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NEWS



Follow Your Heart
owner values one-on-
one service.

- Page 12

NEWS



Fire Prevention Week
across Alberta. Meet
our departments!

- Pages 25-28

SPORTS



Renegades score 11
touchdowns in win
over Cougars.

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HP marks National Day of Truth & Reconciliation



Several people carry the banner promoting the message to lead the Truth and Reconciliation Walk in High Prairie Sept. 30. Left-right, are Charmaine Willier-Larsen, Sasha Isadore, April

Isadore, Raelynn Alook, 8, Makayla Peecheemow, 7, and Verna Wittigo. About 80 people participated in the walk. Please see page 23 for more photos and story.

Lack of players Pirates' demise

Chris Clegg
South Peace News

(Falher) – Just two years after winning their fourth NPHL title, the Falher Pirates can no longer ice a team.

The Pirates notified NPHL president Michael Mercredi by phone, then by formal letter, Sept. 27 of their intentions to leave the league. The Pirates then posted a message to their fans on their Facebook page the next day.

“After careful consideration, the Falher Pirates have made the difficult decision to take a leave of absence from the NPHL for the 2026-27 season.

“Unfortunately, we simply don’t have the

player numbers needed to ice a competitive team this year. This wasn’t an easy decision to make, but we believe taking a year off is the right move for our organization.”

The move does not come without severe consequences, if the NPHL teams enforce its existing bylaws. Since the Pirates were drawn into the schedule, they have forfeited “member in good standing status” and must apply as a new team next season. It comes with substantial fees and a probationary period, meaning the Pirates can participate in league meetings but cannot make motions and/or vote. The Pirates were advised of the consequences before submitting their formal letter.

“We want to make it very clear that this is not the end of the Falher Pirates,” the Facebook post continued. “Our full intention is to regroup, rebuild and return to the NPHL for the 2027-28 season.

“We’d like to thank our players, coaches, volunteers, sponsors and especially our fans and community for the incredible support you’ve shown the Pirates over the years.”

The Pirates joined the NPHL as one of its Original Four teams in 1953-54 with the Fairview Monarchs, McLennan Red Wings and Peace River Stampeders. They played off and on in the league for 54 seasons. They won four league ti-



tles (Victory Cup and Campbell Cup trophies) and placed first in the standings seven times.

The Pirates recorded 30 winning seasons and 21 losing seasons, twice they had a .500 record. One season statistics are not available.

The Pirates were in the NPHL from 1953-54 and left from 1964-65 to 1972-73. They rejoined the league in 1973-74 and played until 1997-98.

They rejoined the league again in 1999-2000 but folded after only 16 games. The Pirates left the NPHL from 2000-01 to 2006-07 but rejoined in 2007-08 and played until last season, except for the two seasons cancelled by COVID.

The Pirates won a team record 24 games in 1980-1981 (36 games played) and lost a team record 30 games in 1996-97 (32 games played).

The Pirates qualified for playoffs in 45 of their 53 seasons and played in 76 playoff series, winning 35 and losing 41.

The NPHL has chosen to delete Pirates’ games from the schedule rather than attempt to draw a new schedule.

Decision on Regals' grant postponed

Chris Clegg
South Peace News

(High Prairie) – A request for a grant from the High Prairie Regals to help with club operations will be dealt with at a later meeting.

Town council met Sept.

29 and agreed to the delay by a 4-2 vote with councillors Brian Martinson and David Temple opposed.

Councillor Carol Hanlon did not want to deal with the matter, saying she did not have a budget or financial state-

ments to consider before making a decision. It is council’s policy to have that information before debate occurs.

“Are we going to follow the process?” Mayor Dan Vandermeulen asked.

Hanlon added her stand was not to “dis-

miss” the possibility of the grant but to follow policy and bring it back.

At the Sept. 8 meeting Regals’ president Jerry Kruger did show council the club’s financials on his phone but council has not yet received the information on paper.

“Do you agree with Councillor Hanlon?” asked Vandermeulen before the vote.

Councillor Hermann Minderlein was absent from the meeting.

Big Lakes County gave the Regals a \$5,000 grant at its Sept. 22 meeting.

Next week: Harvest Festival and HP Quilt Show!

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Northern Lakes College has the following **Part-Time Position (.50 FTE)** available:

Instructor, Social Work
Reference #NLC-2296R
Salary: \$36,276 to \$55,980 per year
Location: Homebased
Start Date: November 30, 2026

Qualifications:

- Master of Social Work Degree
- Minimum of two years of recent related work experience and demonstrated competence in the occupational/subject area
- Knowledge of and experience working in Indigenous communities
- Experience teaching adults and developing curriculum
- Eligible for registration with the Alberta College of Social Workers
- Ability to plan, organize, instruct, and facilitate quality educational programs
- Ability to use Microsoft Office
- A valid Class 5 driver's license
- Willingness to travel
- A clean vulnerable sector criminal record check prior to commencement

Assets:

- Knowledge of educational technologies, such as Bongo and Brightspace

Successful candidate must provide College or University transcripts and a Criminal Record Check to Human Resources prior to commencement.

For complete details on this employment opportunity, visit us online at **www.northernlakescollege.ca** click on **Careers at NLC**. Please submit a **resume quoting the reference number NLC-2296R** to: Northern Lakes College, Human Resources, 1201 Main Street SE, Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A3 or alternatively, fax resume to: 780-849-5881

Closing Date: October 11, 2026

NOTE: Northern Lakes College thanks all applicants for their interest in employment; however, only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.



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Northern Lakes College has the following **Full-Time Position** available:

Administrative Assistant, Senior Director, Facilities & Ancillary Services
Reference #NLC-2326
Salary: \$54,012 to \$66,276 per year
Location: Slave Lake
Start Date: October 26, 2026

Qualifications:

- College Certificate in Office Administration
- Three (3) to five (5) years of related experience
- Strong computer skills in Microsoft Office Suite including Word, Excel, and Outlook
- Excellent customer service and organizational skills
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- A clean vulnerable sector criminal record check prior to commencement
- A valid Class 5 driver's license
- A combination of education, training and experience may be considered

Assets:

- Experience in a Human Resources environment
- Finance experience with Account Receivable/Account Payable
- Experience with a Computer Maintenance Management Software (CMMS) is preferred

The Successful candidate must provide College or University transcripts and a clean Criminal Record Check to Human Resources prior to commencement.

This position is covered under the Collective Agreement between Northern Lakes College and the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees.

For complete details on this employment opportunity, visit us online at **www.northernlakescollege.ca** click on **Careers at NLC**. Please submit a **resume quoting the reference number NLC-2326** to: Northern Lakes College, Human Resources, 1201 Main Street SE, Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A3 or alternatively, fax resume to: 780-849-5881

Closing Date: October 11, 2026

NOTE: Northern Lakes College thanks all applicants for their interest in employment; however, only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.



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Community Calendar

Wednesday, October 7

World Cotton Day!
National Sewing Machine Day!
National Frappe Day!
PRMHA Concussion Course at Baytex Energy Centre. Call (780) 624-3204 for time.
9 a.m. – HP Interagency meets at HP Provincial Building.
10 – 11 a.m. – Storytime at HP Municipal Library. (Ages 2-5 Years with Parent)
10 a.m. – Noon – HP CRC Baby & Me program for children 0-12 months.
10:30 a.m. – Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) meets at HP Anglican Church. (780) 523-0949.
Non – Grouard Seniors Lunch at Grouard Northland School Elder 's Room.
Noon – 1:30 p.m. – Humble Delights Kitchen open at HP Native Friendship Centre 4919-51 Ave.
1:30 p.m. – Play Floor Curling at HP Golden Age Centre, 4824-53 Ave. \$1 drop-in charge.
3:45 – 5 p.m. – Kids' Builders After-School Club at PR Municipal Library. Ages 7+. Register online.
5 – 7 p.m. – Family Building Night at St. Isidore Cultural Centre. Call (780) 624-807 to pre-register.
5:30 p.m. – Play bingo at Kinuso Ag Hall. Pre-call 6:30 p.m., regular games at 6:45 p.m.
7 p.m. – Drop-In Beanbag/Cornhole at Jousard Community Association Hall. \$2 fee.
7 p.m. – AA meetings at Grouard in Brown Building behind Kapawe'no Hall #55.
7 p.m. – Faust Silver & Gold meeting at Faust Hall.
7:30 p.m. – Play cribbage at Jousard Homesteaders Hall.

Thursday, October 8

World Sight Day!
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Thrift Store Bag Sale at HP Native Friendship Centre – 45919—51 Ave. in HP.
10 a.m. – Noon – HP CRC Play & Learn program for children 0-6 years at 4709 – 51 Ave.
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Senior Cooking at HP Native Friendship Centre – 45919—51 Ave. in HP.
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. – Story Time at PR Municipal Library 0-6 years. Themed activity, sensory play.
11 a.m. – Teddy Bear Picnic at Falher Library. Please RSVP by Oct. 5. Call (780) 837-2220.
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. – AHS Flu Clinic at HP Native Friendship Centre – 45919—51 Ave. in HP.
1 – 2 p.m. – Join Walk & Talk at Falher Smoky River Community Hall. Bring clean shoes! \$2 fee.
1:30 p.m. – Play Mah Jong at HP Golden Age Centre, 4824-53 Ave. \$1 drop-in charge.
2 – 3 p.m. – Bumble Buddies at Falher Library for cildren 0-5 years and caregivers.
3:45 – 5 p.m. – Kids' Board Game After-School Club at Peace River Municipal Library. Free!
4 – 8 p.m. – Youth Hub (12-17 Years) at HP Native Friendship Centre. Hang out! Play games!
6 p.m. – Narcotics Anonymous meetings in High Prairie at 4919- 51 Ave.
7 p.m. – Drop-In Pickleball at Jousard JCA Hall. \$2 fee. Beanbag toss if enough interest.
7 p.m. – Play Bridge at HP Golden Age Centre, 4824-53 Ave. \$1 drop-in charge.

Friday, October 9

World Egg Day!
10 a.m. – Kinuso Seniors Coffee Time at Kinuso Seniors Centre. New members 50+ welcome.
1 – 7 p.m. – Mad Hatter's Tea at Marie Reine Cultural Centre.
1:30 p.m. – Enjoy trump & whist at the HP Golden Age Centre, 4824-53 Ave. \$1 drop-in charge.
3:45 – 5 p.m. – Read Aloud Club meets at Peace River Municipal Library. Read with our facilitator!
7:30 p.m. – High Prairie AA chapter meets at HP Church of the Nazarene 4900-59 Ave.

Saturday, October 10

World Homeless Day!
World Hospice and Palliative Care Day!
World Day Against the Deth Penalty!

Sunday, October 11

Attend the church of your choice.
1:30 p.m. – Enjoy cribbage games at the HP Golden Age Centre, 4824-53 Ave. \$1 drop-in charge.
6:30 p.m. – Enilda & District Society for Recreation and Culture meeting at Bowling Alley.

Monday, October 12

(Due to holiday, events may be cancelled)
Thanksgiving Day! Bad day to be a turkey!
World Arthritis Day!
1 – 3 p.m. – Crib & Cards Social at Multi-Plex Building at Spruce Point Park. Snacks provided.
1:30 p.m. – Play Mah Jong at Jousard Homesteaders Hall.
3:30 – 5:30 p.m. – HP CRC After-School Program (8-12 Years) at HP Children's Resource Centre.
5 p.m. – Town of Peace River council meets in council chambers.
7 p.m. – Drop-In Beanbag/Cornhole at Jousard Community Association Hall. \$2 fee.
7 p.m. – Ladies Time Out at Kinuso Seniors Centre.
7 p.m. – Jousard Community Association meeting upstairs at JCA Hall.
7:30 p.m. – High Prairie AA chapter meets at HP Church of the Nazarene 4900-59 Ave.

Tuesday, October 13

9:30 a.m. – Northern Sunrise County meets in council chambers.
10 a.m. – Noon – Drop-In Coffee at HP Golden Age Club. \$1 drop-in charge.
1 p.m. – Kinuso Seniors meeting at Kinuso Seniors Centre. New members 50+ welcome.
1 – 2 p.m. – Join Walk & Talk at Falher Smoky River Community Hall. Bring clean shoes! \$2 fee.
1 – 4 p.m. – Senior Drop-In at HP Native Friendship Centre 4919-51 Ave.
4 – 5 p.m. – After School Craft hosted by Smoky River FCSS at McLennan Library.
6 p.m. – Town of High Prairie meets in council chambers.
6:30 p.m. – Village of Donnelly meets in in council chambers.
6 p.m. – Drop-In Pickleball at Jousard JCA Hall. \$2 fee.
7 p.m. – Whist games at Big Meadow Hall north of Enilda. Contact Stella Sware at (780) 523-2009.

Wednesday, October 14

9 a.m. – M.D. of Smoky River meets in Falher in council chambers.
10 – 11 a.m. – Storytime at HP Municipal Library. (Ages 2-5 Years with Parent)
10 a.m. – ig Lakes County meet s in High Prairie in council chambers.
10 a.m. – Noon – HP CRC Baby & Me program for children 0-12 months.
10:30 a.m. – Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) meets at HP Anglican Church. (780) 523-0949.
Noon – Grouard Seniors Lunch at Grouard Northland School Elder's Room.
Noon – 1:30 p.m. – Humble Delights Kitchen open at HP Native Friendship Centre 4919-51 Ave.
12:30 – 5:30 p.m. – Marigold Farmers Market in HP at 4724- 53 – Ave.
1:30 p.m. – Play Floor Curling at HP Golden Age Centre, 4824-53 Ave. \$1 drop-in charge.
3:45 – 5 p.m. – Kids' Builders After-School Club at PR Municipal Library. Ages 7+. Register online.
5:30 p.m. – Play bingo at Kinuso Ag Hall. Pre-call 6:30 p.m., regular games at 6:45 p.m.
6:30 p.m. – Town of McLennan meets in in council chambers.
7 p.m. – Drop-In Beanbag/Cornhole at Jousard Community Association Hall. \$2 fee.
7 p.m. – Village of Girouxville meets in in council chambers.
7 p.m. – Town of Falher meets in in council chambers.



A trip down memory lane
Looking Back... Oct. 7



Oct. 7, 1915: The Alberta government gives the Town of Grouard 10 acres of land for park purposes on 21-75-15-W5.

Oct. 7, 1962: The visiting High Prairie Optimists score a touchdown with three minutes left in the game and defeat McLennan 46-43 in midget flag football action.

Oct. 7, 1968: The First High Prairie Girl Guides hold their first meeting.

Oct. 7, 1969: The First High Prairie Girl Guides hold their first anniversary. Each girl makes a cupcake and decorates it to represent a country which she told one fact about. Each girl also donates her age in pennies.

Oct. 7, 1970: Northland Painting Ltd. opens in High Prairie.

Oct. 7, 1981: Nick Mikoula opens a shoe repair shop in the former Medical Clinic building in High Prairie.

Oct. 7, 1984: St. Bernard's Mission in Grouard is the site of the first Treaty Indian to be named a Roman Catholic priest when Stanley Alfred Fontaine is ordained.

Oct. 7, 1988: Doug Badger opens Carrie's Diner in Sucker Creek.

Oct. 7, 1988: Pioneer Home Hardware celebrates its grand opening in High Prairie in its newly-expanded building.

Oct. 7, 1990: Three boys from the High Prairie Youth Assessment Centre flee from their supervisor and later cause \$20,000 in damages to cabins at Shaw's Point Resort. They plead guilty in youth court Nov. 19 to various charges and are given either 30 or 15 hours of community service.

Oct. 7, 1992: Several High Prairie business owners ban students from their stores due to shoplifting. IGA says they caught 18 students in one noon hour during one day.

Oct. 7, 1992: *South Peace News* reports the House of Fashion moves into the old Pegasus Books store in High Prairie.

Oct. 7, 1992: The Prairie Inn, formerly the Park Hotel built in 1954, burns during a spectacular evening blaze in High Prairie. The cause of the fire is never determined and deemed to be accidental.

Oct. 7, 1994: The House of Furniture in High Prairie holds a close-out sale at its old location before moving to the old Transportation office.

Oct. 7, 1994: *South Peace News* reports that Tracy Quinlan, 18, has been hired by the High Prairie Recreation Board to teach jazz, ballet and tap lessons.

Oct. 7, 2000: Golf carts are vandalized at the High Prairie Golf Club to the tune of \$8,000.

Oct. 7, 2009: *South Peace News* features a story on East Prairie's Roseanne Supernault, 20, who has a role in the TV pilot *Blackstone*.

Oct. 7, 2009: The High Prairie Lions announce they are cancelling this year's Lions Radio/TV Auction because of a lack of volunteers and the poor economic situation.

Oct. 7, 2012: Darcie Zabolotniuk, of High Prairie, receives the \$2,000 High Prairie Health Care Auxiliary bursary.

Oct. 7, 2014: Carol Charrois opens Kitchen Chaos in the old Leonarda's Beauty Salon location in High Prairie.

Oct. 7, 2015: *South Peace News* reports the High Prairie and District Museum receives provincial accreditation, which gives it free training for tourism by Travel Alberta.

Oct. 7, 2020: The Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association dissolves the High Prairie Native Friendship Centre board of directors citing several concerns. The newly-elected board has no chance to deal with concerns.

Do you remember?



South Peace News published this photograph of the winners of Clever Classmates competition at Prairie River Junior High School, date unknown. In the front row, left-right, are Peter Thomson, Michelle Grey and Wayne Fjeld. In the back row, left-right, are teacher Phil Hawley, Patricia Blonsky, Peter Howard and Michelle Dupuis.

Confidence shown in Grouard's future

October 5, 1912
Grouard News

Mr. Fred J. Graham, of Edmonton, owner of River Lot 7 and with extensive holdings on Main Street and other parts of town, was here on a business trip this week.

Mr. Graham is a great believer in the future of Grouard and when seen by the *News* expressed himself as greatly surprised with the development that has taken place since his visit last spring, though as he says had the material been available, greater developments would have taken place, but with the advent of two more sawmills, which are coming in over the ice this winter, next year will witness far greater changes in this town than were brought about during the past season.

Mr. Graham . . . will be here early in the spring and go into business, as he is confident that no town in Western Canada presents great possibilities as Grouard.

Draining needed on Main Street

What has been done

The Grouard News

A Weekly Paper published in the interests of Grouard and the Peace River Country at our office in Grouard, every Saturday.

Subscription \$2.00 a Year.
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R.S. BURNS, Editor and Manager

with respect to having drains put in our Main Street to carry off next spring's rush of water?

Now is the time for the council to put in some kind of drains while the nice weather lasts. The cost of such an undertaking would be small compared to the advantage it would be to citizens and teams in passing up and down the street. Already, a subscription has been taken up by the business men around the corner of Morin and Main streets to fix that part of the street and it is certainly in the duty of the council to attend to this matter rather than business men.

Realty moving

During the past week a great deal of local realty has changed hands principally to outside buyers. Most of the property was sold in lots though we understand some acreage at the north end of town was also sold.

On Wednesday, Mr. William Knibb disposed of 10 lots, two on Main Street and eight rear lots, to Mr. W.W. Boyd, of Regina.

On the same day the Northern Realty and Investment Company sold to F.S. Lawrence 36 lots in town, while word comes from Edmonton of the sale of 100 lots in River Lot 8. The Peace River Investments Ltd., owners South Grouard, have a deal pending with the Bragdon-Sturgeon Co. of Calgary, for a good share of their subdivision situated directly south of Main Street across the river; the price to be paid is understood to be a substantial one, which only goes to show the confidence placed in the future of

Grouard by outside purchasers.

Turnip 36 inches around

Mr. R. Potts brought in some samples of root from Traverse Brothers farm situated seven miles south of here.

One turnip measured 36 1/2 inches in circumference while the other roots, which include beets, potatoes, mangels and cabbage, are exceptionally fine samples. They have over 1,100 head of cabbage, just as good as the sample shown.

Around the town

...we are informed that a meeting of the ratepayers of this village will be held about the middle of the present month, to vote on the incorporation of the village into a town.

...Sunday's boat brought 25 new arrivals to this district.

...a feature of the Moving Picture Show tonight, in addition to an excellent program of pictures, will be an acrobatic act by a local acrobat.



Part of the town of Peace River, photo courtesy of the Town of Peace River.

Town of PR exploring economic opportunties

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

(Peace River) – At its Sept. 14 regular meeting, Peace River town council was faced with a decision on whether to join a proposed regional economic development board.

Council received a proposal letter from three regional members of the Lac Cardinal Regional Economic Development Board (LCREDB) to rename and restructure the current board and include membership from the municipalities that comprise the Peace Regional Energy Alliance, forming a regional economic development. The three municipalities included the Town of Grimshaw, Village of Berwyn and M.D. of Peace.

The municipalities invited to collaborate include the County of Northern Lights, Northern Sunrise County, Town of Peace River, Town of Manning, and Village of Nampa.

Peace River Mayor Shelly Shannon says council has asked administration to evaluate the pros and cons of joining the new board before officially joining. She says council recognizes the value in joining the board and working with the other municipalities to attain goals, adding there is considerable strength in combining voices, resources, and expertise.

“A regional approach could potentially give us greater capacity when pursuing investment, advocating to other levels of government, accessing grants and undertaking projects that may be difficult for one municipality to tackle independently,” Shannon explains.

“At the same time, council has a responsibility to do its due diligence. Regional collaboration is not automatically successful simply because it is regional.”

Shannon says Peace River council needs to understand what the governance structure would look like, what each municipality would contribute, what services would be delivered and what measurable value Peace River taxpayers would receive.

“Economic development is already an important priority for this council, and we have made a deliberate investment in building our own capacity,” Shannon says.

“There is only so much funding available, so before committing municipal dollars to another organization, we need to understand whether it complements what we are already doing or duplicates it,” she adds.

“We are approaching this with an open mind, but also with fiscal responsibility.”

Shannon explains Peace River has established its own economic development committee over recent years and the potential impact on that committee is one consideration moving forward.

“I don’t think we should create another layer simply for the sake of creating another organization,” Shannon notes.

“If we participate regionally, we need to determine where our local Economic Development Committee fits and how the two can complement one another.”

Shannon adds there are several possibilities regarding this collaboration, but at this juncture the scope, governance structure, services, and financial implications of the regional collaboration proposal have not been defined.

She says there are also several possibilities on how council could participate.

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“At the same time, council has a responsibility to do its due diligence. Regional collaboration is not automatically successful simply because it is regional,” Town of Peace River Mayor Shelly Shannon says.

“Our existing committee could continue concentrating on initiatives that are very specific to Peace River, such as business retention, workforce initiatives, local events and projects,” she says.

“Alternatively, its mandate could evolve and become more focused on areas such as downtown revitalization, local business development or other community-specific priorities, while a regional organization concentrates on larger-scale investment attraction and regional opportunities.”

Shannon says the conversation is still in its infancy, so many discussions will need to take place, but she does not want to see duplication.

She adds whatever structures is chosen will have to make their economic development efforts stronger and more effective.

“We are exploring it because the economic opportunities coming to this region increasingly extend beyond municipal boundaries,” Shannon says, alluding to proposed projects like the nuclear reactors.

“Investors don’t necessarily look at Peace River, Grimshaw, Northern Sunrise County or the M.D. of Peace as completely separate economies. They look at

the labour force, available land, transportation, housing, infrastructure, services, supply chains and opportunities of the entire region.”

She says these factors prove that presenting as a united front when pursuing major opportunities is vital, but she says exploring the idea is not the same as committing to it.

“Our municipalities collaborate in a number of areas, including regional energy initiatives and the airport, and we have recently been having broader regional conversations through our Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework discussions,” she says.

“Economic development is a logical area in which to explore further cooperation. Eight municipalities approaching an investor, the provincial or federal government, or a major funding opportunity can potentially carry considerably more weight than eight municipalities having eight separate conversations.”

Shannon strongly adds the objective is not to erase the identity or priorities of individual communities but to determine where interests overlap and use that common ground to strengthen the entire region.

She does say there are

some hesitancies in joining the collaboration though, noting funding and governance as two of the biggest questions for Peace River council.

“Peace River is the largest urban service centre among the immediate participating communities, so the funding formula matters,” she says.

“Would contributions be based on population, assessment, an equal-share model or something else? We need to understand what our financial commitment would be and whether it is sustainable.”

The structure of the allegiance will also make a difference. Shannon asks who will make the decisions, how representation will be determined, what the priorities of the group will be, and how the group will ensure that interests of all municipalities are being fairly represented.

Shannon says for Peace River the operational question is also a vital concern. She says learning how their current economic development staff will fit into the picture and figuring out what responsibilities will remain local and which will be delivered regionally.

“Those are significant questions because every dollar council commits to a regional organization is a dollar that cannot be spent somewhere else,” Shannon says.

“I don’t view those questions as opposition to the concept. They are exactly the questions council should be asking before making a

long-term financial commitment.”

Shannon explains council’s goal is to have enough information in front of council by end of October so an informed decision can be made on the collaboration. She adds economic development has been a priority of hers since first elected and she has advocated for Peace River to rebuild its own economic development capacity to focus on investment, business retention and growth in the community.

“That is why I want us to be thoughtful about this proposal,” she says.

“I don’t want regional economic development to come at the expense of effective local economic development. I want the two to strengthen each other.”

Shannon believes a model can be developed where Peace River continues to work with its own businesses, developers and investors while eight municipalities combine their resources to pursue the larger opportunities that benefit the whole region.

“There is something genuinely exciting about eight municipalities being willing to sit around one table and ask, ‘What can we accomplish together that we can’t accomplish separately?’” she concludes.

“If we can get that right, I think there is tremendous potential—not just for Peace River, but for the entire region. If we can get that right, I think there is tremendous potential—not just for Peace River, but for the entire region.”

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Editorial

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P.O. Box 1000,
High Prairie, Alberta Canada T0G 1E0

Local

How much is too much?

The price of electricity will be rising for residents living in the Town of High Prairie Jan. 1. What a way to start the New Year!

Town council approved the ATCO Electric Franchise fee increase to 10 per cent from nine per cent. We could boggle the mind with numbers that would confuse the average resident. The only fact residents want to know, however, is how much extra they will be paying.

Says the Town, if an average customer using 535 kWh per month pays \$12.32 for the franchise fee, the one per cent hike will add a cost of \$1.37 per month, or \$16.32 per year. About four or five cups of coffee, depending on where you get your caffeine fix.

Certainly not much!

The hike will allow council to put another – get this – \$39,993.81 into its general revenue account, which is where they decided to stash it. What they will spend it on is to be determined.

A comment made at the meeting which was disturbing is the increase was not very much. To whom, may we ask?

This newspaper was told by a senior citizen on a fixed income that she buys only dry goods at the grocery store to save money. She has also unhooked her TV. She is scratching to make ends meet. Bottom line. She is struggling.

It is somewhat ironic that the “not very much” comment was made by an individual who is financially well-off. The small increase is certainly “not very much” to one party but it is to another, especially when it is one of several small increases bombarding this individual. Groceries. Higher gasoline prices. Insurance. Utilities. Fact is, everything is increasing. When added up, every little increase does matter as some less fortunate citizens reach the financial breaking point.

The pressure on local governments is also enormous. They are also facing cost increases. They must increase revenues to keep up and not fall behind. Running a town is a business. Safe drinking water has to be made. Sewage disposed. Streets maintained. And much, much more.

So, what's a small increase?

The franchise fee increase it is the ultimate hidden increase. This increase is not the fault of ATCO Electric but town council. When a citizen looks at their power bill and sees an increase, they will blame the electric company. Not so in this case.

It is like the property tax bill. Each year, citizens open up their tax bill and normally see an increase. Many times, the increase is not the fault of the Town but arises from the education tax, which the Town must collect by law. It's the messenger who gets shot, however.

Hard as it is, the reality is costs are rising and there seems to be little control. Town council can hardly be blamed for the increase in the franchise fee but comments it is just a small increase are best left up to each individual. What may be a small increase to one person, is not so to another.

Besides, a little increase here, a little increase there, all adds up. It may make the party implementing the increase feel better but it not always so for the consumer.

- Chris Clegg



Oversight is real! So is reality!

Commentary by
Jeff Bugar

An AI writer had dozens of complete stories printed in big Canadian newspapers over the past year or so, right up to now!

News of this should be no surprise. Many publications are wrestling with how to deal with AI in their newsrooms. It's the same with AI in government, schools, and big and small businesses. Just about any place where people can shuffle some, or many, of their tasks off to a computer.

It's been a while coming, but – predictably – much of the hullabaloo about AI these days is about government stepping in to regulate it.

Gosh, what's new? Nuclear energy. Oil and gas wells. Clean water. Climate change. Wind and solar farms. Microwaves. Non-stick pans. Gambling. Is there anything some people don't want government to make rules about? Rocks maybe? Clouds? Hours of sleep? Silly opinion columns that waste trees? Even politicians using AI to write speeches and newsletters as many are already doing?

Rules seem to always come

easy. But as any even half-intelligent law officer or politician will tell you, making a rule and having people follow a rule are two different things. One can rely on cops, or the goodwill of who the laws are for. Or a little or whole lot of both.

Take speed limits. Some people consider them not laws, but suggestions. Some people think there are unwritten rules:

"It's OK if you don't get caught."

"The law really means you can go 10 per cent more than what is posted."

"It's OK if you go a little bit over, nobody will mind."

"I'm going 20 kilometres faster than the limit, and that guy just blew right past me. He should get a big fine."

Speeding, it seems, is not like being pregnant. As in there is no such thing as being “just a little bit pregnant.” You are or you are not. That's it!

So, is there such a thing as using “just a little bit of AI” in anything, and thinking it's OK? Statistics these days say the world's newsrooms are already 50 per cent into AI. From grammar and

spell-checkers to creating headlines to brainstorming ideas. One survey says by the end of 2027, 98 per cent of all media newsrooms will be using some form of AI.

Personally, I like the idea of knowing who is behind a story or opinion. If an AI wrote a story, I want to know. Should I discount the story, because an AI wrote it? Probably not. These days, one can toss a story or opinion piece at an AI and have it come back with an AI score. So far, it's quite good at spotting AI stuff.

Which makes one wonder, how the heck did the AI get away with getting its copy into so many big and small publications? Are some of the editors supposedly so far “above” the rest of us, they are actually behind? Probably!

In journalism and creative writing, as we always have and no matter what rules and policies there might be, we will rely on ethics. We will strive to keep AI use sensible. We will strive not to con managers, our co-workers, but especially not to con our readers. All still have to put a certain amount of trust in writers to be honest.

That is reality!

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Alberta senator attends meeting, but not allowed to participate

Kris Sims,
Courtesy of Canadian
Taxpayers Federation.

An Alberta senator spent more than \$4,500 traveling to a parliamentary meeting in France where he wasn't allowed to speak up and participate without permission and he couldn't vote because Canada isn't even a member of the organization.

Senator Scott Tannas billed taxpayers more for international travel than any other senator in Alberta.

"Tannas blew thousands of dollars on a trip to France for meetings

where he couldn't even cast a vote, so he can't point to a nickel of benefit for the taxpayers who he stuck with the bill," said Kris Simms, Alberta director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF).

"Taxpayers are fighting to afford the basics of life here at home and they can't be forced to pay for pointless trips for unelected senators to visit Europe."

Tannas spent \$10,795 on three trips abroad between January 2023 and March 2026, according to records obtained by the CTF.

Tannas's international

travel included two trips to the United States and a visit to France.

Tannas billed taxpayers \$4,545 to travel to Strasbourg, France, in April 2024, to attend a session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE).

PACE sessions are also live-streamed and viewable online from anywhere in the world.

Canada is not a member of the Council of Europe. Canadian parliamentarians participate in its assembly as observers, where they can only speak with permission from the president

and cannot vote.

Parliament sent four senators and two elected MPs, Stephane Bergeron and Francesco Sorbara, to the session. The eight-person delegation cost taxpayers \$40,654.

Tannas did not deliver or submit a speech during the PACE debates. He asked one question at a meeting, according to Parliament's post-trip report.

"The Senate is costing Canadians more than \$140 million this year and it's easy to see why with pointless trips like these," said Sims.

"The Senate has cost us more than a billion dollars in the last decade and all attempts to reform it have failed. It's time to abolish this expensive rubber stamp."

Tannas also billed taxpayers \$3,792 for a four-day congressional visit to Washington, D.C., in February 2023.

Parliament sent five elected MPs: John McKay, Anthony Housefather, Tom Kmiec, Peter Julian and Simon-Pierre Savard-Tremblay, and three senators on the trip. The delegation cost taxpayers \$35,350.



Following is a list of the most read stories on southpeacenews.com over the last 14 days, effective Friday, Oct. 2, 2026.

1. **St. Andrew's School welcomes new teachers**
[posted Saturday, Sept. 19]
2. **Police officer injured while arresting man**
[posted Thursday, Oct. 1]
3. **High Prairie YAC building not extensively damaged - mayor**
[posted Saturday, Sept. 19]
4. **PRJH welcomes 2 new teachers**
[posted Sunday, Sept. 20]
5. **Pratt welcomes new principal and 3 teachers**
[posted Friday, Sept. 18]
6. **Ongoing crime hot topic**
[posted Monday, Sept. 28]
7. **HP council approves economic development position**
[posted Monday, Sept. 21]
8. **Woman offers ideas to fight crime, beautify High Prairie**
[posted Tuesday, Sept. 29]
9. **Today's Happenings: Sept. 28, 2026**
[posted Sunday, Sept. 27]
10. **United front on nuclear spported**
[posted Wednesday, Sept. 30]

Be sure to check southpeacenews.com for regular updates on *South Peace News*' two-time Canadian Community Newspapers Association award-winning website! More stories, more photos, more reading, more entertainment!

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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Social Development Department - Full Time, Regular

ABOUT THE ROLE

Kapawe'no First Nation is located by Buffalo Bay and adjacent to Grouard, Alberta - a community with beautiful scenery and a dedicated team who take real pride in supporting Nation members. We're looking for an experienced, community-minded leader to join the team and manage our Social Development, Income Support, and Employment Services.

Reporting to the Internal Office Manager, the Social Development Manager provides strategic leadership and day-to-day oversight of the Nation's Income Assistance Program, the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) agreement, the Community Navigator initiative, and Jordan's Principle social and family applications.

WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Oversee the Income Assistance Program, including intake, eligibility, financial distributions, file reviews, and client advocacy - with referrals to housing, health, mental wellness, and family support services.
- Lead the ISET Program and Community Navigator services, including funding approvals, career counselling, and workshops on job readiness, budgeting, and life skills.
- Manage confidential client records and database systems.
- Prepare and submit funder and manage departmental budgets in coordination with the Finance Department.
- Supervise and support department staff and contractors and provide program updates and recommendations to Chief and Council.
- Build partnerships with regional employers, agencies, institutions, and service providers.

WHAT YOU BRING

- A post-secondary degree or diploma in Social Work, Human Services, Community Development, Public Administration, or a related field - or an equivalent combination of education, training, and leadership experience.
- 3-5 years of progressive experience in social development, income assistance, employment counselling, or human services management, ideally within a First Nations or Indigenous organization.
- Working knowledge of ISC Income Assistance policy, ESDC ISET agreements, case management frameworks, and Jordan's Principle processes.
- Experience with client database systems (ARMS, 360 software an asset) and strong financial, organizational, and communication skills.
- Understanding of Cree culture, traditions, and Treaty rights related to social wellness; ability to speak or understand Cree is a significant asset.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- Clear Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search (dated within 3 months of hire) and clear Child Intervention Record Check.
- Valid Alberta Class 5 Driver's License, clean driver's abstract, reliable vehicle.
- Willingness to work flexible hours and travel locally to support Nation members and attend meetings.

HOW TO APPLY

- Interested candidates are invited to submit a resume and cover letter to the Kapawe'no Administration Office or email rebecca.petersen@kapaweno.ca.
- We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Position will remain open until a suitable candidate is selected.

Preference may be given to qualified Kapawe'no First Nation members and Indigenous applicants, in accordance with Section 16(1) of the Canadian Human Rights Act.

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To the watershed councils in the North Peace and South Peace regions. They do a lot of terrific work and oversee projects, plus, they are the watchdog when it comes to monitoring our water. We cannot rely on government to do this for us. The watershed councils study our water quality and keep it safe.



To different gasoline prices in different towns. No one seems to want to explain the reason for the huge difference in gasoline prices in towns and cities in Alberta. We have a right to know why this exists!

Letters to the editor policy

South Peace News welcomes readers to write letters to the editor. A maximum of 300 words is preferred but not necessary. Letters must carry a first name or two initials with surname and include an address and daytime telephone number. All letters are subject to editing. Please send letters to *South Peace News*, Box 1000, High Prairie, Alta., T0G 1E0, or fax to (780) 523-3039; or please E-mail to southpeacenews@hotmail.com.

“It is finished”

As Jesus was dying on the cross we read His last words: “Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, ‘I am thirsty.’ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When He had received the drink, Jesus said, ‘It is finished.’ With that, He bowed his head and gave up His spirit.” (John 19:28-30)

It was three o’clock. Jesus called for water. He could hardly speak. Someone fixed a sponge on a stalk of a hyssop plant and held it up to His lips. It was terribly bitter but it was enough. He strained to raise His head and look up to heaven.

“It is finished,” He cried and then He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

At the time, the moment was filled with too much emotion for those words to sink in and to ponder what they meant. But later, as the early Christians read John’s Gospel and heard again those words, it dawned on them just how powerful these dying words of Jesus were.

John wrote his Gospel in Greek, and those last words of Jesus are just one word in Greek – tetelestai (pronounced te-tel-es-sty).

The expression, “It is finished” or tetelestai was well-known to them. It was a part of everyday language. Just one example: When a servant had completed a difficult job that his master had given him to do, he would say to the master – tetelestai – “I have overcome all the difficulties; I have done the job to the best of my ability. It is finished.”

All those who later read the word tetelestai understood that Jesus was saying His job of saving the world has been completed. He has finished the task and nothing can be added to what has been done. Jesus has paid the



price in full. He has cancelled all debt. His sacrifice has been a perfect one, acceptable to the heavenly Father who probably thought looking down on his Son hanging lifelessly from the cross, “Well done, this is my dear Son with whom I am well pleased.”

Tetelestai! It is finished! Everything is complete! What is it that is finished when Jesus says, “It is finished?”

Reconciliation is finished. A terrible gap has come between God and all humanity caused by sin and evil. Our offences, our disobedience, the hurt we have caused God and others have destroyed our relationship with God. So we need to be reconciled to God.

Sin has a devastating effect on our relationship with God. Sin separates us from God and if we want to have any hope of going to heaven to be with God, then someone had to deal with sin and restore our relationship with God. So God sent His Son into the world for this very purpose to reconcile us to God. Jesus died on the cross to get rid of the power of sin to condemn us. His death bridged the deep gulf between God and us.

“Salvation is finished,” Jesus cried. The restoration of the friendship between God and humanity has been finished. The task for which God’s Son came to Earth has been completed. He has won forgiveness for all people. Nothing else needs to be done. Salvation is complete.

“It is finished!” The day Jesus died is called Good Friday. It certainly wasn’t a good day for Jesus. He endured pain, soul-wrenching agony, a terrible beating, then

Inspiration

Rev. Terry Goerz, Redeemer Lutheran Church.

hanging by the nails in His hands for hours, death on a rough wooden cross, for our sakes.

We call it Good Friday because the cross is proof of the powerful love that God has for each of us. No one, not even God, would do something like that unless He truly loved us. Here we see a love that was prepared to endure the ultimate in order to rescue us.

I don’t think we can fully appreciate what it meant for the Father to abandon the Son and let Him die at the hands of evil people. When Jesus cried out, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” we sense something of the terror of bearing the weight of the sin of all humanity and then the total wrath of God for that sin.

God did all this for us. He did all this because of His love for us.

“But God demonstrates His Own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life!” (Romans 5:8, 10)

That’s how much God loves us! Jesus died for us even though we don’t deserve it. His death has made us God’s friends. Jesus’ announcement, “It is finished” is clear and simple. Jesus has completed His task. The reason why He came as a human has been fulfilled. He came so you and I can have forgiveness and salvation. He came to give us the victory. He came to ensure that we would enter His kingdom and live forever!

‘I don’t think we can fully appreciate what it meant for the Father to abandon the Son and let Him die at the hands of evil people. When Jesus cried out, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?” we sense something of the terror of bearing the weight of the sin of all humanity and then the total wrath of God for that sin.’



Your Friendly Community Church Directory

We're Falling For Jesus!

High Prairie, McLennan, Falher, Tangent, Eaglesham, Donnelly, St. Isidore, Girouxville

McLennan Victory Life Church010 Railway Ave., McLennan, AB
Pastor: Todd & Emma Moore
Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m. Children Service: 10:00 a.m.
Friday Night Youth Group: 7:00 p.m.
Office Hours: M-T 8:30 a.m.-Noon Phone: 780-324-3039
Email: office@mcLennanvictory.com



Website:
www.mclennanvictory.com

McLennan United Church/High Prairie United Church
020 - 2nd Ave (Behind Home Hardware), McLennan, AB
Sunday Church Service: 10:00 a.m. Presiders: The whole people of God.
Come join us for Worship & Fellowship. Visitors & new members are welcome.
Phone: (780) 324-3771 or (780) 324-3688

Redeemer Lutheran Church 5105 53 Ave. (Hwy 2), High Prairie, AB
Riverside Plaza beside Subway. Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Reverend Terry Goerz Phone: 780-523-7656



Milestone Christian Church 5105 53 Ave. (Hwy 2), High Prairie, AB
Riverside Plaza beside Subway. Saturday Worship: 6:00 p.m.
Pastor Val Orena Phone: 780-906-6855
A Filipino-International Christ-Loving Community

Newlife Church5026-51 Avenue, High Prairie, AB
Two doors west of HP Bottle Depot.
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Doug Isaac Phone: 780-523-7146



St. Paul’s Catholic Church4633-52 Ave., High Prairie, AB
Saturday Mass: 7:00 p.m. Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month Mass at J.B. Woods
(5101 38 Street) 3:30 p.m. Phone: 780-523-3140



High Prairie Church of the Nazarene4900 59th Ave, High Prairie
Sunday Church: 11:00 a.m. Tuesday Prayer Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
via ZOOM or in-person
Phone: 403-928-5999 pastortracystewart@gmail.com

St. Mark’s Anglican Church4701 - 53 Ave., High Prairie, AB
Sunday Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pleasantview Lodge (4600 Pleasantview Dr): 1st & 4th Sunday
McLennan every 3rd Sunday: 2:30 p.m.
Colleen Greer Phone: 780-523-6323

High Prairie Victory Life Church
4915-52 Ave., High Prairie, AB
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Phil Lutton Phone: 780-523-3398
Email: hpvictorylife@gmail.com



Website:
www.hpvlc.com

Paroisse Notre Dame de Lourdes4904-50 Ave., Girouxville, AB
Father Hansel Nwachukwuji, SMMM
Phone: 780-323-4268 Email: girouxvilleparish@gmail.com



Girouxville Sunday mass @ 10:30 a.m.
Daily mass: Monday, Tuesday & Saturday @ 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday @ 7:00 p.m.

Tangent - St. Martyrs des Canadiens and Eaglesham - St. Francois Xavier
alternate Saturday and Sunday masses. Sunday masses: 9:00 a.m.
Saturday masses: winter @ 4:00 p.m.
summer @ 7:00 p.m.

Please contact Father Hansel for more information: 780-323-4268

Paroisse Ste Anne Parish1 Ave. SE, Falher, AB



Facebook page:
Paroisse Ste Anne Parish

Mass for the month of: **SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER**
Saturday: 5:00 p.m. St. Isidore - St. Isidore
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. Sacre Coeur - Donnelly
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sainte Anne - Falher
Fr. Jean-Cornelis Nkuanga Phone: 780-837-2151

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The Page

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There is plenty of tongue-wagging these days about AI, commonly referred to as artificial intelligence.

For anyone who thinks AI does not exist, take a hard look at what goes on in the House of Commons and Alberta Legislature!

Good gravy! Artificial intelligence! It's an epidemic!

The Page heard a conversation last week about the pro women's hockey league.

"Gee, some of those girls can really hit hard," said one man.

"They have a name for those players," said the other.

"They're called wives!"

A friend of The Page's was bragging to him the other day.

"My childhood crush and I are finally getting married this year!" he said.

"Well, congratulations!" The Page relied.

"Indeed," said the friend. "She's getting married in February and I'm getting married in April!"

The world would sure be a different place if The Page was in charge! Scary though, huh!

During two recent High Prairie town council meetings, Mayor Dan Vandermeulen asked if the public could view the security cameras council installed around town. The short answer is, we still do not know. Could be a privacy issue.

Hogwash! Years ago, KBS-TV, High Prairie's former cable provider, and the company who made every politician jealous because of its acronym, set up a camera which broadcast the construction of the cabin in the Sports Palace parking lot made for the Cabin Lottery Raffle. People could watch in any time of the

day, No privacy issues there!

The Page assumes Vandermeulen's thought is if every citizen could watch the cameras, it would deter crime. In short, the more eyes watching the better! The Page likes this idea, knowing there are people who would watch.

Yet, it is possible council may be limited in what it can broadcast.

Really! This is a public place. There is no secrecy and/or privacy here. It is not like the cameras are peeking into washrooms or changerooms. These are public settings and there is no right to expect privacy.

What a silly word we live in. The Page would like to see the cameras recording on the internet.

Who makes up these stupid rules?

How did the bee hurt his back?

He fell off his honey!

A big thanks to the Town of High Prairie public works crews for putting up red dresses in town to make Red Dress Day!

Crews have done this for years. It's a nice touch to mark the occasion.

Well done!

Interesting to see how minutes are now recorded at High Prairie town council meetings. The new format caught the eye of council at its meeting Sept. 29.

In short, there is a lot more detail about conversations recorded. It prompted opposing views.

Mayor Dan Vandermeulen said he was "very leery of this new format" whereas Councillor Carol Hanlon said, "I like that we have more information."

It reminded The Page when he first arrived in town. At the old Improvement District,

then M.D. of Big Lakes, Pat Olansky and Amanda Lawrie (Backs) took exceptional minutes. Plenty of detail including the debate and how decisions were made. It gave context to why decisions were made.

This format continued for years until a new CAO was hired. The Page does not remember who but – suddenly – there was no information in the minutes. At the time, Joussard Councillor Guy L'Heureux asked why. Others agreed.

In short, the answer was on the advice of M.D. lawyers, who said the less information the better, because it alleviated chances of getting sued. Honest! That was the reason! L'Heureux and others pooh-poohed the idea and wanted information, saying the people had a right to know what was being said and why decision were made.

Of course, the CAO did not agree. The less information presented on record, the better!

Kind of goes against the public's right to know, don't you think?

Ottawa is now prioritizing construction of pipelines! So they say!

You don't think that has anything to do with the Alberta vote coming up Oct. 19, do you? Nah!

Does anyone think after the vote the ruling Liberals will put the matter on the back burner again. As they have done for decades?

Man, they must think voters are stupid!

This man picks up a woman and goes to Lover's Lane.

"I have to be honest with you," says the woman. "I'm a lady of the evening and I charge \$50."

"It's OK," says the man. "I drive a cab and my fee to take you home is \$75!"

Did you know The Page grew up in a large family but did not realize until a few years ago it meant he could be easily replaced?

When you cry, nobody sees your tears.

When you are worried, nobody sees your pain.

When you are happy, very few people see you smile.

But if you pass gas just one time, how come everybody knows?

A doctor answers his phone at home and hears the familiar voice of a colleague.

"We need a fourth for poker," says his friend.

"I'll be right over," says the doctor.

His wife overhears and asks, "Is it serious?"

"It must be," says the doctor with a serious look on his face. "There are three doctors there already!"

Words of wisdom from The Page's female friend!

Why do only 10 per cent of men make it to heaven? Because if they all went, it would be hell!

How are men like lawnmowers? They are hard to get started, they emit noxious fumes and half the time they don't work!

What do you call a handcuffed man? Trustworthy!

How does a man plan for the future? He buys an extra case of beer!

What makes a man think about having a candlelight dinner with his wife? A power failure!

What should you give a man who has everything? A woman to show him how to work it!

How do you get a man to do situps? Put the remote control between his toes!

Thanksgiving is next week! Good luck if you are a turkey!

Have a great week!



Weekly Horoscope



Aries – March 21 – April 20: Some free time opens up this week! Focus on social outings and keeping things light! Use the time to relax and recharge!



Taurus – April 21 – May 21: Tact may be required in the days ahead! You have strong opinions about how to approach a situation, but present your views with kindness and be willing to be flexible!



Gemini – May 22 – June 21: Save your energy for something fun instead of getting swept up in someone else's drama! Patience is your best friend this week, even if it does not always come easy!



Cancer – June 22 – July 22: You tend to be very careful with money! Financial discipline is a great asset that will pay dividends for you in the days ahead!



Leo – July 23 – Aug. 23: You may find yourself in a highly visible position this week! That means you will need to be on your best behaviour at all times! People will notice your every move!



Virgo – Aug. 24 – Sept. 22: Steer clear of any controversial subjects this week because they may escalate into something that can be off-putting for all involved! Try to keep your opinions to yourself!



Libra – Sept. 23 – Oct. 23: Embrace a challenge for all it has to offer! A unique situation arises this week, and you can learn something about yourself and feel a strong sense of accomplishment!



Scorpio – Oct. 24 – Nov. 22: Harsh words can be hard to forget! Be careful about how you communicate with others! Your intentions are good, so take a thoughtful approach to how to express them!



Sagittarius – Nov. 23 – Dec. 21: This week you are juggling many things, including work, appointments and family obligations! Optimism and patience will be key for the time being!



Capricorn – Dec. 22 – Jan. 20: Concerns about money may be on your mind! If you can get a handle on your finances, you will feel more secure about spending money!



Aquarius – Jan. 21 – Feb. 18: There is no winning if you enter a fray between family members right now! It is best if you keep your distance and do your own thing this week!



Pisces – Feb. 19 – March 20: Your input will be sought this week! Carefully consider an emerging situation, and then use your critical thinking skills to come up with the right advice!

Celebrity Birthday Calendar

Date	Celebrity	Claim to Fame	Year
Oct. 7	Andy Devine	Wild Bill Hickok Actor	1905
Oct. 7	Desmond Tutu	Nobel Peace Prize Winner	1931
Oct. 7	Granny	Looney Tunes Character	1950
Oct. 7	Vladimir Putin	Russian President/PM	1952
Oct. 8	E. Rickenbacker	'Ace of Aces' Aviator	1890
Oct. 8	Juan Peron	Argentine President	1895
Oct. 8	Paul Hogan	Crocodile Dundee Actor	1939
Oct. 8	Chevy Chase	Caddyshack Actor	1943
Oct. 8	Robert Bell	Kook and the Gang Rocker	1950
Oct. 9	John Lennon	The Beatles Singer	1940
Oct. 9	David Cameron	British PM	1966
Oct. 9	Eddie Guerrero	WWF Wrestler	1967
Oct. 9	Annika Sorenstam	Swedish Pro Golfer	1970
Oct. 10	Earle Dickson	Band-Aid Inventor	1892
Oct. 10	David Lee Roth	Van Halen Singer	1954
Oct. 10	Tanya Tucker	Country Singer/Actress	1958
Oct. 10	Mario Lopez	Saved by the Bell Actor	1972
Oct. 11	George Williams	Founder of YMCA	1821
Oct. 11	Henry John Heinz	Heinz (Ketchup) Founder	1844
Oct. 11	Jean Vander Pyl	Wilma Flintstone's Voice	1919
Oct. 11	Daryl Hall	Hall & Oates Band Singer	1946
Oct. 12	Jean Nidetch	Weight Watchers Founder	1923
Oct. 12	Luciano Pavarotti	Italian Operatic Tenor	1935
Oct. 12	Susan Anton	Golden Girl Actress	1950
Oct. 12	Kirk Cameron	Growing Pains Actor	1970
Oct. 13	Margaret Thatcher	British PM	1925
Oct. 13	"Killer" Kowalski	Canadian Wrestler	1926
Oct. 13	Jerry Jones	Dallas Cowboys Owner	1942
Oct. 13	Demond Wilson	Sanford & Son Actor	1946



Sucker Creek First Nation

is currently seeking a

Capital Projects Coordinator

SUMMARY: Reporting to the Housing & Public Works Director, the Capital Projects Coordinator supports the planning, coordination, monitoring, and reporting of SCFN housing, public works, infrastructure, renovation, repair, and construction projects. The position helps coordinate contractors, consultants, funding requirements, schedules, budgets, inspections, procurement documents, and project records to ensure projects are completed safely, efficiently, on time, within budget, and in accordance with applicable agreements, policies, codes, and community priorities.

DUTIES:

- Assist with planning, coordinating, implementing, and closing out housing, public works, infrastructure, renovation, repair, and construction projects.
- Prepare and maintain project work plans, schedules, budgets, estimates, files, minutes, and progress reports.
- Coordinate with contractors, consultants, suppliers, inspectors, funders, staff, and community members to support timely project delivery.
- Assist with procurement, including requests for quotes, tenders, purchase requisitions, work orders, contracts, and related correspondence.
- Monitor milestones, contractor progress, deficiencies, change orders, invoices, and documentation to ensure work stays within approved scope, budget, and timelines.
- Support site visits, inspections, deficiency lists, photo documentation, safety follow-up, and quality control.
- Help ensure compliance with funding agreements, SCFN policies, building codes, permits, health and safety standards, and reporting requirements.
- Maintain organized capital project records, including approvals, contracts, quotes, invoices, inspection reports, drawings, warranties, and close-out documents.
- Prepare draft reports, briefing notes, funding updates, and project summaries for the Director, Chief & Council, CMHC, ISC, and other partners.
- Support funding applications, proposal development, capital planning, asset management, and long-term housing/public works planning.
- Attend project, contractor, community, and training meetings as required.
- Provide day-to-day support to housing and public works staff on assigned project tasks.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Valid Class 5 Driver's Licence and driver's abstract submitted at least two (2) days prior to the interview.
- Criminal Record Check (CPIC) and Child Welfare Information System (CWIS) check submitted at least two (2) days prior to the interview.
- Post-secondary education, certificate, diploma, or training in project management, construction, civil engineering technology, business administration, public works, housing, or a related field is preferred; equivalent education and experience may be considered.
- Minimum 2-5 years' experience supporting construction, housing, infrastructure, public works, capital projects, administration, or project coordination.
- Experience with First Nations, Indigenous communities, housing programs, public works, or government-funded projects is an asset.
- Knowledge of CMHC, ISC, infrastructure, housing, renovation, capital planning, procurement, and funding reporting processes is an asset.
- Strong organizational, record keeping, communication, problem-solving, and time management skills.
- Ability to read and understand basic project documents, quotes, invoices, drawings, inspection reports, work orders, and contracts.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, and basic project tracking tools.
- Ability to work independently, maintain confidentiality, follow direction, meet deadlines, and communicate respectfully with staff, contractors, funders, leadership, and community members.
- Motivated, dependable, well organized, and willing to attend project sites as required.
- Willing to be on-call or respond to urgent project matters when required.
- Ability to speak Cree is an asset.
- Oath of Confidentiality must be signed prior to employment.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Project coordination and administrative follow-up
- Budget tracking, reporting, and document control
- Contractor, consultant, and supplier coordination
- Strong written and verbal communication
- Ability to prioritize multiple projects and deadlines
- Respectful communication with leadership, staff, Elders, tenants, homeowners, contractors, and community members
- Commitment to safety, confidentiality, accountability, and community service

Deadline for Applications: Open until suitable candidate is found.

Only qualified applicants will be notified for an interview

Please Email your resumes to:
hr@scfn.ca



Sucker Creek First Nation

is currently seeking a

Water Treatment Plant Operator

SUMMARY: Reporting to the Public Works Supervisor, the Water Treatment Plant Operator is responsible for the safe, reliable, and compliant operation of Sucker Creek First Nation's drinking-water treatment and distribution systems and assigned wastewater facilities. The Operator monitors treatment processes, performs water-quality testing, adjusts equipment and chemical feeds, maintains accurate operating records, completes routine maintenance, responds to alarms and emergencies, and helps ensure that water supplied to the community meets applicable approvals, legislation, operating procedures, and health and safety requirements. The Operator also provides day-to-day supervision, instruction, and practical mentoring to the current Water Treatment Plant Operator Trainee, within the certified Operator's level of authority and SCFN's reporting structure.

DUTIES:

- Operate and monitor the water treatment plant, reservoir, lake pump house, pumps, chemical-feed systems, controls, alarms, and related equipment.
- Monitor treatment processes and make authorized operational adjustments to maintain safe and consistent drinking-water quality.
- Collect, preserve, test, and document water samples; interpret field and laboratory results; and arrange required external laboratory analysis.
- Read and record flow meters, gauges, tank levels, pressures, chemical residuals, turbidity, and other process-control indicators.
- Operate and monitor the water distribution system, including reservoirs, valves, hydrants, pressure systems, and associated infrastructure.
- Operate and monitor assigned wastewater facilities, including lift stations, sewer systems, and lagoon operations, within the Operator's certification and training.
- Inspect facilities and equipment, identify abnormal conditions or malfunctions, troubleshoot operating problems, and complete or coordinate minor preventive maintenance and repairs.
- Safely receive, store, handle, mix, and apply treatment chemicals in accordance with WHMIS, Safety Data Sheets, and SCFN procedures; monitor stock and order supplies before depletion.
- Complete daily meter readings and maintain accurate operating logs, maintenance records, sampling records, inventory records, incident reports, and regulatory reports.
- Maintain plant cleanliness, security, and controlled access, and perform scheduled inspections of buildings and grounds.
- Follow approved operating procedures, emergency response plans, confined-space, lockout/tagout, personal protective equipment, and other occupational health and safety requirements.
- Respond to alarms, water-quality concerns, service interruptions, equipment failures, leaks, and other emergencies; participate in an on-call rotation as assigned.
- Notify the Public Works Supervisor promptly of operational concerns, adverse test results, equipment failures, safety hazards, and conditions that may affect public health or service continuity.
- Coordinate with contractors, laboratories, inspectors, regulators, suppliers, and other SCFN departments as directed.
- Support public education and respond professionally to community questions by providing approved information or referring concerns to the appropriate supervisor.
- Provide day-to-day supervision, coaching, and practical training to the current Water Treatment Plant Operator Trainee, including assigning appropriate tasks, demonstrating safe work procedures, reviewing operating logs and test results, monitoring progress, and providing feedback to the Public Works Supervisor.
- Ensure the trainee performs only those operational duties permitted by their training and certification status and receives the level of direct or indirect supervision required by applicable approvals, legislation, operating procedures, and SCFN policy.
- Perform other related duties within the scope of the position, certification, and training.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- High school diploma or recognized equivalent is required.
- Valid Alberta Water and Wastewater Operator certification in the discipline and level required by the classification and approval of the facilities operated is preferred; candidates who meet Alberta Operator-in-Training eligibility requirements and are able to progress toward the required certification may be considered.
- Training or coursework in water and wastewater treatment, chemistry, environmental technology, instrumentation, mechanical systems, or a related field is an asset.
- Previous experience operating or maintaining a water treatment, water distribution, wastewater collection, lift station, lagoon, utilities, or industrial process system is preferred.
- Knowledge of drinking-water treatment processes, distribution-system operation, sampling, laboratory testing, chemical dosing, pumps, valves, meters, controls, and preventive maintenance.
- Ability to complete accurate calculations, interpret test results and instrument readings, follow operating procedures, and make timely operational adjustments within established authority.
- Current WHMIS training is required or must be obtained upon hire; Transportation of Dangerous Goods, First Aid/CPR, confined-space entry, fall protection, and other safety training are assets or must be obtained as assigned.
- Valid Class 5 Driver's Licence and acceptable driver's abstract.
- Ability to participate in an on-call rotation and work evenings, weekends, statutory holidays, overtime, or emergency call-outs when required.
- Ability to perform the physical requirements of the position, which may include climbing stairs and ladders, lifting and carrying supplies, working around chemicals and mechanical equipment, and working indoors and outdoors in varying weather conditions while using required personal protective equipment.
- Strong observation, troubleshooting, record-keeping, computer, communication, and time-management skills.
- Ability to work independently, follow instructions, maintain confidentiality, and communicate respectfully with staff, contractors, regulators, suppliers, leadership, and community members.
- Experience working with First Nations or Indigenous communities is an asset.
- Ability to speak Cree is an asset.
- Successful completion of employment screening and an Oath of Confidentiality as required by SCFN policy.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Water-treatment process monitoring and control
- Water sampling, field testing, laboratory procedures, and quality assurance
- Mechanical aptitude and basic maintenance of pumps, valves, chemical-feed equipment, and instrumentation
- Safe chemical handling and consistent use of personal protective equipment
- Accurate completion of logs, reports, calculations, and regulatory records
- Sound judgment, attention to detail, and effective emergency response
- Ability to interpret alarms, gauges, trends, operating procedures, and Safety Data Sheets
- Basic computer skills for email, spreadsheets, electronic logs, and reporting systems
- Ability to supervise, mentor, instruct, evaluate, and document the progress of an operator trainee while maintaining safe and compliant plant operations
- Dependability, teamwork, respectful communication, and commitment to public health and community service

Competitive compensation based on qualifications, certification level, and experience, together with an employer-sponsored benefits package in accordance with SCFN policies and the terms of the applicable benefit plans.

Deadline for Applications: Open until suitable candidate is found.

Only qualified applicants will be notified for an interview

Please Email your resumes to:
hr@scfn.ca

The message is simple: help is available!

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

(Peace River) – Peace River and area residents joined together on Sept. 10 to discuss suicide and its aftereffects at this year’s World Suicide Prevention Day gathering at Riverfront Park.

The event is a collaborative effort between the Town of Peace River, Peace River and Nampa/Northern Sunrise Family and Community Services (FCSS), Resource Centre for Suicide Prevention, Community Helpers Program, Recovery Alberta, and Aspenroad Resources.

“We had roughly 80 people attend due to inclement weather, but it ended up being beautiful evening, but it was windy and off and on rainy during the day,” says Peace River FCSS programmer Tamara Brunham.

She says many groups held booths including Men’s Shed, Addictions & Mental Health, NSC FCSS & Youth Council, Resource Center for Suicide Prevention, Peace Pride Society, 211, Aspenroad Resources, Victim Services, Salvation Army Food Bank,

Project Peace, Women’s Shelter, Taproot, Sagitawa Friendship Society, Stepping Up & Restorative Justice, Art Hub, Recovery College, Public Health Promotions, Family Resource Network, Choosing Change & Follow Your Heart Counselling and local Sheriffs, EMS and RCMP.

“All our mental health organizations, businesses, gathered in honour of those who have been lost,” says Brunham.

“Our Speaker, EMS manager Cory Brunham said, “There is help, there are people who care, sometimes we feel like we are drowning but these agencies, groups and businesses are the life

preservers, you just have to reach out’. I think it’s important to see that there is hope in so many different places, what works for one person might not work for the next,” she adds.

Brunham says this is an important event for everyone to attend, and she hopes people will mark their calendars for next year on Sept. 10, 2027. They plan on starting the event at 5:30 p.m. until the 8 p.m. world-wide vigil.

“Thank you to all those who came out,” says Brunham. “Thank you to our sponsors Dominos, Peace Country Co-op, and No Frills. They help with this event every year and their community spirit is so amazing.”



Elder Dave Matilpi was one of the speakers at the event in Peace River.



Town of Peace River Family and Community Support Services volunteer programmer Kelsey Soukoref manned the FCSS booth, showing attendees all the programs they are able to connect those interested to.



Among the many giveaways were bracelets reminding people of their worth. Each had a specific message.

Want to prepare food for the public? This course is a must!

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

(Falher) – If you’re a fan of cooking, looking to have a future as a chef, or interested in learning about safe food preparation, Smoky River Adult Learning (SRAL) is holding a Food Handler’s Safety Certificate Course to meet your needs.

“Everyone 13 years older and up is encouraged to take the course to ensure the proper and safe practices of handling, storing, cooking, and serving foods are met,” Leslie Carbone says.

SRAL administration coordinator Leslie Carbone says the course will be held on Oct. 27 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the M.D. of Smoky River building in Falher.

“Providing adequate food safety training to everyone who handles food is essential to protecting people from food poisoning, allergic reactions,

and other health risks that could occur from eating contaminated food,” says Carbone.

“Everyone 13 years older and up is encouraged to take the course to ensure the proper and safe practices of handling, storing, cooking, and serving foods are met.”

The Food Handler’s Course will teach about

food safety regulations, things to know about food safety, a closer look at microorganisms, food and facilities design, personal hygiene, cleaning and sanitizing, storing food and pest management, preparing to cook, handling dishes and serving food, maintaining proper food temperatures, and food allergies.

Once earned, the certification is valid for five years.

At least one person in care and control of food in a facility that serves to the public must have the certification, according to the Alberta Food Regulations. It is a mandatory requirement for butcher shops, bakeries, bars, cafeterias, caterers, some convenience stores, mobile food trucks, restaurants, social care facilities and work camps, to name a few.

Cost to attend the course is \$100 per learner, and interested parties must be pre-registered. Course fees are non-refundable.

If you would like to find out more about food safety training, please visit ahs.ca/ephed. To register for this course, please phone SRAL at (780) 837-3013 or email sralcp@telusplanet.net. Space is limited.



Sucker Creek First Nation

is currently seeking a

Event Planner

Full-Time Annual Position
Salary Range: \$20.00 - 25.00 per hour

About the Position
Sucker Creek First Nation is seeking a motivated, organized, and creative Event Planner to coordinate and oversee community events, cultural gatherings, celebrations, meetings, youth activities and special events throughout the year.

Key Responsibilities

- Plan and coordinate community events and activities.
- Manage budgets, schedules, venues, catering, and logistics.
- Promote events through social media and community communications.
- Coordinate volunteers, vendors, and support staff.
- Support cultural events while respecting traditional protocols.
- Prepare event reports and recommendations.

Qualifications

- Diploma or Certificate in Event Management, Hospitality, Tourism, Business Administration, would be an asset.
- Experience organizing community, cultural, corporate, or recreational events.
- Strong budgeting, organizational, and communication skills.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office and social media platforms.
- Vendor and contractor coordination.
- Sponsorship and partnership development.
- Public speaking and presentations.
- Knowledge of Indigenous culture, traditions, and community engagement practices is considered an asset.
- Valid Class 5 Driver's License and reliable transportation.
- Ability to obtain a clear Criminal Record Check.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends.

How to Apply
Submit a Cover Letter, Resume, Human Resources Department at hr@scfn.ca

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled.

Malfunction at the junction!



A large load slipped off a trailer as a trucker entered the High Prairie UFA Petroleum Agency and Cardlock on Sept. 29. Within hours load was fully back on the trailer and the truck was back on the road.

FCSS making Halloween more affordable for parents

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

(Peace River) – Nampa/Northern Sunrise County Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is ready to help make your Halloween more cost-effective, providing the annual Halloween Costume Swap to residents.

The program was created to help make finding a new costume for your children easier and less expensive.

“A Halloween Costume swap benefits people in

the region by lightening financial pressure,” says Nampa community development coordinator Alicia Surman.

“High inflation and rising costs mean buying a brand-new costume every single year can strain a household budget. A free swap ensures that every child can experience the joy of dressing up and trick-or-treating without putting a financial burden on their family,” she adds.

The Halloween Costume Swap began on Oct. 2 and will run until Oct. 29 at the Nampa FCSS

office at 10203-99 Ave. Parents and youth can donate gently-used costumes and swap for different get-ups or donate gently-worn costumes to help with the cause.

“This program is open to anyone in the community; you do not need to bring a costume to swap to participate,” Surman says.

“In previous years, I have received costumes donated by residents and other organizations which included toddler all the way to adult sizes, so parents or guardians can also get into the

spirit by dressing up.”

The Halloween Costume Swap helps make Halloween accessible to any child who wants to participate, reduce financial burdens for families, and provide an opportunity to reuse and repurpose gently-used costumes at zero cost through community donations and swapping.

“I remember a single mother of three visited the office to access the program, she explained that she found it overwhelming with rising costs of everyday necessities, the pressure to

buy new expensive costumes that her children would only wear for one night is a heavy burden,” Surman reflects.

“She was very appreciative and ended up crying before leaving the office as she found costumes for her children and herself, to dress up together and experience the magic of Halloween.”

Surman suggests calling the FCSS office at (780) 322-3954 to arrange appointments for donation drop off or swapping as the office may be closed due to training and or other programs

being held.

“The program promotes dignity and social inclusion, by organizing it as a community asset where everyone participates equally-regardless of income-it removes stigma or ‘awkwardness’ around needing assistance,” says Surman.

“Acceptable items for donation or swapping should be family-friendly, all sizes spanning from infants, toddlers, children, teens and adults. Please make sure they are free of heavy stains, free of odors and structurally sound.”

Follow Your Heart bringing compassionate support to PR

Cameron stresses getting help is not scary

Sara Driedger
South Peace News

(Peace River) – For Sharon Cameron, counselling is rooted in the simple but powerful experience of being heard.

Cameron is the owner of Follow Your Heart Counselling, a virtual practice based in Peace River that supports adults and older teens through difficult seasons of life.

Cameron began her private practice as a life coach in 2021 and expanded her services to include counselling in

2024. She sees the two areas as closely connected. Life coaching, she says, can help people understand a current situation, identify what they want to change and determine how to move forward.

Her path to the profession developed over nearly a decade at Bow Valley College in Calgary. She started as an educational assistant and later moved into a student-support role. The work felt like a natural fit and drew her toward helping people navigate personal and educational challenges.

After living in Calgary for 30 years, Cameron moved north during Christmas 2025 to take a position at the Peace Outreach Campus. The job suited both her experience and her counsel-

ling background. She continues to work at the campus three days a week while building her practice and becoming part of the community.

Through virtual one-on-one sessions, Follow Your Heart Counselling serves adults and older teens experiencing depression, grief, relationship challenges, divorce and other major life transitions. Cameron especially enjoys working with women whose struggles with self-worth affect their relationships and their ability to move confidently through life.

Her own experiences with difficult circumstances have shaped the way she works. They have helped her understand how isolating those periods can feel and have strengthened the empa-

thy she brings to counselling.

Cameron remembers times when she was afraid to talk about what she was going through. She wants others to know that reaching out for help does not have to be frightening. Feeling heard, seen and understood can be deeply healing, she said, and counselling may offer a kind of clarity that friends or family, despite their best intentions, cannot always provide.

“Getting help isn’t scary,” Cameron says.

“Being heard, seen and understood is really healing.”

Although she is new to the Peace River area, Cameron is enjoying what the region offers. In her free time, she enjoys kayaking and hiking.



Sharon Cameron of Follow Your Heart Counselling. Photo courtesy of Sharon Cameron.

Looking ahead, Cameron hopes to continue growing her clientele and expand her ability to support people in the region and beyond. She aims to create more opportunities for people to build self-understanding, find practical direction and feel less alone when life becomes diffi-

cult. Because services are offered virtually, clients can connect with Cameron from the comfort and privacy of their own space. Follow Your Heart Counselling can be reached by phone at (587) 322-4450 or email at sharon@followyourheartcounselling.com

Rain puts damper on Marigold Fall Market

Marigold Farmers' Market in High Prairie hosted the Fall for Local Market on Sept 25. A total of 10 vendors, including Marigold, sold a variety of crafts, baking and other items at the event to celebrate the start of fall, organizer Brogan Severson says. Planned as an outdoor event, rain and cool temperatures forced the event inside at the nearby St. Mark's Anglican Church hall. Live music and other entertainment, games and activities were also planned for the event, but were cancelled by the weather.



(Left photo) - Lori St. Cyr, of Peavine, sells her Indigenous crafts at The Craft Metis.



Kaitlyn-Jean Walker, of High Prairie, left, sell her crafts with Cara Walker at the Fall for Local Market.



Suzanne Desaulniers, left, sits with Darla Desaulniers, of Falher, selling a variety of her sewing crafts.



Dark Horse Micro Bakery owner Lorna Howe, of High Prairie, left, sells her products with her friends Bonnie Henry, middle, of Clairmont, and Judy Starko, of High Prairie.



Sucker Creek First Nation

is currently seeking a

Journeyman Heavy Duty Mechanic

SUMMARY: Reporting to the Public Works Supervisor, the Journeyman Heavy Duty Mechanic is responsible for the inspection, maintenance, diagnosis, and repair of heavy equipment, trucks, and vehicles used in Sucker Creek First Nation operations. This position supports the reliable delivery of essential community services, including roads, water delivery, and waste services, through preventative maintenance, safety compliance, accurate record-keeping, emergency repair response, and mentorship of apprentices or trainees where applicable.

DUTIES:

- Inspect, diagnose, maintain, and repair heavy equipment, trucks, and vehicles.
- Perform preventative maintenance to reduce downtime and extend equipment life.
- Maintain accurate service records, work orders, and safety documentation.
- Troubleshoot diesel engines, hydraulics, electrical systems, brakes, and related components.
- Respond to equipment breakdowns and emergency repairs as required.
- Ensure all work is completed safely and in compliance with applicable standards.
- Mentor apprentices or trainees when applicable.
- Attend meetings, training, and safety sessions as required.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Valid Alberta Journeyman Heavy Duty Mechanic Certificate.
- Minimum three (3) years of related field experience.
- Experience maintaining and repairing diesel engines, hydraulics, heavy equipment, trucks, and vehicles.
- Valid Class 5 Driver's Licence; Class 3 Driver's Licence is considered an asset.
- Ability to perform physically demanding work in shop and field conditions.
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to maintain accurate records.
- Knowledge of safety standards and safe work practices.
- Willingness to be on-call and respond to emergency repairs as required.
- Ability to speak Cree is considered an asset.
- Successful candidate must provide a driver's abstract, criminal record check (CPIC), Child Welfare Information Systems (CWIS) check, and sign an Oath of Confidentiality prior to employment.
- Oath of Confidentiality must be signed prior to commencing employment.

Deadline for Applications: Open until suitable candidate is found.
Only qualified applicants will be notified for an interview.

Please Email resumes to: hr@scfn.ca



KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION

P.O. Box 10, Grouard, Alberta T0G 1C0

Phone (780) 751-3800 Fax (780) 751-3864



CHILDCARE WORKER LEVEL III

Kapawe'no First Nation Childcare Society Daycare & Early Learning Centre

ABOUT THE ROLE:
Kapawe'no First Nation is seeking a caring and compassionate individual to join our team at the Daycare, where we cultivate cultural pride, language revitalization, and holistic child development within a safe, nurturing environment. Reporting to the Early Learning Director, the Level III Childcare Worker provides top-quality care and education to children aged 12 months to 5 years, with the goal of enhancing the life of every child in our program.

YOU WILL:

- Support children emotionally, socially, physically, cognitively, and culturally through play-based learning, including structured and unstructured activities.
- Supervise children and ensure programs and activities are delivered safely, effectively, and in a developmentally appropriate way.
- Lead small-group instruction, mentor other childcare staff, and contribute to ongoing program evaluation.
- Assist in developing and implementing structured daily schedules, activities, and lesson plans grounded in Indigenous knowledge and traditions.
- Communicate and collaborate with parents, guardians, and families, reinforcing cultural continuity and community ties.
- Maintain a safe, clean, and engaging space that meets licensing and health standards from opening to closing (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.), including preparing and supervising meals and snacks.

QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS:

- Education ECE Diploma or advanced coursework (Alberta Level 3 Early Childhood Educator certification); Grade 12 or higher.
- Experience 4+ years in early childhood/daycare settings, including supervisory roles.
- Certification & Checks: Valid First Aid/CPR; clear Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search; Child Intervention Record Check.
- Driver's Licence: Valid Class 5 driver's licence and clear driver's abstract.
- Cultural Competency Demonstrated ability to integrate culture into programming; strong respect for Indigenous culture and language.
- Other Skills Leadership, planning, and program evaluation; patience, empathy, and compassion; strong oral and written communication, organization, and problem-solving skills; able to work independently and as a team player; computer skills, including Microsoft applications.

HOWTOAPPLY:

- Submit your resume, cover letter, and ECE credentials to rebecca.petersen@kapaweno.ca.
- **Application deadline: Open until filled.** Priority is given to candidates who embrace our Nation's values and vision for cultural resurgence and holistic childcare. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.
- **Join a Tradition of Care & Learning:** Where the past informs the future, and each child's journey is nurtured with the wisdom of Kapawe'no heritage.



The Peace River Muzyka Dancers with instructor Steve Murrell, far right. Photo courtesy of Candice Paluk.

PR’s Muzyka dancers welcome new families, celebrate Ukrainian culture

Sara Driedger
South Peace News

(Peace River) – The Muzyka Dancers have been a part of the Peace River community for over five decades! Candice Paluk has served as president for two years. This season, she says she is looking forward to welcoming new families, preparing homemade cabbage rolls and perogies for the club’s Christmas fundraiser, and seeing dancers take the stage at the year-end concert in Peace River. The society marked its 50th anniversary last year, reflecting its long history in the community. Some of today’s children are fourth-generation members, carrying forward a connection to Ukrainian dance, culture and local heritage.

Paluk says she wishes more people were interested in learning about folk dance in general, as well as the culture and history that come with it. The club is open to people of every background, dancers do not need to be Ukrainian to participate. Muzyka dancers (Muzyka is music in Ukrainian) regularly perform beyond their own concerts. They visit seniors’ homes and sometimes appear at schools, giving audiences an opportunity to see tradi-

tional dance and costumes while helping younger performers build confidence in front of a crowd. This year, the group also danced at the anniversary celebration for the Reno Ukrainian Church. Such appearances connect the club’s performances with the community institutions that have helped preserve Ukrainian traditions in the region. The dancers attend two festivals each year. Their schedule includes the Grande Prairie Ukrainian Dance Festival in the spring, and they will also travel to a festi-

val in Fort Saskatchewan. The events allow dancers to perform for larger audiences and meet other groups that share their interest in Ukrainian folk traditions. Within the Peace River club, there are groups for every age and stage, giving beginners and experienced dancers a place to learn. An instructor drives from Edmonton each week to teach the dancers. Fundraising helps support the program and its activities, including travel, performances and seasonal events. Paluk hopes the club’s welcoming approach will

encourage more people to try dance and discover the stories behind it. Newcomers can join at any level, whether they have family ties to the culture or are simply curious about learning a new form of movement. With a milestone anniversary behind them and another season underway, the dancers are focused on keeping Ukrainian folk dance visible, accessible and active in Peace River. For more information or to join the Muzyka dancers, email muzykadancers@gmail.com or call Candice Paluk at (780) 219-5775.

HP Ukrainian Cultural Society preparing to mark 50th anniversary

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(High Prairie) – The Ukrainian Cultural Society of High Prairie will celebrate 50 years in 2028 and steps are being launched to plan a major event to mark the milestone. Now, the society is reaching out to invite residents to help organize and plan a special event, society vice-president Sarah Perry says. The first 50th anniversary planning committee meeting is scheduled for Oct. 22 at St. Mark’s Anglican Church Hall at 7 p.m. “For five decades our organization has brought people together through shared interests, friendships, and community involvement,” Perry says. “We are excited to celebrate this achievement and would like to make the occasion memorable for everyone. “We welcome volunteers of all experience levels.” The society appreciates as much support as possible to mark the milestone. “Whether you have experience organizing events or simply want to contribute your ideas and enthusiasm, your participation would be greatly appreciated,” Perry says. The committee will organize tasks such as planning anniversary events and activities, assisting with publicity and invitations, gathering photos, stories, and historical memorabilia, and helping with fundraising or sponsorship, if needed. Registered as an organization on Feb. 24, 1978, the society was led by the first executive of Stella Sware, Pat Roshuk, Louise Zahacy, Mary Zabolotniuk and Yvonne Kalita. A desire by area residents of Ukrainian origin to preserve and maintain some aspects of their heritage was the impetus that led to form the society with organizational meetings starting in January 1977. Dance classes started in fall 1977. The name “Zirka” – meaning star – was chosen for the dance troupe. For more information, visit the society website at ucsohp.squarespace.com.



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National Newspaper Week
October 4-10, 2026

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Ecole Heritage students, staff find new home

Providence School at McLennan rented from Holy Family

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

(Falher) – École Heritage students and staff will be housed at École Providence in McLennan for the duration of the 2026-27 school year.

The Conseil scolaire du Nord-Ouest (CSNO) School has been undergoing renovations since January and had been moving instruction to different levels of the school to accommodate the construction work.

“The modernization of the school includes pretty much rebuilding the school inside out,” says Supt. Denis Fontaine.

“The construction includes bringing the building up to code in terms of safety and plumbing and electricity, it will also make the school more comfortable for students and will answer the needs of the students.”

Fontaine says the school, located on the

east side of Falher, is a historical building in the community. He explains total renovation costs are expected to be in the \$30 million range but to build a school of this size would cost substantially more.

He says through the beginning phase of construction, the teachers and staff would move their instruction to areas of the school that were not undergoing renovation. He adds the intention of the school board was to continue instruction in the Falher building while construction was happening, unfortunately there was a large pipe burst in the basement of the facility, causing a large flooding of areas that had already undergone some renovation. The Town of Falher is currently doing an extensive repair to underground plumbing, and when they were close to the school a capped pipe caused extreme pressure, flooding the basement of the school.

“We had five feet of water in the mechanical room and two feet of water in the rest of the basement,” explains Conseil scolaire du Nord-Ouest Supt. Denis Fontaine, adding that because it was summer, the flooding wasn’t found immediately.

“We had five feet of water in the mechanical room and two feet of water in the rest of the basement,” explains Fontaine, adding that because it was summer, the flooding wasn’t found immediately.

The contractors had access to the entire school but were focusing their work on the top floor. Fontaine says because there was construction happening on the top floor of the school, staff had brought everything from the top floor to the basement.

“This included teacher resources, the library was there, electronics and some other technology had all been brought downstairs,” says Fontaine.

“All of this was damaged and now all of that equipment will need to be replaced.”

Fontaine explains the school is now dealing with insurance to be able to replace all the dam-

aged items. He explains the boilers and main electrical switch had all been replaced the week before the flooding, so that will also need to be changed.

The severe flooding occurred on Aug. 16, just a short time before the school was expected to open to students for the year.

“Now there will have to be remediation of the walls because of the water damage and the humidity,” says Fontaine.

“The moisture was so high that the walls had to be torn down in the basement.”

Fontaine says their school division worked to find a spot to educate the students in the Smoky River Region. He says the temporary relocation to École Providence was made possible through a collaboration with the Holy Family Catholic Regional Division. He adds he remembered the school in McLennan had

faced closure and reached out the superintendent of HFCRD to see if CSNO could rent the space for the instructional year.

“We signed an agreement with them to lease the building, and we got confirmation the week before school that we could be there for the whole year,” says Fontaine.

Fontaine says Heritage staff worked tirelessly to get the school ready for their students and were able to open the school for instruction on Sept. 8. The speedy work allowed students to only miss four instructional days.



Kindergarten to Grade 12 students will be at the new site in McLennan for the entirety of the school year. Daycare and Pre-school will be hosted on Main Street in Falher at the old Busy Bee Daycare location.

Construction, including the repairs from the flood, are all expected to be completed by November 2027.

Fontaine says CSNO’s hope is that École Heritage will be able to return to its home in Falher for the 2027-28 school year, but further communication will be provided to parents as months progress.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ALBERTA INFRASTRUCTURE AND VEOLIA WASTE SERVICES
ALBERTA INC.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT
NOTICE OF APPLICATION

In accordance with the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, Alberta Infrastructure and Veolia Waste Services Alberta Inc are proposing to amend the Swan Hills Treatment Centre (SHTC) Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA) approval to gradually end the waste management operation at the Plant and simultaneously undertake the decommissioning and remediation activities. Full scale of decommissioning and remediation are anticipated to take five years to complete. The SHTC opened and commenced operation in 1987, is a fully integrated hazardous waste treatment facility designed to treat hazardous waste. The SHTC is located approximately 13 kilometres northeast of the Town of Swan Hills.

A directly affected person may provide input into certain regulatory decisions, as allowed by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (section 73). Specifically, any person who is directly affected by this application may submit a written statement of concern within 30 days of the date of this notice to:

Environment and Protected Areas
Regulatory Assurance Section
Approvals Unit
5th Floor, South Petroleum Plaza
9915 - 108 ST
EDMONTON, AB T5K 2G8
Email: epa.epeaapplications@gov.ab.ca

The written statement of concern should include the following information to be assured it can be considered:

- The application number 023-1744.
- Describe concerns that are relevant to matters regulated by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act.
- Explain how the filer of the concern will be directly affected by the activities proposed in the application.
- Provide the legal land location of the land owned or used by the filer where the concerns described are believed to be applicable
- State the distance between the land owned or used by the filer and the site in the application.
- Contact information including the full name and mailing address of the filer. Please provide a telephone number and/or email address for ease of contact.

Environment and Protected Areas will review each written statement of concern, seek more information if needed, and concerns that are relevant to the application and for which the Director has delegated authority to address in the decision on the application, will be considered in the technical review of the application. The Public Notice of this application will also be posted on the Department’s website at <https://avw.alberta.ca/PublicNoticesViewer.aspx>.

Statements of concern submitted regarding this application are public records which are accessible by the public and the applicant. Failure to file a statement of concern may affect the right to file a Notice of Appeal with the Environmental Appeals Board.

Copies of the application and additional information can be obtained from:

Veolia Waste Services Alberta Inc.
Attention: Louisa Ramsey
SWAN HILLS TREATMENT CENTRE
10,000 CHRYSTINA LAKE ROAD
SWAN HILLS, AB T0G 2C0
Telephone: 780-333-4197 ext 1229
Email: louisa.ramsey@veolia.com

Upcoming Museum Events

OCTOBER 16, 7:00 TO 9:30 PM
Paint ‘n Sip with Traci Hansen
\$50 / \$45 for members. Pre-registration required, materials included.

OCTOBER 17, 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
Artist Demonstration with Julie Jackson
Drop-in program, FREE

OCTOBER 24, 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
Beads of Water with Slave Lake Watershed Council
Family drop-in program, FREE

OCTOBER 31, 1:30 TO 3:00 PM
Hallowe’en Spooktacular
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2026-27 SCHOOL NEWS

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Learning, Honouring, and Remembering Across HPSD Schools



Elder and residential school Survivor Margaret Ekti Cardinal shared memories of her first day at residential school while encouraging students to persevere through challenges and hardships.

High Prairie Elementary School students welcomed Margaret Ekti Cardinal on Thursday, September 24, as they gathered to honour Survivors of residential schools and those children whose lives were lost.

Margaret shared stories of her life at home and how her life changed after the age of five, when she was forcibly taken from her home and sent to a residential school.

For more information on Margaret’s message and other presentations happening throughout HPSD schools, visit hpsd.ca.

2026-27 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS



9 questions. 9 sessions. We want to hear from you.

Ward 1 - Falher, Donnelly, & Area

Saturday, Oct. 3 at 1:00 p.m.
📍 École Routhier

Thursday, Oct. 8 at 7:00 p.m.
📍 Georges P. Vanier School

Ward 2 - High Prairie and Area

Thursday, Oct. 1 at 7:00 p.m.
📍 E.W. Pratt High School

Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 7:00 p.m.
📍 Prairie River Jr. High School

Ward 3 - Jousard and Kinuso

Monday, Oct. 5 at 7:00 p.m.
📍 Kinuso School

Thursday, Oct. 29 at 7:00 p.m.
📍 Jousard School

Ward 4 - Slave Lake and Area

Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 4:00 p.m.
📍 Multi-Rec Centre, Slave Lake

Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 6:00 p.m.
📍 E.G. Wahlstrom School
Thursday, Nov. 26 at 7:00 p.m.
📍 C.J. Schurter School

Register now at: hpsd.ca/engagement

“We must never forget...because this is a part of who we are. Not just who we are as Survivors and children of Survivors, but who we are as a nation.

And this nation must never forget what it once did to its most vulnerable people.” - The Honourable Murray Sinclair

DID YOU KNOW: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission spent six years travelling across Canada and heard from more than 6,000 witnesses, most of whom were residential school Survivors. Their testimony helped form the Commission’s Final Report and 94 calls to action.

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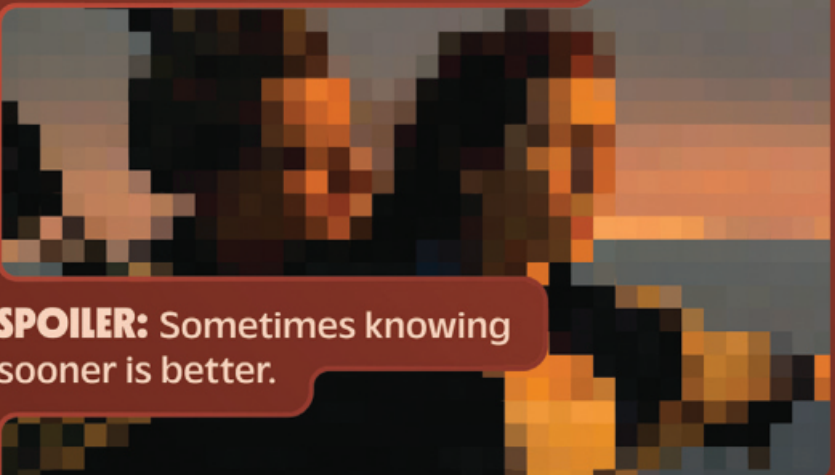
PARTICIPATION

Remember to vote in the upcoming referendum

**Advance Voting**
Tues, Oct 13 to Sat, Oct 17, 2026

**Election Day**
Monday, October 19, 2026

Rose lives. The Titanic sinks.



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You have three ways to vote:

1. **Vote during Advance Voting** from
October 13 to 17, 2026, at an advance
voting place in your electoral division.

2. **Vote on Election Day, October 19, 2026**
at your designated voting place.

3. **If you’ve already requested a
special ballot**, it must be received by
mail at Elections Alberta by 5:00pm on
October 16. Canada Post recommends
you mail it no later than October 9.



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**ALBERTA
REFERENDUM
2026**

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Pumpkin carving contest returns

SPN Staff

(High Prairie) - Part of the fun each year during Halloween is carving your own pumpkin! The High Prairie Municipal Library is here to help! They are again holding their annual teen pumpkin carving contest Oct. 24 from 1-3:30 p.m. The contest is open to teens only from 12-17 years of age. Simply go

to the library and everything will be provided for teens to test their carving skills. Because knives are use to carve, younger children will not be per-

mitted. A blood slime craft will also be part of the fun. Curious! Go to the library and check it out! Ghoulish music will be played. Snacks and drinks fitting for Halloween will also be

served. After completion, entrants will have their carvings displayed at the library during the week leading up to Halloween. The contest is fully supervised by staff.

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ST. ANDREW'S

SCHOOL NEWS!

We have officially entered autumn at St. Andrew's! At the end of September, we honoured Truth and Reconciliation Day, and now Thanksgiving is quickly approaching.

As a kind reminder, the school will be closed on October 12 for Thanksgiving and October 23 and 26 for PD Days. Our Staff Recommissioning Mass will take place on Sunday, October 18, kicking off Catholic Education Week. We also have several exciting events coming up, including Tye Dye and Camo Day on October 16 and the St. Andrew's Halloween Parade and Activities on October 30. We look forward to a wonderful October at St. Andrew's!





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Peavine Campus GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

— Friday, October 16 at 11:00 AM-12:30PM —

Help Us Open the Doors to Our New Campus

Join us as we celebrate the official opening of our new Peavine campus. Take a tour and discover the opportunities this new learning space will bring to the community.





High Prairie Student Residence GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

— Friday, October 16 at 2:00-3:30PM —

There's a New Address on Campus!

Join us as we officially open our new student residence in High Prairie. Tour the space, connect with community members, and help welcome students to their new home away from home.

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Friday, October 9, 2026

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5PM

\$100

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In-store only!

5PM-MIDNIGHT

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Nevan Accent Table

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Jensen Desk with marble-look top

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TABLE
539⁹⁵

5PM-MIDNIGHT

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7-Pc. \$1179.95 - table + 6 chairs

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5PM-MIDNIGHT

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Luka Queen Fabric Bed

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Chair \$479.95

2-Pc. Sectional \$1389.95

ADD86SFLVCH, ADD86S2

Survey scrapped by Big Lakes

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(High Prairie) – Big Lakes County council has decided to erminate any plans to conduct a resident satisfaction survey.

At its regular meeting Sept. 22, council agreed to instead direct administration to research ways to engage residents on local issues and concerns.

A recommendation to contract Forum Research Inc. to conduct a resident satisfaction telephone-to-web survey for \$20,350, excluding the federal GST, was presented by Joe Zdeb, director of corporate services.

The quote was a considerably lower cost than a previous quote of \$33,900 as proposed by Leger market research company presented at council’s regular meeting May 27.

Many council members believe the cost is still high for the low response the survey may likely generate.

“We’re trying to find ways to get feedback from residents,” said Reeve Tyler Airth, who questioned whether many citizens would participate.

Gilwood North – Triangle Councillor Dale Nelson noted residents can get community comments and concerns other ways that don’t cost council much.

“I don’t think it’s money well spent for what we would get out of it,” Nelson said.

Residents can talk to their councillor about issues and ideas, he added.

Kinuso Councillor Roberta Hunt agreed.

“I don’t think a lot of people will do it.”

The survey would take about 15 minutes to complete, Forum Research wrote in its proposal.

“This is something worth trying, then we have the ground work,” Zdeb said

“We’ve never done it before,” he added. “I see value in doing it once. Pursue it or take it off the plate.”

Joussard Councillor Richard Mifflin agreed with Zdeb.

“We have to try it – and see what feedback we get.”

Moving forward, council is still determined to consult with residents about the county.

“What do residents want to see in our county?” Hunt ased.

She suggested council post one question at a time on its county website as a good way to get residents involved.

Airth agreed.

Zdeb replied the Big Lakes website has capacity to post one question at a time.

However, he explained the benefits of the proposal by Forum.

“When both the direct staff costs and the organizational impacts of diverting resources are considered, the proposed contracted service provider represents the most cost-effective and efficient option available to the county,” Zdeb said.

The survey would provide feedback on county services, resident priorities, communications, value for tax dollars and overall quality of life, he said.

Forum Research has experience conducting municipal satisfaction and community surveys across Canada, including surveys for Alberta municipalities such as Grande Prairie, Lethbridge and Sylvan Lake, Zdeb added.

“The proposed methodology balances cost, accessibility, response rates, and the need for credible county-wide results.”

Findings would assist council and administration in evaluating service delivery, identifying priorities, and informing future planning, communications, and budget discussions.

“Its proposed methodology is suited to Big Lakes’ rural geography, population size, and need for feedback from residents throughout the county,” Zdeb said.

Proposed survey methodology included:

-A sample of 200 completed surveys with Big Lakes residents.

-A primary method of a telephone survey using random-digit dialing.

-An online option where residents reached by telephone may choose to complete the survey through a secure online link.

HPE students run in Terry Fox's memory



High Prairie Elementary School held its annual Terry Fox School Run on Sept. 29 as part of the national Terry Fox School Run on Sept.18. Each class walked or ran on the school grounds. Left-right are kindergarten students Asher New, Grayson Peacock, Carmen Howard, Gwen Marquardt, Harvey Bhatt and Karter Kluin.

Nominations open for annual Davis Awards

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

(Peace River) – Peace River & District Chamber of Commerce is asking for nominations to award exemplary businesses in the region a Davis Award.

Chamber executive director Reilly Bassendowski says the awards are a way to recognize hard-working businesses in the Peace Country and their contributions to the community.

“The Davis Awards are our business community’s small business awards,” says Bassendowski.

“We present seven awards during the awards ceremony, celebrating Business -of-the-Year, Community Involvement, Customer Service, and more, including one internally selected award – the President’s Davis Awards, selected annually by the chamber president.”

In order to be nominated for an award, businesses must be in operation at the time of the awards.

Chamber staff reserves the right to reallocate nominees into the appropriate award category if the nomination is determined to be ineligible in the category submitted.

Businesses do not need to be a chamber member to be nominated to win, although members will receive two extra points in the scoring process. Current board of directors do not participate on the judging panel, nor are they involved in any nominee or judging processes.

Chamber staff are ineligible for nomination as they are involved in all nominee and judging processes. “Small businesses are the backbone of any small community, and the Davis Awards are a great opportunity to celebrate these businesses as well as the people behind those businesses,”

“Small businesses are the backbone of any small community, and the Davis Awards are a great opportunity to celebrate these businesses as well as the people behind those businesses,” says Peace River & District Chamber of Commerce executive director Reilly Bassendowski.

exclaims Bassendowski.

“Owning a small business in a small community is a tough job but it’s always nice to receive external recognition for your hard work.”

Nominations opened on Sept. 21 and will remain open until Oct. 19. A full list of awards and their criteria can be found on the chamber’s website.

If you’d like to nominate a business for any of the awards or would like additional information, please please visit www.peaceriverchamber.com

The Davis Awards Gala will be held on Feb. 6, 2027, at the Quality Hotel. Tickets will be available in mid-December and they can be purchased through the chamber office.

“It’s a great event for the business community to attend,” says Bassendowski.

“It’s a good opportunity to network with their peers and have the businesses come together to provide support, camaraderie and to celebrate each other’s accomplishments.”

HIGH PRAIRIE HEALTH CARE AUXILIARY BURSARY

Applications are now being accepted.
Deadline – November 15, 2026

Bursary is available to a student enrolled in their second year or higher in a medical or medical-related field in the amount of \$2000.00.

Proof of enrollment must accompany your letter which should include educational history, information about yourself, including your goals as well as all contact information.

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High Prairie Health Care Auxiliary Society
Box 535, High Prairie, Alberta, T0G 1E0 or
email all application documents to karen.zelman@ahs.ca

****Please Note: There is no application form****

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For Information

Man fined \$650 after assaulting victim at Kinuso

H.P. court docket
Sept. 28, 2026
Justice C.A. Palmer

(High Prairie) – A young man will pay a few hundred dollars in fines after pleading guilty to assaulting a male in Kinuso last November that left him badly injured and swollen.

Drake Courtoreille, 21, was fined \$500, plus a victim fine surcharge of \$150, for assault when he was sentenced Sept. 28 in the High Prairie Court of Justice.

He was also placed on probation for 12 months. Courtoreille pleaded guilty at his trial Feb. 23 and was appearing for sentencing, Crown prosecutor Alex Granley told court.

Court heard the victim was hit several times and sustained multiple injuries and was unconscious after Courtoreille pushed the man to the ground.

“He continued to punch him and caused swelling to his face and his left eye couldn’t open,” the Crown noted.

The victim was taken to Slave Lake Healthcare Centre for treatment. He missed work for two weeks.

Justice C.A. Palmer commended Courtoreille for his guilty plea.

“You’re being given a chance here,” she noted.

“Now’s your chance to make more-appropriate choices. Keep moving forward with your life.”

Courtoreille had no previous criminal record, his lawyer Olivia Manzer noted.

“It’s hopefully a one-time incident,” she said.

As part of his probation, Justice Palmer banned him from having any contact with the victim and possessing any weapons and firearms.

Time to pay was granted to April 5, 2027.

Nazarene is serving Thanksgiving dinner

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(High Prairie) – The Nazarene Church of High Prairie is hosting its second annual community Thanksgiving dinner on Oct. 10.

Dinner will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pastor Tracy Stewart says.

“All are welcome,” Stewart says.

“We want everyone to be able to have a great Thanksgiving meal, no matter if they live alone or are part of a family.

“Holidays can be lonely times and we want to share the day with our community,” she adds.

More than 110 people attended last year.

“Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the meal,” Stewart says.

“We had planned for 120 people, but I thought maybe 50-75 people would attend.”

The church hosted its first community Christmas dinner in 2024, followed Easter and Thanksgiving.

The community holi-

day dinners were inspired after the church launched its free Seniors’ Bistro lunches Nov. 13, 2023.

Seniors’ Bistro hot lunches return in late October or early November, held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church located at 4900 – 59 Ave.

Nerf Wars returns to library in PR

Sara Driedger
South Peace News

(Peace River) – Foam darts are flying between the shelves at the Peace River Library with the return of its Nerf Wars program.

The program, scheduled from 4:45 to 6 p.m., is open to participants aged nine years and older. Registration is required.

Library program co-ordinator Anette Eddy says the event can accommodate a maximum of 20 people. The spaces normally fill quickly, Eddy says.

Nerf Wars has been a regular library program for approximately 10 years, with at least one session typically offered each month. During the

event, participants take part in a Nerf gun battle inside the library. Two facilitators are present to oversee the game and make sure everyone plays safely.

The battles are generally held on the main floor, although the library has also used its lower levels. All equipment is provided, so participants do not need to bring anything with them. Players may bring their own Nerf guns if they prefer, but battery-operated models are not permitted. Blasters that fire hard balls or other unsuitable ammunition are also prohibited.

Eddy says the minimum age reflects the nature of the program. Many teenagers partici-

pate, and the competition can become intense at times. Setting the age at nine and older helps the library offer a lively game while keeping the activity appropriate for those taking part.

The library also offers a Family Nerf Wars program for all ages. Eddy says that version is not listed on the calendar before Christmas, but it remains part of the library’s programming and may be offered again. The regular Nerf Wars session is designed differently from the family event, which is open to participants of any age.

Whether the game is staged on the main floor or downstairs, the facilitators remain present throughout play to en-

force the rules and help keep the action safe.

Nerf Wars follows the usual late-afternoon time slot used by the program. With space capped at 20 and sessions commonly reaching capacity, Eddy encourages prospective players to register early on the website <https://prmlibrary.ab.ca/Events>.

Check with the library when the next Nerf Wars is scheduled.



Sucker Creek First Nation

is currently seeking a

Human Resource & Safety Manager

Full Time - Salary Range: \$72,800 - \$83,200

SUMMARY: This key management position oversees all Human Resources (HR) functions for Sucker Creek First Nation while ensuring compliance with Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) Regulations. The Human Resources & Safety Manager plays a critical role in building a safe, healthy, and supportive workplace that reflects our community values. By balancing core HR responsibilities with essential safety management, this position helps foster employee well-being and organizational success.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop, implement, and maintain HR & OH&S policies and procedures.
- Manage recruitment, onboarding, and workforce planning.
- Oversee employee relations, conflict resolution, and disciplinary actions.
- Administer performance management and appraisal systems.
- Coordinate training and professional development programs.
- Ensure compliance with employment legislation and organizational standards.
- Support managers and staff with HR-related inquiries and guidance.
- Identify hazards, conduct regular safety audits and risk assessments.
- Lead incident investigations and implement corrective actions.
- Coordinate safety training and maintain compliance records.
- Manage accommodations and return-to-work programs.
- Maintain accurate employee records and ensure confidentiality.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Degree or diploma in HR Management, OH&S, Business Management, or equivalent.
- Minimum five (5) years of experience in HR Management and leading safety programs.
- Strong understanding of employment and safety laws.
- Professional designation such as CPHR or CRSP is considered an asset.
- Proficiency in HRIS systems and safety management software.
- Excellent leadership, communication, and conflict resolution skills.
- Knowledge of First Nations culture and traditions is a significant asset.
- Ability to speak Cree is an asset.
- Clear Criminal Record Check (CPIC), Child Welfare check, and valid driver's license.
- Must sign an Oath of Confidentiality prior to commencing employment.

Deadline for Applications: Open Until Filled

Late applications will not be considered – Only qualified applicants will be notified for an interview:

Email: Attention: Human Resource
hr@scfn.ca

Building Community Through Culture, Connection, and Celebration.



Sucker Creek First Nation

is currently seeking a

Community Wellness Worker

Full-time position; 40 hours per week, Monday to Friday, with some evening and weekend work required for community events and programming.

SUMMARY: Sucker Creek First Nation Prevention is seeking a Community Wellness Worker to plan, coordinate, implement, and evaluate culturally relevant prevention and wellness initiatives for children, youth, families, and community members. This position will focus on primary prevention services that strengthen wellness, promote healthy family development, and support community-based programming.

DUTIES:

- Experience in Planning, coordinating, implementing, and evaluating prevention and wellness programs and activities.
- Facilitate workshops, community events, cultural activities, and wellness initiatives.
- Support healthy family development through parenting programs and preventative support.
- Incorporate traditional teachings, cultural knowledge, land-based learning, and holistic wellness approaches.
- Build and maintain positive working relationships with families, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and partner agencies.
- Maintain accurate documentation, reports, statistics, and evaluations.
- Promote community awareness of prevention services and support.
- Ability to work independently, as a team and ability collaborate with other programs and services.
- Maintain confidentiality, professional boundaries, and ethical standards.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Diploma or degree in Social Work, Human Services, Child and Youth Care, Community Development, Psychology, Education, or a related field.
- Minimum three (3) years of relevant experience.
- Experience working with First Nation communities.
- Strong communication, facilitation, organizational, advocacy, and relationship-building skills.
- Knowledge of trauma-informed, strengths-based, family-centered, and culturally safe practice.
- Knowledge of Sucker Creek First Nation history.
- Cree language is an asset.
- Valid driver's license and access to reliable transportation are required.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office, email, basic data entry, and report writing is required.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including occasional evenings and weekends, to support community events and programming.

Deadline for Applications: open until a suitable candidate is found.

Applicants are asked to submit a cover letter, resume, three professional references, criminal record check and child intervention check.

Only qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview.

Attention: Human Resources
E-mail: hr@scfn.ca

Town of PR joins PRAMP, many benefits applauded

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

(Peace River) – Peace River town council decided to become members of Peace River Area Monitoring Program (PRAMP) at its regular meeting on Sept. 14. Mayor Shelly Shannon says the decision was made with council recognizing the value PRAMP brings to Peace River and the broader region.

“Over the past 10 years, PRAMP has not only provided important air-quality monitoring, but has also become a strong community education resource, helping families, seniors, children and other vulnerable populations understand air quality and make informed decisions,” explains Shannon.

“We also live in a region with significant industrial activity and one that can be heavily impacted by wild-fire smoke,” she adds.

“As we continue to pursue new investment and economic development, having credible, science-based air monitoring is increasingly important. Responsible growth means understanding and monitoring our environment as we grow, and PRAMP plays an important role in that.”

The Town will participate as a “massive member” meaning it will support PRAMP without appointing a councillor to sit directly on the organization. Membership application for PRAMP was free.

“I am already actively involved with PRAMP in another professional capacity, so there is a strong understanding at both the council and administrative levels of the work PRAMP is doing throughout the region,” notes Shannon.

“This allows the Town to support the organization while avoiding unnecessary duplication of representation.”

PRAMP was established 10 years ago following concerns about emissions and air quality in the Three Creeks area. Shannon says what began in response to those concerns has grown into a comprehensive regional air-monitoring and public education program.

“At its core, PRAMP monitors ambient air quality and provides credible, transparent data about the air we breathe,” she says.

“That includes information residents can access through the Air Quality Health Index, or AQHI, to help them understand current conditions and plan their activities accordingly.”

But Shannon says PRAMP has grown beyond simply collecting data, it also takes that information into communities through education and outreach—working with schools, seniors, families, community organizations and municipalities to help people understand air quality, wildfire smoke and ways they can protect themselves when conditions deteriorate.

Shannon adds there are several benefits to being members of PRAMP, including responsible economic development.

“As a municipality that wants to attract new industry and investment, we also recognize that strong environmental monitoring contributes to the social license needed for development,” adds Shannon.

“Investors, industry and residents all benefit from having credible, transparent information about local air quality. Real time air-quality information gives residents the ability to understand current conditions and make informed decisions about outdoor activities and their health.”

Shannon says PRAMP also provides valuable monitoring in the region noting there is considerable oil, gas, forestry and other industrial activity.

Monitoring is also increasingly important during wildfire season.

“Our goal is both to support PRAMP and to strengthen the connection between the organization and our community,” says Shannon.

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A song of gratitude is performed at a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation event in High Prairie. Left-right are Anne Koski and Allan Koski, both of Sucker Creek First Nation, Tina Isadore, Blossom Isadore-Bellerose, and Wapastim Isadore-Bellerose, all of Drifpile Cree Nation.

A time to remember!



Indian residential school survivors Lillian Lacombe, left, and Doreen Willier, shared their stories in a small group.



Mosinis Isadore,7, of Driftpile Cree Nation, performs a Fancy Dance.



People of all ages and generations, from young children to seniors and Elders, participated in the Truth and Reconciliation Walk.

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(High Prairie) – Residents of the High Prairie region gathered Sept. 30 to mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day.

The annual day honours Indian residential school survivors, their families and students who never returned home.

High Prairie Native Friendship Centre organized the event at the High Prairie Museum in partnership with the High Prairie and District Children’s Resource Council, the High Prairie and District Food Bank and the High Prairie and District Museum (the Town of High Prairie).

Friendship Centre society president Trish Long welcomed those at the event and reflected on the special day.

“We need to educate ourselves so that our work towards reconciliation is successful and will provide our children and our children’s children with peace and a brighter future,” says Long, who lived many years in the Gift Lake Metis Settlement where the people became her family.

“Reconciliation, to me, means looking at the past and stating the obvious wrong that was carried out towards our Nehiyawuk (Cree) cousins and work to be a better community.

“We invite you to come together with us as we talk and share and hear the lived experiences of our cousins so that we can continue to do the work that still needs to be done towards Truth and Reconciliation.”

She reflected on how she learned about the issue.

“Growing up, I never understood why many of my friends were so angry towards moniyawuk (white people),” Long says.

“I never heard about residential schools and their impact until it became a conversation throughout Canada. It was only then that I started to understand where that anger came from.”

Indigenous dancers and singers performed outside to open the event.

Inside the museum, residential school survivors had an opportunity to share their stories.

About 80 people participated in the Truth and Reconciliation Walk to end activities.

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was first observed as a federal holiday in 2021.

It was established in response to Call to Action 80 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which called on the federal government, in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, to create a statutory holiday recognizing survivors, their families and communities while ensuring the history and legacy of Indian residential schools are remembered.

Sept. 30 is also Orange Shirt Day – Every Child Matters, started in Williams Lake, B.C. The date honours Phyllis Webstad, whose new orange shirt was taken away from her on her first day at a residential school when she was six years old.

The orange shirt has since become powerful symbol of the day.

Where Water Flows exhibit celebrates Peace Watershed through art

Sara Driedger
South Peace News

(Peace River) – A sweeping textile map of the Peace River watershed will anchor a months-long exhibition at the Peace River Art Hub, bringing together quilters, painters, photographers, potters and other artists to explore how water shapes the region.

Where Water Flows will run in the Art Hub’s main gallery from October 2026 to March 2027. The exhibition’s centre-piece, a large “slice quilt” created by members of the Valley Peacemakers Quilt Guild, is scheduled to be unveiled Oct. 10 in the facility’s large classroom.

Audrey DeWit, a board member with the watershed organization and a member of the quilt guild, says the idea began last fall as she considered how art could help people understand the scale and complexity of the watershed.

“Last fall, I started having this idea that it would be really cool to have a big art project of the watershed,” DeWit says.

She imagined a wall hanging that could show both the watershed’s waterways and the many ways people use water across the region.

DeWit brought the concept to fellow guild members, who were interested and agreed to take part. The project then moved from an artistic idea to a detailed exercise in mapping, design and textile work.

Working with Bonnie Wood, whom DeWit described as an expert in geographic information systems, she developed graphics intended to accurately represent the waterways. Wood applied hillshade, a mapping technique that uses light and shadow to show the shape and elevation of terrain.

“The watershed is huge,” DeWit says.

“It’s a good chunk of the Alberta landscape.”

The hillshading, she says, helps viewers see changes in altitude and gives the textile map a sense of the land beneath

the rivers and tributaries.

The completed graphic was sent to a company able to print it on cotton fabric. The material was then divided among guild members, along with information drawn from watershed alliance reports. Each quilter interpreted that material creatively, using different techniques to illustrate water use and features of the watershed while preserving the continuity of the larger image.

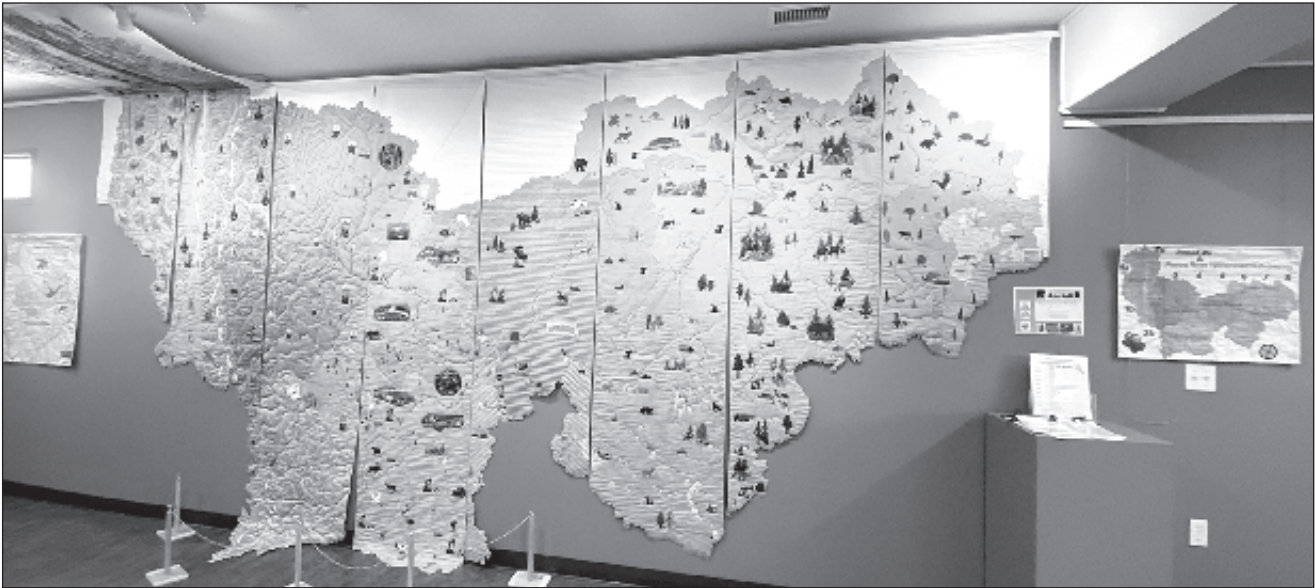
The work is known as a slice quilt: one continuous image divided into separate vertical panels. The format allows the image to be transported and displayed more easily than a single enormous hanging.

“Each panel is 27 inches wide, while its length varies according to the shape of that part of the watershed. The longest panel measures 10 1/2 feet,” says DeWit.

DeWit approached the Art Hub board last fall about displaying the quilt alongside watershed education materials. The resulting partnership grew into a broader invitation for artists to respond to the same theme in their own media.

Dianne Ireland, president of the Peace River Art Club, has been involved with the organization for nearly 20 years. She has served as president for two years and was previously a board member, including during the early development of the Art Hub.

“Where Water Flows is the main-gallery exhibi-



The Where Water Flows exhibit will run in the Peace River Art Hub’s main gallery from October 2026 to March 2027. The exhibit was created by members of the Valley Peacemakers Quilt Guild and is scheduled to be unveiled Oct. 10.

tion at the Art Hub and will be showing from October 2026 to March 2027 as a celebration of the Mighty Peace watershed,” Ireland says.

“We will be anchored by the Valley Peacemakers Quilt Guild, and their quilt will be displayed at the same time in our large classroom.”

The Art Hub is inviting artists and artisans to submit new work reflecting the theme throughout the exhibition period. Ireland says submissions may include photography, stained glass, pottery and a range of other fine-art and craft media. Most works selected for the main gallery will be available for purchase.

Submissions will be vetted to ensure each piece can be displayed properly and reflects the meaning of Where Water Flows. Ireland says the theme is deliberately broad enough to accommodate different interpretations, allowing each artist to decide what flowing water, the watershed or the region’s relationship with water looks like.

The Art Hub will accept work until the final week of October. Its annual masked gala is scheduled for Oct. 30, an event DeWit described as “a very lovely thing to come to.” The gala will

offer another opportunity for the public to see the developing exhibition as more works arrive.

Ireland says she is most looking forward to the diversity of the submissions. One pottery piece already received, she says, beautifully reflects water moving through the work itself. Other artists may focus on rivers and tributaries, the shape of the land, human uses of water or the personal associations that the theme evokes.

“Every artist, across mediums, comes up with a unique perspective reflected in their work,” Ireland says.

She adds she expects the range of materials

and approaches to give visitors several ways to think about a watershed that can otherwise be difficult to grasp as a whole.

For DeWit, the quilt’s combination of geographic accuracy and individual handiwork is part of its appeal. The printed base keeps the waterways and contours connected across the panels, while the contributions of guild members allow details and ideas from watershed reports to be expressed visually. When the panels are placed together, viewers will be able to follow one image across many separate pieces.

Ireland hopes the pairing of the quilt with

changing contributions in the main gallery will encourage repeat visits between October and March. Because submissions remain open into late October, the exhibition can continue to grow after the quilt is unveiled, with established and emerging artists adding their own responses to its central theme.

“I’m looking forward to seeing this exhibit,” Ireland says.

“It’s a creative way of talking about the watershed. We are pleased to be working alongside the Valley Peacemakers Quilt Guild, and we look forward to sharing it with everyone.”



Sucker Creek First Nation

is currently seeking a

Community Wills & Estates Coordinator (Estate Planner)

SUMMARY:

Reporting to the Membership Clerk. The Community Wills and Estates Coordinator is responsible for delivering estate planning education, facilitating wills and estate planning support, coordinating referrals, conducting community outreach, and assisting Sucker Creek First Nation members with estate-related matters.

The coordinator will provide culturally appropriate support services focused on wills, estate administration, powers of attorney, personal directives, dependent adult support, and family legacy planning.

DUTIES:

- Deliver a minimum of six community will and estate workshops.
- Support the completion or initiation of 100+ wills for community members on & off the Nation.
- Assist Elders and vulnerable members with estate planning and referral services.
- Develop estate planning information packages and guides.
- Establish a confidential intake and tracking system.
- Coordinate outreach and education campaigns throughout the Nation.
- Prepare quarterly and final program reports for leadership and funders.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Diploma or Degree in Social Work, Human Services, Indigenous Studies, Legal Administration, Public Administration, Financial Planning, or related field.
- Experience working with First Nations communities.
- Understanding of Indigenous Services Canada estate processes.
- Excellent and effective decision-making skills, assessment skills, and organizational skills.
- Possess presentation, public relations, oral and written skills along with interpersonal communication skills.
- Knowledge of First Nations culture and traditions is an asset.
- Must provide a criminal record check (CPIC) & Child Welfare Information System check (CWIS) (**before the interview**).
- Must possess a valid driver’s license and submit drivers abstract (before the interview)
- Oath of confidentiality must be signed prior to commencing employment.

Deadline for Applications: Until Suitable Candidate is Found

Email resumes to: hr@scfn.ca

PRAMP

Cont. from page 23

“We want Peace River residents to have continued access to reliable, real-time air-quality information and practical education about what that information means.”

Shannon says town council sees PRAMP as an important regional partner as the economy grows. She says Peace River is pursuing development and investment, and council believes economic growth and responsible environmental monitoring should work together.

“Having good baseline data and ongoing monitoring helps us understand conditions today and measure changes as our region develops,” she concludes.

“For me, that is one of PRAMP’s greatest strengths: it takes science and monitoring data and turns it into information people can actually use in their everyday lives.”

Fire Prevention Week 2026 Oct. 4-10

"Charge Into Fire Safety: Safe Charging is Superpower!"

HP fire chief pleased with department's growth

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(High Prairie) – High Prairie Fire Department marks Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 4-10.

Charge into Fire Safety – Safe Charging is a Superpower is the theme for the week.

Fire chief David Martinson says the theme is timely as the use of chargers continues to grow – along with the risks of fires caused by chargers.

“With rechargeable chargers now being used in telephones, power tools, e-bikes, scooters, toys and many other everyday items, it is important to understand the risks that can come with charging them,” he says.

“As we celebrate Fire Prevention Week, I encourage everyone to take a few minutes to look around your home, check your alarms, review your escape plan and take a closer look at how and where you charge your batteries.”

He says everyone has a responsibility to be safe around fire and risks of fire.

“Fire prevention starts with all of us,” Martinson says.

This year’s campaign gives several simple reminders and safety tips.

- Cheap chargers? Don't chance it!
- Soft surfaces? Hard pass!
- Fully charged? Time to unplug!
- For tools and rides, charge outside!
- Feels hot? Stop using it!
- On a flight? Keep it in sight!

A charger or battery may seem harmless, but when something goes wrong, a fire can develop very quickly, he says.

“Using the proper charger, charging on

hard surface, keeping batteries away from anything that can burn and paying close attention to signs of overheating can make a big difference,” Martinson says.

Fire prevention goes beyond batteries, too.

Check your smoke alarms, make sure your carbon monoxide alarms are working, keep exits clear, know two ways out of your home and talk with your family about what to do in the event of a fire.

“These are simple steps that can save lives,” Martinson says.

“Remember – fire prevention starts with you!”

High Prairie firefighters have been busy in 2026 with 127 calls by Aug. 31, 11 more calls than the same period in 2025, he says. Those figures in 2026 include 55 alarm calls in the Town of High Prairie, and 24 motor vehicle collisions in Big Lakes County, 14 EMS assists, nine structure fires, four vehicle fires, three wildland fires and numerous other responses.

“One number that really stands out this year is the 55 town alarm calls, which is considerably higher than where we were at that point last year,” Martinson says.

“On the other hand, our wildland fire calls are significantly lower than last year, which is certainly something we are happy to see – thank you, rain!”

Firefighters have served countless hours in training, attending courses and meetings, maintaining equipment, working on projects and volunteering throughout the community.

At the end of August, documented hours totalled more than 3,100 hours.

“Behind everyone of



The 2026 High Prairie Fire Department. Front row, left-right, are officer Gerry Hebert, Lt. Jennifer Anderson, Capt. Trevor Cisaroski, fire chief David Martinson, deputy fire chief Edwina Ayles and officer Inier Cardinal. Middle row, left-right, are Luci Martinson, junior firefighter Harlan Rotenburger, Amanda Caouette, Dianna Bissell, Cara Rotenburger, David Willoughby, Samantha Smith and Jenna Wirtanen. Back row, left-right, are Seth Sawchyn, Kim Somerville, Aiden Caron, Steven Rotenburger, Michael Belyan and Aaron Strebchuk. Missing in the photo are Kaitlyn Stacey, Hunter Mohr, Matthew Peters, Kelten Herr, John Paddon, Marisol Sebryk and photographer and social media specialist Sarah Perry.

those hours is a volunteer who has a job, a family and other commitments, but still chooses to give their time to help their community,” Martinson says.

The fire department has had a successful year, he adds.

One of the biggest priorities going into 2026 was recruitment.

“I am extremely proud to announce that we have welcomed nine new members to the department this year,” Martinson says.

“Growing our membership is a great accomplishment, but just as important is retaining the members we already have and continuing to build a fire department where people want to stay, train and serve their community.”

He says several factors attribute to that.

“The growth could not have happened without support of our membership, town staff, mayor and town council,” Martinson says.

“Their support and

commitment to our fire department has made a tremendous difference.

“Without a doubt, the growth of our membership has been one of the greatest accomplishments in 2026.”

He notes several other accomplishments.

The High Prairie Fire and Rescue Society Junior Scholarship continues to be an important part of developing younger members, he says. Town council agreed to match the contribution from the society.

“That support goes a long way toward helping us develop and retain our future firefighters,” Martinson says.

Another major project has been the upgrade to the fire department’s training facility.

“Work is well underway with completion expected in the spring of 2027,” Martinson says.

“This project would not be possible without the incredible support we continue to receive from our community.

“Local businesses, or-

ganizations and residents have stepped up and supported the fire department in many different ways. Their generosity has helped move this project forward while also reducing the costs associated with developing this facility.”

Training remains a major priority.

“We continue to look for opportunities not only with High Prairie and Big Lakes County Fire Services, but throughout the entire region,” Martinson says.

“The more opportunities we can provide our members to train, the better prepared they are when the pager goes off,” he adds.

One call that certainly gained some attention this year was the rescue of Dottie the dog.

“Our members previously completed rope rescue training and that training facility proved its value when Dottie ended up in a well,” Martinson says.

“Working alongside Big Lakes County fire de-

partment, our members were able to successfully get Dottie out and safely back to her owner and is doing – well.”

The story has now received more than 52,000 views on social media, which was pretty incredible to see, he says.

Serving as the fire chief since March 1, 2025, he values the progress of the fire department.

“When I look at my first year as fire chief, I am proud of what our department has accomplished, but I am even more excited about where we are going,” Martinson says.

“I want to personally thank everyone who has supported the High Prairie Fire Department in 2026 and in past years,” Martinson says.

“Whether you have donated materials, attended an event, volunteered your time, encouraged someone to join the fire department or simply took the time to thank a firefighter for what they do, it all makes a difference.”

Safety first, urges Big Lakes Fire Services

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(High Prairie) – Big Lakes County Fire Services marks Fire Prevention Week from Oct. 4-10 and encourages citizens to think safety first.

Charge into Fire

Safety – Safe Charging is a Superpower is the theme for the week.

“Fire Prevention Week is observed in October to remind us of the importance of fire safety and prevention,” fire chief Jason Cottingham says.

The special week be-

gan in 1922 to commemorate lessons learned from the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, a disaster that destroyed thousands of buildings, left more than 100,000 people homeless and caused hundreds of deaths, he noted.

“That tragedy shows how devastating fire can be without preparation,” Cottingham says.

“In 2026, Fire Prevention Week focuses on the everyday charging habits that can help reduce the risk of lithium-ion battery fires and keep homes and

communities safer.”

He encourages families and citizens to:

- Always use the manufacturer-approved charger and cord that comes with the device.
- Place devices on hard flat surfaces like tables or countertops when

charging.

- Never charge phones, laptops or tablets on beds, couches or under pillows where heat can easily build up.

- Unplug devices and remove them from the

Cont. on page 26

Fire Prevention Week 2026

"Charge Into Fire Safety: Safe Charging is Superpower!"

Oct. 4-10

Big Lakes County

Cont. from page 25

power source one they are fully charged.

- Charge larger items like e-bikes and scooters outside when possible and keep them away from primary exits.
- Discontinue use immediately if a device becomes unusually hot, starts to swell, emits smoke or produces an unusual odour.

"By learning from history and addressing today's hazards, we reduce the risk of future tragedies," Cottingham says.

Fire crews based in High Prairie, Enilda, Grouard, Jousard, Faust and Kinuso have been steady with call in 2026.

Firefighters have responded to 129 calls as of Aug. 31, down from 152 for the same period in 2025.

Motor vehicle collisions have been the top

category of calls with 54 responses, followed by 14 Emergency Medical Services assists, 14 other calls (such as gas leaks and power lines), 11 outdoor fires, 10 monitored alarms, eight structure fires, eight equipment and vehicle fires, seven mutual-aid requests, two water rescues and one search and rescue.

"Fire Prevention Week is important as it highlights a risk to life and property, which can be mitigated by some simple precautions," Cottingham says.

"As a whole, prevention efforts by Big Lakes County Fire Services is committed to promoting a safer lifestyle through messaging and personal interaction."

Big Lakes Fire Department works on fire prevention and safety all year. Capt. James Doyle is the main leader of prevention by focusing on public education, community engagement and proactive fire-prevention measures to protect resi-

2026 Roster: Big Lakes County Fire Services

Fire Chief: Jason Cottingham	Emily Cardinal	Promise Spruyt
Deputy Fire Chief: Luci Martinson	Russell Cardinal	Kevin Torkelson
Capt. James Doyle	Anthony Churchill	Mike Torkelson
District Fire Chief: George Baker	Ian Churchill	Ethan Wedmid
District Fire Chief: Fred Caudron	Niki Conrad	Hunter Wedmid
District Fire Chief: Conrad Cardinal	Travis Conrad	Blake Williams
District Fire Chief: Everett Samuelson	Stacey Coomber	Sandy Williams
Assistant Chief: Herman Sutherland Jr.	Faith Fortier	Mike Zatorski
Assistant Chief: Mykola Wedmid	Richard Garant	Trinity Zatorski
Capt. John Stokes	Marcus Goulet	Jim Zinyk
Capt. Claude Smith	Melvin Goulet	
Capt. Avery Getz	Kael Harder	
Capt. Dustin Seghers	Tamara Harder	
	Leigha Hunt	
	Mark Ivey	
	Daniella Lamouche	
	Aiden McLaughlin	
	Aaron Mindel	
	Trent Mindel	
	Tyler Mindel	
	Robert Nygaard	
	Angela Paul	
	Bob Plante	
	Darron Riddle	
	Ernie Samuelson	
	Brian Simpson	
	Peter Spruyt	

Firefighters

Lucille Baker
Luke Bergen
Guy Berube
Jeff Birky
Brandin Bissell
Brian Bissell
Dianna Bissell
Brandon Cardinal
Cade Cardinal
Cindy Cardinal

Recruit Firefighters

Chase Horsley
John McDermott
Bradley Nygaard

Junior Firefighters

Daryn Gladue
Aaron Nygaard
Peighton Nygaard
Elizabeth Spruyt
Jemma Spruyt

Call (780) 523-1547 to join the team!

dents and properties, he says.

This year, some of the programs have included monthly safety videos, free wildfire home assessments, FireSmart funding for a structure protection plan for Jousard, a vegetation management plan for Grouard, a bulldozer assessment for the county, school tours and outreach programs at community events.

"Through community outreach, training sessions and safety campaigns, we aim to equip residents with knowledge and tools to prevent fires and take appropriate safety precautions when living and working in Big Lakes County," Cottingham says.

Big Lakes continues to recruit more volunteers. "The fire service is inclusive, offering roles for everyone according to their abilities, including front-line action and support roles," Cottingham says.

"We provide training and offer a junior program for ages 14-18, including scholarship opportunities with compensation for both training and emergency response efforts."

For more information on how to become involved, contact deputy fire chief Luci Martinson by phone at (780) 523-1547 or e-mail to deputyfirechief@biglakecounty.ca.

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Fire Prevention Week 2026 Oct. 4-10

"Charge Into Fire Safety: Safe Charging is Superpower!"

Peace River reports fewer calls in 2026

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(Peace River) – Peace River Fire Department and the County of Northern Lights Fire Services are teaming up to recognize Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 4-10.

Peace River and Northern Lights fire departments encourage residents to actively support the Fire Prevention Week theme *Charge into Fire Safety – Safe Charging is a Superpower*.

“This year’s theme focuses on the simple steps people can take to recharge safely,” Peace River fire chief Tim Harris says.

“Safe charging means making smart choices every time you plug in.”

Many devices that people use every day – phones, tablets, laptop computers, tools, toys e-bikes and scooters – run on rechargeable lithium batteries, which store a lot of energy in a small space.

“If they are damaged or charged the wrong way, they can overheat, start a fire or even explode,” Harris says.

“The way you charge your lithium battery devices can make a difference in helping prevent home fires.

“It comes down to using simple habits each time you plug in.”

Use the cord and the charger that came with your device or one approved by the manufacturer. Using the wrong charger can damage the battery and increase the risk of fire.

Charge devices on a table, desk or other hard flat surface. Do not charge them on beds, couches or under pillows. Devices and chargers produce heat during normal charging. Soft surfaces can trap heat and block airflow, which can cause the battery to over-



Members of the 2026 Peace River Fire Department and the County of Northern Lights Fire Services. Front row, left-right, are probationary firefighter, Andrew Wollis, junior firefighter Amber Higginson, Jaspreet Parmer, probationary firefighter Marco Suarez, Stephanie Amor, Capt. Patrick Connellan, William Halabisky, Morgan Wilson and senior firefighter Mark Owens. Back row, left-right, are Peace River fire chief Tim Harris, Capt. Robin Differenz, Caleb Krahn, engineer Kelly Laramore, probationary firefighter Rory Rebalkin, Tyler Breau, probationary firefighter Paul Filaber, Terry Ladue, Capt. Mike Frayne, Adam

heat.

Stop using your device if it feels very hot, starts to swell, is smoking or has a strange smell. These are warning signs that the battery may be damaged or failing.

Use your device when it is fully charged and do not leave it plugged in longer than needed. Leaving a device plugged in too long can increase heat and stress on the battery.

Charge larger items like e-bikes, scooters and tools outside and away from exits. These batteries are larger and store more energy. If they fail, fires can grow quickly and spread.

When on a jet or airplane, keep your device where you can see it while charging. Do not charge devices in overhead compartments. Do not charge e-cigarettes or vapes on a jet or airplane. If a battery overheats or fails, it is important for the flight crew to respond quickly.

“Peace River and County of Northern Lights fire departments encourage everyone to be aware of their devices, follow these tips and support this year’s theme,” Harris says.

Peace River Fire Department reports a decrease in the number of calls in 2026 with 267 as of Sept. 18, down from 319 at the same point in 2025.

Calls in 2026 include 101 alarms calls, 59 medical responses, 28 motor vehicle collisions, 21 structure fires, 15 technical rescues, 12 hazardous material calls, 11 wildland and other outdoor calls, 10 motor vehicle calls and 10 miscellaneous calls.

“Generally, call volumes have been down slightly over last year, mainly due to the wet spring and summer that we had this year which led to a decline in wildland and grass fires,” Harris says.

Included in the call numbers are mutual-aid

responses for fires, motor vehicle collisions, and other incidents in the County of Northern Lights and Northern Sunrise County, he notes.

Calls for home alarms are a concern.

“The calls for alarms is partly due to the increasing number of monitored residential smoke alarms being installed,” Harris says.

“I remind residents to keep their contact information up to date with their monitoring companies so that false alarms, from cooking to showers, can be cancelled before a response is required.”

Northern Lights fire department has reports

Liar, probationary firefighter Jordan Richards, Brayden Routhier and junior firefighter Noah Clancy. Missing in the photo are Capt. Mike Kinsella, Lt. Tim Berger, Lt. Jesse Kasouf, engineers Nolan Keddie, Zach Krahn and Patrick Lavoie, Aiden Archibald, Shane Brady, chaplain Cornelio Esguerra, Laura Hanna, James Klassen, Jonah Kurylowich, Sam Lavoie, Amy Li, Dawn Naumann, Rockwell Plante, Hayden Reid, probationary firefighters, Carmine Cardinal, Annie Diesel, Brittany Gillespie, Isabelle King, Rylan Rebalkin and junior firefighters Leah Berger, Leila Cook and Finn Hickley.

lower volume of calls in 2026 with 60 as of Sept. 18, down from 73 for the same period.

Wet weather also reduced wildland fires in Northern Lights.

Calls in 2026 include 20 structure fires, 19 medical responses, eight motor vehicle collisions, three wildland and other outdoor fires, three vehicle fires, two technical rescues, two miscellaneous fires and one response for hazardous materials.

Figures include mutual-aid calls to Peace River, the M.D. of Peace and Northern Sunrise County.

Combined, Peace

River and Northern Lights fire departments have 48 total members based in two halls in Peace River, and the Weberville Fire Hall in Northern Lights.

“We are always looking for new recruits to assist the fire departments to serve the communities’ needs,” Harris says.

Anyone interested in applying or wanting more information may contact the Peace River Fire Department at (780) 624-2993.

The minimum age is 18.

Both fire departments also have a junior firefighter program for youth ages 16-17 years.

For more information on fire prevention programs and activities in Peace River and Northern Lights Please visit

peacriver.ca or countyofnorthernlights.com
Facebook at facebook.com/peacriverab or
facebook.com/countyofnorthernlights.

For general information about Fire Prevention Week and lithium-ion battery safety, visit fpw.org.
For fire safety fun for children, visit sparky.org.

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Fire Prevention Week 2026 Oct. 4-10

"Charge Into Fire Safety: Safe Charging is Superpower!"

Northern Sunrise firefighters committed to safety

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(St. Isidore) – Northern Sunrise County Protective Services (NSCPS) marks Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 4-10.

The fire department is served by three fire halls, in St. Isidore, Nampa and Harmon Valley. Combined, crews as all three fire halls responded to 39 calls in 2026 from Jan. 1 to July 1.

Fire chief David LeBlanc says protective services has had more responses in 2026 with motor vehicle collisions. During that period, crews have been called out to 39 calls, up from 21 in the same period last year.

“Training has been focused on vehicle extractions, water-shutting operations and rope rescues in the second half of the year,” LeBlanc says.

In addition to regular training, Northern Sunrise County has been hosting a variety of disaster training sessions for the Northwest Alberta region and promoting the new regional disaster partnership – Peace Regional Emergency Management Partnership



Northern Sunrise County Protective Services members in 2026. Sitting in the front row, left-right, are Nampa district fire chief Robert Hankins, Northern Sunrise deputy fire chief Julien Bergeron, Northern Sunrise fire chief David LeBlanc and St. Isidore district fire chief Simon Lavoie. Standing in the middle row, left-right, are Avery Rogers, Anne Saliwonchuk, Tammy Hebert, Kristy Provost and Jesse Kasouf. Standing in the back row, left-right, are Ashton Broome, Steven Saliwonchuk, Capt. Kent Rein, Kienan Hebert, Nathan Paul, Kory Lavoie, Hayden Allard, Patrick Martel, Capt. Ian Cosh and Capt. Bernie Poririe. Missing in the photo are Capt. Paul Hebert, Brandon Paul, Logan Bennett, Jason Parker, Ashton Broome, Luc Trudeau and Kelly Little.

with eight municipalities.

Other member municipalities include the Town of Peace River, the M.D. of Peace, the M.D. of Smoky River, the Village of Nampa, the Town of Grimshaw, the County of Northern Lights and the Town of Manning.

“We are confident crews remain dedicated, well-prepared and ready to respond to all types of emergencies,” LeBlanc says.

“Protective services engagement with community is and important function of the three fire halls.”

NSCPS has been involved with the Alberta Provincial Rural Crime Watch, they attended children’s safety day at the Baytex Centre in Peace River, assisted with several children’s bicycle rodeos and hosted a water park activity at Nampa Public

School’s last school day in June.

Protective services also assisted neighbouring departments at fires in Peace River, Cadotte and the Falher-McLennan region.

Earlier in the year, LcBlanc was voted in for his 18th year as the chair of the Peace Regional RCMP community advisory committee, assuring strong communication and collaboration be-

“Training has been focused on vehicle extractions, water-shutting operations and rope rescues in the second half of the year,” fire chief David LeBlanc says.

tween law enforcement and the community.

“We are very proud of deputy fire chief Julien Bergeron who raised \$36,380 when he kayaked

298 km on the Smoky River to Peace River this summer to support the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation,” LeBlanc says.

Smoky firefighters busy with first response calls

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(Falher) – Smoky River Fire Department marks Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 4-10.

Fire chief Marcel Maure advises residents to be safe with fire in the home.

“Fire Prevention Week serves as an important reminder for residents to test smoke alarms monthly, replace batteries when needed and develop and practise a home fire escape plan with every member of the household,” Maure says.

“Smoky River Fire Department extends its appreciation to volunteer firefighters, municipal partners and community members whose continued support helps keep communities throughout the region safe.”

He also reminds residents that fire prevention

and public safety begin long before firefighters are dispatched.

The fire department serves the M.D. of Smoky River, the Town of Falher, the Town of McLennan, the Village of Donnelly and the Village of Girouxville. Fire halls are located in Falher, Donnelly and McLennan.

Crews have been busy in 2026 with firefighters responding to 174 incidents from Jan. 1 to Sept. 17, with an average of 20 calls per month while maintaining an average response time of just over nine minutes, Maure says.

Medical first response times remained the department’s busiest service calls, accounting for 69 calls, nearly 40 per cent of total calls.

Crews responded to 20 calls of motor vehicle collisions on provincial highways, almost 11.5

per cent of the department’s workload.

Fire-related incidents, including structure fires, vehicle fires and outdoor fires accounted for 10 calls.

Public hazards, gas leaks, investigations and assistant other agencies continue to keep firefighters active throughout the region.

A significant portion of the department’s workload involved calls where smoke alarms were activated but no fires were discovered, he adds.

Firefighters responded to 41 alarm-related incidents, including detectors activated, alarms caused by steam or smoke, alarms accidentally activated and alarms caused by telephones.

“These calls represent nearly 24 per cent of all responses and required personnel and apparatus

to investigate and ensure public safety,” Maure says.

He encourages residents and homeowners to help reduce unnecessary emergency responses by ensuring someone answers the telephone when a monitored alarm system is activated.

“Most alarm monitory companies will attempt to contact homeowners and building occupants before requesting a fire department response,” Maure says.

“If your alarm company is calling, please answer the phone. Confirming there is no emergency can often prevent fire trucks and firefighters from being dispatched unnecessarily.”

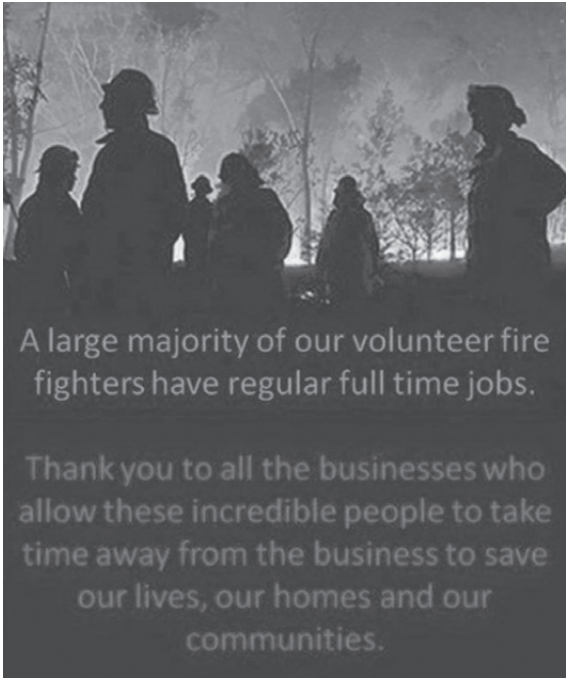
Each alarm response requires firefighters to leave their homes, families and workplaces to in-

vestigate what may be an emergency.

False alarms also place emergency vehicles on the road and temporarily reduce the fire department’s availability for other calls.

In addition to emergency response, Smoky River firefighters con-

tinue to dedicate hundreds of combined volunteer hours to train, maintain equipment, inspections and public education programs. Those efforts help ensure crews remain prepared to respond safely and effectively whenever residents require assistance.





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Renegades score 11 TDs in lopsided win

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(High Prairie) – The High Prairie Renegades blanked the Valleyview Cougars 76-0 at home Sept. 24 to remain unbeaten in three games in the Alberta High School 9-a-Side Football League season.

One of the game’s standout performers was Mary Flowers, who not only scored two touchdowns, but also delivered a dominant showing on defence, head coach Jeff Copeland says.

“Flowers was awarded the Renegades’ “Game Ball” honours – a well-deserved recognition of her exceptional impact on both sides of the ball,” Copeland says.

“She recorded a quarterback sack and added several key tackles and



High Prairie Renegades’ player Rylan Hadley-Roberts (No. 99) carries the ball against the Valleyview Cougars at home Sept. 24.

pressure plays throughout the game.”

Luke Flowers, Trace Patterson and Rylan

Hadley-Roberts also scored touchdowns for the Renegades who led 55-0 at halftime.

Copeland gave full credit to Valleyview for never giving up.

“Even with the final score heavily lopsided, the Cougars showed real determination,” Copeland says.

The Cougars were without several key players after a game against the Sexsmith Sabres, forcing younger players into major roles.

“Despite the setback, they pushed hard early, trying to slow the Renegades’ momentum before High Prairie’s depth and pressure took control,” Copeland says.

On defence, Trenton Wait-Radstaak led the charge, collapsing pockets and shutting down runs with authority, the coach says.

He was backed by Benjamin Lasher, Darius Willier, and Gage

McNabb – a unit that refused to give the Cougars any breathing room all game long.

As a kicker, Willier score 10 single points after touchdowns on 11 attempts.

“His confidence and consistency were undeniable – every kick was smooth, controlled and nearly automatic,” Copeland says.

“Even with one miss, Willier was lights out.”

After the game, Copeland recognized the coaching staff behind the Renegades’ success.

He commended offensive co-ordinators Brian Flowers and Taylor Copeland, along with defensive co-ordinator Ryley Leganchuk, noting that they have done an exceptional job preparing players for every game.

“Their game planning, discipline and ability to develop young talent have been key factors in the Renegades’ undefeated run,” Copeland says.

After visiting the Whitecourt Cats on Oct. 2, the No. 3 ranked Renegades visit the No. 5 Sexsmith Sabres on Oct. 16 to end the regular season. Weekly rankings were last updated Sept. 27.

The Renegades extend appreciation to Falcon Equipment Rentals and All Choice Rentals for donating a trailer and scissor lift to help video record the game.

“Their support plays a meaningful role in helping the team capture valuable video for coaching, development and future preparation,” Copeland says.

Pioneers tame Wolfpack

Richard Froese
South Peace News

(Hinton) – The visiting Peace River Pioneers defeated the Hinton Wolfpack 41-14 Sept. 25 in Alberta High School 9-a-Side Football League action.

Starting running back Noah Ruether scored three touchdowns for the Pioneers, who led 20-14 at halftime.

Other touchdowns came from quarterback Makai Knoblauch on a quarterback sneak up

the middle and a touchdown by receiver Hayden Curry on a pass and run.

“The game was intense,” Peace River head coach Mark Owens says.

Hinton came out of the gates strong with a touchdown to open the scoring, he adds.

“The Pioneers had to adapt to a new offence that the Wolfpack added that week, which moved from a wide-open spread-passing offence to a middle-running offence,” Owens says.

Peace River controlled

the second half and kept Hinton off the scoresheet while the Pioneers’ offence kept pushing.

“It was a very energetic, intense and hard-hitting game for both teams,” Owens says.

“Hinton showed tremendous signs of improvement in their first season . . .”

After hosting the Sexsmith Sabres Oct. 3, the Pioneers visit the Valleyview Cougars Oct. 15 to end the regular season.



Peace River Pioneers’ quarterback Makai Knoblauch throws the ball as he is swarmed by Hinton Wolfpack defensive players Sept. 25 in Hinton. Photo courtesy of Meagan Pyttlik.

Sunrise planning walking trail expansion

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

(Peace River) – At its regular meeting Sept. 22, Northern Sunrise County council chose to add new walking trail systems into 2027 capital budget deliberations.

“Council passed a motion to include the Greene Valley Provincial Park Walking Trail in the 2027 budget discussions,” says Reeve Claude Rodrigue.

“Work on the proposed trail from Cecil Thompson Park to Pat’s Creek will continue in 2027, with

construction funding planned for consideration in the 2028 budget.”

Council has decided to work toward enhancing opportunities for residents while supporting broader economic development objectives. Rodrigue says development of recreational amenities, such as trail infrastructure, aligns with council’s goals of creating attractive communities that encourage people to live, work, and invest in the county.

“Green spaces and walking trails are increasingly important to residents throughout the

county and the region,” notes Rodrigue.

“Safe, accessible trails support outdoor recreation and enhance quality of life,” he adds.

“A trail connecting Cecil Thompson Park and Pat’s Creek would also provide a safe route between the park and the Town of Peace River.”

He adds improved recreational opportunities can contribute to resident attraction and retention, attract a skilled labour force, and promote tourism by showcasing the county’s natural landscapes and outdoor recreation op-

portunities.

“Council expressed an interest in expanding the county’s trail network,” Rodrigue notes.

“The Greene Valley Provincial Park Trail would follow a former logging route historically used for forestry operations along the Heart River. The trailhead would be located near the intersection of Township Road 820 and Range Road 211.”

Rodrigue explains Cecil Thompson Park trail would begin at the park, cross the road near the County office, continue north through the

Sunrise Gateway Business Park, and follow Fairgrounds Road to Pat’s Creek trailhead.

“The Greene Valley Provincial Park Trail would be a multipurpose trail open to both pedestrians and ATVs.

“The Cecil Thompson Park Trail would be open to pedestrians and electric bicycles. ATVs would not be permitted,” he adds.

The 2027 budget will be reviewed in late October, with a provisional budget scheduled for approval at the Dec. 8, council meeting. Final budget approval is in April 2027.

“Once the provisional budget is approved, council may authorize preliminary spending for the Greene Valley Provincial Park Trail, including any engineering and design work required before construction of the parking lot and trail begins,” Rodrigue says.

“Consultation and design work for the Cecil Thompson Park Trail would begin in 2027. This phase may include the cost of acquiring land required for the project. Construction funding would then be considered as part of the 2028 capital budget.”

NSC plans to expand walking trail network

Emily Plihal
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

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PUBLIC NOTICE Flushing of Distribution Mains

Between October 13th-16th, 2026 the Town of High Prairie will be flushing the water distribution mains. Customers may experience brief periods of discoloured water. If this occurs, please allow your water to run until it returns to its natural clarity before consuming.

For more information please call the
**Town Office at 523-3388 or the
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Sucker Creek First Nation

is currently seeking a

Youth Worker

Full-time position; 40 hours per week, with evening and weekend work required for events and programming.
Salary: to be determined based on qualifications, experience

SUMMARY: Sucker Creek First Nation Prevention Program is seeking a positive, dependable, and community-minded Youth Worker to join our Youth Program. The Youth Worker will play a key role in creating a safe, supportive, and engaging environment for children and youth. The successful candidate will provide positive mentorship, guidance, life-skills development, recreational activities, cultural programming, and land-based opportunities that encourage healthy choices, confidence, cultural pride, identity, and connection to family and community.

We are looking for someone who can be a strong and positive role model for the young people we serve. The successful candidate should be comfortable engaging with youth through recreation, sports, outdoor activities, land-based programming, cultural activities, and community events. This is an active position that requires someone who is willing to get involved, build relationships, and participate alongside youth.

DUTIES:

The Youth Worker will:

- Plan, deliver, supervise, and evaluate safe, engaging programs for children and youth ages 5-17, including monthly programming calendars.
- Facilitate recreational, educational, cultural, land-based, life-skills, and prevention-focused activities.
- Provide positive mentorship, build healthy relationships, and support youth facing personal, family, school, or community challenges.
- Promote leadership, resilience, confidence, healthy decision-making, cultural pride, identity, and connection to Indigenous values and traditions.
- Ensure participant's safety through active supervision and appropriate program practices.
- Coordinate registrations, attendance, transportation, supplies, facilities, outreach, and event coordination.
- Collaborate with families, Elders, community members, and SCFN departments, and connect youth and families with appropriate support.
- Maintain required attendance, incident, program, purchasing, and administrative records.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO IS:

- A positive and respectful role model for children and youth.
- Patient, approachable, dependable, and energetic.
- Comfortable working with children and youth of different ages and backgrounds.
- Able to establish healthy and respectful relationships with youth and families.
- Comfortable participating in active, recreational, outdoor, and land-based activities.
- Knowledgeable about or willing to learn Sucker Creek First Nation culture, traditions, language, and ways of life.
- Able to demonstrate effective communication, leadership, organization, and critical thinking skills.
- Comfortable working independently while also being part of a team.
- Flexible and willing to work days, evenings, and occasional weekends.
- Able to maintain professional boundaries, confidentiality, and a high standard of conduct.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Preferred:

- V-Diploma or experience in Child and Youth Care, Social Work, Recreation, Education, Human Services, or a related field.
- Experience working with children and youth.
- Experience planning and facilitating youth programs or community events.
- Knowledge of Sucker Creek First Nation culture, traditions, language, and community.
- Effective communication, leadership, and crisis-intervention skills.
- First Aid/CPR.
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation.
- Strong computer and documentation skills.

As part of our commitment to providing positive role models for all youth, we welcome applications from qualified male candidates who can contribute to balanced representation within our youth programming. All hiring decisions will be made based on qualifications, experience, and organizational needs.

Deadline for Applications: Until Suitable Candidate is found.

Interested applicants are encouraged to submit their cover letter, resume, criminal record check, child intervention check, and three references to: hr@scfn.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those qualified will be selected for an interview.

ALICE HALCROW HEALING CENTRE Kapawe'no First Nation Health Services

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COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS NURSE, R.N.

4 days / month - Part Time

Kapawe'no First Nation Health Services is dedicated to fostering a healthy, vibrant, and self-determining community grounded in our culture, values, and Treaty rights. Operating out of the Alice Halcrow Healing Centre, Kapawe'no First Nation Health Services delivers comprehensive, high-quality, and culturally safe healthcare programs and services designed to enhance the overall well-being of our Nation members.

We currently have an opportunity for a **Permanent Part-Time Community Health & Wellness Nurse (RN) working four (4) days per month.** The Nurse performs specialized clinical duties reserved exclusively for Registered Nurses-including initial Inter-RAI Home Care Assessments and Public Health 0-5 infant/child inoculations.

Principle Duties & Responsibilities

Include but not limited to:

- Performing specialized RN-exclusive clinical procedures, including initial Inter-RAI Home Care Assessments, pediatric immunizations (0-5 years), complex wound care, and clinical diagnoses.
- Providing direct clinical supervision, assignment of duties, work schedules, mentoring, and quality assurance evaluations for Registered Nurses, LPNs, Health Care Aides, Comfort Care Aides, and administrative staff.
- Maintaining accurate, secure, and timely clinical EMR progress charting immunization registries, and home care encounter records for all clients while enforcing strict compliance with OCAP(r) principles and KFN privacy policies.

Knowledge and Skills Required

Include but are not limited to:

- Graduation from an accredited School of Nursing with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.Sc.N.) is strongly preferred; Diploma in Nursing considered with equivalent clinical experience.
- Active, unrestricted registration in good standing with the College of Registered Nurses of Alberta (CRNA) is mandatory.
- Mandatory Clinical Certifications: CPR Level C / AED / Standard First Aid, Inoculant Certification (Indigenous Services Canada / ISC Health), Inter-RAI Home Care Assessment Certification, and Community-Based Naloxone and Narcan Certification.
- Minimum of three (3) years of progressive experience in Public Health / Community Health Nursing is preferred (or 5 years of acute care experience).
- Demonstrated clinical experience in Home and Community Care nursing, pediatric care, and communicable disease management.
- Demonstrated fluency in electronic clinical databases and EMR management tools (e.g., CHIP, CARE, Inter-RAI, Netcare).
- Schedule & Conditions: **Permanent Part-Time commitment (4 days per month).**
- **Mandatory requirements:** include complete immunization record, clear Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search (dated within 3 months), clear Child Welfare Check, signed Oath of Confidentiality under the KFN "Access to Information & Privacy Management" policy and Financial Administration Code, ability to pass drug testing and be fit for duty, physical capacity to perform clinical lifting/maneuvers, valid Driver's License (Class 5 required) with clean abstract, and access to a reliable vehicle.

If you believe that you could thrive in our environment, and are interested in pursuing this opportunity, please submit your resume for consideration to rebecca.petersen@Kapaweno.ca with the subject heading

"RN Community Health & Wellness Nurse - Part Time"

Kapawe'no First Nation thanks applicants for their interest in this opportunity. Candidates considered for this position will be contacted directly.

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Team	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Home	Away	Pts	
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Fort St. John Flyers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2	
Fox Creek Knights	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2	
Grande Prairie Athletics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2	
Grimshaw Huskies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	0	
High Prairie Regals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2	
Manning Comets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2	
Spirit River Rangers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2	
Valleyview Jets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2	
Schedule/Scores				Saturday, Oct. 31				Friday, Nov. 20			
Saturday, Oct. 17 Fox Creek at Grande Prairie High Prairie at Dawson Creek				D.Creek at Valleyview				Fox Creek at Valleyview			
				Fox Creek at Fort St. John				Manning at Grimshaw			
				G.Prairie at Manning							
Sunday, Oct. 18 Fort St. John at Grande Prairie				Friday, Nov. 6 Valleyview at Grimshaw				Saturday, Nov. 21 Grimshaw at Fort St. John Spirit River at Grande Prairie Valleyview at Manning			
				Saturday, Nov. 7 D.Creek at Manning High Prairie at Fort St. John Spirit River at Fox Creek				Friday, Nov. 27 D.Creek at Spirit River Valleyview at High Prairie			
Friday, Oct. 23 G.Prairie at High Prairie								Saturday, Nov. 28 Fort St. John at Fox Creek Manning at Dawson Creek			
								Saturday, Oct. 24 D.Creek at Fox Creek Fort St. John at Grimshaw Manning at Spirit River			
				Thursday, Oct. 29 G.Prairie at Dawson Creek							
Friday, Oct. 30 Grimshaw at High Prairie Valleyview at Spirit River											

NORTHWEST JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE											
Caliber Energy Systems Division											
Team	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Home	Away	Pts	
County of GP Wheat Kings	5	5	0	0	0	26	9	2-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	10	
Beaverlodge Blades	5	3	2	0	0	15	16	2-1-0-0	1-1-0-0	6	
Slave Lake Wolves	4	1	2	1	0	12	11	1-0-1-0	0-2-0-0	3	
Sexsmith Vipers	4	1	3	0	0	9	18	1-1-0-0	0-2-0-0	2	

Northern Express Bus Lines Division											
Team	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Home	Away	Pts	
La Crete Lumber Barons	4	4	0	0	0	33	7	4-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	8	
Fairview Flyers	2	1	1	0	0	6	6	1-1-0-0	0-0-0-0	2	
Fort St. John Huskies	4	0	3	1	0	11	23	0-0-0-0	0-3-1-0	1	
Dawson Creek Kodiaks	2	0	2	0	0	1	23	0-0-0-0	0-2-0-0	0	
Friday, Sept. 18		Saturday, Sept. 26					La Crete		at Beaverlodge		
Beaverlodge 1 at G.Prairie 7		Beaverlodge 3 at Fairview 2									
		D.Creek 0 at La Crete 16					Sunday, Oct. 4				
Saturday, Sept. 19		Fort St. John 2 at G.Prairie 9					D.Creek		at Beaverlodge		
Fort St. John 5 at La Crete 6							Fort St. john		at Salver Lake		
Slave Lake 2 at Sexsmith 3							La Crete		at Fairview		
		Sunday, Sept. 27									
		D.Creek 1at La Crete 7									
Sunday, Sept. 20		G.Prairie 3 at Beaverlodge 2					Thursday, Oct. 8				
Fort St. John 1at La Crete 4		Sexsmith 1 at Slave Lake 7					Beaverlodge		at Grande Prairie		
G.Prairie 4 at Sexsmith 2											
Slave Lake 1 at Beaverlodge 4		Friday Oct. 2					Friday, Oct. 9				
		D.Creek					Fairview		at Fort St. John		
		Sexsmith					La Crete		at Dawson Creek		
Thursday, Sept. 24		Slave Lake									
Sexsmith 3 at Beaverlodge 5		at Beaverlodge									

AB HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PEACE DIVISION									
Team	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	Pts
High Prairie Renegades	3	3	0	0	151	20	2-0-0	1-0-0	6
Sexsmith Sabres	3	3	0	0	135	27	0-0-0	3-0-0	6
Peace River Pioneers	3	2	1	0	97	38	1-1-0	1-0-0	4
Valleyview Cougars	3	1	2	0	30	127	0-1-0	1-1-0	2
Hinton Wolfpack	3	0	3	0	26	139	0-2-0	0-1-0	0
Whitecourt Cats	3	0	3	0	20	108	0-2-0	0-1-0	0
Schedule/Scores		Sat., Sept 19				Fri., Oct. 2			
		Sexsmith 45 at Valleyview 7				High Prairie at Whitecourt			
Thu., Sept. 10		Whitecourt 0 at Peace River 42							
Sexsmith 47 at Hinton 6						Sat., Oct. 3			
		Thu., Sept. 24				Sexsmith at Peace River			
Fri., Sept. 11		Valleyview 0 at High Prairie 76							
Valleyview 23 at Whitecourt 6						Thu., Oct. 15			
		Fri., Sept. 25				Peace River at Valleyview			
Sat., Sept. 12		Sexsmith 43 at Whitecourt 14							
HPrairie 24 at Peace River 14		Peace River 41 at Hinton 14				Fri., Oct. 16			
						Whitecourt at Hinton			
Fri., Sept. 18		Thu., Oct. 1				High Prairie at Sexsmith			
Hinton 6 at High Prairie 51		Hinton at Valleyview							

ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL TERRY FOX RUN

High Prairie St. Andrew’s School held its annual Terry Fox Run on Sept. 25 as part of the national Terry Fox School Run. Students and teachers walked or ran around the perimeter of the school property on a damp and cool day.



Kindergarten students get ready to walk in the Terry Fox School Run on Sept. 25. Left-right are Joey Cloutier, Aria Anderson, Tyson Dube-Sanders, Caleb Cramer, Emily Humeniuk and Tirzah Whitehead.



Grade 4 students walk in the school’s Terry Fox Run on Sept. 25. Left-right, are Jaxson Patenaude, Camille Olanski, Peyton Bell, Brinley Killeen, Kyson Cloutier and Oliver Lambers.

PR Boating Association keeps recreation moving

Sara Driedger
South Peace News

beat since 2003!”

The association also manages a property about 25 kilometres north of Peace River that is designated for boaters and other river users. Bergeron emphasizes the group is about more than racing: it helps look after boat launches and a gazebo used for recreation. Its activities include a poker rally and Paddle the Peace, a community paddle from the Shaftesbury Ferry to Peace River. Lunch is provided, and participants travel by kayak, canoe or raft, accompanied by several support boats.

Looking ahead, Bergeron hopes to secure federal funding to upgrade the north-end boat launch, which is federally owned. He

adds the facility is usable but needs further improvements. He encourages community members and river users to write letters of support to their local MPs and MLAs.

“Our MLAs and our MPs are definitely listening to us,” he says.

“If we don’t tell them what we want, they don’t know.”

Bergeron invites people to follow the association’s Facebook page for updates or to ask questions.

The association holds an annual general meeting and welcomes ideas from the public.

“It’d be great to hear from everybody,” he says.

The next River Days will take place June 18-20, 2027.

(Peace River) – Felix Bergeron, president of the Peace River Boating Association, says the organization has supported boating and river recreation in the Peace River area since 2003.

Bergeron founded the association with a small group of others who saw a need for a club to maintain boat launches and organize the Gold Cup jet boat race.

Peace River was part of the World Championship Jet Boat Race in 1978, when the event first began. The founders wanted to bring racing back to the community and establish it as a recurring local event.

“It’s been going well,” Bergeron says.

“We haven’t missed a

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The South Peace News

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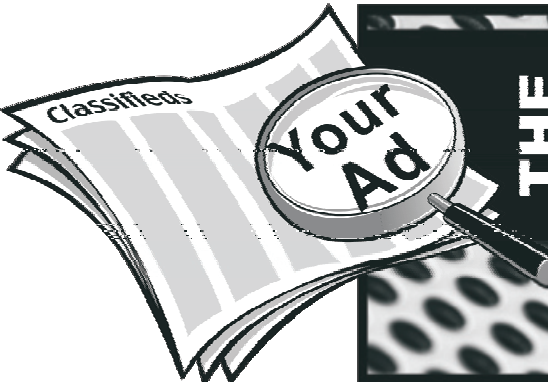
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Coming Events

EDMONTON COIN SHOW - October 17 & 18, 2026. Saturday 10 am - 4:30 pm; Sunday 10 am - 3 pm. Lions Centre 11113 - 113 Street, Edmonton. Family friendly! Displays * Auctions * Free market evaluations.* Dealers from across Canada. * Visit www.edmontoncoinclub.com/shows

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Quotefalls 1

				6				1
1			4		9	2		
	8	9		1		4		
		5	1				9	6
6			5		2			4
4	7				8	3		
		2		8		6	4	
		6	3		1			2
3				2				



School News

Let the learning begin!

Another school year begins at High Prairie Elementary School

HPE Staff
For South Peace News

(High Prairie) – Welcome to High Prairie Elementary School News for the 2026-27 school year! We’re excited to share all the amazing things happening around HPE!

This year, our Grade 6 students will be putting their writing skills to work as they help contribute stories to the *South Peace News*. Keep your eyes peeled for the latest news, exciting events, and highlights from our incredible Thunderbirds!

The KZ class has been working hard practicing writing their names. Students have also been learning all about fall and creating fall themed art. Most importantly, students have been busy learning skills like cooperation, sharing, and problem solving, as well as building our gross and fine motor skills through play. Great job, KZ!

Grade 2S students will be writing sentences by adding details to make them more interesting. In Phonics, they are learning about consonants. They will be using number lines to help them identify larger numbers. In Social Studies, students are completing a booklet on different types of maps, physical regions and resources of Canada. Ele-

ments of art will be their focus for painting and designing different art work. Can’t wait to see all the wonderful work!

Grade 4L has been getting magnetic! Students have been exploring magnets and testing different materials to discover which objects are attracted to magnets and which are not. They have also been learning about magnetic poles and how opposite poles attract while like poles repel. Through hands-on experiments, students have been making predictions, testing their ideas, and recording their observations like real scientists. It has been an exciting and hands-on way to discover the fascinating world of magnetism!

It has been a busy and exciting September in Grade 5J! Students have put their creativity to work making bookmarks to give away at the local Quilt Guild Show. Students also put their estimation skills to the test with our first Act of Kindness! The two students who made the closest estimates in the estimation jar were able to choose a class to receive a class set of bubble gum or bouncy balls. It is a fun way to spread a few smiles around our school!

Grade 5J also had a wonderful time partici-

pating in the Terry Fox Walk alongside our reading buddies from Grade 2S. It was a great opportunity to learn, connect, and support an important cause.

A big congratulations to Isla and Stetson, from Grade 5J, who were elected as members of our HPE Student Council! We are very proud of you both and look forward to seeing the positive contributions you will make. Great job, 5J!

It has been a busy and exciting month in the 6K class! In Math, students have been exploring integers and learning how to add and subtract numbers including figuring out which direction to move on the number line! In Social Studies, students have been comparing different government structures from around the world and discovering how they are similar to and different from the Canadian system. Science has been especially exciting as students conducted an experiment to explore matter. There were plenty of curious eyes watching to see what would happen!

Grade 6K is incredibly proud to congratulate Syara Borys on being elected to the HPE Student Council! We are excited to see the leadership and ideas she will bring to our school community.

And, of course, Grade 6K cannot forget their amazing kindergarten buddies! From reading together and creating crafts to walking side-by-side during the Terry Fox Walk, 6K has loved every opportunity to connect, help, and have fun with our younger buddies. What a wonderful month of learning, leadership, friendship, and making memories!

A note from our administration: September has been a busy and positive start to the school year at HPE. Our students have been settling into their classrooms, building relationships, learning routines, and engaging in a variety of learning opportunities across the school. Throughout the

month, we have also focused on bravery/courage as part of our Character Education program, completed beginning-of-year literacy and numeracy screening, and celebrated important school events including our open house, picture day, Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation Assembly, and the Terry Fox Run.

As we begin the school year, we also want to remind families of the importance of regular and consistent attendance. Being at school each day helps students stay connected to their learning, build strong relationships, develop positive routines, and experience greater success. Every school day matters, and we appreciate families working with us to support strong attendance. We are grateful for the continued support of our families, staff, and community as we begin another year.



There are many toys in the kindergarten class designed to help students build their gross and fine motor skills through play. Left-right are Ezekiel Ulanday and Gwen Marquardt.



Tayah Richards-Patenaude, left, and Kaylee Richards-Patenaude test some of the playground equipment at HPE during the Terry Fox Run.



Kindergarten student Asher New is having fun and does not realize he is building his gross and fine motor skills through play.

Coffee Break *Answers*

Find-a-Word

Hyderabad

Fill in the Blanks

The quotation answer: Build a safe place
Words in order from top to bottom: Burrow, Tunnel, Hive, Hill, Lodge, Lair, Shell, Wallow, Loft, Nest, Coop, Hole, Barn, Cage, Den.

Name Scramble

1. Boot 2. Shoes 3. Sandals 4. Sneakers 5. Slippers 6. Flipflops

Quotefalls

Quotefalls 1: Well-behaved women rarely make history. - L.T. Ulrich
Quotefalls 2: I wish my wallet was as fat as I am - Unknown

Syl 'la'cros' tic

The quotation answer: No news is good news
1. Niagara 2. Obedient 3. Nylon 4. Endorse 5. Wanda 6. Satire 7. Islam 8. Sauna 9. Gumbo 10. Ominous 11. Ornament 12. Dilute 13. Nigel 14. Epitaph 15. Winnipeg 16. Serious

Sudoku

Easy

1	6	2	9	8	5	3	4	7
5	9	3	4	1	7	8	2	6
4	7	8	3	2	6	1	5	9
6	4	1	8	3	2	9	7	5
3	5	7	6	9	1	4	8	2
2	8	9	7	5	4	6	1	3
9	2	4	1	7	3	5	6	8
7	3	6	5	4	8	2	9	1
8	1	5	2	6	9	7	3	4

Medium

2	3	4	8	6	7	9	5	1
1	6	7	4	5	9	2	3	8
5	8	9	2	1	3	4	6	7
8	2	5	1	3	4	7	9	6
6	9	3	5	7	2	1	8	4
4	7	1	6	9	8	3	2	5
7	1	2	9	8	5	6	4	3
9	5	6	3	4	1	8	7	2
3	4	8	7	2	6	5	1	9



NORTHERN SUNRISE
COUNTY

www.northernsunrise.net

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT PERMIT HAS BEEN ISSUED:

Permit Number	Applicant / Developer	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Date of Notice of Decision
26-23	Melanie & Jackson Leussink	NW.22.81.20.W5M	Dwelling Unit: Single Detached	October 7, 2026

Any persons affected by these decisions may appeal to the Clerk, Development Appeal Board, Bag 1300, Peace River, AB T8S 1Y9.

Such an appeal shall be in writing and delivered in person or by registered mail so as to reach the Clerk of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board at the County Office along with a \$150.00 non-refundable Appeal Fee and Appeal Reasons within 21 days of the Date of Notice of Decision.

Annual Public Appointments
to Boards and Committees

Northern Sunrise County invites individuals interested in serving as a Board or Committee member to submit their applications for positions on the County's various boards, commissions, and committees.

Eligibility requirements are outlined in Policy 1.34, Public Appointments to Boards and Committees.

The deadline to submit applications is
OCTOBER 9, 2026.

Council will appoint members at the
OCTOBER 27, 2026
Organizational Meeting.

Please direct applications and inquiries to:

Lisa Robinson, Executive Assistant

780-625-3274

lrobinson@northern sunrise.net

NORTHERN SUNRISE COUNTY



Policy 1.34 Public Appointment to
Boards and Committees

Apply via webform for Boards and
Committees

Apply via webform for Youth
Council Advisory Committee
(Ages 14-17)

Stay in the Loop

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- October 2-30 -** Halloween Costume Swap at the Nampa FCSS Office. Drop off lightly used or new costumes and swap for a different costume.
- October 13 -** Tech Talk at 10:00 a.m. at the Nampa FCSS Office.
- October 14 -** La Petite Ecole from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the St. Isidore Cultural Centre.
- October 14 -** Kidz Konnection from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Nampa FCSS Office.
- October 14 -** Wax & Wicks Candle Drip Painting Class from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the St. Isidore Cultural Centre Gazebo.
- October 15 -** 55+ Chair Yoga from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Cafe du Coin in St. Isidore.
- October 20 -** Seniors' Coffee Catch-up from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at Nampa Foods.
- October 29 -** 55+ Chair Yoga from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Cafe du Coin in St. Isidore.



TO RECEIVE A COMPLETE LISTING OF THE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OFFERED, SCAN THE QR CODE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 780-625-3287

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Regular Council Meeting – September 22, 2026



NORTHERN SUNRISE
COUNTY



ADMINISTRATION WAS DIRECTED TO:

- Schedule a meeting with Minister Loewen at the 2026 Rural Municipalities of Alberta Fall Convention to discuss weed control concerns on Crown Land.
- Apply for the 2026/27 Alberta Community Partnership Program – Municipal Internship Program.
- Send a letter of support for Birch Hills County's application for the Alberta Community Partnership Grant to investigate the Regional Drainage System Files Project.
- Submit the Agricultural Service Board's Resolution on expanding weather monitoring infrastructure and Operational Capacity in Northern Alberta at the 2026 ASB Regional Conference.



COUNCIL APPROVED:

Policy 4.7 Health and Safety, as presented.



PRESENTATIONS:

James Richardson, MNP Consulting Services, provided a Service Level Review Presentation.



DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS:

- \$10,000 for the 2026 Nampa/Northern Sunrise County Christmas Gift Card Program.
- \$550 to the Peace Regional RCMP Community Advisory Committee for the upcoming RISK Program.
- \$1,000 to the Town of Peace River Library Board for the Festival of Trees Silent Auction Fundraising Event.
- \$750 to the Alberta Community Crime Prevention Association for their One-Day Forum.



UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS:

- October 13, 2026,** Regular Council Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Northern Sunrise County Council Chamber.
- October 23, 2026,** 2027 Annual Budget Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Northern Sunrise County Council Chamber.
- October 27, 2026,** Organizational Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Northern Sunrise County Council Chamber.
- October 27, 2026,** Regular Council Meeting, following the Organizational Meeting, in the Northern Sunrise County Council Chamber.



Council meetings will be available for virtual attendance. To access the meeting link, visit northernsunrise.civicweb.net.

Thank You!

The Pioneer Threshermans Association would like to send our sincerest appreciation to the Sponsors for our Harvest Festival held on September 19, 2026.
**Boondocks
County of Big Lakes**

Many, Many Thanks to our Volunteers who put on a marvelous, enjoyable Fun Fest. Too many to list but our association could not function without them.
Volunteers Rock!

Finally, a **HUGE, HUGE** Thanks to our Visitors!
Without you there is no point.

Monthly meeting: 1st Monday of every month
7:30pm Triangle Hall - 15km west of High Prairie, AB
www.trianglehall.com

Pioneer Threshermans Association

THANK YOU

Sucker Creek First Nation would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to **Treaty 8 Urban Child & Family Services** for being a valued part of our community and for their continued support of our children.

For the past **three years**, Treaty 8 Urban Child & Family Services has generously donated their time, resources, and commitment to providing **cultural, traditional, fun, and educational activities** for the children attending the Sucker Creek First Nation Indian Relay Races.

Their dedication has helped make the children's area a tremendous success, giving our young people an opportunity to **learn, play, connect with culture, and enjoy time together as a community.**

We are truly grateful for their partnership and for the positive experience they continue to create for our children and families. Your commitment to our youth and to **keeping culture and traditions alive** is deeply appreciated.

Thank you for being a part of the Sucker Creek First Nation Indian Relay Races and for helping make our event special for the next generation.

BIG MEADOW AUCTION SERVICES LTD. Unreserved

2026 High Prairie Fall Consignment Auction

October 10 11:00 AM | High Prairie Agriplex | High Prairie, AB



2002 Freightliner



2002 Freightliner



Live Online Bidding on large items at 1:00PM on www.sellbigmeadow.com

Buses 2002 Freightliner Diesel School Bus 2002 Freightliner Diesel School Bus	Attachments MB Sweeper Attachment	Odd & Unusual 7 y/o Nigerian x Nubian Doe 6 m/o Nigerian Dwarf Doeling 4 m/o Nigerian Dwarf Doeling Rabbits
Equipment 3pth Disc Big Meadow Auction Services is NOW BOOKING Consignments for our 2026 Fall Consignment Sale on October 10, 2026 at the High Prairie Agriplex.	Yard Equipment Poulan Pro Rototiller Ariens Walk Behind String Trimmer	Tools and Household Large Selection of Tools and Household from Multiple Consignors

Auctioneers note: Join Big Meadow Auction Services Ltd for our 2026 High Prairie Fall Consignment Auction on Saturday October 10th at the High Prairie Agriplex. Live onsite auction, internet bidding on select items. **No Onsite Buyers Premium, 10% Buyers Premium on ONLINE BIDDING PURCHASES.** All items must be removed on sale day unless otherwise pre-arranged with the auctioneer. Lunch available on-site. Sale is subject to additions and deletions. Lunch Available from Dorothy's Kitchen.

How to Consign: Fill out the form on our website or call TJ to consign.
ALL ITEMS MUST BE PRE-BOOKED BY OCTOBER 5th.

Important Deadlines:

- Consignment Deadline: October 5, 2026 @ 12:00pm
- Item drop off at the Agriplex
 - October 8, 2026 from 12:00pm to 6:00pm
 - October 9, 2026 from 8:00am to 6:00pm
- Viewing October 10, 2026 starting at 9:00am

Watch our Facebook and Website for items that didnt make the advertising deadline.



Big Meadow Auction Services Ltd.
Serving all of Alberta from Breton, High Prairie, and Three Hills
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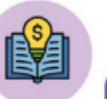
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