

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Shellbrook Food Bank hands out 44 Christmas hampers



A small crew of Shellbrook Area Ministerial Food Bank members was on-hand just before Christmas, helping distribute 44 food hampers. Back row, from left to right: Pastor Lorne and Donna Valuck, Lorette Palm, Linda Lundy, and Pastor David Bodvarson. Front row: Pastor David and Leslee Whalley.

The tail end of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the supply chain issues and sky-high inflation that followed in its wake, have made life more difficult for everyone, everywhere. But even in the face of an affordability crisis, one thing remains unchanged each and every holiday season: the people of Shellbrook and the surrounding area are always willing to help those who are struggling most.

"The community has been extremely generous," said Linda Lundy, coordinator of the Shellbrook Area Ministerial Food Bank, noting that the kindness came not just from Shellbrook, but from Leask, Canwood, and other communities as well.

"While our food donations were down this year, the monetary donations were up, so it was easy to get what we specifically needed."

The spotlight on the community's gen-

erosity shone brightest as Christmas neared and representatives of the food bank and a small team of volunteers, including the Shellbrook Kinettes and their children, gathered at the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly to put the food bank's annual Christmas food hampers together.

"The people who need the food bank are feeling pretty desperate at this time of year. [They say] 'tis the season'. But for some, it really isn't the season," Lundy says of the food bank's importance around the Christmas time in particular.

This year, the food bank stuffed 44 hampers full of all the essentials for a Christmas dinner, as well as enough food staples to last most recipients at least a couple of weeks. With a large number of families seeking food bank assistance this year, those Christmas hampers were expected to provide in the neighbourhood

of 120 people with a Christmas meal.

The 44 Christmas hampers assembled this year marks a notable increase from last year's total of 35. Lundy says this makes sense given what she saw throughout the year.

"There's been a major increase in the usage throughout all of this past year, and I only see that getting more so," she said.

Luckily, she adds, the community's generosity was also consistent throughout 2022.

Recognizing the far-reaching benefits of the Shellbrook Area Ministerial Food Bank, which helps people from Leask, to Canwood, to Mont Nebo, to Briarlea, churches from Leask and Canwood stepped up their support.

Though they're also feeling the sting of inflation, local businesses also stepped in to fill the need where they could. And,

in keeping with a long-standing arrangement with the food bank, the Green Leaf Hutterite Colony donated 500 pounds of potatoes and offered a discount on the chickens for the Christmas hampers.

Lundy says even individuals stepped up in ways they may not have in years previous.

"This fall, people were really generous with fruit and vegetables from their gardens. It was one of the first times I've been able to supply fresh fruit and vegetables with hampers," she said.

With all this kindness on display, and Lundy expecting a bit of a lull in food bank activity through the end of January, the food bank finds itself on sure footing to start 2023.

"Sometimes, after [the holidays], there's very little to work with, but we're in good shape this year. We're starting off the year with a very positive outlook."



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Shellbrook adopts water improvement strategy

Where it once seemed like it was full steam ahead for the Town of Shellbrook's partnership with the Prince Albert Rural Water Utility (PARWU) on a water treatment plant and intermunicipal water pipeline, council for the town of Shellbrook now appears to be waiting to see how the cards land over the next few months.

This new philosophy to solving the town's problems with water is outlined in the Town of Shellbrook's Water Improvement Strategy, which was approved in late 2022 and lays out two potential paths for the town to pursue.

First, however, the document sets out the town's primary goal to be delivering improved water to residents and rural customers in three to six years, with an eye to limiting or minimizing capital input or debt, and mitigating all liability for assuming debt through partnerships. The town also would prefer to purchase water, rather than invest in infrastructure.

"We're all cognizant of the nature of our water... what we get for water quality, and what we would like for water quality," Shellbrook Mayor Amund

Otterson said. "What we get and what we'd like aren't the same thing."

The first option to improve the quality of Shellbrook's water would be to continue to see how its partnership with PARWU plays out.

As of late 2022, PARWU had received high-level estimates of the costs associated with the three main elements of the project — the water treatment plant, the underwater river crossing, and the pipeline to Shellbrook. However, these estimates suggested inflation had pushed the price tag of the project as high as \$80 million, marking a significant increase over initial estimates of \$52.5 million.

Mayor Otterson says PARWU will have a clearer picture of the true cost of the project in the first quarter of 2023, at which time the utility's board will have decisions to make about the future of the project. Having recently applied for grant funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, it may also have a better idea of how the costs of the project can be covered.

"What would make it feasible is if PARWU is able to get an influx of

capital at no cost (meaning grants)," Mayor Otterson said. "I'm encouraged in the sense that it's a regional project, which is kind of the buzz word these days. If you can do something regional, you have a better chance of receiving funding."

On the other hand, Mayor Otterson admits he was discouraged but not surprised to see the projected cost of the project jump as much as it did. In the absence of significant grant funding, he says, this would mean a significant increase in how much the town, and ratepayers, would pay for water through PARWU.

With so much still up in the air, PARWU has yet to provide the town with an idea of how much it might charge for water. In the meantime, Mayor Otterson says the town won't be committing to anything.

"From Shellbrook, all it has is a letter of support," he said. "The Town will not sign an agreement until all the options are investigated."

Further muddying the waters for PARWU and its plans are recent developments in its relationship with the City of Prince Albert.

Currently, PARWU buys water from the city at a rate of \$1.40 per cubic metre (1,000 litres) and upcharges customers (meaning, Otterson says, that PARWU customers pay more for water than Shellbrook ratepayers pay on their entire utility

bills).

One glaring issue with this arrangement is that the city can shut off PARWU's water with just 24 hours notice if it has an issue with its own supply. Additionally, the city's concerns about its own supply have made it reluctant to allow PARWU to expand its customer base.

While building a new water treatment plant would mitigate both these issues, a recent Prince Albert city council meeting saw the city manager state that the city only uses 49 per cent of its treatable water capacity, and that the city's water supply is adequate to accommodate 50 years of growth. Council, meanwhile, unanimously voted to allow PARWU to pursue a partnership with the Little Red River First Nation, opening the door for it to expand to the north of the city.

As it waits for the PARWU scenario to play out, the Town of Shellbrook is keeping an open mind to a second possibility for improving the municipal water supply: resurrecting its abandoned \$7.8 million plan to upgrade the existing water treatment plant, either on its own or with a partner.

One potential partner for the project is SaskWater, a Crown corporation that serves in different capacities across the province, whether it be operating water treatment plants for the city of Meadow Lake, providing assis-

tance to communities that don't have qualified operators, or operating pipeline systems.

"They could get involved in the capital. In effect, they would own and operate our water treatment plant, and we would still operate our distribution system," Mayor Otterson explained. "In that scenario, SaskWater would charge us a per cubic metre fee, and we'd have to cover the costs of distribution, pressurizing the water, etc."

The town's original plan to upgrade the municipal water treatment plant was first tabled in 2019 and included the installation of a third greensand filter, the servicing of the two existing filters, and upgrades to the piping within the plant.

Work for later stages of the project would have included increasing the town's water storage capacity to bring it in line with Water Security Agency (WSA) regulations, which state that municipalities requiring fire protection should have storage equal to at least double the average daily consumption.

The town would have

also sought to address the WSA's concerns over bro-mide in municipal water, which is a problem caused by the amount of chemical needed to treat the town's hard water supply. As part of the solution to this problem, the town was eyeing a switch to a blended reverse osmosis system, which would have allowed the water to be treated through a safer injected chlorine process.

With the cost for this plan projected to be as much as 20 per cent higher now, Mayor Otterson says rates through an agreement with SaskWater would depend on how much the town puts into the project and what grant funding is available.

Either way, he says increases in water rates will be unavoidable.

"No matter what we do, there's going to be a significant increase in costs. What happens there will be a decision of council," he said, noting that costs could be passed on either directly or through taxation.

"We will be looking at our [Water & Sewer Utility Rates & Fees] bylaw in the new year, in preparation for any increased costs."

Nadine Wilson MLA
Saskatchewan Rivers

Merry Christmas
and a
Joyous
New
Year!



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Lake Country Co-op Agro in Shellbrook will be **closed** from **January 8th through 15th, 2023**. We will re-open at our **new location** **400-7th St. E., Shellbrook** **8:30 a.m. on Mon., Jan. 16, 2023**

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For **emergencies** please call **306-747-7361**



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AT 6:00 P.M.

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Rabbit Lake Housing Authority
Maintenance/Caretaker
Contract Position

The Rabbit Lake Housing Authority is now accepting applications for a Contract Maintenance/Caretaker. The Housing Authority manages 7 senior units located in 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 January 9, 2023 to:

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



CHECK IT OUT!

Shellbrook Chronicle Website www.shellbrookchronicle.com Spiritwood Herald Website www.spiritwoodherald.com

Sullivan named December Volunteer of the month

Alison Sullivan has been proclaimed as SARCS' Volunteer of the Month recipient for December 2022.

Bevra Fee of the Northern Lakes Economic Development Corp (NLEDC) awarded Sullivan the token of appreciation.

Currently, Sullivan serves as the secretary for the Spiritwood Lions Club, sits on the Northern Lakes Economic Development board, and helps Spiritwood Area Recreation Culture and Sports (SARCS) when it's in need of a helping hand. She's also assisted with activities put on by the Spiritwood Horticulture Society, the Resolute Community Group, and the Spiritwood Spirited Players.

When she was growing up in Ontar-

io, Alison says that her mother was a very active volunteer in their community and often brought her and her siblings along when she served on events. Over time, volunteering became a part of who she was, and when she moved to Spiritwood in 2017, she was looking for opportunities to volunteer in the community.

When Sullivan was awarded December's Volunteer of the Month award, she was surprised and grateful.

"I don't believe most people volunteer to receive recognition for it. They do it because there is a need for it, especially in communities the size of Spiritwood," Sullivan said. "Most of the events and activities that we are fortunate to have available are made

possible and affordable through the work of volunteers. I am just doing my part to help keep the community active. It is nice to know that the work is appreciated."

Sullivan adds that she enjoys staying active and that she is fortunate that there are many opportunities in the winter months to do so, thanks to SARCS. She keeps busy with yoga, curling, bowling, and the occasional hockey tournament.

Apart from sports, she enjoys cooking and painting. She currently has some of her artwork on display at the Main Street Gallery as part of the group show 'One for the Many', which also features work from Rick Pilling, Mavis Bellilse, and Delores Rey.



Alison Sullivan is SARCS' Volunteer of the Month for December.

Hoback hosts Christmas dinner for Ukrainians

The spirit of the season was on prominent display in the lead-up to Christmas, as Prince Albert MP Randy Hoback hosted a festive celebration for 36 Ukrainian families that have settled in the community since the province began taking in refugees from the conflict with Russia.

Hoback said the idea to host a Christmas party came to him when he was sorting through donations for the newcomers at his constituency office. It was his hope that the gathering would help the families feel a little bit more at home over the holiday season.

"It was just trying to find the appropriate time and date where it worked to bring everyone together," Hoback said. "We were kind of flying by the seat of our pants here a bit, but I think we had a

pretty successful turnout."

With organizational assistance from Sonya Jahn, a local healthcare worker who has been looking after Ukrainian newcomers in the community, and the help of local officials, the party came together at Plaza 88 in Prince Albert on Dec. 19.

As coincidence would have it, this just happened to be St. Nicholas Day, a special Ukrainian tradition that marks the beginning of the holiday season. On the day, St. Nicholas, the Ukrainian equivalent of Santa Claus, puts a small gift under children's pillows.

Hoback acknowledged that it's been a tough year so far for many newcomers, who have left their home country and in some cases been separated from their families.

That's why he wanted to make sure this event was a special one for those that attended.

"That's one thing that makes Canada a great country is that we're made up of a variety of different cultures that come together and through the coming together they've got some great new traditions," he said.

Traditionally, Ukrainian Christmas falls on Orthodox Christmas Day on Jan. 7. Regardless, Hoback said he wanted to show kindness and give back to the Ukrainian community.

"I just wanted them to experience a Canadian Christmas, a chance for the kids to have some gifts and a nice meal and a nice evening out with friends and family," he said.



Prince Albert MP Randy Hoback sits and chats with guests during a Christmas party for Ukrainian refugees in Prince Albert.

Memorial Lake Regional Park KIOSK CAMPGROUND MANAGER

Full Time Seasonal Position
May to September
Wage TBD (based on qualifications and experience)

Duties Include

- » Monitor Campsite Bookings
- » Schedule and supervise staff (Office Staff and Campground Security)
- » Inventory Control - Season Stickers, Day Passes and Boat Passes
- » Daily, Weekly and Monthly Summary Sheets
- » Staff and Public Relations
- » Balancing Cash and Deposits
- » Cleaning and Maintenance of Kiosk
- » Report to Board and Administration

Skills and Requirements

- » Well Organized
- » Work well independently
- » Strong Leader
- » Strong Computer Skills (Microsoft Office, Excel, Online Booking System and Outlook)
- » WHMIS Course (must possess by start date)
- » Valid Driver's License

Must be able to work early morning, as well as night shifts and weekends.

Please apply with resume, cover letter and expected wage to Memorial Lake Regional Park
Box 10
Shell Lake, SK
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Email: memorial.admin@sasktel.net

Deadline for application is February 28th, 2023
Only successful candidates will be contacted.

Memorial Lake Regional Park ASSISTANT CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE MANAGER

Memorial Lake Regional Park is hiring a full-time assistant campground manager for their campground. The successful applicant would be responsible for all maintenance within the park.

This position would be from May to October.

Responsibilities Include (but not limited to)

- » All maintenance of campground/park grounds including roads, sites, waterfront, green spaces, buildings and playgrounds
- » Work with the campground manager
- » Water and waste management
- » Care of marina, docks and buoys
- » Long term planning and budget planning in conjunction with board

Requirements

- » Water Systems Certification (or willing to obtain)
- » WHMIS
- » Drivers License
- » Ability to Operate Machinery (i.e. tractors, mowers, small equipment)
- » Knowledge of plumbing, carpentry and electrical

Wage TBD Based on Qualifications and Experience.

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Only successful candidates will be contacted.

Memorial Lake Regional Park CLUBHOUSE MANAGER

Full Time Seasonal Position
Starting mid April to Thanksgiving
Wage TBD

Duties Include

- » Starter for golfers - book tee off time, cart rental, and equipment rental
- » Planning, promoting and hosting golf tournaments and golf nights - including meals and events
- » Schedule and supervise staff
- » Inventory Control - Tracking sales, ordering supplies, stock and products, and picking up inventory
- » Daily Summary Sheets, Financial Reports, Reconciliation of Finances and Bank Deposits
- » Staff and Public Relations
- » Cleaning and Maintenance of Clubhouse
- » Report to Board and Administration

Skills and Requirements

- » Well Organized
 - » Work well independently
 - » Strong Leader
 - » Strong Computer Skills (Microsoft Office, Excel, Online Booking System and Outlook)
 - » WHMIS, Serve it Right, First Aid and Food Safety Courses (must possess by start date)
 - » Valid Driver's License
- Must be able to work early morning, as well as night shifts and weekends.

Please apply with resume, cover letter and expected wage to Memorial Lake Regional Park
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Deadline for application is February 28th, 2023
Only successful candidates will be contacted.

Single-use plastic ban is a good first step

If you travel by sea between California and Japan, you might just find yourself sailing through what is known today as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

Contrary to what its name might suggest, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch isn't just a floating island made up of discarded water bottles, plastic bags, and Starbucks cups. Instead, it's mostly comprised of microplastics and plastic that has broken down into smaller pieces because it isn't biodegradable.

Indeed, if you were to look at the garbage patch in satellite imagery, you wouldn't see the cell phone you lost five years ago bobbing up and down on the water's surface. You'd just see what those who study the garbage patch describe as a cloudy soup (though, you will still be able to spy objects here and there).

What's more, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch isn't actually a singular heap of debris, but two separate patches: one off the coast of Japan and the other somewhere between California and Hawaii.

The patch is, in part, a product of nature. It exists at a geographical point where it is bordered by four currents that rotate clockwise, creating a mostly calm centre in which objects become trapped.

But, of course, we know that the Great Pacific Garbage Patch didn't form naturally. Plastic, after all, is not a naturally occurring material. It's made by humans, and used more and more frequently in just about everything because it's durable and inexpensive.

While it would be easy to say all the pollution in our water was made by inconsiderate boaters, estimates suggest up to 80 per cent of the plastic in oceans comes from land-based sources, with the remaining 20 per cent coming from boats and other marine sources.

In sum, we've all played a role in polluting our oceans and waterways, making them dirtier and more dangerous habitats for those who call them home (we've no doubt all seen pictures of a poor animal trapped in some sort of plastic).

This has serious consequences for those ecosystems, as well as others, in-



JORDAN TWISS

~
News Editor

cluding our own. If left unchecked, the consequences are certain to become more severe.

This all bears mentioning because:

A) It's an issue we need to address sooner rather than later; and

B) Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has set a lofty goal of making Canada a zero plastic waste country by 2030.

Mr. Trudeau's government entered the first phase of its plan to reach this goal just before Christmas, with the

implementation of a ban on single-use plastics.

The ban means common plastic items like checkout bags, cutlery, takeout containers, stir sticks, and straws, can no longer be manufactured in Canada or imported into the country. Though, Canadians have a year-long grace period in which they'll still be able to buy these items, so long as they remain on store shelves.

Effective June 20, the rings that divide canned drinks will be added to the list of banned items, with the same year-long grace period.

The full ban, including a prohibition on the export of the aforementioned items, won't come until 2025.

Every year, Canadians throw away at least 3 million tonnes of plastic waste, with only 9 per cent being recycled and the rest ending up in landfills, waste-to-energy facilities, or nature, according to Environment Canada.

Estimates suggest about 1 per cent of plastic waste enters the environment each year (about 29,000 tonnes in 2016). Because plastic is slow to degrade, the amount of plastic pollution found in the environment will only continue growing if nothing is done.

Juan José Alava, a research associate at the Ocean Pollution Research Unit at the University of British Columbia, predicts the federal government's ban on single-use plastics could eliminate as much as 1.3 million tonnes of hard to recycle plastic waste and 22,000 tonnes of plastic pollution each year.

However, Mr. Alava says more than just single-use plastics will need to be



banned for the government to reach its ambitious goal, and Ottawa's data supports this claim.

According to a government report, the six banned plastic items listed earlier represented about three per cent of the total plastic waste created in Canada in 2019.

In other words, eliminating single-use plastics is effectively a drop in the ocean where plastic waste is concerned.

For Mr. Alava, the government's next step should be to investigate ways to eliminate plastic bottles and toxic chemicals that are used for the production and manufacture of plastics.

But just as important, he correctly adds, is that individual Canadians look for ways to reduce their plastic waste footprints (much in the way they're being asked to reduce their carbon footprints to protect the environment).

Looking at the list of banned single-use plastics, and the relatively small share of overall plastic waste they account for, it's hard not to feel like this is yet another case of the federal government doing something for the sake of looking like it's doing something.

Yet, when it comes to the very real problem of plastic pollution, even small progress is a victory... unless you're the Responsible Plastic Use Coalition, which

has launched a lawsuit against the federal government to have its ban overturned.

In particular, the Coalition was opposed to the government's decision to classify plastic as a toxic material (even though there's a bounty of evidence for how harmful it is to both humans and animals). The Coalition also suggested there are more effective policy solutions, but couldn't name one when pressed.

Elsewhere, Alberta Premier Danielle Smith has spoken out against the single-use plastic ban, suggesting the federal government only implemented it as pretense to infringe on Alberta's sovereignty and do further harm to its petrochemical industry. Ms. Smith, who also owns a restaurant, has even mused about using her government's recently passed "Alberta Sovereignty within a United Canada Act" to challenge the ban.

The negative response has hardly been surprising. As has been the case for decades with global climate change, there are those who are content to maintain the status quo because it's easier than solving the problem.

Is the federal government's plan perfect? No.

Will it magically solve the issue of plastic pollution? Certainly not.

But if nobody acts, our only home will one day become a landfill.

Shellbrook Chronicle

Serving the Communities of Shellbrook, Canwood, Debden, Big River, Parkside, Leask, Marcelin, Blaine Lake, Holbein, Mont Nebo, Mayview

Spiritwood Herald

Serving the Communities of Spiritwood, Shell Lake, Leoville, Chitek Lake, Mildred, Rabbit Lake, Medstead, Mayfair, Bapaume, Belbutte, Glaslyn

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Report from the Legislature

The last twelve months will be remembered for years to come. Saskatchewan found a way to stand fast when faced with post-pandemic challenges. A positive business climate and increased private investment have laid the groundwork for a spectacular 2023.

Saskatchewan's population has surpassed 1.2 million for the first time in history. We have the second lowest unemployment rate in the country, with a new overall employment record of 574,300 people employed. Our real Gross Domestic Product is forecast to increase by 1.9 per cent in 2023, the highest growth among the provinces. Our government can invest in programs



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and services thanks to the expanding economy, and we are on track to balance the budget, with a \$1.1 billion surplus at mid-year.

Increased revenue has allowed our government to support those facing financial pressure due to

inflation and the federal carbon tax. The Four Point Affordability Plan delivered a one-time Saskatchewan Affordability Tax Credit cheque, changes to PST on fitness memberships and other youth recreational activities, and we extended the small business tax rate reduction. We increased the maximum monthly benefit through the Seniors Income Plan by \$30 per month, with a second \$30 increase for 2023/24. These measures, along with some of the country's lowest utility costs and income tax levels, have helped Saskatchewan residents with inflation.

In the fall, we launched the Health Human Resource Action Plan to

recruit, train, incentivize and retain health professionals across the province. Adding 1,000 new healthcare staff will directly support the ability to perform more surgeries. This fiscal year we set an aggressive target of performing 97,000 surgeries, the highest number of surgeries ever completed in one year.

We are making Saskatchewan safer with new initiatives like the Saskatchewan Marshall Service, increased funding for the Crime Reduction Team, and the Warrant Enforcement and Suppression Team. Over \$23 million in additional funding has been committed to enhancing and expanding agencies that will ensure public safety,



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respond to emergencies and support programs already in place.

We believe Saskatchewan is the best place to work, live and raise a family. The business climate continues to be supportive and draws new ideas to our province.

This economic success allows for further investment into the things that matter to the Saskatchewan people. Things like healthcare, education, better roads and highways, and safer communities.

As we look back on the last year, our province has faced challenges and celebrated success. Saskatchewan will start the new year with one of the best economies in the country, allowing for even more growth in 2023. Forecasters are watching with great interest as we continue to support new opportunities, fresh investment and job growth. We are blessed to live in a bountiful province.

From our families to yours, Happy New Year!

New year brings five new tax hikes: CTF

By Franco Terrazzano
CTF Director

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation has released its annual New Year's Tax Changes report to highlight the major tax changes in 2023.

"Tax hikes will give Canadians a hangover in the new year," said Franco Terrazzano, Federal Director of the CTF. "Canadians can't afford gas or groceries and the government is making things worse by hiking taxes."

The report outlines the major federal and provincial tax changes slated for 2023. Federal tax hikes include:

Canada Pension Plan tax: Workers making \$66,600 or more will pay an extra \$255 through the CPP tax in 2023. Their employers will also pay an extra \$255.

Employment Insurance tax: Workers

making \$61,500 or more will pay an extra \$50 through the EI tax in 2023. Their employers will pay an extra \$70.

In total, payroll taxes will cost a middle-class worker \$4,756 in 2023. Their employer will also be forced to pay \$5,157. The federal government is raising the basic personal amount for income taxes. However, because of the payroll tax hikes, anyone making \$40,000 or more in 2023 will pay higher federal income-based taxes than in 2022.

Carbon tax: The federal carbon tax is increasing to 14 cents per litre of gas beginning April 1, 2023. The carbon tax will cost the average household between \$402 and \$847 in 2023, even after the rebates, according to the Parliamentary Budget Officer.

Second carbon tax: The federal gov-

ernment is imposing a second carbon tax through fuel regulations on July 1, 2023. The second carbon tax will increase the price of gas by up to 13 cents per litre by 2030. There are no rebates for the second carbon tax.

Alcohol escalator tax: Alcohol taxes will increase by 6.3 per cent on April 1, 2023. Taxes already account for about

half of the price of beer, 65 per cent of the price of wine and more than three quarters of the price of spirits.

"Other countries are cutting taxes, but Ottawa is sticking Canadians with higher bills," said Terrazzano. "Prime Minister Justin Trudeau needs to stop wasting so much money and cut taxes."

2023 JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

For over the past four decades The Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, in partnership with SaskPower and the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, have recognized the youth of Saskatchewan through the Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

These prestigious awards are given to youth who:

- Have a positive lifestyle
- Have had the ability to overcome life's challenges
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
- Are dedicated to community and school
- Inspire others
- Are between the ages of 8 to 18

This year four deserving youth will receive a **\$3000 bursary**, provided by SaskPower, to use towards their post-secondary education. Someone you nominate could be one of them.

Visit www.swna.com for further information and nomination forms
Nominations close March 31, 2023

What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

Shellbrook Public Library celebrates 70 years

Books have always meant a great deal to the people of Saskatchewan. In the earliest times, they were the best defence against isolation and one of the few ways of keeping up with the rest of the world. The idea of a regional library didn't originate in Saskatchewan, but it's in this great province that this principle has been developed to its full potential, starting with the establishment of the first regional library of its kind in Saskatchewan.

In 1946, the Government passed the Library Act and Marion Gilroy from Halifax was hired as Superintendent. No one was exactly sure how to establish a Regional Library on the prairies. Depression-scarred councillors weren't about to spend tax dollars on frivolous frills like libraries. With a letter from Prince Albert, everything changed. John M. Cuelenaere, Mayor of PA, Councillor Marion Sherman, well-known for her work at CKBI, and Mrs. Betty Davis, a former librarian and the wife of the PA Daily Herald Editor, became the right people at the right time. In 1950, the North Central Saskatchewan Regional Library became a reality, and the overwhelming job of buying books, cataloguing, and shelving was about to begin.

In 1952, Shellbrook joined when the Home and School Association raised the necessary \$225. Shellbrook's first branch library was located in Halliwell's Hardware. Local volunteer librarian, J.C. Hetherington, held hours of operation from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Saturday. The official opening took place, Wednesday, March 26, 1952, in the Legion Hall.

Over the last 70 years, the library has changed locations many times. From Halliwell's Hardware it moved to the town restroom, west of the old Elks Theatre, and then into a small room inside the theatre. For a time, it was housed in Dorothy's floral shop, and then made its way to Norman Smith's furniture store.

When the business was sold, the library stayed until its next move into the basement of the Credit Union. Soon, a campaign began to find a permanent home for the library. Although the Town-erected facility on the corner of Main Street and Third Avenue East was intended to be a permanent home, with the advent of the computer and ever-increasing amounts of library materials, we were outgrowing the space. In 1996, the library moved into the (former) Provincial Building on Railway Avenue west, where it remains today.

Librarians involved in seventy years of assisting patrons, one book at a time, are: J.C. Hetherington, Lydia Rowles, Vesta Massey, Dorothy Loth, Doris Smith, Dorothy Perkins, Ann Anderson, Brenda Kinnaid, Hazel Barkway, Linda Mazurkewich, Alanna Carswell, Dian Campbell, and currently Jacqueline Thibeault. There have also been a host of substitute librarians and volunteers who have greatly assisted in the smooth flow of day-to-day library operations, especially Beryl Peake whose dedication and commitment assisted our library in moving forward through a very difficult and challenging seventieth anniversary year.

The past seven decades have also seen many, noteworthy advancements in every area of library services. In 1952, the collection of books was a humble 250 items. Today, we have a permanent collection of almost 6,000 volumes, plus we have easy access to the province-wide network of library collections. Regular block exchanges routinely see thousands of titles rotated between branches within the entire Wapiti Region. Library programming has steadily increased and diversified.

Many well-known authors and poets have graced our facility. The library partnered with the Shellbrook Arts Council to display the high-quality works of local artisans as well as travelling

art exhibits by OSAC. Travel nights have enriched our community with tales told of life in faraway places. Year after year, the library has offered a wide variety of programming for all age groups. Computer classes, writing instruction, knitting, painting and crafts, sing-a-longs, music appreciation and puppet shows will long live on in our memories. Prior to COVID hitting us in 2020, the Shellbrook library offered book delivery to seniors and shut-ins. Story time for our little readers has been a well-attended staple, offering fun-filled activities while instilling a life-long love of reading. Over the years, our library has been a vital part of the community, assisting other educational groups, and participating in community events.

During its 70 years of existence, the library has been a part of an ever-changing world. In 1961, the National Film Board decided to produce a film on Regional Libraries called "Books for Beaver River". It told a simple story of a curious boy who wanted a book about the stars. It was filmed in several locations, including the town of Shellbrook and Rayside School. The film's producer noted, "Never did I dream that children could be so good, look so photogenic and act as if a film unit came around to photograph them every day of the week." The film starred Jack Cannon from CKBI and Marion Gilroy from the Regional Library. From 1979 to 1981, Shellbrook was the location of "Impact! A Community Awareness Project". On Aug. 6, 1980, when the town council passed a motion "whether or not to maintain our branch of the Regional Library due to the cost involved", the entire library board resigned and became "Friends of the Library". Library supporters undertook a massive campaign that was successful. On Oct. 23, 1980, the vote was a resounding endorsement of retaining our branch of the Wapiti Regional Library.

In 1975, the North Central Saskatchewan Regional Library was 25 years old and celebrated the milestone by changing their name to Wapiti Regional Library. A great deal has happened since the establishment of the first regional library of its kind in Canada. We are proud to be an integral part of the region that covers thousands of square miles and boasts 44 branches. Over the years, Shellbrook Public Library has won numerous awards for longevity and recognition of its many accomplishments, including most improved branch and acknowledgement of community service.

Despite the dire prediction of the 1950s, that with the advent of television, books would become obsolete, libraries contain more books and other materials than ever before. Again, with the rise in computer use, we saw our library embrace this new technology and become an even more vital asset to our community. In 2009, to celebrate Shellbrook's Centennial, the library created the "Centennial Centipede", who inched his way around the world based on one mile per page read — our dedicated readers made it around the world more than twice.

In 2010, our library upgraded to the new provincial library system, SILS. This new online, interactive catalogue has expanded features and is a definite improvement over the old manual card catalogue and the microfiche. Shellbrook joined all public libraries in continuing their roles of pre-

serving and conserving our cultural heritage, offering services not available elsewhere that are increasingly valuable and vitally essential in a knowledge-based, digital society.

Most recently, our library has had to deal with the numerous restrictions of the global pandemic. True to our core values and dedication to service, we have continued, with minimal interruption, to deliver library services to the community. As in the earliest times, books have been a great defence against this new type of isolation, and our computers have allowed many to stay in touch with family and friends virtually. The numerous creative take-home programming kits available have been a welcome tool for in-home learning, keeping the community connected to the library and our commitment to adapting to changing times.

Seven decades is a long time for any organization, and this library could not have survived and grown without the hard work, commitment, and dedication of a great number of people, including forward-thinking council members, knowledgeable librarians and substitutes, astute board members, countless talented volunteers, and a vast array of voracious readers. Each and every one of you can be proud of the role you have played in the library's 70-year history, and join with us in celebrating this monumental milestone.

Researched and written by Elna Fish, past library board vice-chair

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

Winter Camping

Campers are reminded that campsites, including Camp-Easy sites, can be reserved online at Buffalo Pound, Cypress Hills, Duck Mountain, Echo Valley and Pike Lake Provincial Parks until March 15. Camp-Easy sites are \$80 and can also be booked ahead of time online. To book a site or purchase a park entry permit, [visit: parks.saskatchewan.ca](http://visit.parks.saskatchewan.ca).

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



AGRICULTURE

January 5, 2023

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

The future of agriculture is limitless

If you are an agricultural producer, you have to be fascinated with what science could provide in terms of crop production in the year ahead.

Actually, when you consider the sheer volume of 'science' being undertaken, the potential of advancement on most fronts of human endeavour are at the very least fascinating to consider.

But farm production advancements bring it closer to home, and stand to be a positive for that important sector of the Prairie economy.

The science of farming really is going in direc-

tions which would make a science fiction writer like Isaac Asimov proud.

It was only recently a story at www.producer.com caught my eye.

Work is being undertaken to genetically tweak plants to essentially signal producers when they are being stressed by something which would then allow the farmer to react to help the crop.

The article delves into work being undertaken by InnerPlants to develop crop traits via genetic engineering techniques which will enable plants to signal when they're exposed to specific stress-



CALVIN DANIELS

ors in a way that can be detected through crop surveillance.

The new traits would enable plants to signal up to seven separate issues by emitting coloured fluorescent proteins on their leaves with a specific colour that can be detect-

ed by satellite or equipment-based cameras.

The potential is massive for something like this, as the plant would essentially be signaling the producer that it is being attacked by insects, has developed a fungus, or needs more fertilizer, and the farmer could then respond by applications of crop protection products or fertilizer.

Now some are going to see the term genetic engineering and shudder because there are definitely those who fear what might happen as such crops get out in the world and cross with oth-

er plants.

And the idea of fluorescent plant leaves doesn't necessarily help in terms of the perception some are going to have if this technology advances to the farmer use stage — which, of course, is something the agriculture industry is going to have to deal with often in the years ahead.

The general public can be swayed by Internet noise and fears not based on science, and the farm sector needs to be aware advancements may not be welcomed by all end users.

Science is going to open

doors to crop development and farm techniques we can frankly not imagine — at least they are beyond me as the steps taken are always bolder and more dramatic than I would have considered.

What is now in the research stage to be released in the next few years will certainly push crop production forward.

And, since each developmental success can be a building block for the next, the future seems limitless, as long as the consumer can maintain confidence the food produced is safe.

SaskEnergy shares winter safety tips

Winter has officially begun! People are staying inside to escape the cold, and furnaces, heaters and other fuel-burning appliances are running more often.

Here are SaskEnergy's top three natural gas safety tips to keep you and your family safe from Old Man Winter.

1. Sometimes you just need to vent: Keep outdoor vent openings free of frost, ice and snow.

Saskatchewan winters can be windy, causing snow and ice to build up in nooks and crannies. Your home's exterior appliance vents are no exception.

Blocked vents can cause appliances to malfunction, but they can also have much more deadly consequences.

When these external openings are obstructed, it can cause a dangerous buildup of the silent killer — carbon

monoxide.

Odourless, colourless and tasteless, carbon monoxide can go undetected until it's too late. Low exposure can cause flu-like symptoms. Continued exposure can lead to unconsciousness, loss of muscle control, brain damage or even death.

Any appliance that burns fuel can cause carbon monoxide to build up—including furnaces, fireplaces, water heaters and gas stoves. To avoid tragedy, ensure you have a working carbon monoxide detector in your home and that vents are clear.

2. Break the ice: Keep your meter clear of snow and ice.

Once the snow starts to fly, that means months of scraping vehicle windows and shovelling driveways. But have you ever

thought about keeping ice and snow off and away from your gas meter?

Take caution when removing snow and ice from meters. Don't use shovels or other tools, never hit or kick your meter and keep hot water or chemical deicers away. These methods could damage your meter.

Avoid using a snowblower around your meter and maintain a clear path for accurate meter readings and emergency situations.

If your meter is covered in snow, safely remove it using a soft-bristle brush or broom. You can also gently sweep it away by hand.

By following these simple steps, you can help ensure your natural gas equipment runs smoothly when you and your family need it most.

3. The heat is on: Have your furnace inspected every year.

Don't wait until there's an issue to get your furnace checked — schedule an annual inspection by a qualified professional. Annual furnace maintenance helps keep your home cozy and safe all winter long and can save you money on your heating bill.

You can book a Home Heating Tune-Up with a qualified SaskEnergy Network Member online on SaskEnergy's website. As a bonus, customers who book a Home Heating Tune-Up will receive a free carbon monoxide alarm at their appointment.

Finally, don't forget to change your furnace filter every couple of months.

Visit saskenergy.com for more safety and energy saving tips.

PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES
A division of Northern Livestock Sales



To consign cattle or
for on-farm appraisals
please contact Brent,
Glen, Boyd or Frederick

Mon., Jan. 9, 2023

Regular Sale 8:30 a.m.

Mon., Jan. 16, 2023

Regular Sale 8:30 a.m.; Presort Sale 11:00 a.m.



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Wed., Jan. 11, 2023

Regular Sale 10:00 a.m.

Wed., Jan. 25, 2023

Regular Sale 10:00 a.m.

Presorted Internet Calf Sale 12:00 p.m.

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Elks tie, Raiders fall in final 2022 games

While most local hockey teams took well-deserved breaks in the lead up to and throughout the holiday season, the Parkland U18 AA Elks and the Redberry Raiders both had home games remaining on their schedule to close out 2022.

Elks (3) vs Wolfpack (3) OT

Coming off a 6-1 loss to the Saskatoon Screaming Eagles in their final road game of 2022, the Parkland U18 AA Elks returned to home ice on Dec. 20 for a rescheduled matchup against the North East Wolfpack. Looking to rebound from the defeat the evening prior, the Elks instead found themselves on the ropes early, when Nate Jensen opened the scoring on assists from Alex Crowe-Nippi and Cole Taylor.

Following 10 minutes of scoreless hockey, things looked to get even more dire for the Elks, as Crowe-Nippi netted a goal of his own on helpers from Kieran Patterson and Oliver Muir. However, with time winding down in

the first period, Chase Hansen brought the score to 2-1 on assists from Kamden Shewchuk and Colton Sommerfeld.

This score would stand until three minutes into the third period, when Brody Anderson knotted the game at 2-2 with assists from Jake Boettcher and Hansen. Yet, the Elks would quickly get themselves in trouble, surrendering a goal only 11 seconds later. Jensen scored the goal, his second of the night, on an assist from Tristin Ziola.

Nearly 10 minutes later, with the benefit of a power play off of a too many men penalty for North East, Kendon Skalicky tied the game at 3-3 on assists from Bronson Parker and Luke Evans.

The teams continued to duke it out for the remaining seven minutes of regulation time, but proved unable to find the back of the net. A five-minute overtime period similarly yielded no goals, and the game ended in a 3-3 tie.

With their first draw of the 2022-2023 hockey season, the Elks' record climbed to 8-13-1-1. This puts them securely in eighth place in the Centre Four Division.

The Elks will be busy on the road to start 2023, kicking the year off with an away game against the Martensville Marauders on Friday Night. The next night, they head to Melfort for a rematch with North East, and on Sunday they head to Saskatoon for a meetup with the Saskatoon Sabercats, who are currently just one point ahead of them in the standings.

Raiders (2) vs Monarchs (8)

Where the Elks got all their 2022 hockey out of the way before Christmas, the Redberry Raiders closed out the year by welcoming the Neilburg Monarchs to Hafford on Dec. 30. The winless Raiders kept it consistent, bowing out of 2022 with an 8-2 defeat.

Cole Brochu and Matthew Dagenais led the offence for the Raiders, each scoring a

goal apiece. Similarly, Dawson Horner and Caden Pushee had one assist each.

For the Monarchs, meanwhile, Danton L'Heureux had plenty to be happy about with two goals and two assists. Carter Cammidge also chipped in with two goals, Jeremy Thiessen tallied a goal and an assist, and Caleb Biensch, Kelton Bossart, and Reed Putnam all had a goal each.

As for assists, Devon Whitney earned two, with Carl Cammidge, Ben Roach, Cole Smith, and Arlee Walde all tallying one apiece.

With the loss, the Raiders fell to 0-7 on the season. The team was set to be busy to start the new year, kicking things off with a road game against the Purdue Pirates on Wednesday evening.

This weekend, they return to Hafford to play the Battleford Beaver Blues on Friday evening, before travelling to meet the Monarchs for a rematch on Saturday night.

Provincial indexation, tax credits help with affordability

The Saskatchewan Affordability Tax Credit (SATC) payment and indexation are among the government initiatives helping make life more affordable for Saskatchewan people.

Indexation of the provincial Personal Income Tax (PIT) system preserves the real value of personal tax credits, the income tax brackets, as well as benefits such as the Saskatchewan Low-Income Tax Credit.

Indexation will result in Saskatchewan residents seeing \$94.5 million in annual income tax savings. The level of indexation in 2023 will be

6.3 per cent, which matches the annual average national inflation rate from October 2021 to September 2022. The combined effect of the indexation of the tax system from 2007 through the 2023 taxation year is saving Saskatchewan taxpayers a total of approximately \$284.5 million in 2023.

In 2023, through indexation an individual with an income of \$25,000 will see an average of \$125 in savings, a family of four with a combined annual income of \$75,000 will save \$371, and a family of four with a combined annual income of

\$100,000 will save \$362.

Saskatchewan has among the lowest personal taxes in the country. Since 2007, PIT exemptions have removed more than 112,000 people from the province's income tax roll. In total, PIT reductions since 2007 are providing over \$720 million in annual income tax savings to Saskatchewan people.

In addition, a family of four pays no provincial income tax on their first \$56,550 of combined income. This is among the highest thresholds in Canada and more than twice as much as in 2007, when a family of four

began paying income tax once their combined income reached just \$26,150.

In late August, the Government of Saskatchewan introduced the Four Point Affordability Plan and in addition to the one-time \$500 SATC payments, the small business tax rate reduction was extended by a year to further support small businesses as they continue to recover from the pandemic and face inflationary pressures.

The plan also included keeping gym and fitness memberships and recreational activities for youth PST exempt. The province's strong finances allow government to reduce borrowing and retire up to \$1 billion in debt, resulting in lower

annual interest costs and allowing those savings to be invested into priorities such as health care, education and social safety nets.

"Saskatchewan is forecast to lead all provinces in economic growth this year and next, and strong revenue from our resources has allowed us to help individuals and businesses with higher costs due to inflation, while paying down debt. That's growth that works for everyone," Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Donna Harpauer said in a statement.

Also helping with affordability, families in Saskatchewan with children enrolled in sports, arts and cultural activities will continue to be

able to claim the Active Families Benefit on their 2023 taxes.

The benefit was reinstated in 2021 and provides a refundable tax credit of \$150 per year, per child, to eligible families. Families of children with a disability will receive an additional \$50, for a total tax credit of \$200 per year, per child. Parents who enroll their children in sports, arts and cultural activities are reminded to keep their receipts so they may claim the benefit with their annual tax filings.

"Our government recognizes that costs have risen due to inflation, and we are committed to taking steps to help keep life affordable for Saskatchewan people," Harpauer said.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH
Zion - Canwood
Sunday School,
Worship Sunday, 11 a.m.
St. John's - Shellbrook
Sunday School,
Live-stream worship
service on Facebook,
Worship Sunday, 9 a.m.
Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Parkside
10:30 a.m. Worship
306-747-3572
Shellbrook
Adult Study
9:30 a.m.
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Pastor David Bodvarson
306-747-7235
Canwood
Summer: 10 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Bob Wrench
306-468-2138
Leask Gospel Tabernacle
Sunday 11 a.m.
306-466-2296

PRESBYTERIAN
Mistawasis
Sunday worship
11:00 a.m.
Rev. Katherine Bretzlaff

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship

ANGLICAN CHURCH
Leask - All Saint's
Sunday Service - 9 a.m.
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service
Canwood - Christ Church
Sunday, 2 p.m. - Service
Rev. Wendell Brock
306-460-7696

H.C. Service with Rev.
Brock - 1st Sunday of the
month

MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH
Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel
109 Railway Ave. W.
Blaine Lake
306-497-3316
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
Worship

EVANGELICAL FREE
Big River
11:00 a.m. - Worship
Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
Summer: 10:30 a.m. - 12
306-469-2258
Youth Nite: Fridays
Mont Nebo
Sun. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
(10:30 a.m. June - August)
306-468-2525

UNITED CHURCH
Big River
Sundays
10 a.m. - Worship
at Anglican Church
Rev. Dave Whalley
306-747-2804

CATHOLIC CHURCH
Debden
Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m.
Fr. Mariusz Zajac
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. Mariusz Zajac
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook
Mass - Sunday 9 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.
Mistawasis
1st & 3rd Sundays 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Tuan Doan

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

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 1:30 p.m.
Rev. Sarah Urano

UNITED / ANGLICAN
Worship Services
Glaslyn
Time is on the sign
Rev. Kun Kim
Rev. Don Skinner

CATHOLIC SUNDAY
Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m.
Leoville - 9:30 a.m.
Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m.
SATURDAY
Medstead - 6 p.m.
Everyone Welcome
Fr. Ramel Macapala

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

LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH
(Corner of 1st Ave. and 4th
St., Spiritwood)
Sun., 11 am - Worship
Service & Sunday School
Pastor Michael Kluthe
306-883-2380

FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER) MENNONITE CHURCH
Glenbush
Worship - 11:00 am

BETHEL
Medstead
1st Sunday, 10 am -
Worship
Pastor David Jensen
3rd Sunday - 10 am
Worship
Pastor David Jensen

MENNONITE BRETHREN
Glenbush
10:00 am - Sunday School
Worship 10:50 am

Gideons International of Canada
Battlefords Camp
Phone Art Martynes
(306) 389-4633

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

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL
11 am Worship Service

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP
Shell Lake
Worship Services
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Pastor Sarah Urano
306-841-7333

Minutes of an RM of Spiritwood meeting

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

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 was held on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022.

In attendance were Reeve Shirley Dauvin, Division 1 Larry Vaagen, Division 2 Al Steinhilber, Division 3 Terry Wingerter, Division 4 Dennis Laventure, Division 5 Heather Warkentin, Division 6 Bevra Fee, Administrator Colette Bussiere, and Foreman Darcy Laventure.

A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Reeve, Shirley Dauvin.

Steinhilber: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Fee: That the Foreman's report having been read now be filed. Carried

Foreman Darcy Laventure left the council meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Warkentin: That the minutes of the Oct. 11, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Fee: Whereas, the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 received an application for a 10 lot subdivision on Memorial Lake;

And Whereas, the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 put forth a request to Memorial Lake Regional Park and the Village of Shell Lake to partner with the RM of Spiritwood to make application for provincial funding for an Environmental Carrying Capacity Study on Memorial Lake;

And Whereas, Memorial Lake Regional Park and the Village of Shell Lake have declined to partner with the RM of Spiritwood to make application

for funding through the TSS Initiative for an Environmental Carrying Capacity Study to be completed on Memorial Lake.

Therefore, we authorize Administration to proceed with the process for the subdivision application on Memorial Lake. Carried

Steinhilber: That the Administrator's report having been read now be filed. Carried

Wingerter: That the bank reconciliation for the month ending Oct. 31, 2022, be accepted as presented. Carried

Fee: That the "List of Accounts" as listed on the attached Schedule "A" forming part of these minutes be passed for payment: Cheque No. 13910-13947 (\$123,904.64), Payroll File No. 386, 387 & 389 (\$45,789.71), EFT 2022 0051-0056 (\$82,820.17). Carried

Vaagen: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month ending Oct. 31, 2022, be approved as presented. Carried

Steinhilber: That Bylaw No. 2022-6, being a Bylaw Respecting Buildings be read a first time. Carried

Warkentin: That Bylaw No. 2022-7, being a Bylaw to Establish Planning and Development Fees be read a first time. Carried

Laventure: That Councillor Bevra Fee be appointed as Deputy Reeve for the RM of Spiritwood No. 496. Carried

Steinhilber: That the balance of taxes owing to the end of the current year, in the amount of \$68.52 for tax title property being Lot 7 Blk 2 in Mildred be abated. Carried

Warkentin: That municipal operations be closed Nov. 29, 2022, to allow

employees to participate in First Aid and CPR training. Carried

Laventure: That the proposed subdivision application for a single residential parcel located on SE 22-50-11-W3 be approved subject to an approved approach permit from the Ministry of Highways & Infrastructure. Carried

Vaagen: That the proposed subdivision application located on SW-15-50-08-W3 to accommodate an existing gravel pit be approved subject to receipt of payment of cash in lieu of municipal reserve and consolidation of the residual A/RW parcel with the remainder of the ag parcel to accommodate legal & physical access under common ownership. Carried

Fee: That the discretionary use application to construct a place of worship, classrooms & community centre be approved. Carried

Wingerter: That we enter into a road maintenance agreement with WM Logging to haul timber on Grid No. 696 & Grid 946. Carried

Steinhilber: That we enter into road maintenance agreement with Tolko Industries Ltd. to haul timber from NW 27-53-12-W3. Carried

Fee: That we accept the Project Steering Committee's terms of reference for the application for funding through the TSS Initiative for a Regional CSO Services Business Case. Carried

Warkentin: That we consent to the removal of dead & dying trees within the Municipal Reserve (MR) adjacent to Lot 19 Blk 1 in The Cove, in accordance with the Water Security Agency's (WSA) regulations & the Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit,

And that the placement of fill having a depth greater than 1 metre to meet SBE shall be approved by a qualified engineer. Carried

Steinhilber: That the regular meeting of council be adjourned at 1:45 pm to move in-camera to discuss any HR concerns. Carried

CAO Colette Bussiere left council chambers at 1:45 p.m.

CAO Colette Bussiere returned to the council meeting at 1:47 p.m.

The regular meeting of council was called back to order at 1:47 p.m.

Wingerter: That the correspondence having been read now be filed. Carried

Steinhilber: That the meeting be adjourned.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

LEOVILLE: Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 3 pm

SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 12:30 pm - 4 pm; Wednesday 12:30 pm - 4 pm

BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - 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 - 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. Tuesday 10 am - 3:30 pm; Thursday 3:30 pm - 8 pm; Friday 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm. Kids Club is Fridays 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm, Crafter's Choice is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

DEBDEN: Wapiti Library hours: Tuesday 10 am - 3 pm; Wednesday 3 pm - 7 pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

LEASK: Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Tuesday 9 am - 2 pm; Wednesday 3 pm - 6 pm; Friday 1 pm - 5 pm

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - 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: 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.

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly Local/Area Variety & Music Night with Silent Auction. Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 6:00 pm. *Offering accepted, with funds going to Emmanuel Pentecostal Fellowship, North Battleford.

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Minutes of a Spiritwood Town Council 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 in the Council Chambers at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street, on Nov. 23, 2022, at 7 p.m.

In attendance were, Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Brad Nemish, Councillor Ragnar Latus, Councillor George Pretli, and Acting Administrator Brenda Beaulac.

Absent were Councillor Kiera Andres, Councillor Jim Bedi, and Councillor Bryan Wingert.

A quorum being present, Mayor Von Holwede called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Latus: That the minutes of the regular meeting on Nov. 8, 2022, be approved as present-

ed. Carried

Nemish: That the correspondence be filed as presented. Carried

Nemish: That the Accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 32332 to 32334, and payments #1094 to 1103 in the amount of \$222,561.60 be approved as presented. Carried

Nemish: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 32335 to 32349, and payment #1104 in the amount of \$24,624.94 be approved as presented. Carried

Nemish: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of October 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Latus: That the Financial Statement for the month of October 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Latus: That the verbal reports be filed as presented. Carried

Pretli: That we approve the quote from Lavoie's Machining and Welding for the Town Fire Truck to remove, manufacture a new tank and install for up to \$25,000 plus taxes. Carried

Latus: That we do not provide an outdoor garbage collection/recycling station on the Rivier Elementary school playground. Carried

Latus: The Council of the Town of Spiritwood confirms the municipality meets the following eligibility requirements to receive the Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant:

- Submission of the 2021 Audited Financial Statement to the Ministry of Government Relations;
- Submission of the 2021 Public Reporting on Municipal Waterworks to the Ministry of Government Relations;
- In Good Standing with re-

spect to the reporting and remittance of Education Property Taxes;

- Adoption of a Council Procedures Bylaw;
- Adoption of an Employee Code of Conduct; and
- All members of council have filed and annually updated their Public Disclosure Statements, as required; and

That we understand if any requirements are not met, our Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant may be withheld until all requirements are met; and

That we authorize the Administrator to sign the Declaration of Eligibility and submit it to the Ministry of Government Relations. Carried

Nemish: That we provide funding in the amount of \$6,926 plus taxes to SARCS to upgrade the lights for the curling rink portion of the building

as presented. Carried

Nemish: That we accept the offer to purchase Lot 20 Block 33 Plan 101855077 at a purchase price of \$15,000 plus GST and have our lawyer provide a Sale Agreement for the property. Carried

Nemish: That we forward this letter of request for a grant for leasehold improvements to Northern Lakes Economic Development, as the Town of Spiritwood does not offer one. Carried

Latus: That we postpone this item (Town Representative Appointment for Spiritwood Library Board) until the next regular council meeting. Carried

Pretli: That the next regular council meeting will be changed to Dec. 20, 2022, at 7 p.m.; and

That this meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Carried

GOOD NEWS

THINGS MY DAD TAUGHT ME

My dad loved to read and taught me the value of reading. I notice that Paul had a love for books. He tells young Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:13 "Bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come - and the books, especially the parchments." Books, to a preacher, are what a hammer and a saw are to a carpenter. Paul emphasizes his

love for the parchments or Scriptures that bring life.

My dad would genuinely show compassion as he mentioned a family or individual going through a tough time. It is one thing to show sympathy, but dad knew how to show empathy. He understood the saying, "before you judge a man, walk a mile in his shoes."

Dad taught me the lesson of contentment. One of my dad's favourite sayings was, "I complained when I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet."

When I was about 19 years old, I was heading to Hay River N.W.T. for Christmas. I wasn't married yet and travelling with Brian Davis, a friend from Calgary. We reached White Court, Alta., and were heading north to Fox Creek. I remember it was fairly early in the morning and we hit black ice. Though it was difficult to make out, I noticed up ahead two large moose standing on the highway.

As I continued down the road, I caught a glimpse of lights coming towards us. To this day I have no idea what happened to those moose. They must have taken to the ditch. What was coming towards us from the south was a semi truck with a trailer.

I said a quick prayer in my mind. I said to God, "You can take me home if You want, but don't let me suffer." I didn't want to come out of that accident mangled up.

The trucker came over on my side and hit my brand new 1979 Ford Fiesta that I had bought a few months before at King Land Ford in Hay River. That lit-

tle Ford was pushed into the ditch upon impact. The trucker ended up in the ditch as well, his cab landed right-side up, but his trailer was tipped.

He came over and knocked on my window. I rolled down the window and the first thing he said was "I thought I killed you."

"No," I said, "we are okay."

The RCMP showed up and we gave the accident report. I still needed to travel some 365 miles (or 588 kilometres). I explained to the police office I would like to go home for Christmas. I loved his response. He said no problem. Just put a damage sticker on it and drive it.

I drove that Ford Fiesta into Hay River and back to Calgary, where I got it repaired. I didn't feel very good about driving my new car in my hometown damaged like it was. But I never forgot what my dad would tell me. He would say you can always replace things, but you can't replace a life.

My dad was Sigfus Bodvarson, fondly known as Slim. He has been gone for some 34 years now, yet I still recall the things he taught me.

Blessings,
Pastor David Bodvarson
SPA

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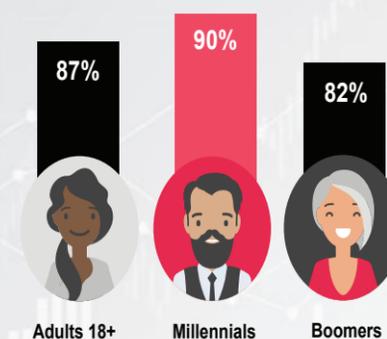
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NEED TO REACH MILLENNIALS?

New survey results show that **nine out of ten** Millennials read newspapers weekly in print or digital formats.



Results are sourced from a November 2020 national online research survey managed by Totum Research. Interviews were conducted with 855 English and French Canadians in every province, and results were weighted to be nationally representative.

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2022's best of the best – July to December

Part 2 (July through December) of the best quips and quotes from the world of sports in 2022:

- World No. 1 golfer Scottie Scheffler, via Golf.com reporter Claire Rogers: "I don't know how much money I've made this year, but it's definitely more than I deserve for whacking a little golf ball around."

- Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Rob 'Gronk' Gronkowski has retired from the NFL for the second time. When asked if he retired due to his many concussions, Gronk said, No, I just feel it is time to stop. And also, I just feel it is time to stop."

- Comedian Kenan Thompson, hosting the NHL Awards show, after Auston Matthews was announced as league MVP: "Congrats ... it's nice to see the Leafs winning something in June."

- Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Major League Baseball will allow its teams to sell sponsorships to cannabis companies that market CBD products, the Sports Business Journal reported. 'Spahn and Sain and Pray for Rain' is about to be supplanted by 'Cheech and Chong and Pass the Bong.'"

- RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "A British chef invented the Glamburger, the world's most expensive burger at over \$2,000 Canadian. If you're wondering about the most expensive hot dog in history — Deion Sanders."

- Phil Mushnick of the New York Post, after a fan was robbed — twice — while leaving Yankee Stadium: "You mean he had money left?"

- RJ Currie again: "ABC News recently reported clowns carrying baseball bats had been terrorizing people in Bakersfield, California. The first people I'd be questioning are the Oakland A's."

- Headline from fark.com: "The Royals finally lead MLB in a statistic — number of players barred from entry into Canada."

- Super 70s Sports, on Twitter, recalling a line from former Houston Oilers coach Bum Phillips, after Earl Campbell failed to complete a one-mile run in practice: "When it's first and a mile, I won't give it to

him."

- Steph Curry, hosting the ESPYs, on Tom Brady unretiring from the NFL at age 44: "He's the only guy I know who'd rather get hit by Aaron Donald than hang out with a supermodel."

- Hockey Unplugged, on Facebook: "The reason they built the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto is so that Leafs' fans can go see what the Stanley Cup looks like."

- Former Mets and Phillies pitcher Tug McGraw, on whether he preferred grass or AstroTurf: "I don't know. I never smoked AstroTurf."

- Jerry Tarde of Golf Digest, in a fictitious interview with the late Dan Jenkins, on the LIV golf tour: "I hear Patrick Reed got \$80 million to defect. The Saudis paid him \$20 million, and the PGA Tour put up the other 60."

- fark.com headline: "Mike Trout diagnosed with rare spinal condition that's been aggravated by carrying the Angels for the last 10 years or so."

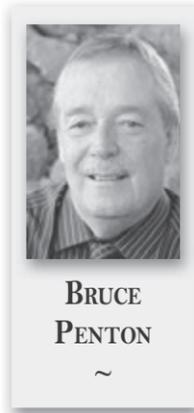
- Scott Ostler of the San Francisco Chronicle, on unvaccinated players: "As they say in baseball, we'll shoot any random stuff into our bodies, as long as it's not something that will help stop a worldwide killer pandemic."

- Another one from Dwight Perry: "The Mariners have released pitcher Daniel Ponce de Leon. So much for the team's hopes of getting younger."

- Eamon Lynch on Gulfweek.com, on the LIV lawsuit against the PGA Tour fracturing friendships: "It's tough to remain pals with the roommate who moved to a sumptuous new mansion but returned to burglarize and then torch the house you're still living in."

- Marshall Stuart, via Twitter, after the Tigers' Derek Law became the first pitcher to allow a homer, commit an error, hit a batter and throw a wild pitch in a single relief appearance: "Is that the Nuke LaLoosh hat trick?"

- Thomas Carrieri of LostInBostonSports.com, via Twitter, on kids eating free whenever the Red Sox win: "The good news about this season is the Red Sox



BRUCE
PENTON

are single-handedly ending childhood obesity."

- Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "New (Florida) Gators coach Billy Napier, a stickler for structure and discipline, has instructed players they all must wear white socks at practice. Hey, you know what the great Grantland Rice once wrote: 'It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you match your socks!'"

- Sam Farmer of the L.A. Times, via Twitter, on the significance of Aug. 16: "Elvis, Aretha and Babe Ruth died on this day. A king, a queen and a sultan."

- Mark Fox on Twitter, weighing in on the extremely slow and painfully deliberate pre-shot routine of the newly crowned U.S. Amateur champion: "Things I can do during Sam Bennett's pre-shot routine: Make a cup of tea. Have a shower. Change the tires on my car. Watch a full tournament without Sam Bennett. Write a thesis. Travel to the moon."

- Reds first baseman Joey Votto, via Twitter, undergoing season-ending shoulder surgery after hitting just .205: "I didn't know I was hurt. Thought I just stunk."

- Adam Herman, on

Twitter: "Every women's hockey biography is like, 'she has a master's in biochemistry and is a cancer researcher at Sloan Kettering' and every men's bio is like, 'his favourite cereal is Fruit Loops.'"

- Another one from Perry: "Pitcher Bartolo Colon says he'll finally retire from professional baseball after pitching one more season of winter ball in his native Dominican Republic. Just think of his farewell tour as One Last Whiff of Colon."

- Funny guy Steve Burgess of Vancouver, on Breaking Bad actor Aaron Paul serving as TV advertising pitchman for an online betting company: "I wish Jesse Pinkman would go back to a more reputable line of work, like dealing meth."

- Ex-LSU football coach Ed Orgeron, to the Little Rock (Ark.) Touchdown Club, when told at his firing he'd receive a \$17.1 million buyout: "What time do you want me to leave and what door do you want me out of, brother?"

- New York Post reader Lloyd Stone, during a recent NFL televised game: "Is there any way to watch this in black and white? Seattle's garish green uniforms should be restricted to prisoners on trash patrol along the Jersey Turnpike."

- RJ Currie again: "The Banjo Bowl outcome: Blue Bombers 54, the flu-ridden Roughriders 20. Saskatchewan QB Cody Fajardo said many Riders were so ill they couldn't keep anything down — including, it seems, the score."

- Producer Soph, on Twitter: "Can I make a suggestion? Team Homan/Flurry = Team Heury. Heury

hard."

- Geoff O'Neil, via Twitter, what a difference 21 years makes: "There were 5,273 Blockbuster video locations in operation the last time the Mariners made the playoffs."

- Dwight Perry: "Clean and jerk' is: a) a composite of two weightlifting movements; b) how baseball hard-liners view the AL and NL season home run record-holders."

- From a FakeKenHolland account on Twitter, in reacting to complaints of high concession prices at Oilers' home games: "All hats collected from Connor's hat-trick celebration will be available for sale, with a complimentary bag of popcorn, at the Rogers Place concession stand starting at the low price of \$225."

- Fark.com headline: "What are you in for? Bank robbery. You? Murder. You? Cheating at fishing."

- Another one from Steve Burgess of Vancouver, on the pain of love for the Canucks: "They get in your blood, and then it's blood poisoning."

- Jack Finarelli of sportscurmudgeon.com, on the recent Broncos-Jaguars game in London: "The people in the UK have lost their queen and their prime minister in the last two months; the pound sterling has tanked to its lowest level since WWII; and now the NFL sends them that game? Haven't those people suffered enough?"

- Headline at the Beaverton: "Poll: Majority of Canadians favour making sports betting illegal again just to get rid of the %&###\$ ads"

- Dwight Perry again: "Taylor Swift made history as the first musical artist to claim all top 10 spots on the Billboard Hot 100 list, for the week of Nov. 5. Kind of like Nick Saban on national signing day."

- One more from RJ Currie: "Australian jockey Blake Shinn stood up in a last-second bid to overtake the leader, and his pants fell down. Might be the first time a horse placed while its rider showed."

- Phil Mushnick again, on a rumoured transaction by the New York Giants: "The Giants reacquire Odell Beckham Jr.? That would be like paying to have your kidney stones put back."

- Vic Tafur of The Athletic, on Raiders' coach Josh McDaniels losing to newly hired and inexperienced coach Jeff Saturday and the Indianapolis Colts in Saturday's first game: "That's like Garry Kasparov walking into Central Park and getting checkmated by a guy with mustard stains on his sweatshirt."

- Headline at the British newspaper iSport, after England and the U.S. played to a 0-0 World Cup tie: "Football o Soccer o"

- Another fark.com offering: "England vs. U.S.A. World Cup match is serious business. The loser has to keep James Corden."

- Alex Kaseberg again: "The Denver Broncos are 3-8 since trading the farm for Russell Wilson. It is the worst trade since Pete Best left the Beatles to play drums for the Cockroachers."

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OBITUARIES

Helen "Nellie" Brad

BRAD, Helen "Nellie"
November 10, 1924 –
December 29, 2022

It is with great sadness that the family of Helen "Nellie" Brad announce her passing on Thursday December 29, 2022 at the age of 98. She is survived by and will be dearly missed by her son Robert (Mona) Brad, daughter Judy (Claude) Lang and daughter Linda Kotlar, sisters Margaret

(Walley) Bazarkiewicz and Sheila Schmick, 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren and numerous brothers and sisters-in-law and nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Peter Brad (1970). Nellie was blessed to have had a long and healthy life. She was born in Scotland and was proud of her Scottish heritage. She was a teacher, a farmer, a homemaker, and most of all a gardener. She took immense pride and pleasure from her yard and garden in Leask. She never missed going to "coffee row" with her lady friends at the restaurant. She "retired" to Saskatoon in 2015 at age 90. She liked to be independent and always did her best to adapt to her changing

circumstances. She loved her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and always had an interest in how they were doing. A funeral service will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 6, 2022 at St Henry's Catholic Church in Leask, Saskatchewan. Arrangements entrusted to David Polzen – Mourning Glory Funeral Services (306)-978-5200. To share memories of Nellie or send condolences please visit www.mourningglory.ca The family is extremely thankful to the staff at Samaritan Place for the exceptional care she received there for the last two years. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Samaritan Place or Kinsmen Telemiracle.

Grace Brown

BROWN – Grace

Grace Bernice Johnson was born on May 31, 1941, to Ruby and Olaf Johnson in the Ordale District of Saskatchewan. She had thirteen siblings and absolutely loved them all. She was raised in a home of strong Christian faith.

Mom met Dad, Carol Brown, and they were married on November 29th, 1958. They resided in Cameo, Saskatchewan and within a couple of years had their first child, Valerie. Beverly was born the following year. Six years later Merv came along, and another six years later, along came Juliane. After her, the family was complete.

Along with her children and their families, Mom loved her sons-in-law Claude, Donny, and Dion. She felt they were her own boys but would refer to them as her great friends. At the time of her death, she had eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, and she had a special place in her heart for each of them. The grandchildren have thousands of stories about spending time with Grandma, as she doted on them and actively knew what was going on in their lives.

Mom loved her garden. She picked raspberries for

fun, and her family and friends loved to join her in the berry patch where so much lighthearted visiting took place. She also loved to arrange her treasured antiques around her yard and plant flowers among them. Her flowers were so beautiful, we feel, because she said she talked to them every day.

In late fall of this year, Mom was diagnosed with glioblastoma, and her health deteriorated very rapidly. It was at this time that our mother displayed the power of her Christian faith. She embraced her fate with pure acceptance and grace, and her Peace was calming to all those who loved her. She explained to us that she was on God's time and that she would see each of us in Heaven again one day. All her children, their spouses, and sixteen grandchildren worked together so that Mom could pass away peacefully in her home. She prayed over all of us and with her loving smile said, "We sure had fun."

When we got her well-worn Bible out to take a picture for the back cover of the memorial card, we found a paper with her writing inside. It was so fitting that Mom would write this:

Lord, when doubt fills my mind, when my heart is in turmoil, quiet me and remind me of hope and cheer. He is my rock where I can hide.

Tootle Doo Mom. See you in Heaven.

Sadly, Mrs Grace Bernice Brown passed away peacefully in the early morning of Wednesday, December 28th, 2022, at the age of 81 years.

Grace is lovingly survived by her children: **Valerie**

Robin and her children: Jennifer (Grant) Thiel and their children: Breck, Dalen, Elayna, Leanna, and Gemma; Jaime (Mike) Partyka and their children: Trey, Thane, and Aline; **Bev** (Don) Nikolaisen and their children: Bailey and Shaye (Braeden Kugler); **Merv** Brown and his children: Shelby (Danny) Hugie and Colby (Hillary); **Juliane** (Dion) Lamontagne and their children: Graham, Dustin, and Ember; her siblings: Kate Gabrielle, Shirley (Al) Larsen, William (Connie) Johnson, Clarence (Dawn) Johnson, Aaron (Arlene) Johnson; and her brother-in-law: Garnet (Shirley) Brown.

Grace was predeceased by her husband of 58 years: Carol Brown; her parents: Olaf and Ruby Johnson; her parents-in-law: Bert and Gladys Brown; her son-in-law: Claude Robin; her siblings and spouses: Annie and Gunner Rask, Margaret and Marvin Agrey, Ida and Frank Peake, Eileen and Mike Krgovich, Les Johnson, Ernest Johnson, Dorothy Johnson, Marvin Johnson, and Andre Gabrielle; her sister-in-law and spouse: Bernice and Ole Anderson; her niece: Gwen Anderson.

There was a private family Memorial Service that took place, and a Celebration of Life will be announced in the spring.

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium, Lynn Anderson & Tammy Smart, Funeral Directors, Shellbrook, SK. 306-747-2828.

Serious Incident Response Team launches in Saskatchewan

On Jan. 1, The Police (Serious Incident Response Team) Amendment Act, 2021 came into force, formally establishing a serious incident response team (SIRT) in Saskatchewan.

"These changes will allow the SIRT to engage in any serious incident involving police, from initiating a full investigation to reviewing, overseeing, assisting or delegating one," Minister of Justice and Attorney General Bronwyn Eyre said in a statement. "The Act coming into force completes the transition to a civilian-led, independent police oversight body and brings Saskatchewan's police oversight regime into line with most other Canadian jurisdictions."

Acting under the Civilian Executive Director, SIRT members will investigate

matters where serious injury or death may have occurred while in the custody of police, as a result of the actions of a police officer, or where sexual assault or interpersonal violence involving police are alleged. Other investigations may also be conducted where the Executive Director believes they are in the public interest. SIRT can also assume conduct of an ongoing investigation at any stage.

"The people of Saskatchewan rightly hold their police officers to a high standard," Public Complaints Commission Executive Director Greg Gudelot said in a statement. "A fully-operational SIRT ensures that serious incidents involving Saskatchewan police will be investigated through an independent and transparent process designed to ensure a fair and high-quality investigation for all those involved."

SIRT investigations will apply to municipal police officers and RCMP operating in Saskatchewan, as well as certain prescribed classes of special constables, such as Highway Traffic Patrol and Conservation officers.

The legislation also requires SIRT to include Indigenous representation by appointing a First Nations or Métis community liaison officer in matters where the individual involved is of First Nations or Métis ancestry. Appointed liaisons can provide assistance to the Executive Director in a variety of forms throughout the investigation. The Executive Director has the discretion to appoint a community liaison in all other matters.

Summaries of SIRT investigations will be published online to ensure transparency in the investigation process and provide the public with informative results.



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Growing food indoors in winter

By Patricia Hanbidge

Like many of you, the bite of winter has truly hit home. With every year that goes by, I realize that winter is less attractive due to the extreme cold and I am quite sure that I lived in a milder climate in my past lives! The ability to travel to warmer climes does help to circumvent Mother Nature's winter wrath, but there are also ways to help achieve this without ever leaving home!

Creating a welcome space to help us to "live the dream" by creating a life that is truly linked to all the love of gardening and horticulture twelve months of the year. Experiencing the wonder of a flower opening, a seed sprouting or dead twigs miraculously sprouting green leaves could be a regular occurrence in your life. Better yet, with the rising costs of literally everything you can also offset some of your grocery costs by growing a little bit at home during the winter months.

We can easily grow at least some of the produce we consume - even at -30°C outside. There is nothing like fresh herbs to cook with and building a salad with what you have grown. Nutritionists share that we should be adopting a more plant-based diet that is rich in fruits and vegetables and the Canada Food Guide has shifted towards recommending a high proportion of our diet to be made up of plant-based food. Plants offer us a host of health benefits, bringing fibre, vitamins and minerals. What they also offer us is suggestions that they also contain compounds

that prevent a number of life threatening diseases which cannot be substituted with dietary supplements. All this and I have not even mentioned the exquisite taste of what we grow ourselves.

As a horticulturist, I of course appreciate and even need to have that daily fix of growing things. Growing food to me is extremely important to my green thumb and my prowess as a chef. It all stemmed from the satisfaction I gleaned from being part of generations that value feeding the family with food grown with our own hands. Hippocrates proclaimed almost 2500 years ago: "Let food be thy medicine and medicine by thy food."

My hope is that I can encourage you to make this winter the beginning of growing at least some of the food you consume. It is not necessary to purchase any fancy grow systems, that can range from a few hundred into the thousands of dollars. Many of these systems claim to be state of the art plug, go and

grow but often have complex hydroponic or other systems that can be complex to manage. Growing plants for food does not need to be a complex chore.

If we wish to be successful, we simply need to provide what plants need to grow. Water, light, oxygen, nutrition and warmth are the simple essentials for success. If you are new to growing plants indoors, keep it as basic as possible. You will need to invest in some type of light that can easily be moved up and down over the plants you are growing. A simple fluorescent or LED shop light might be the answer to providing for your plants as they are both economical and simple to install. However, if you look online or visit your favourite garden centre or supply company, the sky's the limit with what you invest.

Hanbidge is the Lead Horticulturist with Orchid Horticulture. Find us at www.orchidhort.com; by email at info@orchidhort.com; on facebook @ [orchidhort](https://www.facebook.com/orchidhort) and on instagram at [#orchidhort](https://www.instagram.com/orchidhort).



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