

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Thursday, February 19, 2026

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Chitek Lake enjoys first Métis Festival, Snowmobile Rally



Keith Boyer volunteers as timer for the Swede saw competition.

By BEVRA FEE
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

The Chitek Lake Métis Local staged its first ever Winter Festival on Saturday, Feb. 14. With a long list of Métis-influenced traditional winter activities, the organization is hopeful that the festival will be the first of many held in the years to come.

“Hopefully it will grow each year,” commented Métis Local President, Warren Boyer.

With a lineup of activities for all ages, the event was billed as a welcoming and fun day to enjoy activities and food. Entry into the activities was free, and many participants were trying the activities for the first time.

With guidance from the volunteers,

youth were learning how to navigate the swede saw, while a slate of experienced outdoor cooks were trying their skills at starting a fire from whatever nature supplied in order to melt snow for the tea-boiling contest.

The egg toss between two partners was an entertaining sport (to watch, anyway) as one partner was throwing and the other was attempting to catch the egg intact. The chainsaw race saw some slick times clocked by the experienced loggers, while the novice entrants were able to test their times against the veterans.

Out on the lake, the fish derby portion of the day’s events had anglers trying their luck on the frozen water. With temperatures hovering around 0° C, the day was perfect for the outdoor activities both on and off the ice.

Centered around the Métis Hall in Chitek Lake, indoor activities were also on the docket. While children enjoyed colouring and puzzles inside, hungry contestants moved in and out for food. The weather was ideal for cooking hot dogs over the steady outdoor fire pit while not missing out on the activities at hand.

Late-day events moved inside the hall, with a jigging contest and moose calling posted for an early evening time slot.

The beautiful weather on Feb. 14 was also a boon for the Chitek Lake Bush Buddies Snowmobile Club to host their annual snowmobile rally.

With nearly \$5,000 in prize money up for grabs, more than 200 snowmobile enthusiasts showed up for the day-long trek through the bush trails and across the lake. Many door prizes were also raffled

off at the end of the event, while a pancake breakfast kicked off the fun-filled day.

The Chitek Lake Bush Buddies maintain the trail all season and committee member Warren Kidd commented that the trail was in great shape for the riders.

“We have 207 riders this year, up from last year. It has been a busy year keeping the trails groomed,” he added.

Prize winners from the Chitek Lake Bush Buddies rally are as follows:

1st Place: Yogi Miskaw (\$2,500); 2nd Place: Norm Dumanski (\$1,500); 3rd Place: Deon Keller (\$750).

First Rider Prize: Nicolas Miller; Second Rider Prize: Keith Rudolph.

First Ladies Prize: Ambria Stewart.

50/50 winner (\$1,250): Daley Laing.

More photos on page 9

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Senior Elks advance in league playoffs

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

The Shellbrook Elks Senior Hockey Club took to the ice in Shellbrook on Tuesday, Feb. 10, for game two of their Twin River Hockey League quarterfinal series against the Cudworth Tricky Maroons.

Game one of the best-of-three series, played in Cudworth on Sunday, Feb. 8, saw the Elks and the Maroons play to an 8-8 tie in regulation, before the Elks squeaked out a win in overtime.

With the Tricky Maroons needing a win to stay alive, the Elks left nothing to chance in game two, striking

just 55 seconds into the game on a goal from Cole Duperreault, assisted by Matthew Flodell and Nick Martin.

The teams settled into the game after this early goal, but it wasn't too long before the Maroons pulled out some tricks of their own, with goals from Kris Liefers, assisted by Jared Becker and Erling Lefsrud, and Graehme Fioleau, assisted by Brett Boehm and Tanner Medernach.

The Maroons' lead was short-lived, however, as Kaiden Couture tied the game at 2-2 on assists from Rylan Moe and Jody Blais to round off the period's score-sheet.

As the teams came out for the second period, the Elks once again did their best to gain an edge over the Maroons by tallying twice within the first four minutes of action to take a 4-2 lead. Nick Martin netted the first goal, on assists from Dallas Galloway and Jody Blais, and Cole Duperreault followed up with his second goal of the game, unassisted.

The Maroons cut the Elks' lead in half just after the midway point of the period, on a goal from Tanner Medernach, assisted by Brett Boehm and Dawson Boehm. But the Maroons then shot themselves in the foot by getting careless on the power play, allowing

Ethan Skauge to score shorthanded on assists from Dallas Galloway and Sam Miller.

Then, with a late hat trick goal from Cole Duperreault, assisted by Rylan Moe and Matthew Flodell, the Elks found themselves up 6-3 heading into the third period.

Not content to sit back and hold on to their three-goal lead. The Elks kept the offence coming in the third period, starting with a goal from Ashton Miller, assisted by Nick Martin and Cole Tanchuk.

Levi Logan added another Elks goal just under a minute later, with assists from Brendon Beaulac and Kaiden Couture, and Dallas

Galloway made it 9-3 Elks two minutes after that, on assists from Kaiden Couture and Jody Blais.

With the game effectively out of reach, Cole Tanchuk added an unassisted goal, and the Elks held on for a 10-3 win to close out the quarterfinal series.

The Elks now advance to face off against the Allan Flames in the semi-finals. Dates for the games in the series are yet to be set.

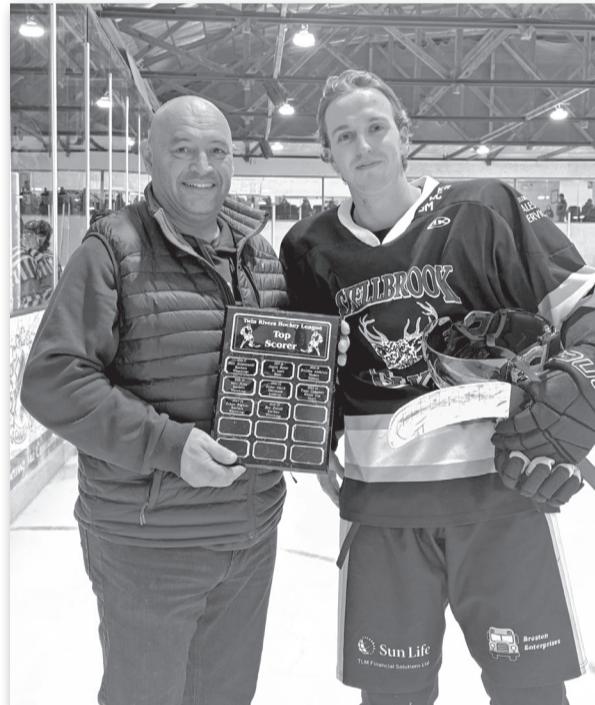
In Provincials action over the weekend, the Elks travelled to Lucky Lake on Friday, Feb. 13, for game two of their second round series against the Lucky Lake-Beechy Lakers. The Elks earned a hard-fought 5-3 victory

in game one of the series in Shellbrook, and needed a win to close out the series and advance to round 3.

The Elks were unable to find their offence in game two, falling 5-1 to the Lakers, and making game three necessary the following evening.

The Elks fell behind in game three, but fought with everything they had to tie the score at 4-4 with just 30 seconds left on the clock in the third period. In the ensuing overtime period, the Elks were unable to finish their comeback, leaving the Lakers to take the 5-4 win and the series.

The Lakers now advance to face the Macklin Mohawks in round three.



During game two, Shellbrook Elks forward Cole Duperreault (right) was presented with plaques for being the Twin Rivers Hockey League's top scorer, as well as its regular season MVP.

Lenten Luncheons 2026

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25
LEASK TABERNACLE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY
SPEAKER: DEACONESS BERYL PEAKE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
PARKSIDE IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SPEAKER: DEACON RON JOHNSON

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
ST. AGATHA'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
SPEAKER: PASTOR EMMANUEL ARISTIDE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN, SHELLBROOK
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ST. ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
SPEAKER: PASTOR JORDAN CLARK

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25
SHELLBROOK PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY
SPEAKER: PASTOR LORNE VALUCK

Each Lenten Lunch begins at 12:00PM with lunch and a devotional to follow with everything being done by 1:00PM

Holy Week Schedule will be announced at a later time
Free will offerings are welcome; all proceeds go towards the Shellbrook and Area Ministerial account.

CAMEO COMMUNITY SNOWMOBILE RALLY Saturday, February 21

Register 12 noon to 3 p.m. at Cameo Hall
6 miles west of Shellbrook, then 2 miles north - on Cameo-Buckingham Road

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OR RALPH AT 306-747-3611

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2nd Prize: 20% of ticket sales
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Canwood Regional Park Supper and Auction

Canwood Elks Community Centre

Sat., March 7, 2026

REFRESHMENTS 5 PM
SUPPER at 6 PM ~ Auction to follow
Adults \$25.00 ~ 6-12 yrs. \$15.00
5 & Under Free

50/50 DRAW & RAFFLE TABLES

Proceeds to Canwood Regional Park and Community Projects



Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

(The following council highlights are not the approved minutes of council for Feb. 9.)

Shellbrook's Town Council held its regular meeting in person and via teleconference on Monday, Feb. 9.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, Councillors Pam Boettcher, Cheryl Ledding, Brent Miller, Kathleen Nording, Arlette Segberg, and Tim Settee, and the town's CAO, Sigourney O'Halligan.

Mayor Otterson called council's regular meeting to order, beginning with the customary Treaty 6 land acknowledgement in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation. Then, it approved the meeting's agenda, adopted the minutes of its Jan. 19 regular meeting, and reviewed received correspondence, including a letter from the RM of Shellbrook.

The brief letter focused on the town and R.M.'s relationship when it comes to recreation, and highlighted two areas in which collaboration can be improved: financial and operational clarity, and customer service and communication. The R.M. also requested an itemized breakdown of the town's recreation operating costs and any available information or documentation outlining current planning, priorities, or considerations for recreation.

Council agreed it was important to provide this information, to strengthen and give more structure to the town and R.M.'s relationship.

Moving on to the reports of administration and committees, the CAO Report was up first. In it, CAO O'Halligan noted that a preliminary review of 2026 capital projects has been completed, and that council will be able to review it, and the operational budget, at its next meeting.

O'Halligan also reported that work is underway on implementation of the new CSO camera system, with hands on training and equipment install pending, and that the town's policies for the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre are being reviewed and will be updated ahead of the next season.

Touching briefly on the water treatment plant project, CAO O'Halligan informed council that the town remains in consideration for the CHIF grant's fall intake. The news was welcome, after the town received notice its application hadn't been accepted for the spring intake.

Councillor Miller said he doesn't like the idea of waiting around for the "next grant to come up," and expressed hope that council will begin work on the preliminary design and develop a "robust plan" to get a project shovel-ready. Meanwhile, Councillor Settee suggested approaching

MP Randy Hoback to advocate on the town's behalf.

In the mayor and council forum, Councillor Miller once again brought up the idea of beautifying Main Street, noting that plans had been made but little seems to have been done. Councillor Miller suggested installing a sign and flower beds like at the entrance to town, and approaching the owners of the grain bins to see if they would allow them to be painted. Councillor Settee added that lighting should be installed as well.

CAO O'Halligan said the plan is to survey residents and hold a contest to generate design ideas.

In a sparse agenda of new business, council began by considering and approving the year-end transfer of \$569,773.61 to the town's reserves.

Council also reviewed Public Works' inventory list, as well as the vacation and overtime summary for municipal employees.

Mistawasis woman identified in suspicious death

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

A 39-year-old woman from Mistawasis Nêhiyawak (Mistawasis First Nation) has been identified as the deceased in a Feb. 7 fire at a Prince Albert business.

On Feb. 4, at approximately 7:15 a.m., the Prince Albert RCMP Detachment received a report of a truck stuck in a field approximately 40 kilometres east of Prince Albert, off of Highway #302.

Officers responded, and investigation determined that the truck was previously reported as stolen to Prince Albert RCMP on January 29. The vehicle was towed to a business on 41st Street East in Prince Albert at the direction of police.

Three days later, the

Prince Albert RCMP Detachment received a report that Prince Albert Police Service responded to a fire at the same business on 41st Street East. Multiple vehicles at the business were on fire, including the truck that was towed there on Feb. 4. The fire was extinguished by the Prince Albert Fire Department, and investigators determined it to be suspicious in nature.

Then, on Feb. 9, the Prince Albert RCMP Detachment received a report from Prince Albert Police Service's Forensic Identification Section that while investigating the fire, a deceased individual was located in the truck that had been towed.

The death was deemed suspicious in nature, and, based on the evidence gathered to date and the con-

nexion to the Prince Albert RCMP's investigation into the stolen vehicle, the Saskatchewan RCMP's Homicide Investigation Unit was engaged to take the lead on the investigation.

As a result of investigation, the deceased individual has been identified as 39-year-old Stacey Badger from Mistawasis Nêhiyawak (Mistawasis First Nation). Police say her family has been notified and victim services made available to them.

Saskatchewan RC-

MP's Homicide Investigation Unit continue to actively investigate this incident. Investigators have checked surrounding neighbourhoods for witnesses and video captured on security cameras and doorbell cameras. The Homicide Investigation Unit continues to collect and analyze evidence and are now asking the public for their assistance.

Anyone with information about this incident, or who witnessed suspicious activity in

the area of 41st Street East in Prince Albert between the evening of Feb. 6 and the morning of Feb. 7, should report it to police immediately.

Investigators are also asking anyone who had recent contact with Stacey Badger to please contact police. Saskatchewan RCMP can be contacted by dialling 310-RCMP (7267). Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.

Canwood stabbing

Two people were taken to hospital, following a double stabbing at a Canwood business on Monday, Feb. 9.

According to police, one victim's injuries were serious in nature, and the other person's injuries were non-life-threatening.

Roger Herman, 33, from La Loche has been charged with aggravated assault, and assault causing bodily harm. Herman made his first appearance in Prince Albert Provincial Court on Thursday, Feb. 12.

VILLAGE OF SHELL LAKE ADMINISTRATOR

The Village of Shell Lake invites applications for the position of an Administrator (4 days/week).

Duties include:

- Organizing and attending all council meetings, ensuring bylaws are in place and up to date, recommending new initiatives to council and implementing council priorities.
- Prepare and monitor the annual financial plan, including the general operating and capital budgets and administer the entire taxation process.
- Complete required forms and reports.

The successful applicant will have the ability to work independently and manage time, possess strong communication, analytical and organizational skills in addition to respecting confidentiality. Possessing computer skills, specifically using MuniSoft, Word, Excel. Experience with MuniSoft software is an asset.

Preference for candidates with a Local Government Authority certificate, UMAAS Standard Certificate, or accounting and administrative skills from previous work experience and willingness to complete the required courses.

Closing date for applications: Until position is filled.

If you are interested in a rewarding career with pension plan benefits, please submit a detailed resume with references and salary expectations in confidence to the address listed below.

Mayor Wendy Penner
Village of Shell Lake
Box 588
Hague, SK S0K 1X0
(306) 220-4217

Email: wendy4379@gmail.com

We thank all those that apply but only those applicants selected for an interview will be notified.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

VILLAGE OF CANWOOD OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

The Village of Canwood is accepting applications for the position of **Operations Assistant**. This is a permanent part-time position. The operations and maintenance of the Public Works and Utilities and all other duties as assigned by the Village Foreman, maintenance, snow removal, grass cutting, garbage pick-up and execution of all functions. Position offers competitive benefits package.

The successful candidate will possess:

- Minimum of Grade 12/GED
- Valid Class 5 driver's license, abstract must be supplied
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal record check
- Be able to work independently and follow directions
- Ability to service and maintain Village equipment is preferred
- Experience operating various heavy equipment (Grader, Skidsteer, etc)
- Be willing to work towards the Class 1 Water Treatment & Distribution Certificate
- Be willing to work towards Class 1 Wastewater Treatment & Collection Certificate

Applicants should submit a detailed resume with references:

Village of Canwood
571 Main Street
Box 172
Canwood, SK S0J 0K0
Canwood.town@sasktel.net

Posting closes on **March 5, 2026** at **3:00pm**. The Village of Canwood wishes to thank all applicants for their interest and advises that only those to be interviewed will be contacted.

FORM H

Notice of Call for Nominations (Municipal Elections)

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of the candidates for the office(s) of:

Mayor: Village of Marcellin

will be received by the undersigned on the 11th day of March, 2026, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Marcellin Village Office, 105 Main Street,

and

during regular business hours on Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026 to Tuesday, March 10th, 2026, at the Marcellin Village Office.

Nomination forms must be accompanied by a completed version of the Village's Public Disclosure Statement, as required pursuant to *The Municipalities Act* and *The Local Government Election Act, 2015*.

Nomination forms along with the Village of Marcellin Public Disclosure Statements may be obtained at the Marcellin Village Office.

Dated this 19th day of February, 2026.

Leanne McCormick
Returning Officer

OPINION

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February 19, 2026

Trade talks with U.S. on shaky ground

At times, as one thinks of the Canada-U.S. relationship in the new context of President Donald Trump's second term, it's hard not to feel as if we've been transported into a classic mobster film.

Mr. Trump would, of course, be the mob boss, who clearly believes the world exists solely for his self-aggrandizement and self-enrichment. In this film, his promises of "protection" are more akin to threats, and if he makes you an offer... well, you'd best not refuse.

At other times, it feels like we're stuck in the twist of a domestic thriller – the part where our once seemingly perfect partner has been revealed as the monster. In this film, the monster promises to love us and never hurt us again, so long as we behave exactly as he wishes. It's for our own good, after all.

In both these metaphors, we've arrived at the point in the plot where a decision needs to be made. Either we accept the status quo, or we risk everything and fight against it.

In his speech to world leaders at the World Economic Forum gathering in Davos, Switzerland, in January, Prime Minister Mark Carney made his beliefs about Canada's choice abundantly clear, as he spoke about the "rupture" in the long-standing world order.

"You cannot live within the lie of mutual benefit through integration when integration becomes the source of your subordination," he said. "When the rules no longer protect you, you must protect yourself."

Though Mr. Carney didn't mention the United States by name, Mr. Trump took his words rather personally and responded with all of his hallmark grace and poise, calling Mr. Carney ungrateful and suggesting that Canada wouldn't exist without the U.S.

Mr. Trump also rescinded Canada's invite to join his Gaza Board of Peace (not that Canada planned to pay the \$1 billion entry bribe), and threatened to slap 100 per cent tariffs on Canadian goods if it proceeded with any sort of trade deal with China.



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

A few days later, he added a threat to tariff and decertify Bombardier aircraft, accusing Canada of "illegally" refusing to certify American-made Gulfstream 500, 600, 700 and 800 planes. Ironically, some of these models aren't even technically certified in the U.S., having been granted exemptions to deal with fuel icing issues (something of legitimate concern in the cold Canadian climate).

It was in this chaotic context that Jamil Jivani, the Conservative MP for Bowmanville-Oshawa North and a long-time friend of Vice President J.D. Vance, took it upon himself to travel to Washington a couple weeks ago to discuss ways for Canada and the U.S. to work together.

"What I found across the board was optimism about how we can move trade negotiations forward," Mr. Jivani said of his trip in a National Post column.

"I was particularly happy to hear key insights on how we can make progress on specific sectoral priorities, and the importance of strategic diplomacy."

To Mr. Jivani's credit, it's not common for an MP to go to such lengths for his or her constituents. As part of Canada's auto manufacturing heartland, the Bowmanville-Oshawa North riding has much at stake in ongoing CUSMA negotiations.

At the same time, the move also feels like more theatrics from a Conservative opposition that talks a big game about working with Mr. Carney's government, while actively working to undermine it and criticizing it at every available opportunity.

As an opposition MP, Mr. Jivani had no authority to speak on behalf of the government or negotiate in any way, making it unclear what he really expected to accomplish, beyond garnering some headlines.

The only way to evaluate Mr. Jivani's trip, then, is to assess what's happened in the days since.

As a Canadian MP, one would expect Mr. Jivani to be championing Canada.

OF COURSE, AMERICAN OLYMPIC WINNERS
WILL GIVE ME THEIR GOLD MEDALS.



LaMontagneArt.com

But, if a report of the meeting published by *Semafor*, an independent American news publication, is anything to go by, it seems he's more interested in parroting the Trump administration's demands and talking points.

One of Mr. Jivani's takeaways, for instance, was that the path to "positive dialogue" with the Trump administration is to avoid any further trade deals with China.

"It kind of shows to me — before we're even really doing everything possible to get this done with the US, now we're willing to work with a government that, less than a decade ago, we were saying was a genocidal state," Mr. Jivani said. "Now, all of a sudden, we're offering to import their electric vehicles while workers in my community in the auto industry are getting laid off."

For context, Canada manufactures only 25,000 to 40,000 EVs per year, so importing 49,000 EVs from China isn't disrupting a large manufacturing base in Canada's auto sector.

If Mr. Jivani wanted to seriously discuss threats to the Canadian auto industry, it would surely be more prudent to focus on the Trump administration's efforts to draw manufacturing to the U.S. at his riding's expense.

What's more, in echoing the Trump administration's warnings about dealing with China, Mr. Jivani is forgetting that the trade deal with China was an

important win for Canadian producers, reopening China as a market for canola, peas, and beef.

Meanwhile, Mr. Trump's actions since Mr. Jivani's visit have further underscored the reality that any agreement Canada reaches with the U.S. isn't worth the paper it's written on.

Last week, in the midst of another tirade, Mr. Trump threatened to block the opening of the Gordie Howe International Bridge, which connects Ontario and Michigan, until Ottawa "treats the United States with the fairness and respect that we deserve."

"I will not allow this bridge to open until the United States is fully compensated for everything we have given them," Mr. Trump said, ignoring the fact that Canada paid for the bridge, but is allowing Michigan co-ownership.

Later that same day, reports emerged that Mr. Trump is "privately weighing" walking away from CUSMA – a trade deal he has called awful, despite being the president to negotiate and sign it.

To look at everything Mr. Trump has said, done, and threatened to do and conclude that Canada is somehow the problem, is a textbook example of blaming the victim.

Until sanity is restored to the U.S., Canada might be wisest to follow the old wisdom of not negotiating with terrorists.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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

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Leask Legion hosts zone cribbage tournament

By VALERIE PRIESTLEY
Leask Legion

On Saturday, Jan. 24, the Leask Legion Branch #79 hosted a Zone Crib Tournament at the Leask Legion Hall. Although there was a small turn-out, the participants had a great time and a lovely lunch, provided by the Leask Legion Branch.

Winners from this competition will go on to play at Districts in Frenchman Butte in February.

There are two categories of competition: Opens, where competitors compete for Provincial Championship, and Closed, where competitors compete for National Championship.

The competitors in the Closed category were from Battleford and because of the weather, opted to do that portion of the tournament in Battleford.

In the Open category, Patty Ciona came first in singles,

followed by Andy Ciona in second place. Patty and Andy also teamed up to finish first in doubles.

In the Closed category, Chris Lynn won in singles, with Gord Kindrachuk placing second, while the duo of Todd Patterson and Gerald MacDonald won in dou-

bles, followed by Verna Cote and Beryl Hydukewich in second place. The team of Verna Cote, Beryl Hydukewich, John Woodworm, and Gord Kindrachuk won in the teams contest.

Congratulations to all the winners and good luck at the next level of play.



Doubles winners Patty Ciona and Andy Ciona accept their prize from Zone Commander Alan Carswell (middle).



Singles winner Patty Ciona accepts her prize from Zone Commander Alan Carswell.

Mark Carney needs to listen and catch up

Dear Editor,

I write today to congratulate Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe for not letting Mark Carney sacrifice canola producers during his recent trade discussions in China.

Saskatchewan farmers know that overseas market access for canola has been low on the list of Liberal priorities. Thankfully, our Premier understands a simple truth: if you want to grow the Canadian economy, you must sell to the world.

While Premier Moe is doing his part, the same cannot be said for our Prime Minister.

Trade deals are only as strong as the infrastructure behind them. Our exporters continue to experience congested ports, limited rail capacity, and aging trade corridors. Fifteen years of underinvestment and regulatory delays have made it harder for Canadian goods to reach global markets.

If Carney truly believes in growing global mar-

ket access, he must start making serious, sustained investments in our ports, rail, and export infrastructure.

As Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre has stated, we must trade with China as we always have - but without losing our compass or our national security.

Saskatchewan knows how to lead in the global marketplace. It's now time for Mark Carney to listen and catch up.

Randy Hoback, MP
Prince Albert

Vote and voice

Dear editor,

At an elementary school event, I witnessed a great example of nurturing parenting. The parent announced it was time to go. One child protested and pleaded. The parent listened attentively and responded to the child's words while playfully herding their two children to the door. The parent's listening was not a surrender of authority, but a way of guiding the child through frustration.

Nurturing parenting often means giving a child a voice, but not a vote.

Our first-past-the-post electoral system offers an opposite example. Even when your vote helps elect an MP, that MP often has no voice. As Andrew Coyne explains in *The Crisis in Canadian Democracy*, MPs historically used their voices to "consider, refine and pass" legislation. Increasingly, they are whipped by party discipline (and/or personal ambition) to keep their party in power. Omnibus bills and truncated debate times further muzzle our MPs, reducing Parliamentary voting to a rubber stamp.

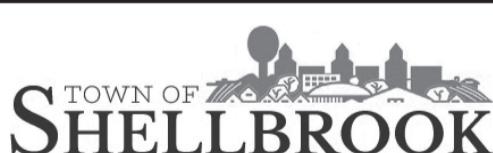
Proportional representation (PR) would change this dynamic. Coyne also explains how PR governments promote stable, consensus-based policy. Those consensus-based policies are because MPs have a voice. Also, because the votes a party gets translates into seats, voters have a voice.

Which raises a timely question: if PR converts votes into voices—both in Parliament and across the country—would Alberta be holding a referendum on leaving Canada at all?

Support electoral reform with PR. Visit FairVote.ca or CharterChallenge.ca to learn how.

35% votes = 35% seats—simple math, fair representation

Nancy Carswell – Shellbrook, SK



The Town of Shellbrook currently has an exciting opportunity for a

Full-time Building and Grounds Operator Level 1

We are seeking an enthusiastic person who enjoys working with the public. In this role, you will need to have the ability to multi-task, be safety orientated & pay close attention to detail. Includes indoor and outdoor tasks and manual lifting.

Submit your resume to the Town Office in person at 71 Main Street, or by

mail: Box 40, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0
email: cao@townofshellbrook.ca

Competition closes when suitable candidate is found.

SPIRITWOOD DENTAL CLINIC NOW OPEN!
ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS AND EMERGENCIES

306-883-3366
107 Main Street,
Spiritwood, SK S0J 2M0
MON - FRI: 9AM TO 5PM
spiritwooddentalclinic.ca

SCAN ME

R.M. OF CANWOOD NO. 494

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

MOWER OPERATOR

The successful applicant must be able to carry out assigned duties without supervision and shall answer to the Public Works Supervisor.

Interested candidates are invited to submit their resumes by **March 12, 2026**, including driver abstract, qualifications, experience, and work-related references to:

R.M. of Canwood No. 494
Box 10, 641 Main Street
Canwood, Sask. S0J 0K0
Email: admin@rmofcanwood.ca

RCMP releases February offenders list

By JORDAN TWISS
*Shellbrook Chronicle
 Reporter*

The Saskatchewan RCMP has updated its list of the province's most wanted offenders, in hopes the public can assist it in tracking them down.

The updated list includes four wanted individuals with known connections to the area.

Police note that this list is not a complete list of all persons wanted by the Saskatchewan RCMP. Offenders appearing on this list are determined by a data-driven scoring system using the Crime Severity Index, a Statistics Canada measurement that looks at both the number and the relative severity of crimes. Factors such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, religion, sexuality or disability are not considered in the scoring process.

Still on the list is 37-year-

old Brennan Harold Sakebow, who's wanted for: assault (two counts), mischief under \$5,000, public mischief, failure to comply with undertaking (two counts), aggravated assault, breaking and entering, possession of prohibited weapon, pointing a firearm (two counts), careless use of firearm, disguise with intent, discharging firearm with intent, forcible confinement, and possession of prohibited firearm.

Sakebow is described as 5'10" and 194 lbs., with black hair and brown eyes. Police believe he may be in Saskatoon, Meadow Lake, or Pelican Lake First Nation.

Also still on the list 24-year-old Darnell Lafond, who's wanted for sexual assault, assault with a weapon, pointing a firearm, forcible confinement, uttering threats, possession of a weapon for dangerous purposes, unauthorized possession of a firearm, failure to

comply, and careless use of a firearm (two counts).

Lafond is described as 6'0" and 154 lbs., with brown hair and brown eyes. It is unknown if he has any notable scars or tattoos.

Lafond has known connections to Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, Mistawasis First Nation, Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation, and Blaine Lake.

The first new addition to this month's most wanted offenders list is 27-year-old Chance Smith (alias: Swaby Koa), who is wanted for robbery, uttering threats, possession of weapon for dangerous purpose (two counts), carrying a concealed weapon, aggravated assault (two counts), breaking and entering, failure to comply with release order, and being disguised with intent.

Smith is described as 6'2" and 153 lbs., with black hair and brown eyes. He has 98 tattooed on the left side his face, Last Chance XIX tattooed on his left forearm,

and Last Chance tattooed on his left wrist.

Smith has known connections to the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, and the Muskoday First Nation.

The other new addition to the most wanted offenders list is 32-year-old Destanie Chanalquay, who is wanted for kidnapping, robbery, assault causing bodily harm, and uttering threats.

Chanalquay is described as 5'8" and 187 lbs., with black hair and brown eyes. She has BPBC and Boss tattooed on her right hand, BPBC tattooed on her right wrist, and TK tattooed on her left hand.

Chanalquay has known connections to Big Riv-

er, Dillon, Île-à-la-Crosse, Turnor Lake, Meadow Lake, Buffalo Narrows, St George's Hill, Cole Bay, Cold Lake, AB, Viking, AB, and Taber, AB.



Destanie Chanalquay.



Brennan Harold Sakebow.

Darnell Lafond.

Chance Smith.

News Media Canada
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**When social
 media blocks your
 access to the
 news, turn to your
 local newspaper.**

LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER R.M. OF SPIRITWOOD NO. 496

Land Descriptions:

**SW 2-50-10-W3
 NE 31-49-9-W3**

**NW 2-50-10-W3
 SE 26-49-10-W3**

NE 3-50-10-W3

- NW 2, SW 2 & NE 3 must be sold as a package. Both North quarters accessed through SW 2.
- Land is located approximately 15 miles south-east of the Town of Spiritwood, SK.
- Approximately 735 titled acres, of which approximately 342 acres are cultivated land.
- Includes yardsite – additional details provided on Website.

Conditions:

1. Highest or any Offer not necessarily accepted.
2. Bidding will be conducted by ongoing tender. Once all qualifying bids are received, the top 3 bidders will be informed of the highest bid on each quarter they have bid on. Bidders will then be provided the opportunity to declare their bid final or to increase their bid at least 2% above the last highest bid. Once all bidders have declared their final bid, the bidders shall be informed of the Vendor's decision. **Only the top 3 bidders will be eligible to re-bid.**
3. All bids must be in writing and accompanied by certified payment in the amount of \$10,000 per quarter bid on, payable to Battle River Law in Trust. Payment will be returned without interest if offer is not accepted.
4. Closing Bid Date: March 19, 2026.
5. Possession Date: Within 15 days of obtaining consent of beneficiaries or court approval.
6. Acceptance is subject to approval of beneficiaries of the Estate or Court Approval, to be obtained by Vendor.
7. Balance of purchase price for the successful offer, plus GST (if applicable), to be paid to Battle River Law in Trust on or before the Possession Date or the deposit will be forfeited.
8. All 2026 property taxes payable by Purchaser.
9. Successful offeror(s) to enter formal purchase agreement following tender.
10. Land to be sold as one package or as individual quarters. ***NOTE:** All LSDs in NW 31 are tied and must be sold together. Also NW2, SW 2 and NE 3 must be sold together for access reasons. Package bids must specify price offered for each quarter.
11. Property, including the home and outbuildings, sold "as is".
12. Vendor to have access to the yard to remove scrap metal and personal property until August 31, 2026. All items on the property thereafter remain with the Purchaser.

Further information available on Website: battleriverlaw.ca

For more information contact: Michelle Spence, 306-445-6177, [michelle@battleriverlaw.ca](mailto: michelle@battleriverlaw.ca)

Offers must be received no later than 12:00p.m. March 19, 2026. All tenders must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "Do Not Open: Dagenais Land" to: Battle River Law, #201, 1291 – 102nd Street (Box 905), North Battleford, SK, S9A 2Z3, Attention: Michelle Spence.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER VILLAGE OF MEDSTEAD

The Village of Medstead is currently accepting applications for Administrator with employment to begin on March 1, 2026.

Reporting directly to council, the Administrator is responsible for the operations of the municipality in accordance with provincial legislation and the bylaws and policies of the Village. The Administrator will work closely with all village employees.

Key Responsibilities:

- Oversee all municipal operations, reporting directly to Council
- Lead Financial management; bookkeeping, payroll, bank reconciliations, budget preparation and financial statements.
- Manage and support staff, fostering a positive team environment
- Research and write grant applications to secure funding for community projects
- Draft, interpret and enforce municipal bylaws
- Organize and attend Council meetings, prepare agendas and record minutes
- Create reports and documents to support Council and community initiatives
- Manage digital communications

What we're looking for:

- Proven experience in administration and office management
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office, experience with Munisoft software is an asset
- Strong Organizational, time management and multitasking skills
- Excellent interpersonal and communication abilities
- Discretion and professionalism in handling confidential matters
- Ability to interpret policies, bylaws, and legislation
- Bondable status
- Minimum Standard Certification in Local Government Administration (Or willingness to obtain)
- UMAAS Standard Certificate
- Proven experience as municipal administrator or senior leadership in municipal setting

We invite you to submit your cover letter and resume (Including references) to:

Village of Medstead

Box 148

Medstead, Sask.

S0M 1W0

Email: villageofmedstead@sasktel.net

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. We thank all applicants for the interest; only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

AGRICULTURE

February 19, 2026

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

Ag research cuts making less and less sense

When it comes to agriculture stories which will have a ripple far into the future we might today immediately think of US president Donald Trump.

But while his seeming never-ending near childish rants, where he tosses tariffs around like he is some omnipotent leader, remain disruptive today, we can hope he disappears as long as free elections happen south of the border. Yes, Trump is a threat to such elections, but one hopes that is a line Americans will not even let Trump cross.

There is, however,

another issue facing agriculture in Canada, which will ripple far into the future, and that is the federal government announcement to significantly reduce Agriculture Canada's research capacity.

The cuts may appear positive in terms of government cost saving, but in this case they are short-sighted.

As noted in this space last week, farm groups across a broad swath of commodities and focused efforts have come out against the cuts.

That is not surprising, because the big picture impact of the cuts



CALVIN
DANIELS

is coming more into focus and it is not a pretty image as one looks into the future.

The cuts include the shutdown of the department's Indian Head and Scott research farms in Saskatchewan, and the two closures really are a snapshot of the prob-

lems associated with the decision, as the facilities have long played a foundational role in crop development, agronomy, and variety testing in Saskatchewan and beyond.

New varieties are not created overnight. Breeding programs are developed over a number of years, and one has to wonder what happens to the seed lines.

But these cuts go beyond what happens to existing variety development lines.

What is being critically lost here are the researchers – the years

of experience working on Saskatchewan and Prairie-specific cropping issues, seeking the best practices and varieties to improve farm agronomics.

What is generally thought of as a 'brain-drain' is deeply problematic. Once the experience is gone it cannot be easily regained. The minds who have a vision for a better farm future are lost.

Yes, some might end up in corporate-funded research. But while all research is positive, there is a broader appeal to public work because the results of

the research — the new varieties, practices, etc. — are more readily affordable and accessible for producers.

Government spending cuts, in general terms, are worth a hard look, with some trimming no doubt being a good thing.

However, there are some areas where cuts aren't warranted and are even harmful. In this particular instance, research cuts that eliminate a storehouse of living knowledge in staff seem counterproductive to agriculture's future in Canada.

U15 A, U18 Elks eliminated from Provincials

By JORDAN TWISS

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

It was a tough weekend for Elks fans, as Provincials runs came to an end for both the U15 A Parkland Elks and the U18 C Shellbrook Elks.

Competing at the Provincial B level in their inaugural season, the U15 A Parkland Elks bested the Dalmeny Valley Bandits in two games in the opening round of the tournament, and drew the Biggar National Outlaws as their opponent for round two.

In game one of the best-of-three series, played in Biggar on Sunday, Feb. 8, the Elks found them-

selves down 4-3 after the first period, only to experience a resurgence in the second period and take a 6-5 lead into the third. The team was unable to hold on to the lead, and the third period ended with the score deadlocked at 7-7.

And that would end up being the final score, as the overtime period failed to produce a winner.

When the action moved to Shellbrook for game two on Sunday, Feb. 15, a similar script played out, as the Elks found themselves holding a 6-4 lead heading into the third period. This time, however, the Outlaws wouldn't be denied, scoring three unanswered goals and keeping the Elks off the board to claim a 7-6 victory and win the series.

The Outlaws now advance to play the Edam 3 Stars in round three of Provincials.

Meanwhile, the U18 C Shellbrook Elks faced a tall order in game two of their first round series against the Unity Lazers, having been blanked 6-0 in game one in Shellbrook on Friday, Feb. 6.

Taking the ice in Unity on Friday, Feb. 13, the Elks managed to get on the board once over the course of 60 minutes. But the Lazers' aim was sharper than ever, allowing them to blast their way to a decisive 12-1 victory and win the series.

The Lazers now advance to play the Rosetown Redwings in round two of Provincials.

SARM: Invest in Sask.'s clean growth future

By SARM
Submitted

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) is urging the federal government to recognize Saskatchewan's vital role in powering Canada's clean growth economy. With 27 of Canada's 34 critical minerals and the world's largest deposits of potash and high-grade uranium, Saskatchewan is uniquely positioned to drive sustainable economic development — especially in rural regions.

However, under the current Clean Electricity Regulations (CER), electricity costs are projected to double by 2035, posing significant challenges to energy-intensive industries that are rooted in rural Saskatchewan. The province's \$5.5 billion fertilizer sector, along with its mining and processing industries, relies on affordable and reliable energy to remain competitive.

"Saskatchewan's rural industries are the backbone of both our provincial and national economies," said Bill Huber, SARM President. "Producers, miners, and processors supply the food, fuel, and critical minerals that Canada and the world depend on. We need policies and investments that reflect the realities of rural operations, supporting innovation, affordability, and long-term growth in every corner of Saskatchewan."

The province's critical minerals — particularly potash, uranium, and helium — are essential to Saskatchewan's agriculture and energy sectors.

- Potash provides a key nutrient for plant growth, enabling farmers to increase yields and strengthen global food security.
- Uranium, while primarily used for nuclear power generation, supplies clean, stable energy that supports

agricultural processes, such as irrigation, transport, and farm operations.

- Helium, production of which grew by 50 percent in 2023, plays a growing role in precision agriculture and advanced research technologies.

SARM is calling for a regionally balanced, innovation-driven approach that keeps Saskatchewan's industrial and agricultural sectors viable as Canada transitions to cleaner energy sources. Continued federal support for Saskatchewan's natural resource industries will strengthen the foundations of rural communities; creating jobs, improving infrastructure, and ensuring that Saskatchewan remains a leader in responsible, sustainable growth.

R.M. OF CANWOOD NO. 494 SALE BY TENDER

1. The R.M. of Canwood No. 494 offers for sale the following properties under the provisions of *The Tax Enforcement Act*:

Lot 1A Blk 2 Plan 102357222 Ext 0
(former MONT NEBO Hotel site)

** Lot 27 Blk 1 Plan 102310962 Ext 0 (MONT NEBO)

** Note: The R.M. of Canwood No. 494 will remove the unpermitted building on this property prior to possession date of June 1, 2026.

2. Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and accompanied by a certified cheque payable to the Municipality for 10% of the tender amount. Tenders must include a description of the bidder's plans for the property. Highest, or any tender, not necessarily accepted.

3. Tenders must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Property Tender" and postmarked by 4:00 p.m. on April 15, 2026, to:

Chief Administrative Officer
R.M. of Canwood No. 494
Box 10, Canwood, Sask. S0J 0K0

4. Tenders will be opened by the Chief Administrative Officer to ensure tender requirements are met and presented to Council at their Regular Meeting in April.

5. The successful bidder will have 30 days to provide the balance of cash to complete the purchase. All property sales are "as is" without warrant or guarantee by the R.M. of Canwood No. 494.

6. Prospective bidders are advised that it is their responsibility to search the title of the property in advance. All legal costs, title transfer fees and applicable taxes are the responsibility of the purchaser and are in addition to the bid price.

7. Tender packages can be obtained at the R.M. of Canwood No. 494 office or online at: www.rmofcanwood.ca.

Dated this 10th day of February, 2026.
Lorna Benson, Chief Administrative Officer

ADVERTISING DEADLINE IS
FRIDAY 4PM

Franson memorialspiel raises fun & funds

By SUE KAHL
Submitted

Spiritwood's curling rink was buzzing with energy, as curlers and spectators came together for a highly successful fourth annual Derryk Franson Memorial Funspiel held on Jan. 23 and 24.

Despite the cold

weather coming in at -33°C (or colder), there was a full house for the funspiel, with 24 teams kicking off the action with a game each and beverages to top off the night on Friday night.

Saturday morning started at 9 a.m. and paused for an hour for the curlers to sit down and have a great meal

and do some raffle and 50/50 draws. Then, the curlers headed back onto the ice for the final games.

Teams came from all directions of the province and filled the ice with friendly competition, laughter, and sportsmanship, creating an atmosphere that was as welcoming as it

was exciting.

Following two days of curling action, the winners, for the second year in a row, were Kyle Brewer, Tyson Knott, Reese Duret, and Aleah McNabb. Coming in second place was the team of Kevin Latus, Don Caffet, Dean Olson, and Doug Franson (Derryk's dad).

Over the last three years, support for the funspiel has allowed for \$19,400 to be donated towards youth curling development in the community, including \$10,000 just last summer. Through this year's funspiel, another \$15,700 was raised, so that local youth have the opportunity to ap-

ply for a bursary to assist with extra curling costs for things like curling camps.

Proceeds from the funspiel also go to the Spiritwood Lions club, for the purchase of prizes for their annual Cordwood Bonspiel, which brings out 75 to 100 little curlers every year.



Franson Funspiel winners, from left to right: Aleah McNabb, Reese Duret, Tyson Knott, and Kyle Brewer.



Runners up, from left to right: Doug Franson, Dean Olson, Don Caffet, and Kevin Latus.

Growing sprouts in winter

By PATRICIA HANBIDGE
Orchid Horticulture

In the midst of winter, gardeners tend to crave a couple of things. Growing something that is useful....and usually edible, and looking for that wonder of growth beginning. Well, do I have a wonderful idea for you!

Let's grow sprouts! Home-grown sprouts are a healthy addition to a salad, a sandwich or just about anything else. It is also a great way to get that gardening fix that we are beginning to crave. Growing sprouts is inexpensive, nutritious and easy. One could go so far to say that pound for pound, sprouts are perhaps the most nutritious food there is from the dollar value perspective. Sprouts are the most concentrated and truly natural sources of vitamins, minerals, enzymes and amino acids known. Better yet, they can be grown indoors in any climate and are ready to eat in only a few days. These tiny, easy-to-digest plants are at their peak of nutritional value, as the seed releases all of its stored nutrients in a burst of vitality in the journey to becoming a full sized plant.

You could look at sprouts as a powerful battery of nutrients that can rival citrus fruits in vitamin C and beef in protein and actually surpass almost any other known food source

in completeness! Just one more positive thing is these squiggly little vegetables are delicious, economical and an ideal food for weight watchers as one fully packed cup of mung, alfalfa or radish shoots contains under 20 calories.

The challenge of growing sprouts is pretty low. It is easy for almost anyone who wishes to enjoy fresh and natural food year round. If you have a spot where you are living that is comfortable for you, a good source of clean water - then you will be a successful sprout grower. You just need to attend to your babies twice each day.

There are many sources for the seeds that are suitable for sprouters. For example - "seed quality" beans are better than "food quality" beans as the seed quality will always show a better germination rate which is important for those wanting to see sprouts grow. My favourite source for seeds to sprout has and will likely always be Mumm's (<https://sprouting.com/>) as they are a local business that is totally dedicated to selling a quality product and have superb selection. They are located in Parkside Saskatchewan, and are a great example of a successful rural business.

However, you may also purchase sprout seeds in health-food stores, specialty shops and many other mail-order houses and shops.

A basic sprouting system is simply any receptacle that is large enough to hold the finished sprouts, but not made of wood or metal. If you happen to be using pottery, then it is important to use a high-fired stoneware that will not contain toxic lead sulphate in the glaze. Containers of plastic, china, enamel, and unglazed pottery are excellent choices. Since the sprouting container must be kept covered, anything that

comes with its own lid is a good choice, including bean pots, crocks, canisters, coffeepots, fondue pots, cookie jars, chafing dishes, large plastic storage containers (Tupperware, Rubbermaid), and plastic ice-cream boxes. However, you can also purchase a little grow unit from many of our seed supply houses, including Mumm's.

The instructions for growing are simple. Simply find a jar or other receptacle, a bit of fine netting, a rubber band, clean fresh water and of course some seeds to germinate. Use about a cup of water to every teaspoon of seed.

If you have chosen to sprout in a jar you can soak the seed in the same jar. If not, any sterile container will do. Use about one cup of water to every tablespoon of seed. Soak the seeds for a short time to get that germination started and then rinse and drain your seeds two to three times daily. I like to invert the jar on an angle in a small bowl to allow the excess water to drain. Last but not least, enjoy! Swirl the finished sprouts in clean water to separate the hulls and rinse the sprouts gently. Drain and allow to dry for a few hours and store in the fridge until consumed.

Hanbidge is the Lead Horticulturist with Orchid Horticulture. Find us at www.orchidhort.com; by email at growyourfuture@gmail.com on facebook @orchidhort and on instagram at #orchidhort.



Chitek Lake enjoys first Métis Festival, Snowmobile Rally



Yogi Miskaw (right) was the big winner at the Chitek Lake Bush Buddies' Snowmobile Rally.



A competitor works through his log in the chainsaw contest.



Families take a break to cook hot dogs over the fire.



Esther Fertuck works on starting her fire to melt snow.



Daley Lang (right) was the lucky winner of a \$1,250 50/50 pay day at the snowmobile rally.

Blaine Lake Raiders bow out of league playoffs

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

After fighting to an 8-7 overtime win against the Langham Vikings in game one of their Saskatchewan Prairie Hockey League quarterfinal playoff, the Blaine Lake Raiders brought the action home to Blaine Lake on Friday, Feb. 13, hoping for a win to close out the best-of-three series.

Game two didn't get off to the start the Raiders would have hoped for, as they quickly found themselves down 2-0 after two quick-fire Vikings goals in the first two minutes of the action. As the teams settled into the game after the initial flurry of offence, the Raiders couldn't get anything going, while the Vikings added on one more goal to take a 3-0 lead into the second

period.

Coming out stronger to start the second period, the Raiders finally got on the board with a goal from Tysen Smith, assisted by Gage Helm. The Vikings restored their three-goal lead just 21 seconds later, and later on turned it into a four-goal lead.

The Raiders weren't ready to give up, however, firing back with a goal from Brandon Lesko, assisted by Tysen Smith, to narrow the Vikings' lead back to three. Then, with the help of a power play, Patrick Gauthier brought the Raiders to within two goals on assists from Kyle Schmidt and Lesko.

As the action moved to the third period, the Raiders' power play put in more work, cutting the Vikings' lead to just one goal on Lesko's second strike of the night, assisted by

Schmidt and Gage Helm.

But the Vikings' power play also saw some success near the midway point of the period, pushing the score to 6-4 in their favour. Though the Raiders continued to fight for the comeback, a late goal dashed these efforts, allowing the Vikings to take a 7-4 win and force game three.

Returning to ice for the deciding game the following night, the Raiders got off on the right foot, taking a 1-0 lead on a power play goal from Gage Helm, assisted by Dawson Horner and Kyle Schmidt.

But this would be the Raiders' first and only lead of the game, as the Vikings fired back with a goal, then rounded off the first period score sheet with a power play goal to take a 2-1 lead into the second period.

In the second period, the Vikings kept the Raiders at bay and continued to build on their lead, tallying three unanswered goals to surge ahead 5-1. And the Vikings maintained this momentum into the third period, going ahead 6-1 before the Raiders finally responded on a goal from Lance Lamontagne, assisted by Kyle Schmidt and Patrick Gauthier.

Following another goal from the Vikings, Tysen Smith found the back of the net, with an assist from Kelly Friesen, to narrow the Vikings' lead. But the goal came too late for the Raiders to mount a comeback, leaving the Vikings to take a 7-3 win and claim the series victory.

With their league playoff and Provincials runs ended, the Raiders now look ahead to next hockey season.

Sask. NDP launches Your Future, Your Say

By SASK NDP
Submitted

Carla Beck and the Saskatchewan NDP have launched an ambitious new project focused on delivering solutions to challenges faced by young people to draw them to stay here to build their career and raise their families.

"Young people — our literal future — are leaving, and Scott Moe and the Sask. Party haven't even asked them why or done anything to fix what is driving them away,"

said Carla Beck, Saskatchewan NDP Leader. "We are going to engage them directly, take their ideas to lower the cost-living crisis, build affordable housing, end the disaster in healthcare, deliver high-quality education and so much more."

"It really is time for change and young Saskatchewan leaders are going to help us drive that change."

The project has formally launched at YourFutureYourSay.ca. On that site, visitors can offer their ideas, view those put forward by others

and make plans to attend upcoming in-person events in Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Yorkton and elsewhere.

The project comes as Saskatchewan's population declined for the first time in 20 years in December. That month also saw 4,000 jobs lost in the province, and new survey data released showed that four-in-10 people are borrowing money or piling on debt just to make ends meet.

"We know the cost-of-living crisis is having a devastating impact on young

people," said Noor Burki, Saskatchewan NDP MLA for Regina Coronation Park and co-leader of the Your Future, Your Say project. "We need action on housing, to lower the cost of food and to create more jobs with bigger paycheques."

"We need to support public education and ensure it's accessible. If we do all of these things, our young people will stop asking for luggage as a graduation gift — they will stay right here and build their futures in Saskatchewan."

Also leading the Your Future, Your Say project is Saskatoon University-Sutherland MLA Tajinder Grewal. A series of policy recommendations will be developed as the consultation across the project proceeds.

CLASSIFIEDS

**Not Everything
Fits In The Box!**

Ph: 306-747-2442

Fax: 306-747-3000

chads@sbchron.com

Minutes of an RM of Spiritwood meeting

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

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 was held on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026, in Council Chambers located at 218 Main Street in Spiritwood, Sask.

Present: Reeve — Shirley Dauvin, Division 2 — Dale Wasden, Division 3 — Terry Wingerter, Division 4 — Steve Buban, and Division 5 — Heather Warkentin, CAO — Colette Bussiere, and Foreman — Darcy Laventure.

Absent: Division 1 — Vacant, Division 6 — Dennis Laventure.

A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. Reeve Shirley Dauvin.

Delegation: Cpl. Carlin Thiessen (Spiritwood RCMP Detachment) —

Quarterly Report

Cpl. Carlin Thiessen of the Spiritwood RCMP Detachment joined the council meeting at 9:01 a.m. to present the Spiritwood RCMP Quarterly Report.

Cpl. Carlin Thiessen left the council meeting at 9:41 a.m.

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

Foreman Darcy Laventure left the council meeting at 10:39 a.m.

Wingerter: That we accept the letter of termination of employment submitted by Jordan Heisler. Carried

Delegation: Dwaine Goller (Village of Rabbit Lake) — Fire Suppression Service Fees

Dwaine Goller attended the council meeting at 10:45 a.m. to dispute fees for service provided by the Spir-

itwood Fire Dept.

Dwaine Goller left the council meeting at 10:53 a.m.

Wingerter: That the request to abate the fees for service relating to a CO call on Nov. 21-22, 2025, at 405 Railway Ave. in the Village of Rabbit Lake be declined. Carried

Warkentin: That the minutes of the Dec. 15 Regular Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Wasden: That the minutes of the Dec. 22 Special Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

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

Delegation: Chris Fox (Western Infrastructure) — Bridge Maintenance

Chris Fox of Western Infrastructure joined the council meeting at 11:35 a.m. to present information on bridge maintenance.

Chris Fox left the council meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Buban: That the NWCSS reports having been read now be filed. Carried

Buban: That the verbal reports of council be accepted as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the bank reconciliation for the month ending Dec. 31, 2025, be accepted as presented. Carried

Wasden: That the "List of Accounts" as listed on the attached Schedule "A" forming part of these minutes be passed for payment.

- Cheque No. 15415-15431 (\$184,500.28)
- EFT No. 2025-0216 - 2025-0229 (\$191,661.72)
- EFT No. 2026-0001-2026-0004 (\$104,883.54)
- Payroll File No. 0048 & 0050 (\$48,813.91). Carried

Warkentin: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month ending Dec. 31, 2025, be approved as presented. Carried

Dauvin: In order to secure a higher rate of return on the general operating account, while maintaining liquidity to meet operating needs, we authorize the investment of \$750,000 into a one-year redeemable term deposit with Prosperity Credit Union. Carried

Warkentin: Whereas, Love and Laughter Daycare has failed to provide financial statements or a business plan to support the request for funding, the council of the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 declines funding for the daycare expansion. Carried

Wingerter: That the SARM Fidelity Bond Certificate for 2026 be accepted and approved as presented:

- Fidelity Bond Coverage \$200,000
- Registered Mail Coverage \$50,000
- Money & Securities Coverage \$20,000. Carried

Wasden: That we award the RFQ to remove and replace the flooring in the Spiritwood Library, subject to approval from the Town of Spiritwood to cost share, as follows: Timber Spirit — Laminate Flooring, Spiritwood Home Hardware — Subfloor, Brad Striga — Labour. Carried

Dauvin: That council remuneration remain as follows: Council

Meeting Indemnity — \$25.00 per hour to a maximum of \$200 per day; Supervision — Reeve: \$550 per month, Councillors: \$150 per month. Carried

Warkentin: That the mileage allowance be set at \$0.74 per km for the first 5,000 kilometres and \$0.68 per km thereafter. Carried

Wingerter: Council for the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 recommends approval of the proposed subdivision application for a larger residential parcel on SE 35-50-10-W3 due to the physical limitations of the parcel and being land with marginal agriculture value.

The proposal conforms with the RM of Spiritwood Zoning Bylaw and District Plan policy and there are no incompatible land uses in the vicinity that would make this unsuitable for the intended use.

Public Notice was provided and there were no comments received. Carried

Wasden: That the request to place a fence in the centre of the registered right of ways described as Rge Rd 3114 between NE 20-54-11-W3 & NW 21-54-11-W3 and Twp Rd 544 between NW 21-54-11-W3 & SW 28-54-11-W3 be declined. Carried

Warkentin: That we acknowledge and accept the Dec. 31, 2025 inventory values for gravel, culverts, signs, fuel and pest control supplies as attached and presented. Carried

Wasden: That a tax abatement in the amount of \$727.73 be approved for Roll 140 000, as the 293(e) land exemption was not applied against the taxable assessment of the residential improvement. Carried

Wingerter: That we allocate the RM of Spiritwood share of the Sask. Lotteries Community Grant Funding in the amount of \$9,898 as follows:

- Town of Spiritwood — \$6,934
- Village of Leoville — \$1,424
- Village of Shell Lake — \$1,424. Carried

Warkentin: In lieu of a monetary donation, the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 does not charge a fee for service for STARS landing calls. Carried

Wingerter: That we appoint the following Bylaw Enforcement Officers: Philip Bueckert, Jordan Starr, and Zach Bonaise. Carried

Warkentin: That the council meeting be closed to the public at 2:33 pm under the authority of Part III of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, to go in camera to discuss Human Resources. Carried

CAO Colette Bussiere left the council meeting at 2:33 p.m.

CAO Colette Bussiere returned to the council meeting at 3:20 p.m. The regular meeting of council was out of camera and resumed at 3:47 p.m.

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

Warkentin: That the meeting be adjourned.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 10am - 5pm; Wednesday 10am - 5pm; Thursday 1pm to 5pm; Friday 10am - 5pm

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

SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 11am - 4pm; Wednesday 12 pm - 5 pm

BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - Wednesday 1pm - 6pm; Thursday 1pm - 6pm; Friday 1pm - 6pm; Saturday 10am - 3pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www.wapitilibrary.ca.

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

CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library Hours: Tuesday 9:30am - 4pm; Wednesday 10:30am - 5pm; Phone: 306-468-2501

DEBDEN: Wapiti Library hours: Tuesday 10am - 4pm; Wednesday 12pm - 6pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

LEASK: Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Tuesday 9am - 2pm; Wednesday 2pm - 8pm; Friday 9am - 12pm

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - Saturday 10am - 2pm; Thursday 2pm - 8pm. 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 2pm - 6pm; Tuesday 2pm - 8pm; Wednesday 2pm - 8pm; Thursday 12pm - 6pm; Friday 10 am - 5pm (Story Time 10:30am - 11:30am); Saturday 10am - 4pm.

BIG RIVER: Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting - Every Wednesday, 7:30 pm @ Train Station in Big River (Railway Avenue)

BIG RIVER: Ice Fishing Derby on Cowan Lake in Big River, SK - Saturday, March 21. \$18,000 in prizes! Entry fee: \$50/Hole; 2nd Hole \$20. Tickets available by phone 306-469-7990 or @ Timberlost Outfitters in Big River and @ The Fishin' Hole in Saskatoon.

CANWOOD: Canwood Regional Park Supper & Auction, Canwood Elks Community Hall - Saturday, March 7, 2026. Refreshments 5pm, Supper 6pm ~ Auction to follow (menu for supper is: roast beef, chicken breast, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, salads, dessert & all the fixin's). Adults \$25 / 6-12 yrs \$15 / 5 & Under Free. 50/50 Draw & Raffle Tables. Proceeds to Canwood Regional Park and Community Projects.

CAMEO: Cameo Community Snowmobile Rally - Saturday, February 21, Register 12 noon to 3 pm @ Cameo Hall (6 miles west of Shellbrook, then 2 miles north - on Cameo-Buckingham Road). Tickets \$10 each or 3/\$20 *every rider must purchase a \$10 ticket*. Call Keith at 306-714-8830 or Ralph at 306-747-3611.

SHELLBROOK: St. Patty's Stew Night - March 17, 2026 @ Shellbrook Legion #111 (101 2nd Ave E), 5:30pm. Join us for Irish stew and green beer! All beer and spirits \$5. Meal by donation - cash or e-transfer shellbrook111@hotmail.com

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Reputations stained, but greatness memories linger

The two most dominating athletes of my lifetime celebrated significant birthdays in the last couple of weeks, which sent me down Sentimental Drive on the way to Nostalgia Avenue.

Wayne Gretzky turned 65 on Jan. 26; Tiger Woods got to the half-century mark, the big 5-0, on Dec. 30. Both accomplished greatness, but suffered reputational stains.

It was circa 1968-69 when the CBC National News ran a broadcast feature on a skinny little kid with blond hair from Brantford, Ont., who was setting the hockey world aflame. The kid, Wayne Gretzky, was eight or nine years old and he was playing in a league among 13-year-old boys, far bigger, stronger, quicker. But this Gretzky kid was scoring eight, 10, 12 goals a game against the older opponents, and the CBC reporter chuckled through his report as

grainy video showed the youngster dippy-doodling through the opponent's defence and putting a move on the goalie that resulted in another tally.

How did he get so proficient at such a young age? His dad, Walter, said he flooded the back yard every winter and Wayne would spend hours on the ice, almost having to be dragged inside for bed. Would he grow up to be just as good? Would the bigger kids catch up when he was a teen? Would the greatness last forever?

It did. He dominated junior hockey at age 16. He turned pro at 17, with the Indianapolis Racers of the outlaw World Hockey Association. He was sold as an 18-year-old to Peter Pocklington, owner of the Edmonton Oilers, and the rest is history. Gretzky went on to set professional scoring records that will never be matched. His 2,857 total points are 936 more than his closest rival,



BRUCE
PENTON

Jaromir Jagr.

Today, Gretzky is 65, living in the U.S., and not as adored in Canada as he once was. He still has legions of fans, but many lament his close association with fellow celebrity Donald Trump. Gretzky was appointed a Companion of the Order of Canada in 2009 but has yet to attend a ceremony to acknowledge the honour, one of the highest a Canadian can receive. His light has dimmed north of the 49th parallel.

Woods, meanwhile, was another child wonder who did, in fact,

blossom into an ultra superstar. His 82 victories and 15 major championships in a career dulled by injuries and scandal are unlikely to be threatened. As a 50-year-old, his star is shining brighter than it was when he was enmeshed in tabloid extramarital scandal 15 years ago. These days, he is playing a complementary role in steering the PGA Tour to a brighter future. He's caddying for his talented golfer son Charlie in junior tournaments and standing pitch-side at daughter Sam's soccer games. Reportedly, he is in a committed relationship with his latest girlfriend, the ex-wife of Donald Trump, Jr.

Two superstars. Two humans growing old. We witnessed all the accomplishments and all the flaws. We should perhaps remember the athletic greatness and ignore the rest.

• Columnist Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "Question for Gavin McKenna: You're 18 years old. The legal drinking age in the U.S. is 21. Never mind what happened in the bar

—shouldn't you know better than to even be in the bar?"

• A groaner from RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "QB Teddy Bridgewater once turned down a possible starting gig in Miami to stay with the Saints to back up Drew Brees. It was the same old song: a Brees over troubled Bridgewater."

• John K, on X, on LIV defections: "Brooks (Koepka) and (Patrick) Reed have sent a very clear message: 'You couldn't pay me enough to play exhibition golf around the globe.'"

• Super 70s Sports: "James Harden is a first ballot franchise killer Hall of Famer. Good for the local strip club economy, bad for your franchise."

• Cathal Kelly the Globe and Mail, on Olympic 'moments' vs. medals: "I am guessing when I try to remember which medal Jon Montgomery won in Vancouver, but my recollection of watching him chug a pitcher of beer on the street is in Technicolour."

• Another one from Kelly: "These are the stick-it-to-Trump

Games. Each Canadian medal is a thumb in the eye to every dullard who, upon hearing you are Canadian, leads with a 51st state joke."

• Columnist Norman Chad, on comments overheard from the four-legged competitors at the Westminster Dog Show: "My Uncle Scruffy loves to tell the story about the time his dog-obedience class took a field trip to Washington, D.C., and he did his business on the White House lawn."

• Headline at onion.com: "Rifle-Wielding Chair Umpire Asks Crowd If Making Noise During Australian Open Truly Worth Dying For"

• Comedy guy Torben Rolfsen of Vancouver: "The curling venue in Cortina was built in 1957 for the 1956 Olympics."

• Rolfsen again: "Anthony Davis was traded from the Mavs to Washington Wizards in an eight-player NBA deal. He'll fit right in in D.C. with all the people who don't show up for work."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

U18 AA Elks put on show in Spiritwood

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

In a Valentine's Day twist, hockey fans in Spiritwood found themselves cheering for the Elks rather than the Timberwolves, as the U18 AA Parkland Elks rolled into town to face off against the North West Stars out of North Battleford.

Though Spiritwood was technically neutral ground for the two teams, the tilt in Spiritwood was billed as a home game for the Elks, as the team's roster includes four players from Spiritwood: Brady Hujber, Logan Fisher, Davin Hart, and Parker Schmidt.

Unfortunately, the homecoming for the four Elks players got off to a shaky start, as the Stars raced down the ice and scored within the first 30 seconds. The action settled down after this, with the Elks and the Stars trading off shots on goal.

While the Elks proved unable to hit the mark, the Stars struck one more time late in the first period to take a 2-0 lead into the second.

After nearly a half period of goalless back and forth action, an Elks penalty proved to be the catalyst for

the Stars to jump ahead 3-0. But the power play also worked in the Elks' favour in the final minute of the second period, opening the door for Logan Fisher to score on assists from Canden Olsen and Davin Hart.

As the action kicked over to the third period, the Stars came out firing on all cylinders, overwhelming the Elks and scoring three times over the course of six minutes to go ahead 6-1.

With help from another power play, the Elks got on the board again on a goal from Canden Olsen, assisted by Aiden Tait and Gabe Wadham, but the Stars fired back with a goal just 12 seconds later to go up 7-2.

Though a comeback wasn't in the cards for the Elks, a late power play allowed Olsen to score his second goal of the night, on assists from Tait and Logan Fisher, to cement a 7-3 defeat for the Elks.

With the loss, the Elks sit at 7-17-1-1 on the season. This weekend, the team returns to its home ice in Shellbrook, facing the Martensville Marauders and the North East Wolfpack on Friday and Saturday, respectively.

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Shellbrook Chronicle
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Minutes of a Shell Lake Council meeting

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council held in Council Chambers on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026 commencing at 6:25 p.m.

Present: Mayor Wendy Penner, Councillors Greg Ardagh, Louise Fisher, Al Sulymka, and Wayne Reddekopp, Administrator Tara Bueckert, and Foreman Jim Mayo.

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by Mayor Penner.

Ardagh: That the agenda for this meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Reddekopp: That the minutes of the regular council meeting of Dec. 16, 2025, be adopted as presented. Carried

Ardagh: That the bank reconciliation for the month of December be accepted as presented. Carried

Sulymka: That the Financial Report for the month of December be accepted as presented. Carried

Fisher: That the list of accounts totaling \$84,822.70 cheques numbered 404 to 423, EFT payments and online payments numbered 2025264 to 2025269 and 20261 to 202612, and Curling Rink Cheque No. 16 be approved. Carried

Fisher: That the verbal Maintenance, Administrator, Councillors, Mayor and Fire Chief reports be filed as presented. Carried

Reddekopp: That the verbal Water/Sewer reports be filed as presented. Carried

Sulymka: That the following list of correspondence, having been read, now be filed: Beaver Initiative Program. Carried

Sulymka: That we raise the camping fees of \$250 for Campground A to \$1,700 and Campground B to \$2,000. Carried

Ardagh: That the Administrator writes a letter on behalf of Village of Shell Lake Council asking for permit status on open permits. Carried

Sulymka: That Council hereby approves Construction Code Authority to perform Level 1 to Level 3 building inspections; and that Council hereby appoints the following to provide Level 1 to Level 3 as Building Official Services for the Village of Shell Lake. Carried (Editor's note: list omitted due to length)

Sulymka: That Bylaw 1.2026, being a

Bylaw to Regulate the Proceedings of Municipal Council and Council's Committees Bylaw, be read a first time. Carried

Fisher: That Bylaw 1.2026, being a bylaw to Regulate the Proceedings of Municipal Council and Council's Committees Bylaws be read a second time. Carried

Reddekopp: That Bylaw 1.2026, being a bylaw to Regulate the Proceedings of Municipal Council and Council's Committees Bylaw, be given three readings at this meeting. Carried unanimously

Reddekopp: That Bylaw 1.2026, being a bylaw to Regulate the Proceedings of Municipal Council and Council's Committees Bylaw, be read a third time and adopted. Carried

Reddekopp: That this meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Robot-assisted surgeries strengthening patient care

By MINISTRY
OF HEALTH
Submitted

Saskatchewan patients are benefiting from a newly added robot-assisted surgical (RAS) system located at the Royal University Hospital (RUH) in Saskatoon.

This is now the fourth robotic system operating in Saskatchewan - one of the highest per capita of any Canadian province. Two other systems are located at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon and another was introduced

to the Pasqua Hospital in Regina last fall.

"With the continued expansion of our robot-assisted surgical program, more patients will have access to minimally invasive surgical procedures that result in quicker recoveries close to home," Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill said. "I want to extend a sincere thank you to our surgeons and health care teams for continuing to work together to help expand surgical access in our province."

Since the fourth robotic system was launched in

December 2025, nearly 20 surgeries have been performed at RUH in Saskatoon using the da Vinci Surgical System, including colorectal (partial or full removal of the colon) and hepatobiliary (affecting the liver, gallbladder, bile ducts and pancreas) surgeries.

"The surgical robot at Royal University Hospital represents a major advancement in surgical innovation for Saskatchewan, enabling safer, more precise procedures and faster, more effective recovery for certain

patients," Saskatchewan Health Authority Provincial Head of Surgery Dr. Michael Kelly said.

"Robotic-assisted surgery strengthens surgical capacity, expands access across the province and reinforces Saskatchewan's leadership in advanced surgical care. With four robotic systems

now in operation, three in Saskatoon and one in Regina, this cutting-edge technology is helping attract and recruit highly skilled surgeons and other team members. This

will reinforce the province's surgical workforce and ability to deliver cutting-edge care."

In the past 12 months, 438 robot-assisted procedures have been performed in Saskatoon and

58 in Regina, which includes everything from common general surgeries, such as hernia repair, to specialized cancer treatment procedures for both male and female reproductive organs, such as proctectomies (prostate removal) and hysterectomies (uterus removal).

The Royal University Hospital Foundation contributed \$150,000 to purchase the specialized patient bed required for the new surgical system at RUH.

"We would like to thank the Royal University Hospital Foundation (RUHF) and donors for purchasing advanced medical equipment to support our new surgical system," Cockrill said. "The RUHF

is a valued partner in our shared mission to deliver high-quality care to patients in our province."

Since 2025, Saskatchewan has invested \$2 million annually in ongoing funding to continue expanding the provincial surgical robotics program.

"Health care is collaborative, and we are excited to partner with the SHA and Ministry of Health on this initiative," RUH Foundation CEO Jennifer Molloy said. "Our donors have given the RUH surgical team access to this innovative tool, and we are so grateful to them for supporting this advanced technology that raises health care standards for the people of Saskatchewan."

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- Have a positive lifestyle
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- Are between the ages of 8 and 18

This year, four deserving youths will receive a **\$3,000 bursary**, provided by SaskPower, to use towards their post-secondary education.

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Introduced in 2025. The Junior Citizen of the Year STEM Award will recognize a Saskatchewan youth who contains all the same qualities of a Junior Citizen of the Year but **has an aptitude for science, technology, engineering, or mathematics**. This award is eligible for all students, including but not limited to, young women, and underrepresented communities.

This year, one deserving youth will receive a **\$3,000 bursary**, provided by Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan, to use towards their post-secondary education.

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Visit www.swna.com for further information and nomination forms

Nominations close March 31, 2026

Op-ed: Stop bailing out Canada Post

By FRANCO TERRAZZANO
CTF Director

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation is calling on the federal government to end the bailouts for Canada Post after Ottawa announced another \$1-billion so-called loan for the failing Crown corporation.

"The government shouldn't bail out Canada Post with taxpayers' money," said Franco Terrazzano, CTF Federal Director. "The last billion-dollar bailout didn't solve anything at Canada Post so why would another billion-dollar bailout be any different?"

"The government needs to stop wasting billions on failing Crown corporations like Canada Post."

The federal government announced it's giving Canada Post "up to \$1.01 billion in repayable funding."

This is in addition to the \$1.03 billion the government gave Canada Post in 2025 in "repayable funding" to "prevent insolvency." Canada Post is supposed to pay

that funding back to taxpayers "in so far as [Canada Post's] revenues are sufficient."

Canada Post has lost money for seven straight years. The Crown corporation's losses total \$3.8 billion since 2018, according to its 2024 Annual Report.

The Crown corporation says its "2025 losses are expected to be the most significant of any annual losses in Canada Post's history."

The federal government is already borrowing about \$80 billion this year. Debt interest charges will cost taxpayers \$55.6 billion this year, which is more than the federal government will send to the provinces in health transfers or collect through the GST.

"The government is broke and taxpayers can't afford to bailout every Crown corporation that goes to Ottawa begging for more money," Terrazzano said. "The government needs to sell Canada Post or the Crown corporation needs to figure out how to survive without relying on taxpaying bailouts."

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Worship Sunday, 9 a.m.
(in-person only)

St. John's - Shellbrook

Sunday School,

Worship Sunday, 11 a.m.

(in-person and online

via Facebook live)

Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

PENTECOSTAL

CHURCH

Parkside

10:30 a.m. Worship

Pastor Lorne Valuck

306-747-3572

Shellbrook

Adult Study

9:30 a.m.

Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship

Rev. Jordan Clark

306-850-0429

Canwood

10 a.m. - Sunday School

11 a.m. - Worship

Pastor Lyndon Petten

587-973-2223

Leask Gospel Tabernacle

Sunday 11 a.m.

Pastor Josh

1-780-690-2100

UNITED CHURCH

Big River

Sundays

11 a.m. - Worship

at Anglican Church

Rev. Dave Whalley

306-747-2804

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Leask - All Saint's

Sunday Service - 9 am MP

St. Andrew's - Shellbrook

Sunday Service - 11 am MP

H.C. Service Nov. 30 with

Archdeacon Brody Albers

9 a.m. in Leask,

11 a.m. in Shellbrook

Minister's Warden:

306-922-5159

EVANGELICAL FREE

Big River

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Bible Classes resume

in the fall

306-469-2258

Youth Nite:

Fridays at 7 p.m.

Mont Nebo

Sun. Worship - 11:00 a.m.

(10:30 a.m. June - August)

306-468-2525

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside

11 a.m. - Worship

(in-person and online

via Facebook Live)

10 a.m. - Sunday School

PRESBYTERIAN

Mistawasis

Sunday worship

11:00 a.m.

Rev. Stewart Folster

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 11 a.m.

St. Henry's - Leask

Mass - Sunday 9 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

Pastor Myshan Irving

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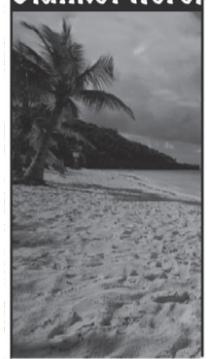
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