingerter: That we approve forwarding the outstanding utility account past due 90 days as of March 19, 2021 to the Tax Roll as attached to form part of the minutes. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That the required Form H Notice of Call for Nominations be posted and published in the Spiritwood Herald, as per the Local Government Election Act, for the Municipal By-Election in May 2021. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Brad Nemish: That we send Brad Nordquist to the Class 1 Wastewater Treatment & Collection training offered by ATAP in Saskatoon in the 2021 year. Seconded by Kiera Andres. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we support Spiritwood Area Recreation Culture & Sport Inc. application submission, dated March 9, 2021, to Canada Healthy Communities Initiatives for the Kidzland Enhancement Project. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Kiera Andres: That this meeting be adjourned at 7:35 p.m. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Limited Capacity. Tuesday 9 am - 5 pm; Wednesday 9 am - 5 pm; Friday 9 am - 5 pm

LEOVILLE: Wapiti Regional Library - Appointment only. Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 2 pm

SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Curb Side Pickup. Tuesday 12 pm - 4 pm; Wednesday 12 pm - 4 pm

BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - Appointment only. Wednesday 11 am - 6 pm; Friday 11 am - 5 pm; Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www. wapitilibrary.ca.

BIG RIVER: Wapiti Library - Appointment Only. Wednesday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm; Thursday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm. Phone # 306-469-2152

CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Appointment only. Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 4 pm; Friday 12 pm - 4 pm. Call 306-468-2501 to

DEBDEN: Wapiti Library hours: Appointment only. Monday 2 pm - 7 pm; Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

LEASK: Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Limited Capacity. Tuesday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Friday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm - 4 pm

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - Appointment only. Tuesday 2 pm - 7 pm; Thursday 2 pm - 8 pm; Saturday 9 am - 2 pm. For information on all your library needs, please contact 306-226-2110.

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Branch of the Wapiti Library located at 105 Railway Ave., West (Provincial building). Library Hours: Limited capacity - Monday 2 pm - 6 pm; Tuesday 12 pm - 8 pm; Wednesday 2 pm - 8 pm; Thursday 12 pm - 6 pm; Friday 9 am - 4 pm.

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Dated this 8th day of April, 2021.

Leanne McCormick CAO







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Saskatchewan Provincial Park campers can now browse the new reservation website and create an account in preparation for the 2021 campsite reservation launch, beginning April 12.

This new reservation website will open at 7 a.m. each day at http://parks.saskatchewan.ca. Customers who prefer to make a reservation via the call centre will still be able to do so by calling 1-833-775-7275 starting April 12.

Hon. Jeremy Harrison MLA for **Meadow Lake** jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

Hon. Scott Moe, Premier MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net



Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

Variety is key for potential for pulses

It is interesting how ideas have percolated to fill this space on a weekly basis for more than 30-years now.

Earlier last week my better half sent me a link regarding pulse exports and India, which I had more or less forgotten by the time I sat down to write a column, and frankly probably would have, except my better half had also questioned what we might have for lunch on Easter Sunday.

There was leftover ham in the freezer and she hadn't made homemade baked lentils for ages, so it was off Saturday to buy some bulk lentils, and well they turned out great, and here I am thinking lentils, and by extension pulse crops.

Pulse crops, of course, have a huge potential as they are eaten as a protein source in many countries. But knowing which pulses to grow in a given year is a bit of a lottery pick because there are such a range of crops within the world of pulses.

For example, at the local bulk food outlet my better half had wanted



black lentils for the baked dish. She had made them before and they looked unique in the bowl and tasted great.

There were no black lentils, only brown and

red. She chose brown, and they turned out great, although didn't have the same dynamic look of the black ones.

For us, a lentil is a lentil is a lentil is a lentil, but in world markets there are a range of colours and each tends to have rather specific markets. So while red lentils might go up in price, the brown may not, and therein lies a challenge for producers in tracking numerous markets.

It's the same with yellow and green peas, and of course the variety of beans grown is huge, although not all are viable crops on the Canadian Prairies.

The variety within in pulses is its greatest potential as a crop for Canadian farmers, but also the greatest challenge.

Most years there will be a pulse crop with a solid upside in terms of price, but since some types have a rather limited niche market they are also prone to price swings based on rather minor production shifts.

So producers need to stay very focused on markets and most of the key ones are on the other side of the world, with India driving much of the pulse demand, with Pakistan, China and Turkey also key.

Understanding the complexities of the varied pulse sector, and its associated markets are certainly more challenging than a much better understood canola or wheat market, but those challenges do offer opportunities

As the protein market changes, the opportunities are only going to grow

Minutes of an RM of Blaine Lake special meeting

(Where necessary, the following minutes may have been edited for clarity or brevity)

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Blaine Lake #434 which was held in the RM's Municipal Office, at 118 Main Street, on Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021.

Present Council Members and Administration attended as follows: Gerry Strelioff - Reeve, Michael Chudskov - Division 1, Courtney Swystun - Di-

vision 3, Alan Lavoie - Division 4 in Council Chambers, and Jennifer Gutknecht - Administrator.

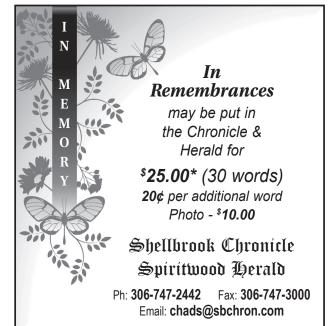
Absent: Division 2 - Vacant, Division 5 - Vacant, and Division 6 - Vacant (editor's note: Division 5 councillor John Priestley resigned at council's Jan. 19 meeting, while Division 2 and 6 councillors John Serhienko and Robert Dagenais resigned at the Feb. 16 meeting.)

With quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Reeve Strelioff at

8:56 a.m

Swystun: : That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 move in camera to discuss Human Resources, compliant with s. 120(2) of The Municipalities Act, and on the basis that the discussions that take place during that meeting apply to s. 16(1) (a), (c) and (d) of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the time being 8:56 a.m. Carried

Continued on page 8





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Youthful Bedard living up to hockey hype

Hey, hockey fans, there's another Connor Superstar lacing up his skates, ready to show up on your Hockey Night in Canada TV screens in oh, about four years.

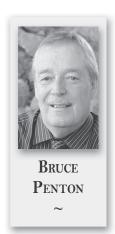
This will be no shock to those who have more than a passing interest in hockey, but the occasional fan may have not yet heard of Connor Bedard, a 15-year-old from North Vancouver who is playing major junior this year with the Regina Pats.

Bedard is the first Western Hockey Leaguer given 'exceptional player' status, allowing him to play before the age of 16. And how is he doing so far? Well, in his first eight games, in which the Pats scored 26 goals, Bedard had a team-leading 13 points, six goals and seven assists. NHL scouts, who were drooling before, now carry a bucket whenever they observe Bedard in action.

Is he ready for the big time? Last season, as a 14-year-old playing in the under-20 Canadian Sports School Hockey League, Bedard was dominant, scoring 43 goals and 41 assists in 36 games to lead the league. One of his summer on-ice workout partners of late has been Matt Barzal of the New York Islanders.

John Paddock, the general manager and vicepresident of the Pats, says Bedard, who won't turn 16 until this July, "can do a little bit of everything" — unable to isolate one aspect of Bedard's game as his most outstanding. Paddock, who played parts of five seasons in the NHL and was heador assistant coach for three NHL teams during another eight campaigns, has seen a lot of hockey players in his day and says, if he has to pick a comparative player, Tampa Bay's Steven Stamkos comes to mind, considering how he gets the one-timer blast away from the left circle.

Is Bedard your best player? A 15-year-old? Paddock demurs. "Well, we have a 19-year-old defenceman who would probably be our



best player, but it's close," he said.

Paddock says he knows he'll have Bedard for only two seasons beyond the current COVID-19-truncated season before the NHL comes calling, and hopes he can build a winner around his young superstar during that period. "We're going to try," he said.

All the attention the 5-foot-9, 179-pound Bedard has garnered since being identified as a hockey prodigy around the age of 12 has not gone to his head, said Paddock. "He was really brought up the right

way," he said. "He's one of those rare players who's been preparing for this his whole life. He's ready mentally."

Meanwhile, the NHL's best player, the Oilers' Connor McDavid, won't be the league's only Connor Superstar for long.

- Comedian Argus Hamilton, via Facebook, on the Rover's search for water on Mars: "They should've sent me there with my golf clubs. I'd have found water by my third tee shot."
- Colour commentator Ray Hudson of beIN Sports TV, after Barcelona's Lionel Messi put on a one-man show to score against SD Huesca: "He needs help like a shark needs a dentist."
- Jack Finarelli, from sportscurmudgeon.com, on one of five new sports at the Olympics in Japan this summer: "Sport Climbing: Athletes here will scale a vertical wall. I guess this is like the hundred-metre

dash staged at right angles to one another."

- RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "A New Yorker is selling an ultra-strong coffee called Death Wish, which carries the warning 'many sleepless nights'. Hey, it's cheaper than Jets tickets."
- Currie again: "A brawl reportedly broke out at a New Hampshire retirement centre during a bingo game. It looked like a hockey fight, except with more teeth."
- Greg Cote of the Miami Herald: "New Zealand defeated Italy in the final of America's Cup sailing in Auckland. Home-water advantage?"
- Posted on the Lethbridge Hurricanes' scoreboard during a fan-less hockey game: "Free beer for all in attendance."
- Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Ohio State safety Marcus Hooker was arrested on DUI charges after he passed out behind

Minutes of an RM of

the wheel while waiting in a McDonald's drive-thru line.Defence lawyers can't decide whether to enter a plea of guilty, not guilty or 'I deserve a break today.'"

- Another one from RJ Currie, on marine biologists' claim that many sharks take a break each spring to focus on eating, mating and swimming in warm water: "If we're talking San Jose Sharks, add golf."
- Another one from Perry: "Evander Holyfield, 58, and Mike Tyson, 54, are scheduled to meet once again in the ring on May 29.Winner becomes the first boxer in history to boast all four belts WBA, WBC, IBF and AARP."
- Troubled ex-big-leaguer Lenny Dykstra, via Twitter, not making anyone forget Cal Ripken Jr.: "Guess who hasn't been arrested in now 34 consecutive months."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo. ca

Praise & Worship

Regular services, Sunday school and special services will be listed.

PARTNERS IN FAITH

Lutheran/United/ Christchurch Anglican, 137-2nd St. W. Spiritwood Worship 11:00 a.m. Rev. Sarah Urano

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Rev. Don Skinner

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Leoville - 9:30 a.m.
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Glenbush Worship - 11:00 am

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Pastor David Jensen
3rd Sunday - 10 am
Worship
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Mont Nebo Wed., 7:30 pm -Bible Study & Prayer Sun., 10:30 am - Worship Pastor Bill Klumpenhower

LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

Spiritwood Sun., 11 am - Worship Service & Sunday School

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service 1st Sun., 7:30 pm - Hymn Sing Pastor Floyd Berg

COWBOY CHURCH

Spiritwood Every Wednesday Night 7 pm Spiritwood Legion Hall Pastor Rick Martin

Blaine Lake special meeting

Continued from 7

Delegation: Mike Morris, SARM (Legal Services) arrived 9:05 a.m., departed 9:53 a.m. (via teleconference). Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 move out of camera, the time being 10:15 a.m.

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 direct Administration to write a letter to WCB regarding the issues discussed during the closed meeting. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 acknowledges receipt of Robert Dagenais' resignation as Councillor for Division 6, effective Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2021. Carried

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 acknowledges receipt of John Serhienko's resignation as Councillor for Division 2, effective Monday, Feb. 22, 2021, Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 amends resolution #118/21 to read: That upon Administration's receipt of Councilor Dagenais' written resignation, the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 sets April 14, 2021 as Election Day for the Division 6 By-Election at the Municipal Office, from 9 a.m.

to 8 p.m. as well as the Advance Poll on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at the Municipal Office, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., being held concurrently with the Division 5 By-Election. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 amends resolution #120/21 to read: That upon Administration's receipt of Councilor Dagenais' written resignation, the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 appoints Councilor Chudskov to provide coverage of Division 6, in addition to his duties in Division 1 & temporary duties in Division 5, until the Council vacancies are is filled. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 sets April 21, 2021 as Election Day for the Division 2 By-Election at the Municipal Office, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., as well as the Advance Poll on Saturday, April 17, 2021 at the Municipal Office, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 appoints Councilor Swystun to provide coverage of Division 2, in addition to his duties in Division 3, until this Council vacancy is filled. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 adjourns, the time being 10:39 a.m.

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Shellbrook Adult Study 306-747-7235 Canwood 11:00 a.m. - Worship Pastor Glenn Blazosek 306-468-2138 Sunday 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Pastor Lorne Valuck

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UNITED CHURCH

Shellbrook - Knox United Sun., 10 am - Worship 306-747-3434 Student Minister Jon Worrall Big River Sundays 10 a.m.. - Worship at Anglican Church Rev. Dave Whalley 306-747-2804

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Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel 109 Railway Ave. W. Blaine Lake 306-497-3316 Pastor: Rick Schellenberg Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Worship

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Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m. Fr. Dong Doan Big River - Sacred Heart Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass Whitefish Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass. Victoire Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass. Fr. Dong Doan St. Agatha's - Shellbrook Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.

St. Henry's - Leask Mass - Sunday - 9 a.m. Mistawasis 2^{nd} & 4^{th} Sundays, 1:30 p.m.

Fr. Phong Tran **SEVENTH DAY**

ADVENTIST 407-2nd Ave E, Shellbrook Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath School Sat., 11:00 am -Worship Broadcast on VOAR 92.1 FM Pastor Liviu Tilihoi 306-747-3398



Missing: Draper Lee Jim

Date of Birth: Dec 7, 1978

Eves: Brown

FROM: Battleford Area, SK Weight: 150-160 Lbs.

MISSING SINCE: Feb 21, 2006 Height: 5' 9" Hair: Dark Brown

File: 3186 SR

CHARACTERISTICS: Draper had his head shaved bald; he has a "yin yang" tattoo on his left upper arm.

PARTICULARS: Draper was last seen wearing a black Adidas bunny hug, blue jeans, white hat and a beige colored jacket. Draper sometimes goes by the name "Dray".

Anyone with information, please contact Local Police or Child Find at 1.800.513.3463 or 306.955.0070 All calls are confidential you do not have to leave your



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Planting a tree part II: Putting it in the ground

By Sara Williams

Once the hole as been prepared, set the root ball on top of the mound, spreading out the roots so that they grow away from the trunk and as horizontally as possible. The trunk flare should be even with the natural grade of the soil. In areas of poor drainage, it can be an inch or so higher. Prior to backfilling, ensure that the tree is upright and straight with its "best face forward" facing where it will be viewed.

Once the tree has been positioned, backfill the hole, tamping it gently to remove large air pockets and to ensure than the roots are in firm contact with the soil of their new home. Then form a low "dike" or berm of several inches of soil around the outer perimeter of the planting hole to act as a well or catchment basin so that when watered, the water will stay where it is intended, and percolate downward to the roots rather than run off.

Water the area within your dike slowly and thoroughly, to the depth of the root ball and a few inches into the soil below. The object is to gently settle the soil and to encourage deeper and wider rooting.

Fertilizer is seldom needed. In over forty years I have never fertilized a tree and many are now towering specimens of 40 to 50 ft or more.

Staking is seldom necessary unless the area is extremely windy and unsheltered. Research has shown that non-staked newly planted trees establish faster and produce stronger roots compared to staked trees. Most trees do not need to be staked.

Next, mulch! Over the course of those many trees and decades, I have gone through about a dozen semi-truck loads of mulch. I used mainly post peelings (the bark and other stuff that is peeled off in the manufacture of fence posts) from our northern mills. It is applied at a depth of about four inches over the soil surface, up to and including the dike. Depending on weather, it generally lasts three to four years.

(An interesting aside? A friend who comes to pick mushrooms, one day mentioned that many of the ones that she finds in "the pasture" (now a forest) are native to the boreal forest and should not be here. Our guess - the spores came with the post peelings and settled in.)

Once mulched, I have found that a thorough and deep watering once a week through the first growing season works well. Don't hurry and skimp. For a few summers I hired my neighbour's grandchildren to do the watering of a few hundred newly planted trees. Their instructions? I would provide a lawn chair and a kitchen timer. They were to bring a book. They were to set the timer for 8-10 minutes per tree, watering with a very long (600 ft) hose from the well, and then move to another tree. It was summer, so I did not demand a book review. This system worked well.

After the first season, water thoroughly every two weeks or as needed. (Feel under the mulch to see if it is moist or dry.) By the third season, they should be well established and on their own.

Sara Williams is the co-author, with Bob Bors, of Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens.

This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS; saskperennial@hotmail.com). Check our website saskperennial.ca) or Facebook page (facebook.com/ saskperennial).

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Mulched trees 25 years after planting on sand - a forest. *Photo credit: Hugh Skinner.*



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